

Chicopee Register

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COMMUNITY

Police department to receive \$240,710 for new weapons, equipment

By Dalton Zbierski
Editor
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CHICOPEE -- The police department received an appropriation of \$270,710 to upgrade its weaponry equipment, as was unanimously voted on by City Council Sept. 5.

"We want to make sure that our law enforcement division has the tools to keep not only themselves safe but our community safe, and this is a request for an upgrade of weaponry in the police department," Mayor John Vieau said, when reading his mayoral order.

Police Chief Patrick Major presented to the council last Tuesday, noting that the handguns the department currently has are nearly six years old. He said it is routine to purchase new handguns every seven years.

"Now, what we're going to do is upgrade and add a new optics system on it; basically, a red dot," he said.

The department will purchase 190 GLOCK 47s at a cost of \$486 per weapon. It will purchase 190 trade-in GLOCK

17Gen5s for \$265 per weapon; the handguns will be purchased from GLOCK Inc. in Smyrna, GA. The total cost of both will be \$142,690.

The department will also purchase 190 RMR HD pistol mount optic, red circle/dot reticles that are adjustable and night vision compatible. Each unit costs \$668, and the total purchase will require \$126,920.

The equipment will be purchased from Jurek Brothers Inc. in Greenfield. Major explained the importance of the purchase.

"So, the biggest push for this is the accuracy involved in the weapons system to be able to stop a threat quicker and definitely to limit liability for errant shots," he said.

Major said the nationwide officer-involved shooting accuracy rate for weapons systems without iron sights is approximately 22%, a statistic that doesn't differentiate between "amber style shooting," or spontaneous threats versus distance engagements.

"That means that only one

See **POLICE RECEIVE** page 6



TURLEY PHOTO BY DALTON ZBIERSKI

Pictured is the Chicopee Police Department's shooting range. The department will receive a range of new weapons and equipment.

COMMUNITY



TURLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS

State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee) talks with attendees during the Legislative Lunch event at the Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee. The event was hosted by the Boys & Girls Club and overseen by the Chicopee Chamber of Commerce.

Arriaga joins business community for lunch

The lunch was hosted at the Boys & Girls Club

By Kristin Rivers
Staff Writer
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CHICOPEE -- State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee) was at the Boys & Girls Club on Sept. 7 for a Legislative Lunch event with local businesses and organizations.

The event was organized by the Chicopee Chamber of Commerce.

During the event, Arriaga spoke with representatives of local businesses and organizations,

including the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts, Destination Success BNI, Holyoke Medical Center, Sunshine Village, Westfield Bank, Polish National Credit Union, A. Crane Construction Company, Complete Restoration Solutions and many more.

Additionally, businesses and organizations had opportunities to network and connect with each other. The lunch was provided by Hamel's Creative Catering.

Melissa Breor, executive director for the chamber of commerce, said it's the first time Arriaga has been before the cham-

See **LEGISLATIVE LUNCH** page 6

COMMUNITY

Chicopee Electric Light hosts safety event at RiverMills Center

By Kristin Rivers
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CHICOPEE -- The senior center welcomed Chicopee Electric Light on Sept. 7 to host their Electric Safety with CEL event.

The annual event was presented by Ray Gouley, safety consultant for CEL.

During the event, Gouley provided seniors with varying topics on electrical safety and beyond, including how to avoid scams and pedestrian safety.

Gouley also used visual aids throughout the presentation, including sneakers, poster boards with examples of the circle of safety for electric vehicles working on the road, power strips, a stuffed squirrel and bird and more to help attendees remember the safety tips. Additionally, attendees received free Table Top Pies, raffled off \$50 Stop & Shop gift cards and took home an electric safety guide.

Gouley explained the presentation served three purposes for the attendees.

"One is we want to keep the seniors safe through scams, letting them know, indoor and outdoor powerline safety and letting them know Chicopee's



TURLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS

Ray Gouley, safety consultant for Chicopee Electric Light, holds up a sign explaining step potential/voltage during the Electric Safety with CEL event at RiverMills Senior Center.

there to help them if they have any questions," Gouley said.

Gouley was pleased with the turnout and shared some additional electrical safety tips, given the ongoing heatwave unfolding at the time.

"A couple of things I want to emphasize. Don't overload your outlets. Don't plug too many things in. If your lights begin to dim in your house, unplug things. If a breaker goes off and a room loses power, unplug them. But the most important thing is if you're not sure, call (CEL), and if you smell smoke, call 911. Safety first," Gouley

said.

Gouley explained how CEL "is always reaching out" to the senior center to hold events like this, and they also do events for children.

"It's called Connecting the Generations. We do the children, and we do the seniors, so we connect the generations," Gouley said. "Everybody should know something basic about safety."

Gouley added how seniors are more tech-savvy compared to a generation ago, and that

See **SAFETY EVENT** page 8

Chicopee marks 9/11 with ceremony at public safety complex



A Chicopee firefighter rings the bell to mark when the planes hit the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and Shanksville, PA, where United Flight 93 went down, during the 9/11 ceremony at the Chicopee Fire Department.

By Kristin Rivers
Staff Writer
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CHICOPEE -- Community members and elected officials gathered at the public safety complex on Sept. 11 to mark the 22nd anniversary of 9/11.

The ceremony began with silence, followed by a member of the fire department ringing the bell in memory of the victims who died at the World Trade Center, the Pentagon and Shanksville, PA, where United Flight 93 went down.

Ward 5 Councilor Frederick Krampits lowered the flag to half-staff, as everyone saluted.

After beginning with a moment of silence, Father William Tourigny said Sept. 11, 2001 "began like any other day," with families going through their daily routines, including going to work and school, until the world changed in a few short hours to disbelief and horror.

After listing everyone who died on 9/11, Tourigny offered this prayer.

"We gather today, 22 years later, to remember the 2,996 victims. We gather today to pray in humble gratitude for the spirit of American bravery. We gather today to pray for the sustained gift of an invincible spirit which provides the American people with the courage to rebuild from the ashes of Ground Zero and to rebuild shattered lives with hope and a promising future," Tourigny said. "We gather today in peace



Members of the Chicopee Fire and Police Departments, local officials and community members salute and watch as the American Flag is lowered to half-staff to mark 22 years since 9/11, during the 9/11 Ceremony at the Chicopee Fire Department.

and love that we may continue to encourage and sustain one another along the perilous journey of life, and if we embrace the humble prayer of St. Francis of Assisi, we can and will build a better world for our children and future generations."

Following Tourigny's remarks, Firefighter Jim Sydorak read the firefighter's prayer, followed by Police Capt. Rick Henry reading the police officer's prayer.

Mayor John Vieau thanked the fire and police departments, honoring them and all first responders for their bravery.

"On this solemn day, we remember and honor the bravery of our first responder heroes who selflessly rushed into the danger on Sept. 11, 2001. Their unwavering courage and sacrifice will never be forgotten," Vieau said.

State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee) thanked everyone for remembering this solemn day, reflecting on how the 9/11 attacks later led to a 20-year war.

"The events of that day shook everyone, not only our nation but the world. An attack on U.S. soil, on our people, our citizens. It's a day to remember, not to forget," Arriaga said.

Arriaga stressed how 9/11 "changed everything," also honoring the first responders.

"So, let's take this day to remember our history so we don't repeat it and we don't forget and always, we appreciate your service not only here in our city but all of our first responders for what you do,

TURLEY PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RIVERS



State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee) gives remarks as Police Captain Rick Henry, Firefighter Jim Sydorak, Father William Tourigny of Ste. Rose de Lima Church and Mayor John Vieau reflect during the 9/11 ceremony.



Chicopee Police Captain Rick Henry reads the police officer's prayer as Firefighter Jim Sydorak, Father William Tourigny of Ste. Rose de Lima Church, Mayor John Vieau and State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee) listen during the 9/11 Ceremony at the Chicopee Fire Department. Sydorak also read the firefighter's prayer during the ceremony

truly. Thank you all," Arriaga said.

The ceremony concluded with the bell rung again as Krampits raised the American flag.

Reflecting on 9/11, Vieau shared he was working in downtown Springfield that day and feared that the country was under attack.

"Everyone talks about where they were that day and the impact it had and the fear and anxiety going through everyone's mind," Vieau said. "There was this real true fear."

He also reflected on the resiliency of the country in the aftermath.

"It was surreal, but I just think the resiliency of this country is proven time and time again, and it was shown that day, and like I said, it changed our lives," Vieau said.

Vieau wants residents to never forget 9/11 and to pray for peace, also reflecting on those who fought during the War on Terror.

