

Chicopee Register

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COMMUNITY



TURLEY PHOTO BY AMANDA MUNSON

Kicking off the clothing drive at Belcher School, Chicopee Electric Light Department and guests posed for a group photo, after a successful assembly.

Chicopee Electric Light hosts clothing drive at Belcher School

By Amanda Munson
Correspondent

CHICOPEE - "You're in good hands with Chicopee Light." Teachers, students, and attendees gathered at Belcher School on Jan. 16 for a clothing drive kickoff to celebrate community engagement, hosted by Chicopee Electric Light.

The clothing drive is known as the Robert Pajak Memorial Clothing Drive, in memory of Robert "Bob" Pajak, the general foreman for Chicopee Electric Light and, later, a commissioner.

Equipped with numerous items of kids clothing, Chicopee Electric was proud to present in front of the enthusiastic crowd and explain why their company is important in the city.

The Belcher School and Chi-

copee Electric have partnered up through this drive in hopes that it brings more awareness in the importance of giving back. Speaking with one of the presenters, General Manager of Chicopee Electric Light Dan Faille, he talked about his involvement within the company and the outreach programs he is involved in.

"I've been with the utility for almost 10 years and have been the general manager for two years. It's a wonderful department. Public power is a wonderful thing. It's something that I am surprised that there's not more of. It allows us to give back to the community with events like this. It also allows us to focus on just Chicopee, keeping the lights on and keeping the rates low, focusing on this community is a great thing. Donations go across to all of the schools in the

city," Faille said.

Attending the assembly was the President of the American Public Power Association Nick Lawler, Coordinator of Safety Programs Ray Gouley, Barbara Pajak, Pajak's wife, Principal Samuel Karlin and the Belcher School staff.

"One of the things we realize is it's hard for students to learn when they're worried about basic needs like clothing. We happen to be in the fortunate position where we are able to help and we have community partners that make great donations to us. Coordinating an event like this is truly an honor for us to serve the community. Our partner in this who handles safety and community outreach is Raymond Gouley,

See **CLOTHING DRIVE** page 5



COMMUNITY

\$60,000 appropriation to Building Special Account approved

Supports emergency demolition/security

By Kristin Rivers
Editor
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CHICOPEE - City Council approved a \$60,000 appropriation to the Building Special Account for emergency demolition/emergency security on Jan. 21.

The 9-2 vote concerned the former Cabotville Mill property and the decision came after Mayor John Vieau explained how the Building Department "has run out of money in their emergency demotion fund and this would replenish that money."

"So, the funds have been depleted as you can see from the background information, the city is obligated to secure that neglected property. Our intention is to recoup all the funds that we've been paying as a municipality for security there to protect that asset," Vieau said. "It's over 700,000 square feet. Again, the current owner has not been complying to a court order to pay for the security at the building that's now vacant."

After Councilor-at-Large Tim Wagner asked how the city

would recoup the funds, Vieau said the property had a lien on it.

"Hopefully, when it closes, we'd recoup the funds in closing," Vieau said.

Wagner later shared he would be voting no "on the simple fact of this developer has been nothing but malicious and antagonistic towards the city."

"At this point, we're just being used as an endless money supply to secure this property that, in all fairness, the developer should be securing themselves. They're just knowingly not making an effort to maintain this building and I'm refusing to vote to spend more taxpayer dollars on it," Wagner said. "If the Massachusetts General Court wishes to mandate that we protect and secure this building, then I'm suggesting they and up some money for it as well. But, we're not going to be paying to keep Silver Brick's property safe--or we shouldn't be--when taxes just keep going up for our people and the budget keeps on going up. This is not a good expenditure for us to have. I don't care if it's legally required, quote unquote. I'm

See **\$60,000 APPROPRIATION** page 6

COMMUNITY

Mutt Rescue receives \$25,000 earmark from state legislature

By Kristin Rivers
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CHICOPEE - Mutt Rescue, a nonprofit organization rescuing needy animals from abusive situations, high-kill shelters and those who are helpless and abandoned, has received a \$25,000 earmark from the state legislature.

On Jan. 17, State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee) was joined by State Senators Jake Oliveira (D-Ludlow) and Adam Gomez (D-Springfield), Ward 1 City Councilor Abigail Arriaga and other community members to present the check to Lori Jerusik, founder and owner of Mutt Rescue, alongside her volunteers and team.

The \$25,000 earmark will go

towards a remodeling project for the organization.

Mutt Rescue is located at 102 Grove St.

After the check presentation, the state legislators followed Jerusik and company inside to meet the nearly 30 dogs currently being cared for and slated for adoption. A space for cats is, also, in the works in the future.

Arriaga explained the earmark was for Jerusik and her team "doing an incredible job" supporting the animals.

"If you know anything about Lori, she just comes here. She takes care of these animals. She doesn't ask anyone for help or support, but the work she does here is amazing, it's incredible and is well-needed," Arriaga said. Arriaga said "it was, of course, a no-brainer when I con-



TURLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS

From the left, Ward 1 City Councilor Abigail Arriaga, Lori Jerusik, owner and founder of Mutt Rescue, State Sen. Adam Gomez (D-Springfield), State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee) and State Sen. Jake Oliveira (D-Ludlow) pose for a group photo with the \$25,000 earmark to support Mutt Rescue in Chicopee.

tacted Lori and asked, 'how can I help?'"

"What can I do to just help give her even the smallest portion, right, and she starts talking about other ideas of expanding, helping even more animals, having the vet here full-time or at least on the weekends, a space for that and aqua therapy for the animals. This is amazing, for free!" Arriaga said.

Arriaga emphasized how the funding for Mutt Rescue "will help our fur animals which are family members to many of us." "I just know that her heart is so big and is going to continue to come up with ways to help all those animals," Arriaga said.

Jerusik was humbled by the support, sharing she's also ex-

See **MUTT RESCUE** page 6

Recommendation for recall vote postponed

By Kristin Rivers
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CHICOPEE - The City Council unanimously approved on Jan. 21 to postpone to the call of the chair a recommendation for recall elections.

The favorable Rules Committee report recommending the postponement comes after the councilors voted on Jan. 7 to send the item back to the Rules Committee for further review, expressing concerns about the recommendations of 500 signatures for an initial recall along with having 5,000 required signatures for recall petition sheets.

Instead, the councilors wanted the Rules Committee to consider smaller numbers for the required signatures.

What is the recall vote petition?

To recap, the proposed recall petition--which has been in the works and discussed by the City Council on several occasions--would be this: any holder of elective city office in Chicopee can be recalled for any reason by any registered voters in the city. The initial recall would need to be signed by at least 500 voters with name and address and then filed with the city clerk.

From there, the Registrar of Voters would verify the signatures within 14 calendar days. If found sufficient, the first 10 registered voters that signed the affidavit will receive a formal numbered and printed recall petition sheet, with 30

days from the date of receiving the recall petition to file the signed recall petitions.

The recall petition sheets are where the required 5,000 signatures would come in.

After the sheets are received and certified by the Registrar of Voters, the City Council will receive the submitted petition and certificate from the city clerk. If the officer recalled does not resign within five calendar days after receiving the written notice from the City Council about the petition, the council would then order an election held on a date chosen by them no more than 90 days after receipt of the certified petition.

Councilors' Thoughts

Ward 2 Councilor Shane Brooks explained the committee "went back and forth for a bit trying to work out the language."

"I think there needs to be some further consideration for what we might consider to include in the language before we do send it to the legislature," Brooks said.

Ward 9 Councilor Mary Beth Costello thanked Brooks for addressing this.

"But, part of the concern of some residents that I've spoken to--it's actually happening in Easthampton right now--and that's censuring," Costello said. "We're talking about recall but I also think, at some point, this committee should look at what would the procedure be to censure an individual and, right now, I believe in Easthampton that is tak-

ing place where the committee is looking at censuring a particular member. So, I again thank Councilor Brooks for his hard work, but I'm just putting on the record besides looking at recall, we should also be looking at censuring."

Ward 1 Councilor Abigail Arriaga approved of the postponement.

"I definitely think this is something we should really take our time with and really make sure that we're taking enough time to really look over this and that the wording is right and that we really feel that we can stand behind our decisions," Arriaga said. "I definitely think is something that needs to take its time and does not need to be rushed through. This is a very important thing for everyone, for the whole city, so I can appreciate us kind of slowing down and really making sure we do this right and get it right."

Councilor-at-Large Tim Wagner noted a line in the proposal that he thought was getting overlooked, reading it into the record.

"Any elected official that is indicted for a crime punishable by imprisonment shall be placed on a paid administrative leave until the resolution of the case. If said elected official is convicted of a crime punishable by imprisonment, they shall be terminated per Chapter 435 of the Acts of 2014. The City Council shall determine by a majority vote who shall fill the temporary vacancy imposed by the paid administrative leave," Wagner read.

Wagner then asked this question.

"Am I to understand that if that language is kept in there, that we are, essentially, going to be presuming guilt until proven otherwise with any elected official who might be arrested for something?" Wagner said. "I'm wholly in favor of removing that language. Holyoke tried to do it with one of their city councilors and a court ordered them to reappoint that member to the board or invalidated the council's decision. That, to me, is a serious due process violation, in my mind, not to mention the signature and percentage requirements and the distinction between different wards and different offices within the city and the signature requirements for those."

Wagner added he thinks "this committee has a lot of work to do."

"But, I think that I just wanted to point that out so that when considering this language going forward, we take care that if this is approved not to violate the rights of any individuals currently holding office within the city," Wagner said.

