

Chicopee Register

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COMMUNITY

9th Annual Battle of the Badges

CPD and CFD skate to support Boys & Girls Club

By Amanda Munson
Correspondent

CHICOPEE - "It's a win-win scenario, it's a fun hockey game to be part of and it supports the Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee!" On a late Saturday afternoon at the Fitzpatrick Ice Skating Rink in Holyoke, the CPD and CFD put their hockey skills to the test by competing in the annual charity game, named the Battle of the Badges, on March 15.

The fire department won the game for the second year in a row.

With all proceeds benefiting the Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee, along with sponsorships from local businesses and desirable raffle prizes, attendees had plenty of opportunities to support the city and enjoy a thrilling game.

The Battle of the Badges has been happening since 2017, a mission "...to bring together the Chicopee police and fire departments in a spirit of sportsmanship and collaboration. By engaging in



TURLEY PHOTO BY AMANDA MUNSON

An intense face-off between the CFD and CPD hockey team players.

friendly competition, we aim to raise awareness and funds for essential community programs while fostering mutual respect and teamwork between our dedicated first responders. Together we skate for a safer, stronger community." Along with the Boys &

Girls Club, there was a food drive for Lorraine's Soup Kitchen & Pantry and scholarship opportunities for students of Chicopee High and Comp.

Mayor John Vieau was in attendance, who said the team he's rooting for is for the city of Chicopee and was happy to

see so many people supporting the Boys & Girls Club.

"It's a beautiful day in Chicopee and Holyoke! The police and fire departments, Chicopee finest and bravest, coming together and really bringing the community out and supporting one of my fa-

vorite non-profits. I couldn't think of a better organization for all these proceeds to go to," Vieau said. "I know how hard the departments work and I think public safety is paramount, which is the success of Chicopee, they get this opportunity to play in a recreational

hockey game. While also getting a bit of bragging rights! It's a great way to get everyone together for a great cause."

Volunteer Kim Wolf was supporting her nephew, CPD

See **BATTLE OF THE BADGES** page 5

COMMUNITY

Chicopee raises Irish Flag ahead of St. Patrick's Day

By Kristin Rivers
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CHICOPEE - Residents, community members, local and state elected officials and more gathered outside city hall on March 14 to raise the Irish flag for Irish Heritage Day.

The flag raising also came ahead of the St. Patrick's Day holiday and before the Holyoke St. Patrick's Day Parade that will be taking place on March 23, where Chicopee will be one of many communities marching along in the parade.

The mayor's proclamation was presented to the Chicopee St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee--with Denise Noble and Nicole Mendes receiving it on the committee's behalf--and Grand Colleen Daiana Torres and Court Members Hannah O'Neil, Wilmette Cumba, Emma Caproni and Meghan Oxley also receiving certificates of recognition from Mayor John Vieau.

After praising this year's Colleen and her court, Vieau reflected on the city's Irish history, crediting Historian Steve Jendrysik for the information he found and who,



TURLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS

The Chicopee St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee poses with the mayor's proclamation after the Irish Flag Raising ceremony on March 14.

also, wrote a piece about embracing Irish influence in Chicopee.

Also, former Mayor Dennis Murphy, who served one term from 1899 to 1901. Murphy was born in Cork, Ireland on December 12, 1843, and immigrated to the United States at 19 years old and worked at Dwight Manufacturing as a carpenter's apprentice for about a year.

At age 20, Murphy organized his own construction business called The Murphy Company, leaving a lasting impact on Chicopee Center and the Market Square area. Murphy's company also constructed the former Central Library that is currently undergoing renovations.

"I'll tell you what Mayor Murphy is. He's an example of the Irish contributions to

the city of Chicopee. There's many Irish-Americans that call Chicopee home and there's a lot of Irish pride here," Vieau said.

State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee) reflected on the Irish contributions and culture not just in the city, but also across the state and

See **FLAG RAISING** page 6

COMMUNITY

Security funding for Cabotville approved



TURLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS

The City Council approved security funding and to have the first floor of the former Cabotville Mills boarded up during a special meeting on March 10.

First floor to be boarded up

By Kristin Rivers
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CHICOPEE - The City Council approved security funding for the former Cabotville Mills in a 12-1 vote during a March 10 special meeting.