"We never forget. We never forget those who fight the War on Terror and paid the ultimate sacrifice, but I don't think we should ever forget those first responders and those innocent people who perished on Sept. 11, 2001," Vieau said.

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Firefighters enjoy cream puffs



CHICOPEE – The fire department recently enjoyed a visit from Chaz the Big E Cream Puff Man.

DPW appropriated more than \$600,000 for new vehicles, equipment

By Dalton Zbierski
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CHICOPEE -- The Department of Public Works had a range of requests granted during the Sept. 5 meeting of City Council, as all items passed unanimously.

All requests were made per the recommendation of the Capital Planning Committee.

First was a new towable whole tree chipper, which will cost \$215,490. The chipper will be used by the Forestry Department.

The current chipper is more than 10 years old and is not adequate to handle the wood waste that is currently produced by the department.

“This chipper is larger than the chippers that we have currently. The chippers that we have currently have seen a lot of use and have been deteriorating with all the storms and wind,” said DPW Superintendent Elizabethette Batista, who recently signed a five-year contract extension that includes a \$14,000 yearly raise, as was reported first by MassLive.

Batista said the department has been doing a lot of tree removal within the right of way, at the golf course and in the parks. The new chipper will allow the city to cut a large section of a tree and feed it through the machine rather than having to cut the

tree into smaller pieces.

“We also have a very large stockpile of trees that were taken down and taken over to DPW with the log truck,” Batista said. “We don’t have the equipment to break it down easily so this chipper will also assist with handling what we have currently in our yard so that we can dispose of it.”

Most of the trees Batista referred to are diseased and not good for burning. She looks forward to chipping them at no cost.

Additionally, the chipper will allow Batista to use employees elsewhere rather than have them at one location. She said she’ll be able to send people out to do stump grinding instead.

The chipper is also less dangerous.

“This also has a nice feeder; like a conveyer on the front so that you’re not having to get really close to the mechanism, so it’s a much safer apparatus as well,” Batista said.

On Sept. 5, City Council passed a \$102,925 appropriation for the purchase of a F-550 dump truck with a drop-in poly sander.

Mayor John Vieau noted that the item was supposed to be on next year’s capital list, but the current vehicle is failing, as it suffered damage plowing snow last winter.

City Council also approved a \$142,500 appropriation for the purchase

of a Backhoe Loader. The backhoe will be used by the Parks Department for cemetery work and will replace the current backhoe, which is more than 20 years old and has surpassed its useful life.

“The current backhoe has been very difficult to repair and find parts, so it’s come the time to replace it. For several months, (the Parks Department) was using another department’s backhoe. We can share equipment as much as we can, but obviously we have needs we need to maintain,” Batista said.

A lot of time was spent researching what backhoe to purchase. The one that will be acquired will be able to slide between graves in the cemetery, and its parts can be interchanged with the backhoes used by the Highway and Water Departments.

An additional \$66,178 was appropriated for the purchase of a ford F-350 Crew Cab Pickup and Lift Gate. The vehicle will be used by the Parks Department for field painting and will replace the current pickup, which is at least 15 years old and has exceeded its usefulness.

Another \$66,178 was appropriated for the purchase of the same vehicle, a F-350, with a plow and lift gate. The vehicle will be used by the Flood Control Department for the transportation of work crews.

The lift gate will help move large items such as a generator or sandbags, and

the plow will be used during snow events. The current F-350 is 21 years old and has outlived its useful life.

“They’ve actually been without a crew cab with a plow. A few years ago, we had to replace their dump truck, and they’ve been borrowing for several years now a highway truck,” Batista said.

The Flood Control Department will transport employees who will work on dikes and other retention basins around the city. It is more economical to put all the employees in the same vehicle rather than taking numerous vehicles and wasting gas.

Both old F-350s will be salvaged for parts before being put out to bid in three years.

Lastly, an appropriation of \$49,765 was made for the purchase of a Ford Explorer, which will replace a 2009 vehicle, which was not a pickup truck, that has reached the end of its useful life.

The vehicle will be used by Batista as she travels throughout the city.

“We requested it be replaced with a pickup truck because when we’re going around the city and going to project sites, we’re putting stuff in the vehicle,” she said. “Sometimes, it’s things you don’t want to throw in the enclosed part of a vehicle like an SUV so it seemed more appropriate to have a truck that can be utilized more appropriately for what we’re doing.”

Library, Fire Station 8 to undergo BAS replacement

Fire Station 4 to be repaved

By Dalton Zbierski
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CHICOPEE -- City Council voted unanimously on Sept. 5 to replace the building automation system, or HVAC controller, at the public library on Front Street and at Fire Station 8 on James Street.

“We’ve had many issues with the library’s heating and cooling systems over the years. This should rectify those issues,” Mayor John Vieau said. “(Fire Station 8 is) having the same problems with their HVAC unit, and this will enhance and upgrade the controls and, I believe, some of the actual equipment as well.”

The cost of installing the new BAS equipment at the library is \$146,370. At Station 8, the equipment change will cost \$119,642.

At both locations, the new system will be online with those at City Hall on Springfield Street and the Public Safety Complex on Church Street. Dave Rice, director of facilities maintenance, spoke about the changes that are needed at the library.

“I have staff that have to go up on the roof to manually adjust the temperature for the units because the system doesn’t work well. So, this will fix all those issues that we’re having over there and hopefully, knock on wood, fix our problems going forward,” Rice said.

Rice said the library’s new system will run more efficiently, and the city will be able to manage it remotely, as it is able to do now with City Hall, the Public Safety Complex and eventually Station 8.

Rice said Station 8 has also had difficulties during the cold season.

“With that fire station, especially in the winter, the apparatus bay, they have a problem regulating the temperature with the current system that’s in there,” he said. “This will make that system also work on the same platform we have at

City Hall, Public Safety (Complex) and the library once we get them all swapped over.”

Fire Chief Dan Stamborski acknowledged that the fire station has experienced the same problems as the library. He thanked Rice for his contributions.

“All the credit goes to Dave Rice for researching and getting a vendor in here and getting the proper controls here. That was all his project,” Stamborski said.

Fire Station 4 on Burnett Road has long been in need new pavement. Stamborski described the current condition of the parking lot.

“It’s a badly deteriorated lot and an accident waiting to happen. DPW has been helping us out for years with patches. They also installed a drain last winter. It helped, but it didn’t cure the whole problem,” he said. “(DPW is) going to be able to engineer the project for us to save the city a lot of money in hiring an outside engineering firm. They calculated all the cost to take care of repairing this properly once and for all.”

It will cost \$310,000 to repave the parking lot.

Vieau noted that the project has been “on the list” for a long time and expressed relief that the Capital Planning Committee is going to move forward with it.

“I think it’s going to make it a lot safer over at that station,” he said.

Vieau also gave insight into how the Capital Planning Committee made it decisions.

“This Capital (Planning) Committee reviewed request lists and prioritized them with the department heads of up to \$3.5 million,” he said. “We’ve narrowed it down roughly to about \$2 million that City Council had put aside just for these purposes, which is making sure that we stay on top of our equipment (and properties), as we don’t want to purchase things all at once.”

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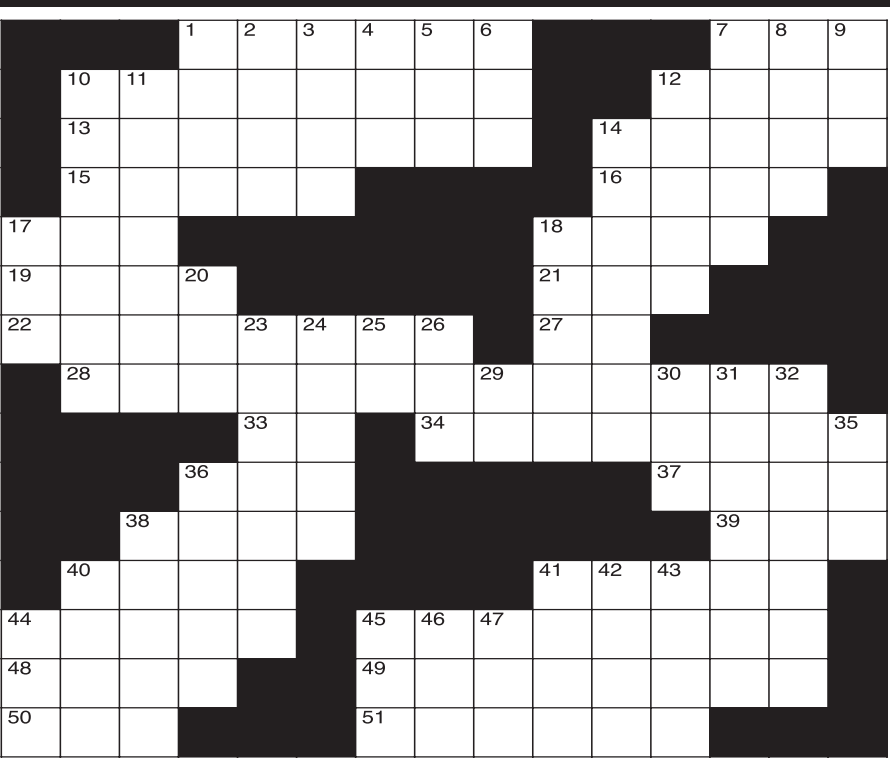
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Correction

In the Sept. 8 edition on the Elms College Move-In Day story, there was a spelling error for Elms College President Dr. Harry Dumay. The article had

the spelling as “Durnay” when the correct one is “Dumay.”