President/Councilor-at-Large Frank Laflamme said he would note Wagner's suggestion and bring it up to the Law Department and legal counsel.

"Anyone else have information at that time, just send it to me to discuss it," Laflamme said. "As Councilor Arriaga said, go slow. This is going to be the 9th time on this one issue and that's okay, but we need to get it done."

An Evening Celebrating Mary, Mother of Hope at St. Stanislaus Basilica

CHICOPEE - As part of the Jubilee Year of Hope 2025, the Basilica of St. Stanislaus located at 566 Front St. in Chicopee, MA, invites everyone to a special evening celebrating Mary, Mother of Hope on Tuesday, February 11, 2025, the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes.

This inspiring event will begin at 6 p.m. with a Scriptural Rosary reflect-

ing on The Joyful Mysteries, followed by a Marian presentation by Fr. James McCurry, OFM Conv., and a selection of Marian hymns. Light refreshments will be served. Sponsored by the Basilica of St. Stanislaus Rosary Society, this event is open to all. For more information please contact Parish Office or send e-mail to Basilicaofssrs@gmail.com

Harmony House is hosting a Volunteer Recruitment Event

Seeking Active and Vibrant Volunteers

CHICOPEE - For anyone looking for a volunteer opportunity, Harmony House of Western Massachusetts has openings for many functions.

A Volunteer Recruitment Event is scheduled for January 29, 2025 from 6 to 7:15 p.m. at the Chicopee Public Library, 449 Front Street in Chicopee. Current volunteers and staff will be on hand to discuss their experiences at the home and answer questions.

Harmony House is a social model home for hospice care located in Chicopee. The house is currently operated by both volunteers and staff - people who are looking to make a difference for individuals who are facing the end of their lives.


Harmony House is not a place of

sadness; it's a home of joy and peace. The organization is currently in need of caregivers and people who would enjoy the opportunity to support our residents in other ways; for example, companionship, cleaning, outdoor work, helping to stage and promote fundraising events, and so many more purposes.

Whether it's a few hours a week or a few hours a month, Harmony House is a welcoming place for people looking to help people.

Harmony House is a local, non-profit organization whose mission is to provide a loving home offering compassionate care for people who are on hospice and are in need of care.

If interested in learning more or becoming a volunteer, please complete the online volunteer application form at www.harmonyhousewma.org/volunteer-1 or email us at harmonyhousewma@gmail.com.



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CPD Pedestrian Safety Enforcement Part 2

CHICOPEE - On Tuesday, Jan. 14, officers continued their efforts to increase pedestrian awareness on Chicopee St.

During this deployment the officer was crossing at the intersection of Chicopee St and Whitman St. this intersection has flashing lights on both sides of the crosswalk as well as one in the median. As you could see from the video on our Facebook page, operators still failed to stop for him as he attempted to cross the road.

A reminder to pedestrians, while vehicles are required to stop for you in a crosswalk, it is imperative for you to make sure the vehicle has in fact stopped before you step into the road. Make contact with the operator of the vehicle and precede with caution.

Girl Scouts of Central & Western MA to Host Free Science of Snow Event

CHICOPEE - The Girl Scouts of Central & Western MA will host a free science of snow event for girls in Chicopee.

Girls and their guardians are invited to a free Science of Snow event on Monday, February 10, 2025, from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Participants will learn about the different types of snowflakes, learn why it snows, and even make their own!

The event will be held at Chicopee Public Library on 449 Front Street in Chicopee, MA 01013.

This event is for girls in grades K-3, who are not currently Girl Scouts. RSVP by February 6 at <https://go.gscwm.org/ScienceOfSnowChicopee>

For information on Girl Scouts contact info@gscwm.org or call 413-584-2602.

School Committee approves increasing Commonwealth of Massachusetts Virtual School Enrollment Cap

By Amanda Munson
Correspondent

CHICOPEE – The School Committee unanimously approved on Jan. 22 to increase the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Virtual School Enrollment Cap.

The decision to increase the Virtual School Enrollment Cap came after Assistant Superintendent for Student Support Services Carol Kruser presented the proposal, asking the committee to approve a 1% increase to offer more resources to applicable students.

The questions from the committee members ranged from impact on budget and how many students are attending today to comments on how the program positively impacted a student in the past.

“I would like to propose increasing the cap for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Virtual Schools from 1% to 2%. The School Committee did vote on a cap two years ago to cap it at 1%. Since that time, there have been many students who have wanted to get in and could not get in.” “The various reasons — a lot of the reasons — for students wanting to come to the virtual school on their side was if they had home health education tutoring and they wanted more than just the tutoring that we provided,” Kruser said.

Kruser explained one of the biggest reasons for the increase, also, “is to help combat our chronic absentee problem.”

“We are making strides in that, but there’s medical concerns and mental health concerns like anxiety and depression that are keeping students from not attending school and, of course, we are trying to get everyone to attend school, but there are some times where they need another option so that they can graduate,” Kruser said.

Kruser added she was asking “to have that flexibility to take the cap from 1% to 2%.”

“It doesn’t mean that we will always go to 2%. It would just give that flexibility to have a few more open spots. We have been on a waiting list and have turned a lot of people away. In all transparency, we are about at .89% right now, but that is just recent developments. So, I’m asking for the cap to give us that flexibility for some students who need an alternative in order to get their education either temporarily or the duration of their high school,” Kruser said.

When Vice Chair and Ward 7 School Committee Representative Donald Lamothe asked about how it was going to affect the budget, Kruser answered, “there is a cost to it” and “it can be about \$10,000 per student, so it can affect it.”

“So, we do have to keep an eye on it. But at the same time, we’re also looking at the accountability that’s affecting us as well,” Kruser said.

Superintendent Dr. Marcus Ware

was asked by Mayor John Vieau about the total number of students of that 1% increase. The answer was 136 students.

“That is a good question and then of course, like Ms. Kruser said, that it would give us the flexibility for students who have asked in the past when we were at the 1% and couldn’t accept any under. So, given that, extra 68 students would do us a great deal,” Ware said.

Kruser then added this note.

“In all transparency, the two virtual schools do have their own caps and waiting lists. So, it’s not like we would hope that there will be open spots, but they have their own as well because they service a lot of other schools,” said Kruser.

Ward 4 School Committee Representative Sandra Peret asked if a student has to be enrolled full-time, which Kruser confirmed yes.

“It’s full-time school. It’s not part-time, it’s not tutoring, it’s a full-time school,” Kruser said.

Ward 1 School Committee Representative Deanna Rousseau asked about absentee rate impacts.

“So, when a student’s enrolled in this virtual school, they’re not being counted as absent from our rates at another school. Are they being counted as present then?” Rousseau said.

Kruser replied at both of these virtual schools, they are Massachusetts Public Education Schools.

“So, they are not our students anymore. So, they do not affect our list, but what we’re coming to, increasingly, is there are some students who have tried,” Kruser said. “We have tried every intervention possible, but for the particular situation, they just cannot come to school. So, that is affecting our absenteeism.”

Kruser also clarified they would “also be removed from our books.”

At Large Representative Susan Szetela-Lopes shared a positive story of the impact this program had on a past friend.

“Just a few short years ago, I know of a family that their daughter was experiencing severe anxiety about going to school, so we enrolled her in the virtual program. She thrived and attended that virtual program for a couple years and then did go back to—as a senior—attended her high school, I believe it was Chicopee Comp and participated wholly in the school community and really enjoyed her senior year. Having gained the strength through this virtual program to attend her last year of high school and she was wonderful,” Szetela-Lopes said. “It did her a lot of good. I remember I was really pleased because she joined the Best Buddies program and was very active in it and, again, very active in her school community. So, it did this one particular young lady a lot of good.”

Chicopee Public Library hosts events for Kids and Families

CHICOPEE - Each month the Chicopee Public Library hosts a variety of free programs for children 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 January 2025.

Little Movers will be held in the children’s program room on Fridays Jan. 31 at 11 a.m. Babies crawling to 24 months and their caregivers are invited to join us for free play followed by circle time exploring songs, fingerplays and movement!

Saturday Playgroup will be held at 1 p.m. on Saturdays, Jan. 25. Come play at the library! The playspace will be open for families with kids of all ages to meet up and play.

Storytime will be held in the children’s program room on Wednesday Jan. 29 at 10:30 a.m. Storytime is based

loosely around the early childhood literacy skills: sing, talk, read, write and play. We read books, sing and move, and do a craft or activity. Recommended for preschool aged kids.

Read to a Dog will return on Feb. 5!

The library will also offer some programs for teens in January. All teen programs are for middle and high school students.

The library will host a **Breaker Space** for teens on Wednesday, Jan. 29 at 3 p.m. Ever wonder what the inside of a computer looks like or how a VHS tape works? The best way to find out is by taking them apart with your own hands! (And of course putting them back together again afterwards!) Registration is required, contact the Children’s Room to sign up!

For more information about the library and all of the upcoming events, visit www.chicopeepubliclibrary.org.

CPD shares update on Trilby Ave Investigation

CHICOPEE – The police department shared an update with the public on an investigation on Trilby Avenue on Jan. 22:

“On Friday Jan. 17 at approximately 9:21 pm WESTCOMM Regional Dispatch received a 911 call from a female stating that someone had entered her apartment and shot her son. The victim was reported to have suffered several gunshot wounds and was transported to the hospital where he was treated for his injuries.