Mayor John Vieau explained Cabotville "is a privately-owned piece of real estate here in the city that we're hopeful that there's a new prospective buyer who's very interested" in buying the property.

"You'll see on your next agenda that there is a special permit request for residential development that--and I know our city planner is here--that I believe that application has been accepted and is sufficient to make your agenda for the next meeting," Vieau said.

On this request, Vieau said how "we're running out of money for security" and decided it's in the city's best interest to board up the first floor as required by law "and maintain security because the current owner has chosen not to."

"We will be liening the property with every intention to recoup the entire amount that we've paid to date for security and, also, for the boarding up," Vieau said. "So, the goal is to make sure we protect that asset..."

Building Commissioner Frank Boron elaborated that a building the size of Cabotville "either needs to be 24/7 security which we've been for a little while now or it needs to be boarded and just maintained" according to Mass General Law and the building code.

"So, speaking with the mayor, I think it's come to a point where we have a potential buyer that's pretty interested," Boron said. "But, in the meantime before the closing goes through and everything gets approved, we still have the obligation of maintaining that property and I think it's in our best interest to board it and keep an eye on it."

Boron said the boarding up should take "a couple weeks" and he received three bids, with one chosen and approved and ready to start once approval is received. Those bids, he later added, were be-

See **CABOTVILLE** page 10

COMMUNITY

School Committee receives updates on Superintendent Evaluation Mid-Year Review

By Amanda Munson
Correspondent

CHICOPEE - The School Committee received updates on the Superintendent Evaluation in a mid-year review from Superintendent Dr. Marcus Ware on March 5.

Ware began by explaining what the evaluation entails and what viewers and attendees can expect from it, a check-in to "see how we are doing in comparison to

goals, give updates and give information on what you will see in late spring and summer when I am up here explaining how the year went and what metrics I'll be using."

"There are five priorities leading into the school year. I am going to go into each of the priorities, as well as additional priorities that naturally are woven into the work that's done by myself and my team," Ware said. "We will start with English Language

Arts which is priority number one. What the School Committee and viewership should know is when the subcommittee met--that's Mr. Bernard, Mrs. Peret and Mrs. Schofield--when I explained to them the update I was going to be giving tonight, it's rooted in a similar expectation that I gave to the principals this year, and one of those expectations was looking at our systems and understanding in order to pull out

a true way of measuring our system and how it's being effective, we need to be in one accord."

Ware also referenced his entry plan he presented last year, where he told the School Committee and public how "I was spending my time really understanding the systems that were in place and how they actually do or

See **SCHOOL COMMITTEE** page 9

IN THE CITY

Chicopee Adult Day Health Center officially opens its doors

By Kristin Rivers
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CHICOPEE - Chicopee Adult Day Health Center, a community health center that's a social and medical-based facility, has officially opened its doors.

Chicopee Adult Day Health Center is located at 939 Chicopee St. and is open Mondays through Fridays from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., with plans to open on Saturdays in the future.

Nuestra Casa Adult Day Health Center, located in West Springfield, is the first adult day health center, with this one in Chicopee serving as the second.

Inside, residents will find a quiet room with a waterfall, a game space with billiards, foosball, ping pong and a plastic bowling alley, a service coordinator to bridge the gap between members and services in the community to find resources, nurses, a kitchen providing hot breakfast and lunch catered by Sazón Latino, a barbershop for haircuts and nail treatments, a fitness

room with gym equipment and a grand room where food is served and events will take place.

A future art space is also in the works along with another pool table and domino tables, with more to come.

Upcoming events can be found at www.chicopeecenter.com.

Mayor John Vieau expressed excitement for what the center will offer the community and looks forward to the city partnering with them, emphasizing their services go beyond Chicopee.

"When it comes to Western Mass--and I usually say this about Chicopee--if there's a need, a cause or a reason, they come through every single time. They never let me down, they never let this community down and providing things like this, it gives people opportunity just to be happy and that's what we pursue every single day," Vieau said.

State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee) shared a bilingual message in English and Spanish and emphasized how "it's going to be a resource for so many I know,



The purple ribbon is officially cut—with golden scissors—to celebrate the grand opening and ribbon cutting of Chicopee Adult Day Health Center on March 13.

personally, who are going to come here to enjoy this."