We apologize for the error.



- CLUES ACROSS**

 - 1. Type of crayon
 - 7. Fashion accessory
 - 10. Most cerebral
 - 12. Incline from vertical
 - 13. Dependent on
 - 14. Broken in
 - 15. Strongly desires
 - 16. Mounted soldier
 - 17. Ad __: when necessary
 - 18. Cattle
 - 19. Ottoman military commanders
 - 21. __ student, learns healing
 - 22. Composed in poetic meter
 - 27. Promotional material
 - 28. Where people live
 - 33. Sodium
 - 34. Embarrassing
- CLUES DOWN**

 - 1. Living quarters
 - 2. Horizontal passage
 - 3. Attacks
 - 4. Vietnamese
- 36. Medical man
 - 37. Mother of Hermes
 - 38. One who saves the day
 - 39. Tooth caregiver
 - 40. Not clothed
 - 41. Slope covered with loose stones
 - 44. Used to cook
 - 45. Praises enthusiastically
 - 48. Rooney is a famous one
 - 49. Beekeeper
 - 50. Pigpen
 - 51. Potato chip brand
- offensive
 - 5. Midway between east and southeast
 - 6. Confined (abbr.)
 - 7. Book of Esther antagonist
 - 8. Port in Yemen
 - 9. CNN's founder
 - 10. Type of bulb
 - 11. Prepare
 - 12. Promoted
 - 14. Dinner jackets
 - 17. Partner to cheese
 - 18. Nebraska city
 - 20. Human gene
 - 23. Pays no attention to
 - 24. Lowland South American plain
 - 25. Blood group
 - 26. Mauna __, Hawaiian volcano
- 29. Atomic #37
 - 30. Unit of electrical resistance
 - 31. Jeweled crowns
 - 32. Nastiest
 - 35. Traditional cars need it
 - 36. Bowler hat
 - 38. Robust
 - 40. Not straight
 - 41. Stony waste matter
 - 42. Have an interest in
 - 43. Jacob __, journalist
 - 44. Maintains possession of
 - 45. Swiss river
 - 46. Average cost of market goods
 - 47. Spanish soldier: El __

A series of misfortunate events

By Julie Midura
Staff Writer

When Tom and I began planning a five-day backpacking trip in the Sandwich Wilderness of New Hampshire, we envisioned lovely days of easy hiking followed by peaceful evenings sitting beside a campfire before crawling into our tent for a restful night's sleep.

But this time, things didn't turn out quite as we planned.

Misfortunate event #1:

The three and a half hour drive to New Hampshire became a five and a half hour drive due to an accident, which forced us to start our five and a half mile hike at 4:30 p.m. Now if you think that we'd be well rested after sitting in a car for over five hours while battling heavy traffic, you'd be wrong.

We were thoroughly exhausted; and we hadn't even started hiking yet.

Misfortunate event #2:

When we reached the swollen Whiteface River, it was too high to cross over on rocks, so we changed into our Crocs and forded instead. With two more crossings ahead of us in the next 1.3 miles, we decided that instead of taking the time to dry our feet and pull on our socks and shoes after each crossing, we'd just hike in our Crocs until the final crossing.

Which lead to...

Misfortunate event #3:

In spite of the fact that we were wearing Crocs, we raced along the trail in a vain attempt to arrive at the tent site ahead of the darkness. Which caused Tom's Croc-wearing feet

to sink into calf deep mud, whereby he crashed to the ground like the proverbial tree falling in the forest. (And yes, there was indeed a sound when he fell!)

Misfortunate event #4:

We slowed our pace after misfortunate event #3, arriving at Flat Mountain Pond tent site at dusk- which is the time we'd normally already have the tent set up, camp clothes on and dinner eaten. With no time to waste before darkness set in, we located a level patch of dirt to set up our tent.

I dropped my backpack, unclipped the straps, flipped the top open...and didn't see the single most important item that is usually right on top.

Panic set in while I yanked one item after another out of my pack and tossed it in a heap on the ground in a desperate attempt to find the missing item. When my hand finally reached the bottom of my now empty pack, I knew that we were about to endure the greatest misfortunate event in the life of a backpacker.

"Tom? Did you by any chance pack the tent?"

I already knew the answer before I even asked. After all, Tom always packs the fly and ground cloth while I always pack the tent body itself.

Well...almost always. But the process of asking allowed me to hold on to a split second of hope before hearing Tom's response, "No. Didn't you?"

Tom and I looked at each other, both of us realizing that there would be no tent to protect us from the hoards of mosquitoes that had

plagued us for the past 5+ miles in spite of the gallons of bug spray we had liberally applied back at the car. With a pond nearby, we knew that this could be an incredibly rough night.

Since hiking five miles back to our car in the dark in our exhausted state wasn't an option, we had no choice but to make the best of this latest misfortunate event.

I apologized to Tom as we went about staking out just the fly. He was gracious in his response, "No need to apologize, kiddo. We all forget stuff sometimes."

In spite of his understanding, I felt terrible.

When we finished blowing up our air mattresses, zipping our double-wide sleeping bag together and laying out all of our gear, everything looked like it usually does - with the exception of the eight inch gap between the bottom of the fly and the ground. In an effort to find something to be grateful for in the midst of what had been a very trying day, I said brightly, "Well at least there isn't any rain in the forecast tonight."

Ten minutes later, the skies opened up.

Yes folks, God does indeed have a sense of humor.

All was not bad, however. With the exception of slightly wet sleeping bags and over a dozen spider bites, we made it through the night unscathed...and so the adventures continue!

See you in the wild places, my friends!

To read more about our hiking adventures (and misadventures) follow us on Instagram @ morethanthemountain.



Will opening a joint account affect my disabled father's "SSI?"

Dear Rusty

I live in Michigan and my senior disabled father lives in rural Kentucky. His income is part Social Security and part disability. I talked to a local credit union near his home and explained I would like to open a joint account. They said as long as he comes in with his ID it's possible.

My question is will adding money to our joint account affect his SSI and disability?

Signed: Caring Daughter
Dear Caring Daughter

First, I need to clarify that there are two types of disability programs administered by the Social Security Administration – Social Security Disability Insurance and Supplemental Security Income. The acronym "SSI" normally refers to "Supplemental Security Income," which is a benefit for disabled senior adults and children, who have very little income and very few assets.

"SSI" is not Social Security income; rather it is a general benefit program jointly administered by the Social Security Administration and the State in which your father lives. In contrast, Social Security Disability benefits are earned from working and are not affected by the recipient's assets, as are "SSI" benefits.

From what you've written, I assume that your father may have a small Social Security retirement benefit (because he has reached his full retirement age and SSDI isn't available after full retirement age) and he is also receiving Supplemental Security Income (SSI) disability benefits.

If this is the case, although your father's Social Security retirement benefit would not be affected by opening a joint account at the credit union, his Supplemental Security Income

disability benefit likely will be.

As co-owner of the joint account, your assets would count towards your father's "SSI" asset limit and your assets, as well as any "in kind" assistance you otherwise provide, would likely put your father over the SSI income/asset eligibility limit and result in his SSI benefits being terminated.

So, although the credit union may be willing to open a joint account for you and your father, I'm afraid that would result in your father losing his SSI benefits, leaving him with only his small Social Security retirement benefit.

You may wish to review the SSI eligibility information at this link: www.ssa.gov/ssi/eligibility or you could contact the Social Security Administration and ask to speak with someone experienced with Supplemental Security Income matters.