During the course of the investigation the Detectives learned that the victim, also returned fire striking his attacker. The victim does have a valid license to carry and his firearm was legally registered.

This assault is believed to be a targeted incident, and there was no threat to the community. This investigation is ongoing and being investigated by the Chicopee Police Department with the assistance of the Massachusetts State Police.”

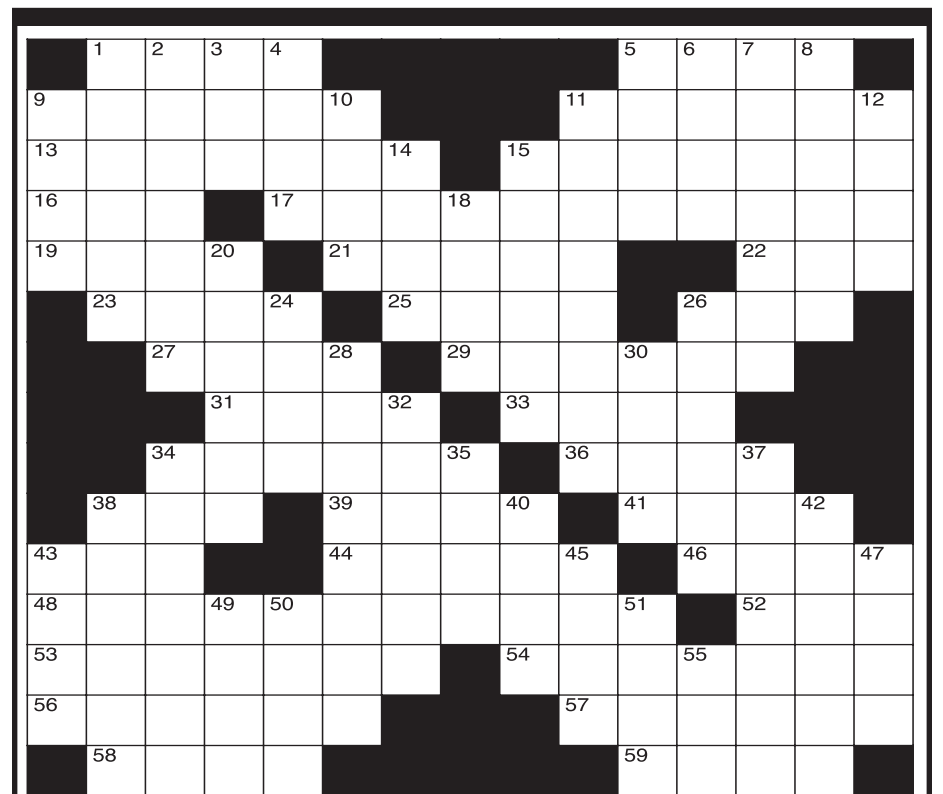
Scholarship Night takes place Feb. 6

CHICOPEE - Get ready for college! Chicopee Public School’s High School College & Career Centers are bringing you the ultimate opportunity to unlock scholarships and gain insider knowledge directly from scholarship committee members.

Plus, hear from experts on college

admissions and financial aid counselors who will guide you on making college an affordable asset! Don’t miss out on this incredible chance to secure your future.

Register for the Virtual Scholarship Night on Feb. 6 at <https://forms.gle/aeD-NiwjQr61bMis3A>.



CLUES ACROSS

1. “Loser” rocker
5. Partner to relaxation
9. Mixing
11. Winged nut
13. Expression of blame
15. Vast ocean
16. Comedienne Gasteyer
17. Multiply
19. Meat from a pig (French)
21. Related
22. Rocker Stewart
23. Surprise completely
25. Loon
26. Canister
27. Large, deep-bodied fish
29. Takes forcefully
31. Oil cartel
33. Palmer and

CLUES DOWN

34. More than one purposefully
38. Pitching statistic
39. Type of sword
41. Witnesses
43. Body part
44. Mixes slowly
46. Satisfy
48. Strong belief
52. One’s physique (slang)
53. More frightening
54. Soup cracker
56. Teaches
57. One who carries something
58. Actor Sean
59. Changes
1. ___ Aires, city
2. Coarse grass

CLUES ACROSS

3. Type of gene
4. Door handle
5. Competition
6. Muslim ruler title
7. Hunting expeditions
8. Large mollusk
9. Bind securely
10. Former U.S. presidential candidate
11. 2-point plays in football
12. Breezed through
14. Type setting
15. Felt for
18. Codified rules
20. Small dome
24. Chevrotain
26. Male reproductive gland
28. Controversial beliefs
30. Z Z Z

CLUES DOWN

32. One who confines another
34. Bishop
35. Garlands
37. Bird that flies by the coast
38. Optical device
40. Greek goddess of discord
42. Some are “Rolling”
43. Formerly (archaic)
45. Thrust a knife into
47. German river
49. Atomic #26
50. Make a grotesque face
51. Primordial matter of the universe
55. Chinese philosophical principle

GUEST COLUMN



Should Social Security money be invested in the Stock Market

Dear Rusty

For most folks collecting Social Security, you get back what you put in within 3-5 years, so for those that scream - "SS is not an entitlement, it is my money"- that is not entirely accurate beyond 3-5 years. For me personally 4.4 years is the number. But had I been able to invest that money over the 43 years I worked at a modest 6% interest, I expect the amount would have been a lot more. And of course, the stock market averaged 9.5% over that time. Perhaps Social Security should invest in the stock market instead of U.S. Government treasury bonds.

SignedInterested Observer

Dear Observer

You bring up a point we frequently hear that if, instead of paying into Social Security, I had invested the same money in the stock market I would have gotten more.

That, of course, might be the case if you had the unwavering discipline to religiously invest the equivalent amount in the market, avoiding the temptation to use that investment for any other reason. And life is full of good reasons, financial emergencies, for example or the simple temptation to buy something desperately needed, or just occasionally skipping a month to pay bills. Also, the stock market is notoriously volatile, which can create substantial angst for investors, who are faint of heart.

The fact is that Social Security provides guaranteed financial growth from the age of eligibility normally 62, up to age 70 when the maximum benefit is attained. Benefits claimed at one's full retirement age are about 24% - 32% more than if taken at age 62 depending on Full Retirement Age and benefits taken at age 70 are about 75% more than benefits taken at age 62. And that is guaranteed growth for those with the patience to wait longer to claim.

You may recall that the idea of investing Social Security reserves in the stock market has been floated a few times in previous years, but accompanying risks made Congress essentially unwilling to even entertain the idea. It has always been a political "hot potato" and those who suggest it are usually castigated for wanting to "give SS money to Wall Street," so I expect it is unlikely to happen.

Guess we'll need to be satisfied with the interest on those Special Issue Government Bonds, which, by the way, returned about \$67 billion to the Social Security Trust Fund in 2023. FYI, average interest rate for new deposits to the Trust Fund in 2023 was 4.1%, and the overall effective rate of return on all Trust Fund assets was 2.4%.

Social Security has some issues and will face some financial difficulty in less than a decade unless Congress enacts program reform soon. But it is a program, which most seniors rely on for a major part of their retirement income and one which keeps over 22 million Americans out of poverty. Here at the AMAC Foundation, we strongly advocate for sensible Social Security reform and we're very optimistic about the program's future. But Congress needs to act soon to avoid a cut to everyone's Social Security amount in about 2033.

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

GUEST COLUMN



Supplemental heat and light aid seed starting efforts

Last week we looked at the supplies needed to start seeds indoors. This week we will dive deeper.

If you have never tried indoor seed starting, it is a worthwhile endeavor for sure. You can grow exactly what you want instead of being defendant on what lines the shelves of local nurseries each May.

Furthermore, there is great satisfaction in having a part of the "miracle." No matter how many times I have witnessed the germination process, it still amazed me that a tiny seed has what it takes within to grow into a plant. All that is needed is heat, moisture and light.

Almost all bedding plants, as well as some vegetables and herbs need warmth to germinate. We provide bottom heat through the use of heating cables or mats set at temperatures between 70-75 degrees.

This poses the question of whether or not seeds will germinate at regular household temperatures of close to seventy degrees. Probably, but not to their fullest potential since ideal temperature is measured not by air temps but by the temperature of the growing medium.

A room set at 70 degrees is likely to have temperatures within the germinating flat five to 10 degrees cooler, due to evaporation at its surface. Invest in a heat mat - if used for a few weeks each season it will likely last a decade or two.

There are many types available to suit your own specific growing needs, even mini mats that are about the size of a standard flat.

Perfect if all you are growing indoors are a pack or two of peppers and tomatoes!

Supplemental lighting comes into play at the instant your seeds have sprouted. Bottom heat is not necessary henceforth (it is even discouraged!).

Seedlings are removed from heat and placed within 3-6 inches of the light source. For short-term use, a shop light affixed with two cool fluorescent bulbs has worked fine for me, although one cool and one warm bulb was recommended "back in the day" to better simulate the full spectrum of the sun's rays.

Now, LEDs are an energy conscious replacement; one I will make when my fluorescent bulbs give out. If you are using fluorescent bulbs, be sure to keep your seedlings away from the ends of the bulb where the lights wanes.

If you plan to use lights for long-term growth a "grow-light" may be a good, albeit more costly investment. Many duplicate the sun quite well, and some are tailored to meet the needs of specific plant types.

For example, some contain more orange and red hues to promote fruiting and budding. They are priced by life expectancy, output and light spectrum.