"Thank you so much for investing in your dream and making it a reality. It's not easy, we all know, so it takes a lot of courage and strength and faith to make a goal, achieve it, and most importantly, to be here in Chicopee. We really welcome you, we're happy you're here," Arriaga said.

After State Sen. Adam

Gomez (D-Springfield) presented a citation from the Massachusetts State Senate to Carlos Rosario, director of operations, and CEO Alex Eydinov, Rosario said, "It's been a long road coming."

"We were excited to be a part of Chicopee, so thank you for the warm welcome. We're ready to help out the community--all over Western Mass--but here in Chicopee we're so proud to be a part of what the community is doing. Thank you all for having us. Thank you all for the amazing team that put so much time into this buildout, so much time into getting people through our doors," Rosario said. "To our team at MetroCare, to our team at Chicopee Adult Day Health Center, we are truly proud, we are truly honored and we are so thankful for every single one of you that's here at this very moment."

Eydinov said the community health center is open "to basically all ages from 18 to indefinitely" and their main goal "is to get people out of the home."

He added the community health center hopes to, also, help people stay out of hospitals and facilities in their communities and avoid institutionalization.

"I have been doing home health care in Springfield since around 2013 and one thing that we see a lot in home health--when we do visits to the home--is we see a lot of in-



TURLEY PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RIVERS

An exterior shot of the Chicopee Adult Day Health Center on Chicopee Street.

dividuals who are getting that care in the home, but they're often just in their home all the time," Eydinov said. "For us--we provide transportation here--so we want to get people out of their homes, into the community, interacting with each other, meeting new people, having fun."

Eydinov said helping people find what they need fulfills him most whether it's a nurse helping with medication, a case manager helping with housing or insurance applications and more.

"If we can help in that way, that is the most fulfilling part for me," Eydinov said. "Any significant change in somebody's life I think is very valuable."

Reflecting on the space, Eydinov shared, "We knew we had to be here" and the

community and area are what drew them to Chicopee.

"We saw that there was not a lot of social services here in Willimansett, specifically, so that's what we're here for. We're here for the area and the community," Eydinov said.

Eydinov's message was this.

"The message that I have for the residents is, well, thank you for having us here, but we're here for you. So, my message is to come check it out, see if you like it--I think you will--but we're here for the Willimansett, the Chicopee community and the surrounding areas and we're happy to see everybody here," Eydinov said.

To learn more, call 413-315-9036 or stop by. A social media page will be coming soon.



A group photo comprised of the team at Chicopee Adult Day Health Center and local and state elected officials during a break from a tour inside the community health center.

Chicopee to hold a public hearing for renewal on Charter/Spectrum Cable Services

CHICOPEE - The City of Chicopee will conduct a public hearing on April 2, regarding the renewal of Charter/Spectrum Cable services. This hearing pertains solely to cable services, which will continue unchanged.

It is important to note that the city does not have the authority to regulate pricing or service costs. However, we have managed to limit the increase of the public access fee to a minimal amount.

We encourage the pub-

lic to attend this meeting and welcome any questions or concerns.

Date: April 2, 2025

Time: 10 a.m. - Noon

Location: City Hall Auditorium, 3rd floor, 274 Front Street, Chicopee, MA

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IN THE CITY

Hampden District Attorney discusses leadership, citizenship with Chicopee Athletes

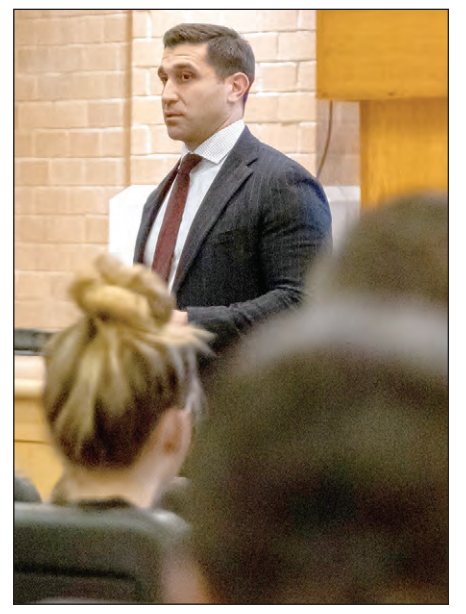
CHICOPEE - Athletes and parents from both Chicopee High School and Chicopee Comprehensive High School attended the school's first Student Athlete Spring Seminar on March 12, an evening offering coaching, career, and leadership advice.