For clarity, "SSI" assistance is jointly administered by the Social Security Administration and each State's Human Services department, and assistance available varies somewhat depending on the recipient's state of residence. Thus, since your father lives in Kentucky, you might also contact that state's human services agency to discuss your options for providing remote assistance to your father without jeopardizing his Supplemental Security Income (SSI) benefit: www.chfs.ky.gov/Pages/contact.aspx.

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

Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

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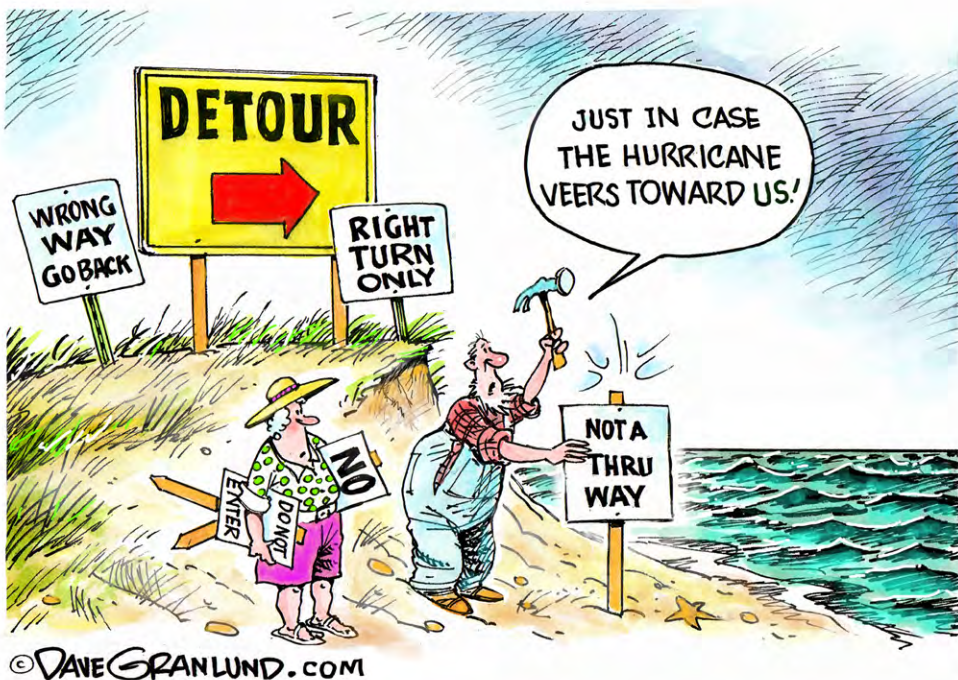
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Beauty Battles Lounge holds grand opening in Chicopee

By Kristin Rivers
Staff Writer
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CHICOPEE -- Residents, community members and elected officials gathered on Cabot Street on Sept. 7 to celebrate the grand opening of Beauty Battles Lounge.

Beauty Battles Lounge, an advanced beauty and wellness spa, provides facials, waxing, brows, body sculpting and wellness services including sensory deprivation beds, cryo chambers, an infra-red sauna, cryotherapy and cryo skin and cryo hair rejuvenation.

The grand opening included a ribbon-cutting ceremony with remarks from Mayor John Vieau, State Sen. Adam Gomez (D-Springfield), State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee), Ward 2 City Councilor Shane Brooks and Ashley Battle, founder of Beauty Battles Lounge, raffles, food provided by Falls Pizza, a champagne toast, a cryotherapy demonstration and a tour of the lounge.

Gomez also presented Battle with an official citation from the State Senate celebrating the grand opening.

Vieau said he met Battle during COVID-19 when she was making face masks and shields, explaining when he and Hampden County Sheriff Nick Cocchi met Battle at her location on Front Street, she told Vieau she wanted to invest in downtown Chicopee.

"I wish you success, I wish you prosperity, I wish you good



Natalie Sanchagrin, Ashley Battle, founder of Beauty Battles Lounge, and Madison Riley smile for a group photo in front of the Beauty Battles Lounge logo during the lounge's grand opening event on Sept. 7.

health and many, many years in downtown in creating an experience that is hopefully going to change the lives of many people, so thank you for investing in downtown Chicopee," Vieau said.

Gomez shared he remembers Battle from high school, explaining she and her family did "a lot of community work" and "had that niche for business."

"I'm extremely proud to represent this district because Chicopee and the resurgence of downtown Chicopee and the economic development, and the people that have invested here quite frankly are Latino," Gomez said. "It's not that we have a love for

only Latino folks, but to see a group of people be able to excel at the magnitude and at the rate that they've been excelling not only in Springfield, not only in Holyoke, but here in Chicopee where 21,000 Boricuas and Latinos call Chicopee home."

Arriaga has also known Battle for years and thanked attendees for coming out for the celebration.

"If you know anything about Ashley, she has spoken with her heart when she speaks about this establishment, so this is a dream and a passion coming to fruition, so we want to congratulate you,"



Mayor John Vieau addresses attendees about the impact of Beauty Battles Lounge opening in downtown Chicopee during the Beauty Battles Lounge grand opening celebration on Cabot Street on Sept. 7.

Arriaga said.

Battle said she's been in Chicopee for four-and-a-half years, originally starting her lounge in Holyoke and wanting to expand to a bigger space to provide more services and reach a bigger audience.

She was thankful for the community support and stressed the significance of supporting local small businesses.

"It's extremely important. We're not a large corporation. We're (not) able to make payroll even if no one's walking into the store. Small business means that you're working to not only be able to – if you have staff – to be able to pay your staff, to be able to pay your bills and you're working really, really hard to be able to give your family the opportunities that you're hoping to do," Battle said. "So, it's not a nine to five, it's not a 40-hour week job, it's something you're definitely doing all the time, so for that reason you should be supporting small businesses, and it also helps the economy



The Beauty Battles Lounge logo on display outside the lounge during the grand opening ceremony on Sept. 7.

and it helps your community as well."

Battle wants the community to know she's looking forward to offering her services and seeing her business grow, offering this message for residents.

"Come check us out. We have something for everybody, and we know that we can help you feel better," Battle said.

To learn more, visit beautybattles.com, follow them on social media or call at 413-331-2737.

St. Joan of Arc School celebrates new school year

CHICOPEE -- St. Joan of Arc School on Gratatan Street celebrated the first day of school for students in Grades 1-8 on Tuesday, Aug. 29.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF JANINE DUNLEA OF THE BUSINESS OFFICE.

Stanislaus family



8th Grade class



Middle school English teacher Robine Tefts with her sons Aiden and Shawn Lec

Griffin's Friends to host first ever Fun Color Run/Walk

Event to support local families affected by Childhood Cancer

AGAWAM -- Griffin's Friends Children's Cancer Fund is inviting the public to participate in the first-ever Color for the Kids Run/Walk, aimed at providing essential support to local families impacted by cancer. For 25 years, Griffin's Friends has been helping local families who have a child receiving cancer care at Baystate Children's Hospital.

Griffin's Friends was founded in 1994 and is named after Griffin D. Kelleher, who died from cancer after just 14 months of life. Since then, the Kelleher family has honored his memory by helping other families battling childhood cancer.

The Griffin's Friends Color for the Kids Run/Walk is scheduled to take place on Saturday, Sept. 16, 2023, at Agawam High School. The event will kick off with a vibrant burst of color at 11 a.m., with registration and check-in starting at 10 a.m. Participants and non-runners are invited to stay after the race to enjoy music, food, and entertainment.

This unique experience is open to all age groups, offering a two-mile color-filled course that perfect for both runner and walkers. Each registration, priced at \$25 for students, and \$35 for adults, includes a commemorative T-shirt and protective sunglasses, ensuring participants look stylish while contributing to a worthy cause. To secure your spot and be a part of this unforgettable day, register now at www.GriffinsFriends.com.

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The Chicopee Police Department is set to receive several hundred thousand dollars' worth of weapons and equipment.

POLICE RECEIVE from page 1

out of five rounds fired strike their intended target. The studies done in our own department with office-involved shootings have seen an accuracy rate of 34%," Major said.

He said an in-house study was conducted using 25 different officers of varied age and experience, with shots taken at varied distances of five to 15 yards. Time constraints were installed and physical movements were required to simulate mild stress.

"Shooters fired 25 rounds with iron sides and then the pistol mounted optic system with no coaching or advanced instruction. The iron side accuracy was noted as 68%, and the pistol mounted optic accuracy is 91%," Major said.

Major said that the officer who supervised the study added that, "As an instructor, I am unable to achieve that kind

of improvement using only iron sides without extensive one-on-one training, which is impractical given the department's size and training constraints."

Major said the numbers are important because reduced misses mean more rounds on target, which means the target is stopped quicker with potentially less rounds fired. Reduced shots also mean less errant rounds that could potentially strike property or innocent bystanders.