Installing the lights of your choice with reflectors or "mirrors" will maximize intensity, and suspending the whole system with chains from the ceiling will make for easy raising as your seedlings grow.

If you plan to grow just a few seedlings and don't want to invest in lights, try positioning them in front of an unshaded south window. Turn the seedling flats numerous times during the day to promote straight, stocky growth. Plants that are tall and spindly indicate light intensity is too low.

Please give heat mats and supplemental lights a try, especially if you haven't been successful with indoor seed sowing in the past. This could turn the page of a new chapter of growing for you!

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



DAVE GRANLUND © www.davegranlund.com

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Preston Park in need of community service

To The Editor,

Preston Park is a quaint little park in the Fairview section of Chicopee just beyond the K of C and off of James Street heading towards Westover Reserve Base. At either end of the soccer field you'll find a trailhead that makes a short trek through the wooded area and back.

Unfortunately, the area is located to the rear of Ocean State Job Lot and its mini-mall surroundings. From the rear of the mall,

trash is either blown around at the mercy of the wind or thoughtlessly brought there by uncaring individuals at times.

If there are people looking to fulfill a civic duty obligation or just want to make our community a cleaner and better place to live, just keep Preston Park in mind. Dog walkers and hikers will be grateful. The park needs this work done yearly.

Bill Paul,
Chicopee

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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.

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CHD and Community Partners to Conduct “Point-in-Time Count” of Homeless Individuals in Chicopee and Holyoke

HOLYOKE—On Wednesday, January 29, teams from the Center for Human Development (CHD) and other community partners will be surveying the streets of Chicopee and Holyoke to see how many people in those cities are unsheltered. Those figures, combined with a census of individuals staying in emergency shelters and transitional housing—information taken by local providers—will be reported to the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for its annual homelessness count.

HUD, in turn, will use the data from these “point-in-time” counts on Jan. 29 across the US for its annual Homelessness Assessment Report to Congress. The purpose is to gain an understanding of the number of people homeless in our country on a single night—as well as some

basic characteristics of these individuals. Chicopee and Holyoke police officers will assist in this effort.

“This information is compiled every year to influence policymakers, state and local governments, researchers and service providers,” said Christy O’Brien, senior division director of CHD’s Division of Diversion, Shelter, and Housing.

In addition to gathering data, CHD and other outreach workers use the count as an opportunity to engage individuals and distribute items for emergency needs. These include hygiene kits, socks, backpacks, handwarmers, food, flashlights, and wearable items to protect them from the elements. “Importantly, teams will also distribute information on how to access various community providers for housing assistance, medical, men-

tal health, and substance use care,” said O’Brien. “It will prove to be an incredibly important and fulfilling community event.”

The morning count will take place on Jan. 29 from 10 to 1 p.m. (9:30 a.m. meeting time) at CHD’s Holyoke Outreach and Triage Center, located at 696 Dwight Street, Holyoke.

The afternoon count will take place on Jan. 29 from 3 to 6 p.m. (2:30 p.m. meeting time) at CHD’s Holyoke Outreach and Triage Center, located at 696 Dwight Street, Holyoke.

Those in the media interested in covering or attending either or both point-in-time counts should contact CHD Communications Specialist Brian Fitzgerald at bfitzgerald@chd.org or 413-386-6155. Like last year, CHD’s Division of

Diversion, Shelter, and Housing and its community partners are facilitating this point-in-time count on behalf of the Springfield-Hampden County Continuum of Care, the federally funded collaborative responsible for responding to homelessness in the region. The count collects basic demographic information (age, gender, race, ethnicity, veteran status, presence of a disability), and some questions which help identify need for services. These questions relate to mental illness, substance use, HIV status, and domestic violence, as well as whether a person experiences chronic homelessness.

No individual or identifying information from the count is made public. HUD’s report for the 2024 count can be found here.



Smiling with their fancy holiday sweaters, these students were happy to show off some of the clothing donated.

CLOTHING DRIVE from page 1

who seeks partners throughout the whole state and works with all different municipal electric lights,” Faillie said. “He’s able to get donations and distribute them where they’re most needed. The program is named after one of our commissioners, Mr. Bob Pajak, who unfortunately passed but was always dedicated to this community and giving back. That is why we keep doing this event and honoring him. Our entire focus is on the community of Chicopee and we are, and forever will be, giving back to this community.”

Principal Samuel Karlin spoke about his thoughts on partnering with Chicopee Electric and why it’s crucial for businesses to support public schools. Starting as a first-grade teacher and then transitioning into working as a principal for over 20 years, Karlin enjoyed working with early childhood education.

“At Belcher School, I attribute the success 100% to the staff. We have an extremely dedicated group of individuals, teachers, paraprofessionals, support staff that come in daily and they know what they’re doing with the children. They are here every day working to make sure that the kids have positive experiences and meet the necessary goals of the school,

while also supporting the whole child as well. We are focusing on community and I asked the kids what a community helper was,” Karlin said. “You wouldn’t necessarily traditionally think of the Chicopee Electric Light Department in that, but teaching the children the light department keeps us safe, they keep the electricity on. But in reality, it’s those agencies within the community that play that secondary role where they’re providing support and in this assembly, the clothing is often what we need.”

The presentation started by educating the children on what the utility does, introducing who and what everyone did for work, and ended by having a contest on whether the kids could dribble the ball for an allotted amount of time for basketballs as prizes. Winning several basketballs for the playground, the children had a blast in participating and cheering on their fellow classmates, with staff happy to be given such a generous clothing donation.

Karlin ended by expressing his gratitude to companies like Chicopee Electric Light.

“We want our kids to be comfortable so they can learn. It’s nice to see that people like Raymond Gouley recognize that and ask, what do schools need?” Karlin said.

CFD responds to fire at Fruit Fair



PHOTO AND CAPTION COURTESY OF CHICOPEE FIRE DEPARTMENT

CHICOPEE - At approximately 6:50 p.m. on Jan. 19, crews were dispatched to 398 Front Street for the fire. Upon arrival, crews encountered heavy smoke and a small fire. The fire was extinguished quickly. No injuries were reported. The cause of the fire is under investigation.



CPD rescues hawk

CHICOPEE – On Jan. 18, the police department received a call from a concerned citizen about a hawk that appeared to be injured. The police department was able to locate the hawk and get it to the Environmental Police, who then brought it to a wildlife rescue to be treated for a foot and wing injury.

PHOTO AND CAPTION COURTESY OF CHICOPEE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Laughs for Backpacks takes place Feb. 7

CHICOPEE – Faded Barber Lounge and Breaking Oppression will be hosting Laughs for Backpacks, a comedy fundraiser to benefit the Faded Barber Lounge’s annual giveaway for their Back to School event, on Friday, Feb. 7, at the Portuguese American Club at 8 p.m.

The doors open at 7 p.m. and the show takes place at 8 p.m.

Tickets are \$25 and there will also be BYOS—bring your own snacks—a cash bar, raffles, a 50/50 drawing and silent and live auctions.

The event is for those over the age of 18 or tickets, to donate or sponsor, please visit www.funny4funds.com/events. For more information, contact Ricardo at 413-314-0863 or cutsbyric@gmail.com.



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MUTT RESCUE from page 1

panding to a seven-day hold for dogs that are strays locally.

"If the owner claims, they have to prove that they have their shots and, if not, they will get the shots done and updated and licensed by the town of West Springfield," Jerusik said. "And then, if no one comes forward to claim their dog, then they will become my property and I will find them good homes. After, of course, they get fully inoculated and heartworm tested and everything they need to get them healthy and clean and off to a wonderful, new start."

After Jerusik added the organization holds vet clinics twice a month, Arriaga encouraged the community to stop by and support Muttt Rescue.

"If anybody has fur babies or friends with them, let them know to come down here. Lori and her staff are truly amazing. They're really, really great with the animals and if you have any questions, whether it is about training, behavioral, shots, which ones to get, they're the experts and it's all at a very, very reasonable price and we all need to do that to keep our babies happy and healthy," Arriaga said.

Jerusik thanked Arriaga and the legislators for their support, also crediting her team who she dubs her family.

"It's being well-spent," Jerusik said. "I so appreciate you."

Jerusik also stressed the importance of supporting every dog who needs a loving home, with one of her volunteers sharing the building and addition have come right out of Jerusik's pocket, not from donations.

"I'm not shy to help dogs that have been shot at. They come in crippled, they



Community members, local and state legislators and more pose for a group photo outside Muttt Rescue on Jan. 17 after the nonprofit organization received a \$25,000 earmark from the state.

were born with birth defects and instead of putting them down, we save them, get them the help they need, whether it's amputating or removing eyeballs. They still deserve to be loved and to have a home and that's what I'm here for. This is my calling," Jerusik said.

Arriaga told Jerusik she hopes she and the legislators can continue to lend their support to the nonprofit's mission.

"I'm hopeful we'll continue to work on finding funds and ways to help you and I'm sure we will," Arriaga said.

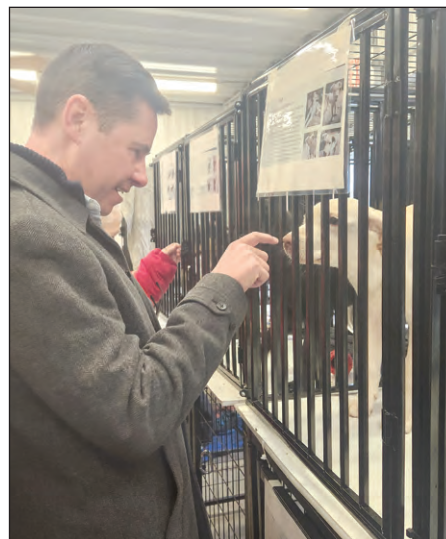
Jerusik, a Chicopee resident, is also proud to live in the city.