The schools welcomed Hampden District Attorney Anthony D. Gulluni, his Community Safety and Outreach unit (CSO), and Westfield State University Men's Soccer Coach Chris Streeter.

The District Attorney kicked off the event with a question, "How many of you are athletes?" Students all raised their hands. His next question, however, received far less hands: "Now, how many of you are leaders?"

He stressed the significance of being a good person and making smart decisions. Gulluni added if students are being good citizens - they are inherently being good leaders.

"Hard work is the answer to everything," Gulluni said when asked by a student how to motivate other teammates in the off-season to contin-



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

ue to practice and exercise. He encouraged the student to come up with an exercise plan, begin to execute it themselves, and encourage teammates around them to join in. "Say to your teammates, 'I have this plan, I'm doing this, it's going to make our team better and stronger, and you should join me too,'" he said.

Following Gulluni's

presentation, the CSO came before the group to discuss social media usage and the consequences of engaging in certain behaviors online. The team shared a short video featuring a scenario where a student is asked for inappropriate pictures of themselves, and the student makes the wrong choice. The video depicts how

can spread throughout the school, and even further - to the internet.

The team highlighted how one picture or one post can follow students for the rest of their lives, potentially affecting college acceptance, or even future career opportunities.

Finally, Streeter came before the students and parents,

walking them through the recruitment process. He shared valuable insight with the group, such as female athletes beginning their recruitment process early in their sophomore years, while male athletes begin the process in their junior to senior years.

He advised students on how to contact coaches, what to include in their emails, and

how to create effective high-light videos showcasing their athletic performance.

Streeter underscored the value of what Gulluni shared, "If you're not a good person, if you're not willing to work hard, if you're not willing to hit the books, or not willing to train hard - none of this will apply to you," Streeter warned.

Chicopee Public Library hosts events for Kids and Families

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

Saturday Playgroup will be held at 1 p.m., on Saturdays, March 22, 29. Come play at the library! The play-space will be open for families with kids of all ages to meet up and play.

Afterschool Thursdays is a new program series for school age children that the library is introducing in March

and plans to run through the spring. Each Thursday afternoon will be a different opportunity for older kids to explore a fun, creative activity. Recommended for ages six and up, teens and tweens welcome. On the first Thursday of each month, the longstanding Build with LEGO program will continue. Freeform building time with a big pile of LEGO will be on Thursday, March 6 at 4 p.m. On the other Thursdays different activities including art, games and science experiments will be offered at 4pm. No registration required.

Storytime will be held in the children's program room on Wednesdays March 26 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.

Little Movers will be held in the children's program room on Fridays March 28 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!

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

Second Chance and Teddy Bear Pools to host Community Vaccine Clinic and Supply drive April 18

CHICOPEE - Second Chance Animal Services and Teddy Bear Pools & Spas are teaming up once again to bring a vital community vaccine clinic to Chicopee. On Friday, April 18, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., pet owners can visit Teddy Bear Pools, located at 41 East Street, to take advantage of free distemper and parvo vaccinations for dogs and cats. In addition to the free distemper vaccines, rabies vaccinations will be available for \$18, and micro-chipping services will be offered for \$22.

As part of this special event, Teddy Bear Pools will also be hosting a supply drive to support Second Chance's mission. Community members are encouraged to stop by and drop off much-needed items, including wet and dry cat food, Purina Puppy Chow,

and XL black trash bags.

This community vaccine clinic is part of Second Chance's ongoing commitment to improving access to essential veterinary care. "We are excited to once again partner with Teddy Bear Pools to bring lifesaving vaccines to area pets," said Lindsay Doray, Chief Development Officer of Second Chance. "This clinic is open to all pet owners-you don't need to live in Chicopee to register."

Pet owners are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity, made possible by generous grants from Petco Love and the Rosemary Davis Foundation. All services will be administered by Second Chance veterinary professionals dedicated to the health and well-being of pets.

Ted Hebert, owner of Teddy Bear Pools, expressed

his enthusiasm, stating, "Barbara and I are humbled to have the opportunity to help our furry friends and the communities we serve."

To ensure a smooth and efficient process, online registration is available at www.secondchanceanimals.org/scasconnect-springfield. Pre-registration is recommended, but walk-ins will be accommodated based on availability.