"Nationally, the average city settlement cost for an officer-involved shooting when a bystander is shot is \$300,000. If an innocent bystander is killed, the number is \$2 million," Major said. "Chicago just awarded \$16 million last year for a grandmother who was killed as a bystander in a domestic-related officer involved shooting."

As a result of trading in the old weapons, the department will receive \$50,000.

LEGISLATIVE LUNCH from page 1

ber members and that the event had a great turnout.

"I think it was really nice," Breor said. "Shirley just kind of introduced herself today, and then she met with every single person and went around the room, so there wasn't an agenda or a program for her being here."

Breor said holding events like this also helps create a space for connection so businesses can talk about their needs and priorities with local officials.

"I think it's important," Breor said. "Not that a business can't figure out how to reach their elected official, but to create the forum and space so that they know that their voice is part of the conversation."

Arriaga explained that the chamber initiated the event and she enjoyed the opportunity to meet with local businesses, adding events like this is crucial.

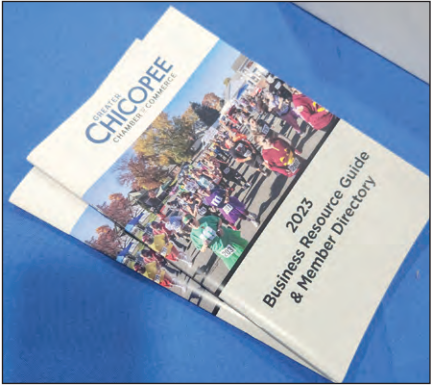
"We need to understand what the needs of our community are so elected officials such as myself can better advocate over in Beacon Hill and get the funding that we truly need at home," Arriaga said.

Arriaga said several of the conversations she had with the business community included discussions of mortgage reversals and downsizing, property taxes, nonprofits and housing.

"Some of the folks heard that I'm in the Housing Committee, and they wanted to share some ideas and input on how we can help address that because of course this is a concern across the Commonwealth, not just here in Western Mass and Chicopee," Arriaga said.

Lynn Morrisette, director of Marketing & Development at the Boys & Girls Club, said the organization was thrilled to host the event.

"We were happy to host and show everyone our gym space and just be a space for the representative to share some knowledge to the Chicopee business community and have some lunch," Morrisette said.



Chicopee Chamber of Commerce book provides attendees with a business resource guide and member directory list during the Legislative Lunch at Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee.

risette said.

Morrisette added "it means a lot to us" to host Arriaga and the business community as it also provides an opportunity to show how the Boys & Girls Club supports the community.

"We always want to show our space off to the business community and really highlight the services and programs that we offer to our youth in the city," Morrisette said.

Breor wants the community to know the chamber is here to support their local businesses through networking events, future legislative lunches and more.

"The chamber is here to do the best that we can to keep the business community connected with each other and with our elected officials on any issues that might be coming down the pike," Breor said.

Arriaga had this message for the business community.

"We're very happy that they are here, and they invested their time, energy, resources in our community and that they want to give back," Arriaga said. "One thing I got from all of them is they want to give back to Chicopee, so having those types of businesses and connections here is what's going to help Chicopee thrive."



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Pacers fall in close game

CHICOPEE – Last Saturday morning, Westfield scored a pair of early goals and only Griffen Wisley was able to get one of them back as Chicopee boys soccer fell 2-1. The Pacers got eight saves from Caleb Morrisette and Chicopee High is 1-2 to start the regular season. Chicopee has another Saturday morning game against Granby on Sept. 16 at 11 a.m.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI
Adam Brunelle goal kicks the ball away.



Mohanad Aljasahaam tries to play the ball up the middle.



Alexander Johnston tries to block an opposing player's pass.



Cristian Riberio fights for the ball.



Jason Gregoire holds the ball as he looks for an open teammate.

Comp offense overwhelms Holyoke

CHICOPEE – Last Wednesday night, Chicopee Comprehensive boys soccer scored six times in the second half to run away with a matchup against Holyoke 9-2. Tineus McCluster, Derek Lonczak and Antonio Sleeper each had two goals. Ryan Kennedy scored both goals for Holyoke in the game. The Knights are 0-3 to start the regular season while Comp is out to a 3-0 start this year.



Tineus McCluster makes a play to stop Holyoke's momentum.



Robert Donoghue receives a pass



Frankie Cabrera-Cavette makes a great save for the Colts.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

Austin Micheli attempts to stop a Holyoke player's progress.

Brownies score late to close win over Comp

CHICOPEE – After thunderstorms caused a rare suspension of a game, Agawam and Chicopee Comprehensive football resumed their game last Saturday morning as Cole Ingham scored late in the fourth quarter to lead Agawam to a 23-16 win over the Colts. Chicopee Comp would score in the third quarter to take a 16-15 lead, but the Brownies late rush from Ingham would put the Brownies on top for good as their defense did the rest of the work.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Jayden Sherman makes a tackle for the Colts.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

Hayden Courchesne kicks off for Comp.



The Chicopee offensive line attempts to block



Francis Jordan takes a handoff.



Christopher Carrasquillo blocks on the line for Comp.

Coby, Tommy Baldwin Racing earn Granite crown

WINCHESTER, N.H. — Doug Coby and Tommy Baldwin Racing returned to NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour competition on Saturday night at Monadnock Speedway and they were celebrating after 150 laps in New Hampshire.

Coby finished fifth in the Winchester Fair 150 in the Mayhew Tools 7NY, but the finish was enough for the team to capture the second annual Whelen Granite State Short Track Cup championship crown.

The Cup, which included three races at Monadnock Speedway, Lee USA Speedway and back at Monadnock on Saturday night, saw Coby grab three finishes inside the top-six, including a win at Monadnock in May. By winning the Whelen Granite State Short Track Cup, the team collected at least \$5,000 in bonus awards.

Coby returned to action Saturday for the first time since Thompson Speedway in August. Team owner Tommy Baldwin Jr. announced a cancer diagnosis and the team stepped back from full-time competition and missed the last two races. They couldn't pass up returning to chase the Granite State Short Track Cup crown.

"Just to be here with our family and Tommy battling cancer, I mean, he's a warrior," Coby said. "He told us from the beginning that he was going to fight through this and he's been courageous enough to share his battle and everything on social media, which is uncommon. To be here as the Whelen Granite State Short Track Cup champions, it just means a lot. We've got a great group of guys and Tommy really wanted to be here to do this. This one is for Tommy Baldwin."

Railers return to the DCU Center on Sat., Oct. 21

WORCESTER — The Worcester Railers Hockey Club (@RailersHC), proud ECHL (@ECHL) affiliate of the New York Islanders (@NYIslanders) welcome back fans to the DCU Center on Sat., Oct. 21st for the team's sixth season of ECHL hockey. The 2023-24 season will launch with two back-to-back games in Worcester against Adirondack Thunder on Saturday, and the Trois-Rivières Lions on Sunday.

The Railers look forward to showcasing the \$7 mil. DCU Center seat upgrade on Opening Weekend, live entertainment, pre-game festivities, and an action-packed weekend of hockey. "This is great home schedule for fans," said Chief Operating Officer Michael

G. Myers. "It's stacked with weekend dates, allowing us to provide fans with even more premium theme nights and giveaways." The Railers will unveil their season promotional schedule in June.

This will be the first time in franchise history the team will play the Kansas City Mavericks, slated to come to Worcester on Wed., Nov. 29th. The Railers will also make the team's first trip to Hertz Arena in Estero, FL in February to battle the Florida Everblades.

Railers season tickets and mini plans are now on sale. Secure your seats online at RailersHC.com/tickets or call 508-365-1750.

Community Caravan postponed by weather

SPRINGFIELD — The Springfield Thunderbirds announced last Friday that the third installment of the T-Birds Community Caravan presented by Dunkin' has been postponed due to potential inclement weather this weekend.

A rescheduled date will be announced in the future. The previous two events featured an appearance from Thunderbirds mas-

cot Boomer and team staff, as well as a wide variety of activities and vendors, including a Dunkin' Taste Truck, street hockey activities, and various food options.

Fans can reserve their seats to be part of the Thunderbirds' hockey action for the 2023-24 season by calling (413) 739-GOAL (4625) or visiting www.SpringfieldThunderbirds.com.

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RiverMills Center lists upcoming programming

CHICOPEE — The following programs will occur at the RiverMills Center, located at 5 West Main St., and be hosted by the Council on Aging.

Flu Shot Clinic

The COA will host a Flu Shot Clinic on Monday, Sept. 18, beginning at 9 a.m. at the RiverMills Center.