"I was born and raised in Chicopee, so there's no better place than Chicopee," Jerusik said.

To learn more about Muttt Rescue and how you can support them, visit mutttrescueofmassachusetts.org, call 413-594-8144 or check out their Facebook page.



Inside, residents will find adorable pups slated for adoption, including this pup here.



State Sen. Jake Oliveira (D-Ludlow) meets Iggly, one of the many dogs at Muttt Rescue.



A volunteer at Muttt Rescue holds up a dog as Ward 1 City Councilor Abigail Arriaga pets it. The dog was quite friendly

\$60,000 APPROPRIATION from page 1

not going to vote for it."

Ward 9 Councilor Mary Beth Costello noted the issue "has been around for a very long time" and this was something she, former Ward 6 Councilor Derek Dobosz and former Ward 3 Councilor Delmarina López spoke about in January or February 2022 "where we made sure that the building would have to be vacated for safety reasons."

"But Councilor Wagner is making an excellent point here. How much money are we as a city going to pay for this particular security? It's good that it's being done, but the legal way of looking at this, it should be the owners of the building that should be providing this. Not the Chicopee taxpayer from what I gather," Costello said.

After Costello asked Attorney Tim Riley if Silver Brick should be the responsible party to pay, he explained the issue is the developer owns it, but "claims he has no more money."

"There's a court order that he agreed to about a year and a half ago that said that he would pay and now he's refusing to pay because he says he has no money. The only way to get money for this is to put a lien on the property and wait for it to be sold," Riley said. "There's no other way to force this developer to come up

with the money. So, it's not as much a question of fairness as it is necessity. This is a very dangerous property and should it catch fire without security, would be a tragedy."

Ward 1 Councilor Abigail Arriaga recalled discussing this last year, including the fire concerns.

"They have to have somebody there because if a fire were to start, it would quickly get out of control and then it would become a huge disaster. So, it's stopping people from getting in, getting killed or hurt and controlling what could possibly be a very big disaster because the building is condemned," Arriaga said.

Ward 6 Councilor Samuel Shumsky agreed with Arriaga's concerns, saying a potential fire "would be a regional disaster" noting "a quarter of a mile long of very old factories with chemicals that would pollute the air."

Shumsky added people live in that area and a fire "would spread rapidly."

"We are eventually going to get the money back if this property ever sells and, hopefully, one day it does. But, right now, I don't think risking people's lives, especially in the middle of winter, not securing this property and potentially having a disaster happen is what Chicopee needs right now," Shumsky said. "I'm hoping that in the future the property does have

a potential buyer or potential owner so we can get the money back, but I do support passing this tonight."

Wagner said, "To call this a potential regional disaster is a gross overstatement of the condition of this property."

"First of all, a lot of this building is just brick. A lot of it's just not going to burn. But, second, I don't think half the people in this city or in the Planning Department or in any board or commission on the city can attest if there's any sort of chemicals that would cause any sort of a significant pollution and I just think it's absolutely ridiculous," Wagner said.

Wagner then noted \$15,000 of the \$60,000 "is just to make sure that the fire department has access to it" and \$45,000 is for "9 weeks worth of security."

"Nine weeks. This is ridiculous. Why are we just not taking the property at this point?" Wagner said.

Councilor-at-Large Jerry Roy addressed Wagner.

"Councilor Wagner, if you think for one second that that building wouldn't burn, that would go up like a torch, take my word for it. Those floors in there--I've worked in that building for a lot of years--they are oil-soaked for years and years and years and years," Roy said. "It wouldn't take much for that thing to go up in flames, believe me."

Costello asked Riley if there was a way to resolve the issue without "throwing more money into this particular property" and "if we can take the building ourselves."

"What can we do to make it more financially efficient and to make it safe for the city?" Costello said.

Riley replied, "That would be more of a political decision to be made by the mayor" on whether to take the property and "from a legal perspective, I think we're doing everything we can."

Ward 8 Councilor Gary Labrie favors putting the money in.

"I don't like doing it, but I just think that this could be a catastrophe and somebody could get killed in there and then we're on the hook for this," Labrie said.

Arriaga noted there were three bids for boarding the property up.

"If we just go ahead and board it up, which yes is an initial cost of \$95,000, it will cease the 24/7 security and bring it down to one driveby a day which is \$25," Arriaga said.

She added if they do that \$95,000 as opposed to the \$60,000 now and then another \$60,000 in 9 weeks, it would be over that \$95,000.

"So if boarding it up seems to be a faster, easier solution than keep coming back every few months for security since there's already a process, if the buyers fall through, I think we should just be proactive," Arriaga said.

President/Councilor-at-Large Frank Laflamme said he spoke with Building Commissioner Frank Boron and clarified, "It's not about the state, it's about the liability."

"But, he has our city building inspector by law and his license says he must for public safety secure any building that he feels necessary. Whether it's in a fire, whether it's on hold or whatever," Laflamme said.

Laflamme agreed to approve the money and tell Vieau to look at window boarding, stressing the safety and liability concerns by referencing a massive fire that occurred at Facemate years ago.

"I know it's a tough one, we keep doing it, but at the end of the day as the mayor said, we're going to recoup our money because we're the first to get paid," Laflamme said.

On the numbers, Ward 3 Councilor Susan Goff said \$200,000 was allocated for security and boarding of the building.

"From January, February and March, that was to board up the first floor at \$140,000 and then 12 weeks at \$5,000 for security of the building," Goff said. "Now we're asking for another \$60,000 for security for 9 weeks. So, right now, just since November, December and January we're asking for \$260,000. I just want to put that point out there."

Goff added, however, she doesn't want the city to take ownership of the property "because it will cost a lot more."

"But, the amount of money that we're asking for for security is a little concerning," Goff said.

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Comp holds off Mustangs comeback



Eliza Burger looks to shoot.

MONSON – Last Wednesday night, Chicopee Comprehensive girls basketball defeated host Monson 65-46. Monson had a tough time getting the offense going while Comp was consistent throughout the entire game. Monson charged back with a 25-point run in the fourth quarter, but the deficit was



Taryn Carriveau passes the ball away.



Kaitlyn Gilhooly sends a pass to her left.

much too great to overcome. Comp was led by Taryn Carriveau with 23 points. Sheyenne Santiago had 10 points. Comp is 7-3 this season. Monson was led by Olivia Chrzan, who led all scorers with 28 points. Cali Zielinski had nine points, all on treys, for the Mustangs. Monson is 3-6 this season.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

Ava DeBettencourt looks to pass.

Pacers fall to Agawam



TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

Darwin Irschick gears up for a shot on goal.

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

HOLYOKE — The Agawam and Amherst hockey teams were co-champions of the Fay Division two years ago. Amherst finished in first place in the league standings last year followed by Agawam.

Before the start of the 2024-25 regular season four of the Fay Division teams and three teams from the Wright Division were combined into one Division, which is now called Fay-Wright.

Even though there was a couple of changes made to the Division, Amherst and Agawam were still the top two teams in the Fay-Wright standings at the midway point of this season.

The Brownies kept their league titles hopes alive with a 4-1 victory over rival Chicopee at the Fitzpatrick Skating Rink in Holyoke, last Wednesday night.



Brennan Corcoran goes after a loose puck.

“This is a very big win for us because one of our team goals is to win the league title,” said Agawam head coach Todd Rowley. “We’re chasing Am-

See **HOCKEY** page 9

Chicopee girls fall at Minnechaug

WILBRAHAM – Last week, it was two wins at home for Minnechaug Regional High School girls basketball. The big win for Minnechaug was over rival Chicopee High 63-34 last Monday night. In the win.

Minnechaug was led by Ava Manning with nine points. Three others had eight points scored in the win and 10 different players for Minnechaug registered points in the victory, which makes the Falcons 5-2 for the season. Chicopee was led by Kiyah Price with 13 points. Cassidy Pytel had 10 points for the Pacers. Unfortunately, Chicopee is now 0-10 on the season.



Kiyah Prices looks around to make a pass.



Sophia Moreia tries to get around the Chaug defense.



Nyla Francis is pressured by an opponent.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY SOFIA DIGRANDE

Cassidy Pytel sends a pass away.



Thompson Speedway to feature 10 events

THOMPSON, Conn. — After weeks of careful planning, the American-Canadian Tour (ACT) and Pro All Star Series (PASS) have finalized and released the 2025 schedule for Thompson Speedway. Beginning in late March through Columbus Day weekend in October, rolling thunder returns to the ‘Quiet Corner of Connecticut’ for ten individual dates in 2025 including the annual Icebreaker and Sunoco World Series weekends along with a return to monthly Wednesday night racing.

Everything begins on Saturday, March 29 with the first of two days celebrating the 51st Icebreaker weekend to kick off the 2025 New England racing season! Saturday is headlined by the return of the Monaco Modified Tri-Track Series for the first of two spectacular showings on the Thompson highbanks in 2025 plus the PASS Super Late Models, Evolve Bank Pro Truck Challenge and R&R Race Parts NH Open Street Stock Series! Saturday’s showcase also kicks off the 2025 track championship sea-

son for the Sunoco Modifieds and Mini Stocks plus the introduction of Thompson Speedway’s newest division, the Thunderstock Crown Vic Division!