Second Chance Animal Services also offers weekly low-cost vaccine clinics at their veterinary hospitals in North Brookfield, Southbridge, Springfield, and Worcester.

For more information about Second Chance Animal Services and upcoming community vaccine clinics, please visit www.secondchanceanimals.org.

CPL announces upcoming programming

CHICOPEE - Here are some of our upcoming library programs.

The Chicopee Library will be doing a 15 hour beginner computer class "Tech Goes Home" on Wednesdays and Fridays in March from 1 to 3 p.m. At the conclusion of 15 hours of class, participants will receive a computer and one year of internet. Registration is required.

Wednesday, March 26 at 6 p.m. - Understanding Alzheimer's and Dementia

Join us on Wednesday, March 26 at 6pm for a presentation on "Understanding Alzheimer's and Dementia." Learn about the difference between Alzheimer's disease and dementia, the early warning signs of dementia, risk factors, the importance of early detection, new treat-

ment options, and local resources.

This program is presented by the Alzheimer's Association. Register through the calendar or call the Reference Desk at 413-594-1800x3.

Thursday, March 27 at 6:30 p.m. - Sun on the Muddy

Local authors Jim Armenti and Dave Madeloni present Sun on the Muddy: poems, music and photos at the Chicopee Library on Thursday, February 27 at 6:30pm. Author and musician Jim Armenti and photographer Dave Madeloni present poems, songs and photographs from their new book "Sun on the Muddy". Armenti, who is a singer/songwriter for the Lonesome Brothers shares his reflections on the people and things that make a life while

Madeloni finds beauty in often ignored places.

This program is free and open to the public. No registration is required.

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

If you need technology help, we offer one-on-one computer help on Mondays at 2pm or by appointment.

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

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OPINION

LETTER TO EDITOR

Primal instincts and cult awareness

To The Editor:
Even though our own species has evolved over perhaps millions of years to where we now stand today harnessing a supreme intellect over all other species, we are still hardwired to the past. We still look for security by bowing to those who seem bigger, stronger and most assuring to protect us – the biggest wolf to lead the pack.

As for cult mentality, a more extreme version of instilling a leader, we may also tend to follow an individual surrendering our own self-worth allowing that person

or persons to be our guide and savior.

To not think and reason for ourselves may end up being regretful, shameful and even dangerous!

We as a society are at a juncture where we must find strength by compassion for others and an inner strength as a guide for righteousness against all forms of tyranny and suppression.

And to bear arms when necessary to preserve human dignity!

Pray we see the light!
Bill Paul,
Chicopee

GUEST COLUMN



By Ellenor Downer

Sandhill cranes



I received an email from a Worthington resident, who saw two sandhill cranes on Sunday, March 16.

It was most likely was just a coincidence. However, the next day March 17, I spotted a pair of sandhill cranes in my hayfield, a first ever sighting at that location.

Several people reported seeing sandhill cranes at various locations in town last year. There is a breeding pair, who successfully raised young, in nearby Hardwick.

The sandhill crane is a tall, 45," gray, heron like bird. It has a dark red patch on its forehead and a black bill. Some of the feathers on the sandhill crane's back are iron stained due possibly to preening from mud rich in that mineral.

Immature cranes are grayish with more rust stained feathers. They keep this plumage for two years. The female sandhill crane lays one to three olive eggs with dark marks in a mound like nest of weeds, grasses and marsh like plants placed on the ground or in shallow water. They migrate in flocks, feed on agricultural fields and roost in the center of shallow lakes or rivers. They display courtship behavior of jumping off the ground during their migration. They feed on seeds, agricultural grains and small animals.

Common mergansers

I received reports of seeing common mergansers. My daughter saw common mergansers in Hardwick. A Hubbardston couple also saw common mergansers. A Brimfield resident, who sends bird reports on a regular basis, saw common mergansers at a pond in Warren last week. There was a large section of open water. He also saw lots of mallard, Canada geese, a few black ducks and a hooded merganser.

Bald eagles

The Brimfield resident in an email on March 8 said, "Yesterday in Ludlow I visited an eagle's nest on the bank of the Chicopee River. Eagles have nested in this area for over ten years with four different nest locations. I first found a nest across the Chicopee River in Springfield

that was visible from Ludlow. Then the nest was on the Ludlow side of the river for one year. I lost track of the nest for a few years when it was in a tree that subsequently fell down. I was told about the fourth and current nest three years ago. If the bird on the nest is the female that has been nesting in this area and had at least one young two years ago she is banded and is twenty years old."