This clinic is for adults only and there are a limited number of senior doses available. You must book an appointment at RiverMills or by calling 534-3698.

Remedy for Retirement Blues

The COA will offer the program "Remedy for the Retirement Blues" on Monday, Sept. 18 at 9:30 a.m. at the RiverMills Center.

John Martine will lead this workshop, where you will take a deep look into what you want out of life once you retire. Although this is a free program, please register at RiverMills Center or by calling 534-3698.

Healthy Eating and Physical Activity

The COA will offer the program "Healthy Eating and Physical Activity" on Tuesday, Sept. 19 at 10 a.m. at the RiverMills Center.

This workshop, led by the Foodbank of Western Mass, will review Myplate Healthy Eating guidelines and tips to make exercise part of your daily routine. You will also learn how to make an easy, healthy, budget friendly recipe. Don't worry, samples will be available!. Although this is a free program, please

register at RiverMills Center or by calling 534-3698.

Medicare 101

The COA will offer the workshop "Medicare 101" on Tuesday, Sept. 26 at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. at the RiverMills Center.

Join us for this Medicare 101 presentation. There are so many questions surrounding signing up for Medicare. When do I sign up? How do I sign up? Are there penalties for not signing up? The Answers to these and all your other questions will be discussed. Be prepared before you meet with your SHINE Counselor. There will be time for questions and answers. Although this is a free program, please register at RiverMills Center or by calling 534-3698.

Senior Transportation

The COA's Transportation Department provides rides to the senior center, doctor's offices, supermarkets, pharmacies, etc. for Chicopee older adults.

Transportation service is available Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 3 p.m. Reservations must be made at least five business days in advance by calling 413-536-5733.

A \$15,750 grant from WestMass ElderCare has allowed the senior center to expand its transportation offerings. Shopping Trips are funded in part by a Title III/Older Americans Act grant from WestMass ElderCare, with support from the Mass. Executive Office of Elder Affairs and the Federal Administration for Com-



Ray Gouley, safety consultant for Chicopee Electric Light, holds up examples of smoke detectors and carbon monoxide alarms. He explained to attendees how today's detectors and alarms can talk to seniors in an emergency.

SAFETY EVENT from page 1

impacts safety too, including using lithium batteries, charging smartphones and more.

"So, they know a lot what's going on, but what's also changed is about power that's being used and when not to use power strips," Gouley said.

James Lisowski of CEL hopes attendees took away new tips while remembering things they already knew.

"Hopefully, in some cases, it's basically just a reaffirmation of what they already knew and in some cases, hopefully, it's something new that they haven't considered that they'll take with them and bring to their friends and their family and just let them know what they've learned," Lisowski said.

Lisowski said the seniors "have always been very supportive" of CEL.

"So, they've been a customer of ours and ratepayers for many, many years so it's always good to give something back



TURLEY PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RIVERS

Ray Gouley, safety consultant for Chicopee Electric Light, holds up a sneaker while explaining why people should not go walking around after storms during the Electric Safety with CEL event.

to those that have been supporting us for most of their lives," Lisowski said.

Lisowski wants the community to know CEL is "here for you."

"We do everything we can to provide the most reliable electric service to you, buy it at the most cost-effective price that we can. Sometimes, it's challenging but we're always doing our best, and that's our driving initiative; to always try to provide you the most reliable, cost-effective service," Lisowski said.

On electrical safety, he said to ask whenever you have questions.

"If you're unsure, ask. If you're unsure, read the instructions, and we're always here. We have 24/7 dispatch, so we're always here to answer questions and don't be concerned about calling us or be afraid about calling us. We'll be there for you," Lisowski said.

For more information, contact CEL at 413-598-8331 or visit them at their Front Street headquarters.

How Do You Spell DNA?

By Dave Robison,
Professional Genealogist
Old Bones Genealogy of
New England, LLC

We’re here to discuss deoxy-ribonucleic acid better known by its acronym “DNA.” What follows will be an easy description as I’m reluctant to get too deep in the weeds, so to speak, while I try to prevent everyone from falling asleep before you get to the end! I’ll close today’s article by telling you a personal story of discovery of family, long lost family!

DNA is the blueprint of our physical make-up. All living organisms contain DNA, or they wouldn’t be living organisms! Are you tall or short; red hair or black; blue eyes or grey; and on and on. But the understanding of the four types of DNA will help you determine which test you should take and for what purpose.

When I’m asked about DNA, the question is usually pretty basic: “I’d like to take a DNA test. Which company should I use?” That’s a pretty loaded question. My answer is usually, “What do you want to do with the information?” The answers vary but it’s important for me to know the motivation so that I can make an intelligent recommendation.

The most common DNA test is atDNA. That stands for “autosomal DNA” which are 22 of the 23 strands of chromosomes that occupy the nucleus of each cell. Think of the company “23andMe” whose name derives from those 23 chromosomes. Each of these are comprised of two strands of proteins; one strand or 50% from Mom and one strand or 50% from Dad. When you see DNA discussed on various TV shows or in graphics, you will see pairs of proteins arranged in random orders of A and C, G and T. The “A” stands for the protein Adenine, “C” for Cytosine, “G” for Guanine and “T” for Thymine. OK! Enough technical scientific stuff! What you should know is that “A” always bonds with “T” and “G” always bonds with “C.”

There are millions of strands in each of the cells of your body arranged in what seems to be random order. This is where the phrase “DNA matches” is usually derived. The 23rd chromosome is called the sex chromosome. All females pass along an “X” for her contribution to that 23rd chromosome while males can pass either an “X” or “Y.” It’s the male contribution that determines the sex. If your 23rd chromosome is X/X, meaning each parent contributed an “X” you are biologically

a female. If the father contributed a “Y” instead of an “X,” then the 23rd chromosome would be “X/Y” and you would be biologically a female. The “X” and the “Y” have unique attributes that can allow scientists to distinguish one line from the thousands of other lines. More about that later.

So, if you received 50% for your mother and 50% from your father, you might think that you’re carrying 25% from each of your grandparents. But it’s not that easy. A grandparent may contribute anywhere from roughly 23% to 29%. The complete contribution from all grandparents will be 100%, just not an even 25/25/25/25 split. Then, great grandparents’ contribution to your makeup is more scattered. It is for this reason that atDNA testing’s accuracy diminishes each generation backwards. For example, if you go back to your 3rd great grandparents where you’ll find 32 females and 32 males for a total of 64, you may not have any atDNA from one or more of that generation. And it dilutes even further as you go backwards in time.

Let’s talk briefly about the sex chromosome. Remember, it can be comprised of either one X from Mom and one X from Dad making that chromosome “X/X” and thus biologically a female. But if Dad contributes a “Y” rather than an “X” and makes that 23rd chromosome “X/Y” then, biologically, a male. It’s the Y chromosome that’s interesting. Since the Y stays relatively stable for hundreds even thousands of years, it is possible to trace the specific attributes and categorize which strand of “Y” is which and thus prove a family line. I received a “Y” from my father, who received his from his father and so on. My “Y” will be distinct from others based on the characteristics of the gene itself. Thus, males can determine if they are related to other males. It’s where that “Y” came from that is the challenge. The common ancestor may have lived a thousand years ago!

We’ve talked about the DNA that is in the nucleus but what about what’s outside the nucleus but still within the cell walls. This DNA is called Mitochondrial DNA or simply mtDNA. It is more or less circular rather than linear as is the DNA in the nucleus. Everyone has mtDNA but only the female passes it along. I have my mother’s mtDNA who got hers from her mother, but I didn’t pass it to my children. Their mtDNA came from their mother who got it from her moth-

er. So as with Y-DNA’s ability to trace a paternal line, mtDNA traces a maternal line.

Only FamilyTreeDNA tests all forms of DNA. See www.familytreedna.com for the menu of tests and pricing. Two companies, 23andMe (www.23andme.com) and LivingDNA (www.livingdna.com) will test Y-DNA and mtDNA in addition to atDNA but the results will be limited to your haplogroup or “category” of Y or mtDNA with no matching. The largest database by far is at AncestryDNA with nearly 20 million tests on record. Currently, the top three companies are Ancestry.com, MyHeritage.com, LivingDNA.com, FamilyTreeDNA.com, and 23andME.com.

A word about ethnicity. I always hear complaints such as “At first Ancestry said I was 85% Irish and now they say I’m only 56%!” The short answer is that as all the DNA companies expand their databases, there are far more populations to compare to your DNA. Also, keep in mind that the human population didn’t stay home over the centuries. The Vikings invaded England, and most certainly left a few DNA “samples,” if you will. The Romans invaded almost everything! And there are countless other populations that were invaded by countless other populations.