Sunday, March 30 is headlined by the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour Icebreaker 150 plus the second Sunoco Modified event of Icebreaker weekend along with the Thompson Late Models, Street Stocks and SK Light Modifieds for a spectacular closer to the season’s rip-roaring start!

The Monaco Modifieds return to headline the first Wednesday night action on May 14, complete with all six Thompson track championship divisions before the fan-favorite Dash for Cash Series returns for the first of three Wednesday Night programs on June 18, complete with the Evolve Bank Pro Truck Challenge and six Thompson divisions. The Dash for Cash 50 lap sprints will also return with the NEMA Lite special on July 9, the Wednesday, September 17 showdown and the Friday of Sunoco World Series weekend.

The NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour is back for their traditional midweek showdown on August 6 headlined alongside the New England Supermodified Series and six Thompson Speedway divisions for a thrilling midweek special that cannot be missed!

The 63rd Sunoco World Series of Speedway Racing begins on Friday, October 10 headlined by the Dash for Cash \$5,000 to win sprint plus the R&R Open Street Stocks and Senior Tour Auto Racers (STAR) alongside track championship finales for the Late Models and Mini Stocks. The Thunderstock Crown Vics will also run on both Friday and Saturday of World Series weekend.

Saturday afternoon is headlined by the incredible 75th annual Race of Champions 150 held for the first time at Thompson Speedway with a \$12,500 prize headed for the winner of the iconic Al Gerber Memorial trophy! Saturday also features the championship finale for the New England Supermodified Series, along with the Evolve Bank Pro Truck Challenge and

Harry Kourafas Memorial 22 for the New England Pro-4 Modifieds. The Sunoco Modifieds will compete in their first of two days during the Sunoco World Series and the SK Light Modifieds will crown their 2025 track champion.

Sunday, October 12 will feature the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour Sunoco World Series 150 with the Sunoco Modifieds and Street Stocks crowning their track champions with the NEMA Lites rounding out the season-closing program.

“We’ve built up a schedule we think works for everyone,” said PASS President Tom Mayberry. “There’s a little bit of everything for each event that we believe works for both fans and racers alike.”

“Both Tom and I have had quite a few conversations with competitors and 2025 looks promising,” said ACT managing partner Cris Michaud. “The return of the Dash for Cash races and expanding the Crown Vic races are something we’re looking forward to seeing grow at Thompson next season.”

T-Birds get win at Bridgeport

BRIDGEPORT, Conn. — The Springfield Thunderbirds (17-15-2-1) had six players record multiple points in a 6-4 triumph over the Bridgeport Islanders (8-25-2-2) on Saturday night at Total Mortgage Arena.

The T-Birds and Islanders’ netminders had all the answers in the opening 20 minutes, as Colten Ellis picked up where he left off from his shutout performance on Wednesday with 10 more stops in the opening frame. In the Bridgeport net, Hunter Miska made his first AHL start in nearly three years and was up to every Springfield challenge with 11 first-period stops.

The night marked the much-anticipated debut of Blues’ 2023 first-round pick Otto Stenberg, and the 19-year-old wasted little time in period two making his mark on the game, taking a drop feed from Hugh McGing in the left circle and roofing a wrister short-side on Miska for his first AHL goal on his first shot at 2:43.

Unfortunately, the excitement of Stenberg’s opening tally was quickly tempered when Chris Terry evened the slate with a power play goal at 3:29 for Bridgeport, snapping Ellis’s shutout streak of over 83 minutes.

The T-Birds returned fire at 8:56 when Hunter Skinner leaned into a one-time slapper off a Matthew Peca drop pass, beating Miska over the stick hand to give Springfield a 2-1 advantage.

Once again, however, the Islander power play had a rebuttal. This time, a Samuel Bolduc point wrister eluded

Ellis and got the game back even, 2-2, at 13:50.

Springfield continued to be just a tick faster than the Islanders in the see-saw second frame as Stenberg let a wrister fly from the left side at 15:45, creating a rebound for McGing to bury behind Miska and restore the T-Birds’ lead.

Finally, the Islanders could not get the game back to a stalemate, and Alek Kaskimaki lifted a backhand under the crossbar on a net-crashing play up the left side at 19:20 to send Springfield to the second intermission dressing room ahead 4-2.

Bridgeport still did not keel over, and with the teams skating 4-on-4 in the opening minute of the third, Liam Foudy capitalized on a rebound outside the paint to make it a 4-3 contest.

MacKenzie MacEachern further bolstered the Springfield advantage when he picked the puck off from Bolduc and cruised in on Miska before beating the netminder glove side on a breakaway to make it a 5-3 game at 7:33.

McGing capped off his best night of the season with his second goal of the evening in the dying seconds of a power play at 11:13 of the third to up the lead to 6-3.

Eetu Liukas would get one back for the Islanders with 1:03 to play, but it was too late for the home team as Springfield cashed in its fourth straight win and second in four nights over Bridgeport.

Railers grab point in OT loss

WORCESTER — The Worcester Railers beat the Wheeling Nailers, 3-4 in overtime, Sunday afternoon at the DCU Center.

Not a typo, no. It is just that all things considered, the point Worcester earned was one of the best points a Railers team will ever get out of a hockey game.

They trailed the best team in the league, 3-1, with less than five minutes to go in the third period. Then, at 15:23, Jordan Kaplan converted a shorthanded breakaway to make it a one-goal game.

With goaltender Hugo Ollas on the bench, Worcester took it down to the limit and Anthony Repaci scored with four seconds to go in regulation. He converted a pass from Griffin Loughran and beat Taylor Gauthier from the bottom of the right circle with a low shot.

It was the latest game-tying goal in franchise history.

“I actually thought we had a lot more time than we did,” Repaci said, “maybe something like 20 seconds. That was cutting it close but it was an exciting finish.”

Yes, you might say that.

That Matt Koopman scored for Wheeling to win it just 49 seconds into overtime was a downer, but it did not ruin the day, all things considered.

Even before the opening puck drop the Railers were in a hole.

It was their third game in less than 72 hours, and it was against the team with the best winning percentage in the ECHL. Two of their defensemen, Matias Rajaniemi and Cam McDonald, were called up by Bridgeport before the game. Worcester replaced them with one defenseman, Anthony Hora up from the SPHL and making his ECHL debut. So the Railers dressed only 17 skaters.

With McDonald and Rajaniemi in

the American Hockey League, there were no Bridgeport contract players in uniform. The only NHL contract player was goalie Hugo Ollas. He is assigned here by the Rangers.

Worcester responded with a great effort from the start although it took a while for everything to fall into place.

“For us playing a three in three, with the effort they put out, I just wanted them to play to the wire,” coach Nick Tuzzolino said. “If the score had stayed 3-1 I probably would have been just as happy. I thought they played well. That’s a pretty gutsy effort against a really good team.”

Over the last two weekends Worcester took six of a possible eight points versus Wheeling. The Railers extended their overall points streak to eight games. They are 5-0-3 in those games. It is their longest points streak since they won nine in a row to open the 2022-23 season.

It was 0-0 after 20 minutes. David Jankowski scored for Wheeling at 8:55 of the second period. Cole Donhauser answered for Worcester at 14:26, snapping a 12-game goals drought. Manny De St. Phalie’s goal at 15:48 allowed the Nailers to take a 2-1 lead into the third period.

When Chris Ortiz made it 3-1 at 6:21, it seemed unlikely that the Railers would have enough petroleum in the tank to come back. Kaplan changed that perspective, then Repaci wound up rescuing the point.

It allowed Worcester to earn five of a possible six points on the weekend with all three games ending in 4-3 scores.

The All-Star break is here. It will give the Railers time to rest up from their dramatic weekend, but Tuzzolino isn’t going anywhere.

“I can’t,” he said. “I’ve got to go find some players.”



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We will be featuring photos from all 11 of our sports sections, but as always, you can see all the photos that appear by subscribing to your local paper or picking up a copy in your community.

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REMEMBER TO SUPPORT YOUR LOCAL SPORTS TEAMS



Jake Fournier looks to get around an opponent.

HOCKEY from page 7

herst for first place in the league standings. We'll need to win the rest of our league games and hopefully get a little bit of help from a couple of other teams. Any team in our division can win a game on any given night, so you can't afford to take a team lightly."

The Brownies, who also won the first meeting of the season against the Pacers, 4-1, had a 7-3 overall record and a 7-2 league mark following last Wednesday's match. Their three remaining league games are against McCann Tech (Feb.1), Easthampton (Feb. 4), and Amherst (Feb.11), who had a 4-0-1 league record.

The top four finishers in the Fay-Wright Division will also qualify for the Western Mass. Class B. Tournament.

"We're in a great spot to qualify for this year's Western Mass. Tournament, which is another one of our goals," Rowley added. "Only the top four teams in the Fay-Wright Division will qualify for the Class B. Tournament. It's going to be like a Beanpot style tournament."

Agawam will most likely qualify for the Division 2 state tournament.

Chicopee, who co-ops with Chicopee High, Comp, South Hadley, Granby, Holyoke and the Pioneer Valley Chinese Immersion Charter School in Hadley, were sitting in fifth place in the league standings with a 2-7-1 overall record and a 1-5-1 league record. The Pacers defeated Peabody (6-5) and Easthampton (3-2). They tied Amherst (2-2).

"We might not win every game that we play, but we've become one big family," said Chicopee senior Chris Walczak, who attends South High School. "Even though we lost tonight's game, we still tried our best."