Two of my grandchildren and I saw a mature bald eagle perched in a tree at the edge of my hayfield on Saturday, March 15. I stopped the car and my granddaughter, Lizzie, got out of the car to take a photo with her cellphone. I said the eagle will probably fly away. As she approached, the eagle turned its head to watch her. As she approached it bent down, opened its tail feathers displaying the white feathers and then took off. She got a photo of its white tail.

The Brimfield resident saw two bald eagles at a pond in Warren, an adult and an immature. The immature eagle flushed up some ducks while flying around the pond. On another day he saw four eagles, two adult and two immature. An Oakham resident also saw a bald eagle recently.

Other birds

The same person saw a great blue heron, hooded mergansers, three ringed bill gulls and a small flock of red-winged blackbirds. Earlier this month, he said, "Two fox sparrows showed in the afternoon, always nice to see them. A pair of blue birds are irregular visitors as are sharp-shinned hawks. Last week an adult chased juncos into a quince bush without success. And this week an immature sharpie was in the yard for awhile."

He said he takes in his feeders at night as bears should be out and about. He read an article that the skunk cabbage is up and is a sign that so are the bears. Black bears eat skunk cabbage leaves in the spring when they first emerge from the dens to "kick start" their digestive system. They also return to their favorite feeding grounds, often back yard bird feeders.

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

GUEST COLUMN

Sweet potatoes get my vote

My dad was a "meat and potatoes" kind of guy. Mashed, baked or fried, potatoes were his thing.

Growing up, we usually had potatoes most nights for dinner. Since I have been an adult, I don't eat potatoes very often at all.

I often wonder if that particular Irish gene missed a generation, since I prefer the sweet potato over the regular potato any day of the week. Read on to learn all about this nutritional powerhouse.

According to www.nutritiondata.com, sweet potatoes are "low in sodium, and very low in saturated fat and cholesterol. They are also a good source of dietary fiber, vitamin B6 and potassium, and a very good source of vitamin A, vitamin C and manganese."

If these facts aren't reason enough to try adding this veggie to your garden this growing season, delight in the fact that it is also a very pretty vine!

In fact, once I grew "sweet potato vine" in the planter boxes at Old Sturbridge Village. I didn't know at the time that the variety I was growing also produced bountiful tubers. It was one of those obvious things that I just didn't put together.

It's kind of funny that when I attempted to grow them on purpose at home, they were an utter failure. By the time I peeled the thumb-size roots, there was literally nothing left to eat.

It is time for a refresher on sweet potato culture.

Sweet potatoes require a

long growing season – somewhere between 90-150 days. The tender shoots are cold sensitive, and must be planted into the ground after all danger of frost has passed. In our area

for the first two weeks; after that sweet potato plants are reportedly somewhat drought tolerant. When fertilizing, choose a formulation that is a bit lower in nitrogen, otherwise you will have lots of vines at the expense of sweet potatoes.

Dig up your bounty on a dry day, being extra careful not to damage the skin. Don't leave them exposed to the sun for more than an hour and don't wash them either.

Picky, aren't they?

Fresh sweet potatoes aren't all that sweet – a curing period of two weeks in the dark at 70-80 and at high humidity will bring out the great flavor we are accustomed to. Long-term storage should be at temperatures around 60 degrees.

To make sweet potato fries simply cut the root into thick wedges then toss them with seasoned olive oil (or a favorite salad dressing). Bake on a cookie sheet at 350 degrees for one hour, flipping occasionally. Some ketchup as a dip may help reluctant kids to give the "funny orange French fries" a try.

My dad is probably looking down and wishing I did an article on good, old fashioned russets. Sorry, Dad, but Happy St. Patrick's Day anyway!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

we use Memorial Day as our "frost-free date."

Then, the edible root, aka the sweet potato, must be harvested before the first frost of fall. By my records, the first frost usually occurs in early to mid-October.

This equates to 100 days bare minimum of growing time.

You can purchase plants through the mail or try sprouting your own from sweet potatoes purchased from the grocery store.