Finally, my story in brief. I have received many hundreds of potential DNA matches as I’ve tested with almost every company. I simply don’t have the time to email everyone to investigate a relationship. The matches are usually rated as to the distance of the relationship: 2nd to 4th cousin, 1st to 3rd cousin and so on. Several months ago, I received a match at the 1st to 3rd cousin level. That’s close! The match was only identified by the person’s initials and as with all DNA companies, you can only reach these matches through a messaging service within the DNA company’s website to maintain privacy. I sent my possible cousin a note through the company. It turns out that she is my 1st cousin once removed! Her father is my great grand uncle! She’s a descendant of a branch of my paternal line that has had little to no contact for decades! We have been separated by time and distance all these years. Suffice it to say that we’ve met via a Zoom meeting and have shared many stories, and each has filled in some of the gaps in our mutual family history! My sister and I have met once with her, and we plan on many more such meetings!

Upcoming events and announcements

The Arbors and The Ivy Assisted Living Communities to host ‘I Wanna Rock for Alzheimer’s’

CHICOPEE -- The Arbors and The Ivy Assisted Living Communities are hosting an “I Wanna Rock for Alzheimer’s” 80’s-themed fundraiser event on Sept. 16, at the Castle of Knights in Chicopee, from 6-10 p.m. and will be featuring the band Aquanett!

In our line of business, we have a close tie to Alzheimer’s and dementia and are deeply touched everyday by many of our residents and their families’ stories and struggles. We see firsthand what this awful disease can do and because of this, we have decided to hold a benefit where all proceeds will go to the Alzheimer’s Association, in hopes to find a cure and as they say, “do good to end ALZ”!

We would greatly appreciate any donations to this cause and look forward to ROCKING out with a special performance by Aquanett. This event will include lots of raffles, a door prize and a fun filled night had by all! Don’t miss out, get your tickets today!

The event will feature a full bar; you cannot bring your own alcohol. Attendees must be age 21+ and are encouraged to wear ‘80s-themed attire.

If you are interested in registering for the event or have additional questions, please scan the QR CODE below or email jdudley@arborsassistedliving.com.



PSA: Chicopee Community Pro Shred Event

CHICOPEE -- In partnership with St. Rose de Lima Parish and St. Joan of Arc School, a shredding event will be held on Saturday, Sept. 30, from 9-11 a.m. at St. Joan of Arc School, 587 Grattan St. in Chicopee. Free Will Donations are appreciated.

St. Rose de Lima Designer Purse Bingo Fundraiser to occur Oct. 13

CHICOPEE -- St. Rose de Lima Designer Purse Bingo Fundraiser will be held on Friday, Oct. 13 in the church hall, 594 Grattan St. in Chicopee. Doors open at 5 p.m., and games start at 6:30 p.m. A \$35 donation includes 10 games (Kate Spade, Michael Kors, Coach, Dooney & Bourke purses) a bingo marker, door prizes and light refreshments. Hot food will be available for purchase. Many raffle baskets, including a lottery tree and a Blackstone grill! Tickets/Questions contact Chris at 785-477-9536 or the Parish Office at 536- 4558. All proceeds benefit St. Joan of Arc School

Rotary Club of Chicopee presents Dinner and a Show!

CHICOPEE – On Thursday, Oct. 5, the Rotary Club of Chicopee will present Dinner and a Show! at Munich Haus Banquet Hall, located at 13 Center St.

The event will feature cocktails and a buffet dinner from 5:30-7 p.m. and the show starts at 7 p.m.

The show features Emcee Ashley Kohl, Robert Black as

Elvis and Nicole Fuller as Lady Gaga and Rick Larrimore as Rod Stewart.

Tickets cost \$50 and include buffet and live entertainment.

Corporate sponsorship costs \$250 and includes four tickets with appropriate advertising recognition.

To buy tickets for the event, go to Chicopeerotary.com.

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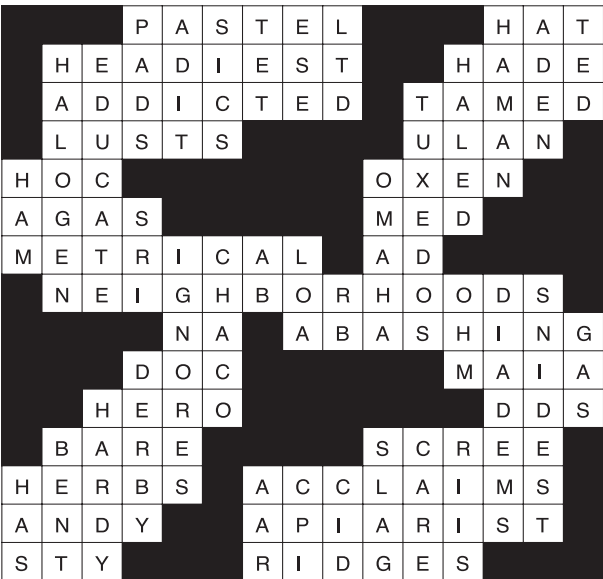
Chicopee Register

NEWS & FEATURES

As a paper of record, we attempt to cover all general news, personality profiles, and community features that we know about. This includes all selectmen and school committee meetings as well as spot planning board, board of health, finance, and other town meetings determined by the issue’s relevance to our readers. There are the annual major community event features that we should always cover, but we are more than open to suggestions of other features to celebrate the fabric of our communities and their many interesting occupants. Our loyal advertisers provide funding for this paid staff coverage.

For more information on news or community features for The Chicopee Register, please email chicopeeregister@turley.com.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

CHICOPEE CITY COUNCIL ZONING COMMITTEE LEGAL NOTICE

The Zoning Committee of the Chicopee City Council will hold a public hearing **Wednesday, September 27, 2023 at 6:30 PM*** in the Chambers, 4th floor, City Hall Annex, 274 Front Street., Chicopee, MA 01013 to discuss the following:

Special Permit application under Chapter 275-58 (C)(5) for the purpose of two residential units in a business building located at 94 Chicopee St. Applicant – Extremely Clean Limo c/o David Provost, 124 Posner Cir, Ludlow, MA 01056.

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

The September 27, 2023 Zoning Committee hearing shall be available to the public via zoom and in person. Zoom credentials are available upon request by calling (413) 594-1435 M-F 8:30 AM – 5 PM or by email at aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov.

The petition and materials related to this proposal are on file in the Office of the City Council, Chicopee City Hall, 274 Front Street, (plans and applications are also available on the City Council website <https://www.chicopeema.gov/880/Pending-Applications>. You may also call (413) 594-1435 or email aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov. 09/08, 09/15/2023

CHICOPEE CITY COUNCIL ZONING COMMITTEE LEGAL NOTICE

The Zoning Committee of the Chicopee City Council will hold a public hearing **Wednesday, September 27, 2023 at 6:30 PM** in the Chambers, 4th floor, City Hall Annex, 274 Front Street., Chicopee, MA 01013 to discuss the following:

Zone Change from Residential A to Business A for +/- 18,730 SF (Parcel

0690-00048) and +/- 24,237 SF (Parcel 0690-0044D) located at 523 James Street and 0 James Street (Parcel ID 0690-00048 & 0690-0044D) for the purpose of creating one contiguous zoning district by extending the existing Business A zoning district to the entirety of both parcels to allow for the future construction of a drive-through coffee shop. Applicant – DDM Property Group, LLC c/o Daniel Hannoush, 166 South Blvd, West Springfield, MA 01089.

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

The September 27, 2023 Zoning Committee hearing shall be available to the public via zoom and in person. Zoom credentials are available upon request by calling (413) 594-1435 M-F 8:30 AM – 5 PM or by email at aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov.

The petition and materials related to this proposal are on file in the Office of the City Council, Chicopee City Hall, 274 Front Street, (plans and applications are also available on the City Council website <https://www.chicopeema.gov/880/Pending-Applications>. You may also call (413) 594-1435 or email aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov. 09/08, 09/15/2023

CHICOPEE CITY COUNCIL ZONING COMMITTEE LEGAL NOTICE

The Zoning Committee of the Chicopee City Council will hold a public hearing **Wednesday, September 27, 2023 at 6:30 PM*** in the Chambers, 4th floor, City Hall Annex, 274 Front Street., Chicopee, MA 01013 to discuss the following:

Special Permit application under Chapter 275-9 (L) (2) for the purpose of amending an existing Special Permit under Chapter 275-50 for a double faced 14’x48’ sign structure to be relocated on the same property and out of

the State of Massachusetts right of way. The existing sign structure will be moved 34 feet North, and 53 feet East. The state of Mass DOT is requiring Lamar to move the existing sign out of the State Right of Way. Waivers requested from 500 feet setback from residentially zoned land and a waiver for 750 feet spacing from any other sign on the property. The requested waiver reduction: 500’ to 115’ and 750’ to 290’ located at 333 Memorial Drive. Applicant - Lamar Central Outdoor, LLC, Patrick Keough Real Estate Manager, 32 Midland Street, Windsor, CT 06095.