Agawam doesn't co-op with any other high school.

"I'm a math teacher at Agawam High School and it's nice seeing all of my players during the school day," Rowley said. "There is nothing wrong with a co-op, but I think there is a little more pride having players from the same school."

Agawam and Chicopee failed to score a goal during the opening period.

The Brownies did receive their first



Braydon LaDuke attempts to work away from the side.

power-play opportunity of the game with 37 seconds remaining in the first period.

Thirty four seconds into the second period, senior Aiden Pisano scored a power-play goal giving the Brownies a 1-0 lead.

"The power-play goal at the start of the second period was huge for us," Rowley said. "Then we scored a couple more goals right after that."

The senior duo of AJ Robbins and Cole Buffum were credited with assists on the game's first goal.

Less than a minute later, senior Evan Connery scored Agawam's second goal, which was assisted by senior Trevor Del Barba, and Buffum.

"We came out on fire offensively at the start of the second period," Connery said. "Aiden got things started with a power-play goal. Then I scored a goal a couple of minutes later. The puck was in the air, and I grabbed it with my glove before banging it into the net. This is a very good win against one of our biggest rivals."

Agawam took a 3-0 lead when senior Vinny Montagna fired a shot into the net past Chicopee freshman goalie Landyn Dugan (42 saves) with 12:50 left in the second period.

The Brownies third goal was assisted by junior Anthony Barbarini and sophomore Kaeden Clifford.

The Pacers, who only had five reserve players and a back-up goalie against the Brownies, did get on the scoreboard two minutes later following a power-play from freshman Jake Fournier, which was assisted by junior Darwin Irschick.

The Pacers also had consecutive power-plays in the third period, but the Brownies managed to keep their two goal advantage.

"The penalty kill is one of our strongest parts of our game," Rowley said. "We were able to kill back-to-back penalties in the third period."

The Brownies sealed the deal with a goal by Barbarini with 56 seconds remaining in regulation.

The assists were given to sophomore Camden Saltmarsh and senior Landon Ashford.

Agawam sophomore goalie Dmitri Huey made a total of 30 saves in the Brownies second win of the regular season against the Chicopee hockey team.



Tyler Denison looks for a teammate to pass to.

CPD shares sidewalk reminder after recent snow storm

CHICOPEE - Just a quick reminder that sidewalks and fire hydrants need to be cleared off. The police department has been getting complaints about unshoveled sidewalks. Homeowners are responsible for removing the snow from the sidewalks in front of your property 24 hours after the completion of the storm.

PHOTO AND CAPTION COURTESY OF CHICOPEE POLICE DEPARTMENT



Events & announcements schedule

Japanese For Beginners Zoom Class

CHICOPEE - The Chicopee Council on Aging will offer Japanese for Beginners Zoom classes beginning Tuesday, Jan. 14 thru Tuesday, April 1 at 4:30 p.m. via Zoom.

Join Charlie Duquette, USMC/Retired, for this 12-week series on learning basic Japanese. You will need a valid email address and access to Zoom for this class as it will be virtual and in the comfort of your own home. Class will meet at 4:30 every Tuesday beginning Jan.14 thru April 1 via Zoom. A study group will be held at Chicopee Senior Center every Friday at 2 p.m. from Jan. 17 thru April 4. You must provide a valid email address at the time of registration.

Chicopee Senior Center Volunteer Dishwasher needed

CHICOPEE - The Chicopee Council on Aging at RiverMills Center is looking for a volunteer Dishwasher for our congregate meal site. This volunteer position would be Monday thru Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

This position would be assisting with dishwashing for the congregate meal site after lunch service. If you are interested in this volunteer opportunity, please contact RiverMills Center's Volunteer Coordinator Brandon Dumas at 413-534-3698 ext. 130 for additional information or stop by the reception desk to pick up an application.

Harmony House Needs Volunteers

CHICOPEE - The doors have opened at Harmony House of Western Massachusetts and potential volunteers are invited to explore the opportunity to help others in our communities.

Harmony House of Western Massachusetts is a social model home for hospice care located in Chicopee. After closing our original home in 2019 and purchasing a house in the Aldenville section of Chicopee for renovation, the organization is actively serving our residents with the help of volunteers and staff members.

Harmony House

is currently in need of caregivers and people who would enjoy the opportunity to support our residents. Whether it's a few hours a week or a few hours a month, Harmony House is a welcoming place for people looking to help people.

Harmony House is a local, non-profit organization whose mission is to provide a loving home offering compassionate care for people who are on hospice and are in need of care.

If interested in learning more or becoming a volunteer, please complete the online volunteer application form at www.harmonyhousewma.org/volunteer-1 or email us at harmonyhousewma@gmail.com.

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

HOLYOKE - The Holyoke Chicopee Family & Community Program is currently hosting a "Raising A Reader" Family Shared reading program.

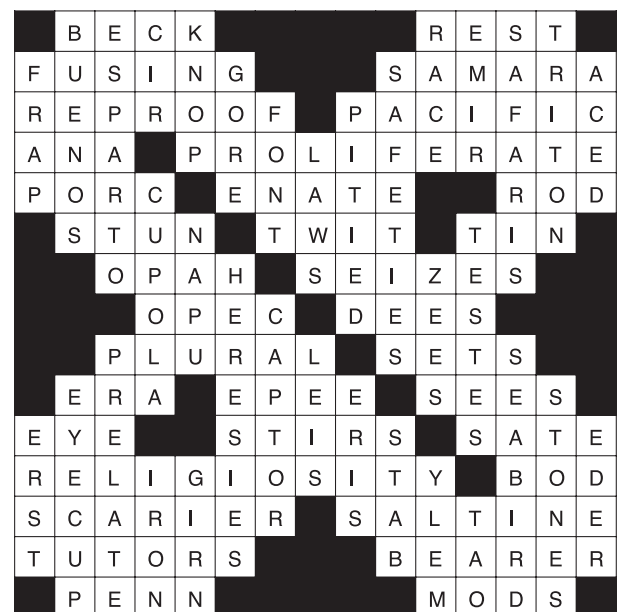
The program is for families with children from infant to five years old.

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.



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PUBLIC NOTICES

INVITATION FOR BID CHICOPEE ELECTRIC LIGHT 725 FRONT STREET, CHICOPEE, MA 01020 BID NO. C.E.L. 25-0517 ISSUE DATE: JANUARY 24, 2025

Sealed proposals are being accepted for: **15 KV ALUMINUM & COPPER URD PRIMARY CABLE (ANNUAL BID)**. BID OPENING DATE, TIME AND LOCATION: **FEBRUARY 6, 2025 at 10:00 AM** at Chicopee Electric Light, 725 Front Street, Chicopee, MA 01020-1778.

BIDS WILL ONLY BE ACCEPTED IN DUPLICATE. PLEASE READ AND COMPLY WITH THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS ENTITLED 1.0 PREPARATION OF BIDS.

Bid documents are available at the business office located at 725 Front Street, Chicopee, MA 01020-1778.

The Vendor/Contractor shall comply with the provisions of Executive Order No. 11246, as amended by Executive Order No. 11375, entitled "Equal Employment Opportunity" and of Chapter 164 Sec. 56D as amended, of the Massachusetts General Laws, both of which are here incorporated by reference and made a part of this contract.

The Department reserves the right to reject any or all proposals, or to accept any proposal that in the opinion of the Municipal Light Board, is in the best interest of the Municipal Lighting Plant.

Is your firm a: **MBE/WBE** (please circle) MBE/WBE firms must be currently certified by the Commonwealth of

Massachusetts.

Please submit Bids in **duplicate** clearly marked with the Bid Number and Title: **BID NUMBER: C.E.L. 25-0517 TITLE: 15 KV ALUMINUM & COPPER URD PRIMARY CABLE (ANNUAL BID)**

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Purchasing

01/24/2025

**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. HD25P0060EA
Estate of:**

**Gary Albert Godin
Date of Death: 12/03/2024
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 **Jennifer A Corridan of Longmeadow, 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: **Jennifer A Corridan of Longmeadow, 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 02/11/2025. 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: January 14, 2025
Rosemary A Saccomani,
Register of Probate
01/24/2025

**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 February 7, 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.

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W08AR671485055828
Alexander Deleon-Llinas
19 Saab Ct., Apt. 807
Springfield, MA 01104

2009 Volkswagen Jetta
3VWRM71K99M153116
Asante Roman
207 Westford Cir.
Springfield, MA 01109

2005 Utility Trailer
2SWUW11A85S018835
Edwin Rogriguez
21 Bernard St.
Chicopee, MA 01020

1998 Jeep Cherokee
1J4FJ68S0WL136212
Lenny Church
15 Ballard St., Apt. 0
Easthampton, MA 01027

1996 Saturn Sw1
1G8ZH8288TZ321134
Richard Holmes
146 Pleasant St.,
Dracut, MA 01826

2017 Hyundai Accent
KMHT4AE4HU248578
Keonda Lashay Bradley
4015 Scarlitt Ln NW,
Kennesaw, GA 30144

2011 Honda Civic Lx
2HGFA1E56BH502352
Zadrian Correa
38 Beauchamp St.
Springfield, MA 01107

2002 Jeep Grand Cherokee
1J4GX48S82C132796
Kaylin Macneil
226 Beech St., Apt. B
Holyoke, MA 01040

2024 Coleman Bike 196cc
L9NLTNBR4R1814240
Unknown Owner

2003 Infiniti G35
JNKCV51E73M005956

Kayla Villanueva
60 S 2nd St., Apt. 6C
New Bedford, MA 02740
01/24, 01/31, 02/07/2025

**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 January 31, 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.