Dick Raymond, author of my favorite gardening book of all time, "Garden Way's Joy of Gardening" (Storey Publishing \$24.95) has some great tips for doing this: Seven or eight weeks prior to Memorial Day, simply cut the spuds in half lengthwise and lay them down in moist peat moss in a shallow tray. Cover with plastic wrap and place in a sunny window until sprouting occurs.

Slips should be separated and planted about six inches deep, twelve to fifteen inches apart from one another.

He advises to water well



by Roberta McQuaid



DAVE GRANLUND © www.davegranlund.com

Can I avoid paying the Medicare premium?



Dear Rusty:
Is there any way I can get out of paying the \$185 I am told will be taken out of my Social Security for Medicare Part B when I turn 65?

We pay for Medicare all our working lives, and now I have to pay a monthly premium for insurance that only covers 80%.

Signed: Disheartened Senior

Dear Disheartened:
For clarification, the money you paid into Medicare while working during your lifetime was for Medicare Part A, inpatient hospitalization coverage. The Medicare taxes paid while working entitled you to free Medicare coverage for Part A, inpatient hospitalization coverage, but they do not entitle you to Medicare coverage for outpatient services coverage for doctors, medical tests, etc.. For that coverage from Medicare, you must enroll in Medicare Part B, for which

there is a monthly premium (\$185 per month for 2025). If you wish to have Medicare Part B coverage, you must enroll in Medicare Part B at age 65, unless you have other "creditable" healthcare coverage from an employer.

The Medicare Part B premium will be automatically deducted from your Social Security payment when you enroll in Medicare and there is no way to avoid it if you wish to have Medicare healthcare coverage for outpatient medical services. But, if you currently have "creditable" healthcare coverage from an employer, you can delay enrolling in Medicare Part B (thus avoiding the premium) until your employer coverage ends.

If you don't enroll in Medicare Part B during your initial enrollment period at 65 or in a Special Enrollment Period following the end of your creditable employer healthcare coverage, then

you will incur a penalty for enrolling in Medicare Part B outside of the prescribed enrollment periods. That penalty is a permanent increase in your Medicare Part B premium. FYI, "creditable" is an employer group plan with at least 20 participants.

We do not advise going without outpatient healthcare coverage, so you should carefully consider enrolling in Medicare Part B when you turn 65. If you are already collecting Social Security benefits, you will be automatically enrolled, but you can opt out of Part B if you wish – it's just not advisable, unless you have current creditable healthcare coverage from an employer.

So, to recap: the Medicare taxes you paid while working only entitled you to free Medicare Part A inpatient hospitalization coverage. You must enroll in Medicare Part B (for which there is a monthly premium) to have Medicare healthcare coverage for outpatient healthcare services. Both Medicare Part A and Part B have deductibles and copayments, for which you may wish to consider getting ei-

See SOCIAL SECURITY page 10

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WE CARE ABOUT YOUR NEWS!

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

Election letters to the editor

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

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

Campaign news
As part of its election coverage, the newspaper plans to print stories about contested races for Congress, state Senate, state House, district attorney and Governor's Council during the weeks leading up to the election, as well as a question-and-answer voters guide. In order to ensure fairness to all candidates, no political press releases will be printed, nor will reporters cover political rallies or fundraisers.
Candidates who wish to further publicize their candidacy, beliefs and events may contact advertising, 413-283-8393 about paid advertising in Chicopee Register.

IN THE CITY

BATTLE OF THE BADGES from page 1

Team Captain #8 K9 Officer Chris Galindo and her son, CFD Goalie #33 Dan Wolf, while manning the raffle ticket table.

Wolf encouraged everyone to attend next year.

"Hockey is super fun to watch and the guys really try hard for the pride of it. I think it's just a fun event and it goes to a great cause. As a high school teacher, I know our students use the Boys & Girls Club and this is a wonderful opportunity for the club," Wolf said.

Beginning with the fire department, Capt. Katie Collins-Kalbaugh talked about why it's important to support an event like this.

"The times that we practice and play together are such great morale boosters, everyone has a great time and then we come for the actual game, all the proceeds go to charities, so it's a good event for the whole community," Collins-Kalbaugh said.

On the police department side, Capt. Doug Lambert,



A closeup of the Battle of the Badges puck and trophy where Chicopee's own fire and police department face off in a community hockey game. The fire department came out on top for the second year in a row.

who has been part of the department for 18 years, shared how this year his son, Cadet Andrew Lambert, played for

the CPD hockey team.