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

The September 27, 2023 Zoning Committee hearing shall be available to the public via zoom and in person. Zoom credentials are available upon request by calling (413) 594-1435 M-F 8:30 AM – 5 PM or by email at aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov.

The petition and materials related to this proposal are on file in the Office of the City Council, Chicopee City Hall, 274 Front Street, (plans and applications are also available on the City Council website <https://www.chicopeema.gov/880/Pending-Applications>. You may also call (413) 594-1435 or email aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov. 09/08, 09/15/2023

CHICOPEE CITY COUNCIL ZONING COMMITTEE LEGAL NOTICE

The Zoning Committee of the Chicopee City Council will hold a public hearing **Wednesday, September 27, 2023 at 6:30 PM*** in the Chambers, 4th floor, City Hall Annex, 274 Front Street., Chicopee, MA 01013 to discuss the following:

Zone Change application from split zone Bus A/Res B to Res A for 9,000 SF located at 580 Meadow St. for the purpose of Boys & Girls Club (existing) eliminating a small portion of zoning overlapping and causing a split zone on the site. Applicant – Chicopee Boys & Girls Club, Jason Reed, 580 Meadow St, Chicopee, MA 01013.

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

The September 27, 2023 Zoning Committee hearing shall be available to the public via zoom and in person. Zoom credentials are available upon request by calling (413) 594-1435 M-F 8:30 AM – 5 PM or by email at

aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov.

The petition and materials related to this proposal are on file in the Office of the City Council, Chicopee City Hall, 274 Front Street, (plans and applications are also available on the City Council website <https://www.chicopeema.gov/880/Pending-Applications>. You may also call (413) 594-1435 or email aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov. 09/08, 09/15/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Division Docket No. HD23P1854EA

Estate of: **ALBERT J DESJARDINS** Also Known As: **ALBERT DESJARDINS** Date of Death: **June 21, 2023** **INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **DENISE A FAIRCLOTH of Southwick, MA**

a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

D E N I S E A F A I R C L O T H o f Southwick, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without** surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner. 09/15/2023

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 October 10/1/2023, 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.

2003 Ford F250 Super Duty Vin: 1FTNW21L43EB42738 Unknown Unknown Unknown

2011 Honda Accord Vin: 1HGCP2F42BA111050 Destiny Kamroski 40 Price St. Springfield, MA 01104

2007 Chrysler Sebring Touring Vin: 1C3LC56K97N547151 Juan River 67 Park St. Chicopee, MA 01020

2005 Infiniti FX35 Vin: JNRAS08W05X203458 Justin Illslex 128 Beech St. Tewksbury, MA 01876

2003 Chevrolet Avalanche K1500A Vin: 3GNEK13T73G307944 Wayne Doucette 190 Richmond Rd. Coventry, CT 06238

2006 Hyundai Elantra Gls Vin: KMHDN46D06U365909 Rene Sokoll 76 Entrybrook Drive Springfield, MA 01108

2013 Ford Transit Vin: NM0LS7CN3DT158986 Unknown Unknown Unknown

2007 Chevrolet Malibu Vin: 1G1ZT57F37F289784 Shamyia Washington 119 Main St. Apt. 11 South Hadley, MA 01075

2008 Dodge Avenger Se Vin: 1B3LC46J28N144158 Shawn Mcgrath 129 Moss Rd. Springfield, MA 01119

2009 Nissan Altima Vin: JF1GPAB60G8259994 Jose Arismael Hernandez 12 Beacon St. Burlington, MA 01803

2006 Hyundai Elantra Vin: KMHDN46D16U336242 Amanda Atha 4114 High St. Thorndike, MA 01079

2010 Nissan Sentra Vin: 3N1AB6AP4AL686077 Diana Ortiz 5 Frederick St., Apt. 1 Westfield, MA 01085

2010 Mazda CX-9 Vin: JM3TB3MV6A0213171 Werner Kunz 97 Sawyer Ave. Boston, MA 02125

2011 Toyota Camry Vin: 4T4BF3EK7BR198978 Tricia Quarles 511 Moody St., Unit 6 Lowell, MA 01854

2010 Dodge Caliber Vin: 1B3CB3HA5AD598121 Takeisha Graham 55 Brookledge St.

Boston, MA 02121

2009 Volkswagen Jetta S Vin: 3VWJM71K49M136978 Scott Cleaning & Construction Llc 16 Norton St. Nashua, NH 03064

2014 Ford Focus Vin: 1FADP3K28EL337458 Zaka Merhni 11952 Reedy Creek Dr., Apt. 104 Orlando, FL 32836

2001 Toyota Corolla VIN: 2T1BR12E11C408267 James Odonnell 9 Cedar St. 3L, Taunton, MA 02780

09/15, 09/22, 09/29/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Division Docket No. HD23P1696EA

Estate of: **Howard Lawrence Martin** Also Known As: **Howard L. Martin** Date of Death: **July 8, 2008** **INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Robin J. Martin-Moreau of Chicopee, MA**

a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Robin J. Martin-Moreau of Chicopee, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without** surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner. 09/15/2023



JOB OPENING

STAFF WRITER

Turley Publications, based in Palmer, is seeking a storyteller who is curious about everything, and who understands how town government works to join our team of weekly reporters.

Experience in covering town government is a huge plus, and any experience in community journalism is as well. Staff writers cover all aspects of communities from features to municipal meetings to crimes and fires. Successful candidates must have people skills, plenty of curiosity and able to tell a story.

If you're a self-starter who enjoys community journalism and who can envision themselves connecting with our communities, we encourage you to apply for this position. Not a remote position.

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- Bachelor's degree or equivalent experience
- A determination to get the story, whatever it might be
- Equally comfortable writing hard news, features and event coverage
- Ability to write clean copy in a fast-paced, deadline-driven environment
- Proficiency in Associated Press style

Please tell us in a cover letter why you would be a good fit for this position and send it along with a resume and three writing samples to

Eileen Kennedy, Executive Editor 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069 or email directly to ekennedy@turley.com



Chicopee Register OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$225, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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

PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

- 1 Email all notices to notices@turley.com
- 2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon, Fridays noon for Monday holidays.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

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FOR RENT



All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

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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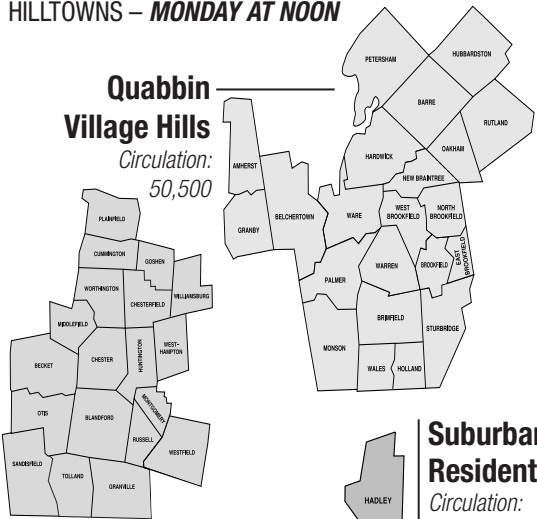
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Chicopee Police Department welcomes new officers



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHLOE SOTO, THE MAYOR'S OFFICE

CHICOPEE – Last week, the city celebrated a momentous occasion as it welcomed six new individuals into the Chicopee Police Department. Introduced as the newest members of the department were Andrew Thomas, Nathaniel Lepage, Roberto Alonso Salinas, Alec Harwood, Kevin Rosa and Nicholas Mayo.



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Wednesday, September 20th • 10:00 AM

Join Day Brook Village for an engaging, interactive workshop to help keep your brain sharp. Emily Uguccioni, Certified Dementia Practitioner, will share her expertise and lead attendees in several activities to help you think outside the box. Brain-healthy refreshments will be served! Tours of Day Brook Village will be offered following this event.

An RSVP is required to attend this event.
Please call 413-561-7958 to secure your seat, visit
RSVPDayBrookVillage.org or scan the QR code.



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