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Laredo
1C4RJFAG2EC237548
Timothy Cosenzi
8 Dalton St.
Wilbraham, MA 01095

2008 Mitsubishi Outlander
Es
JA4LT21W78Z019861
Angel Feliciano Domenech
18 Country Club Dr., Apt 22
Manchester, NH 03102

2013 BMW 328XI
WBA3B5G51DNS04012
Jason Morgan
22 Chipmunk Rd., Fl 2nd
Springfield, MA 01108

2009 Honda Civic Hybrid
JHMFA36249S012122
Burhan Maras
28 Franklin St., Apt. B
Ludlow, MA 01056

1999 Toyota Corolla VE/
Ce/LE
2T1BR12EXXC104251
Lillian Claudio
497 E Pleasant St., Apt. 96
Amherst, MA 01002

2017 Freightliner Cascadia
125
3AKJGLDR4HSHZ6594
Camino Freight Inc

21003 66th Ave.
Kent, WA 98032
01/17, 01/24, 01/31/2025

**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 January 24, 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.

2010 Hyundai Elantra GLS/SE
VIN:
KMHDU4ADXAU161640
Zackary Michael Joubert
232 Spikenard Circle
Springfield, MA 01129

2018 Toyota Corolla L/Le/
Xle/Se/Xse
VIN: 2T1BURHE3JC002382
Damaris Rodriguez Burgos
125 Dorset St. #House
Springfield, MA 01108

2010 Honda Accord Ex-1
VIN: 1HGCP2F87AA001015
James Bradley and
Eliza Vargas
303 Maple St. Apt. 358

Springfield, MA 01105
2005 Jeep Liberty Limited
VIN: 1J4GL58K55W595242
Maria A Gagliardi
28 Weybosset St.
Shelton, CT 06484
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HELP WANTED

Small church in West Brookfield seeking a **PART-TIME SECRETARY**. Approximately 5 hours/week. Candidate must have organizational and computer skills, social media experience, good communication and people skills a must. Starting paying \$16-18/hr. based on experience. Send resume to: fccwbworship@gmail.com.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

Middlefield, MA.
Part-time, 960 hrs/yr,
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Email resume+ cover letter highlighting strengths/ flexibility to [Administrative Assistant: middlefield.assistant@gmail.com](mailto:middlefield.assistant@gmail.com)

TOWN OF BLANDFORD

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The Town of Blandford is seeking a qualified individual for the position of Highway Superintendent. Salary range starting at \$75,000-\$80,000+ negotiable based on experience/skills. Please visit our website TownOfBlandford.com or email Administrator@TownofBlandford.com for more information.

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More information found at www.wilbrahamunitedchurch.org/about-us-2/

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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.

GREEN STREET, PALMER Newly renovated 1 bedroom apt. porch, off-street parking, coin-op laundry, \$1,500/ mo includes heat. No Pets. Call Tom **413-896-1555**

**Classified
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MONDAY AT NOON**

Elms College Receives Grant for Mental Health Workers

CHICOPEE - Elms College is honored to have been granted additional funding for Behavioral Health Field Programs from the State of Massachusetts.

Through the governor's office, this initiative aims to support individuals pursuing their education to become behavioral health professionals and increase the number of available professionals. This grant will help cover required placements and internships for those pursuing their education in behavioral health degree programs. It will reduce financial barriers to achieving their degree while offering them invaluable experience.

Elms College offers a range of programs designed to prepare students for successful careers in the following behavioral health fields, including Social Work, Psy-

chology, and Applied Behavioral Analysis. These programs are critical in addressing the growing demand for skilled behavioral health professionals in our community.

"Elms College is proud to educate behavioral health professionals to serve our community", said Joyce Hampton, Elms College Vice President of Academic Affairs. "We are grateful that so many of our students can complete their internships and practicums with transformative local organizations, and this state funding provides timely student support to help lighten the load."

The need for more behavioral health professionals is driven by several factors, including the continuous mental health crisis, which has increased the demand for care. Additionally, this will allow for more equitable access to care for those across our community. Elms College is excited to educate more students to become effective and compassionate behavioral health professionals.

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](http://www.publicnotices.turley.com)

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.

CPD and CFD assist in water rescue, arrest

CHICOPEE – The police department thanked the Chicopee Fire Department for assisting them with locating a male party on the banks of one of the islands on the Chicopee River on Jan. 16.

Officers initially made contact with the individual and attempted to place him under arrest for several outstanding warrants. The male party fled on foot, down the bank of the river and into the water.

He eventually made his way onto an island and attempted to elude arrest. With the assistance of our drone unit, officers were able to determine his location and called upon the fire department to launch a small vessel and recover the party.

He was placed under arrest and transported to the hospital for evaluation due to being in the water and his exposure to the cold weather.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHICOPEE FIRE AND POLICE DEPARTMENTS



CPD receives blessing bags



Photos and caption courtesy of Chicopee Police Department
 CHICOPEE – The police department thanked Kevin from Jenna's Blessing Bags for stopping by on Jan. 21 and dropping off 30 backpacks. Each bag has a jacket, blanket, snacks and some personal hygiene products. Our officers will be handing these out to people in need in our community.



LOWER PRICES TO BOOST YOUR BUDGET!	INFLATION	PRICE BUSTERS	PRICES IN RED ARE AT OR BELOW LAST YEAR'S PRICES!
USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN PORK LOIN RIB END or LOIN END ROAST \$1.91 lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF TENDERLOIN CUT FREE \$10.88 lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN PORTERHOUSE or T'BONE STEAKS..... \$8.99 lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF TENDERLOIN CUT FREE \$10.88 lb
USDA INSP. FROZEN ST LOUIS PORK RIBS..... \$2.59 lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN BEEF CHUCK ROAST or STEAKS \$5.99 lb	USDA INSP. FRESH CHICKEN WINGS 10 LB BAG..... \$2.49 lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF TENDERLOIN CUT FREE \$10.88 lb
USDA INSP. FRESH STORE MADE BONELESS STUFFED PORK LOIN CHOPS or ROAST W/ BREAD STUFFING \$3.35 lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN BEEF CHUCK ROAST or STEAKS \$5.99 lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN CHICKEN THIGHS TRAY PAK..... 79c lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF TENDERLOIN CUT FREE \$10.88 lb
SLICED IN OUR DELI ITALIAN ROAST BEEF..... \$5.99 lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN BEEF CHUCK ROAST or STEAKS \$5.99 lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN CHICKEN THIGHS TRAY PAK..... 79c lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF TENDERLOIN CUT FREE \$10.88 lb
SLICED IN OUR DELI MUEENSTER CHEESE..... \$5.99 lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN BEEF CHUCK ROAST or STEAKS \$5.99 lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN CHICKEN THIGHS TRAY PAK..... 79c lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF TENDERLOIN CUT FREE \$10.88 lb
TAILGATE TIME!	USDA INSP. GROUND FRESH DAILY DIET LEAN GROUND BEEF 5 LB BAG \$4.99 lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN CHICKEN THIGHS TRAY PAK..... 79c lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF TENDERLOIN CUT FREE \$10.88 lb
USDA INSP. STORE MADE BONELESS ITALIAN MARINATED CHICKEN BREAST..... \$2.99 lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN BEEF CHUCK ROAST or STEAKS \$5.99 lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN CHICKEN THIGHS TRAY PAK..... 79c lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF TENDERLOIN CUT FREE \$10.88 lb
USDA INSP. STORE MADE BBQ SWEET MARINATED BEEF BLADE STEAKS..... \$6.99 lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN BEEF CHUCK ROAST or STEAKS \$5.99 lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN CHICKEN THIGHS TRAY PAK..... 79c lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF TENDERLOIN CUT FREE \$10.88 lb
90 Meat Outlet 90 Avocado St. Springfield 413-737-1288 www.90meat.com HOURS: Mon. - Wed. 8-4, Thurs. 8-6 • Fri. 8-6 • Sat. 8-3 BUY DIRECT FOR SAVINGS • SELECTION • SERVICE We reserve the right to limit quantities.			

Dream Designers

CHICOPEE – Join us for exciting and interactive STEM activities designed to ignite curiosity, creativity and critical thinking in children 2.9 to five years old and their families.

Explore, experiment and discover the wonders of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math through hands-on experiences!

Location: Tuesdays at H.B. Lawrence Elementary School, 156 Cabot St., Holyoke
 Thursdays at Szetela Early Childhood School, 66 Macek Dr., Chicopee
 Time: 4 to 5 p.m.
 Dates: Tuesdays: Jan. 28 through March 11
 Thursdays: Jan. 30 through March 13
 Children must attend with an adult.
 To learn more, call Shane at 413-310-1632.

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We cannot recommend Maureen enough to any potential buyers who are looking for a reputable realtor. She made homebuying such an easy process for us and was there every step of the way no matter what day or time we needed her. She found us our dream home in less than a month and we couldn't be happier with our purchase. She answered all of our questions, and if she didn't have the answer, she found it. She's humble, kind, trustworthy, and reliable. If you're looking for someone who will fight for you and is looking out for your best interest, she's the one. Even after closing she checked in every single day and offered her assistance in anyway we needed. We are proud to not only be a client of hers, but also friends.
 - Alexandra L. & Dremus W.



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