"This is absolutely one of the best community events that we do. It's the most interaction we have with the community and it's almost one of the best

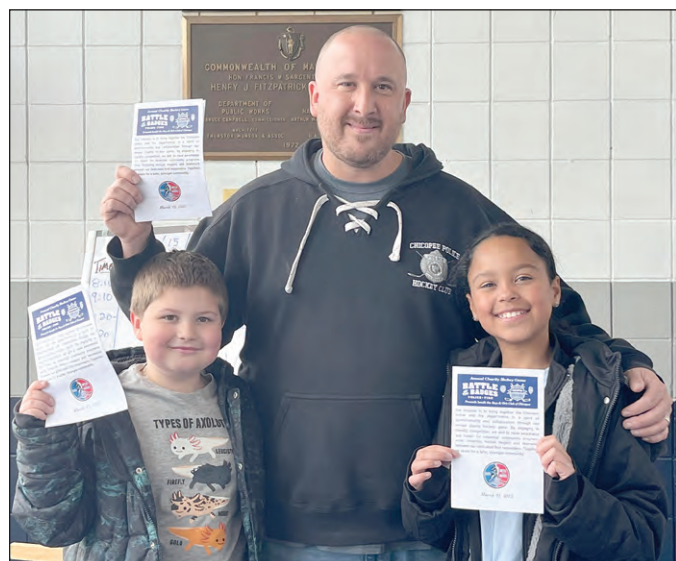
nights that we have planning it, organizing it and running it on the day," Lambert said. "We have been planning since December. For the players on both sides, we appreciate your support because we couldn't do the game without them. All these police officers are doing it voluntarily, it's a good time so please come out and support us next time!"

Lynn Morrissette, Marketing & Development director of the Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee, spoke proudly of her hometown of Chicopee.

"I am a proud Chicopee girl, so being able to give back to the community and support and mentor our youth is a fantastic opportunity. It gives me great joy to do that. We are honored to be able to receive the proceeds from this event and work with both departments, not only tonight, but throughout the year as well," Morrissette said. "They are always a presence in the club so it's really nice to see everybody just come together for a fun community event. We are very appreciative and thankful for the support that our community gives to us!"



#33 Goalie Dan Wolf of the CFD prepares for the incoming shot that's flying through the air.



Kaleb, Captain Doug Lambert, and Faith smile as they greet hockey game attendees at the door.



#12 Officer Nick Gero follows closely to the puck with only minutes to spare in the first period of the game.



#6 Cadet Andrew Lambert and Capt. Doug Lambert pose during the first intermission.

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IN THE CITY

Random Acts of Kindness

By Barb Turcotte

Michelle Shattuck wasn't aware of her humble beginnings until her high school years when unkind peers were only to ready to inform her of that. Perhaps that's one reason she is such an amazing woman now with such incredible qualities and heartfelt nature.

Michelle knows about giving back and has done this her whole life without allowing it much thought or thinking it was anything special, but as you'll learn, this is definitely not the case.

Michelle's husband of 30 years also grew up in humble beginnings, therefore sharing her values of helping others less fortunate because as she explained, "They've both been there". They've instilled in their two children this importance, not only by example, but by having them participate with distributing meals to the underserved and filling care bags as well. They wanted their children to appreciate and realize that though not millionaires, because of the choices they've made, they do live a privileged life.

Michelle is a two-time breast cancer survivor, the first time being diagnosed when she was just thirty-seven and the second time at thirty-eight. Her children who are now young adults, were just two and six at the time of her first diagnosis. As she recovered she was introduced to Rays of Hope, the breast cancer charity through Baystate Health Foundation. She devoted about fifteen years in various roles, from volunteer, to being a big fundraiser, to being the Chair person at both the Greenfield and Springfield walks for a total of five years and in addition to working a five-year stint at the Foundation. Though no longer volunteering nor

working for the Foundation she continues to support the charity because she believes in the cause and is grateful for the help she received when going through her journey. She conveyed that not only did she receive that support but also from friends and relatives who would bring meals for the family, help with child care, offered help with shopping and were always there for moral support.

Michelle is just a giving person and always tries to help others in need. When a family in her town lost their home to fire, she set up a GoFundMe page to help the family get back on their feet. She volunteered many hours at the hospital gift shop, again her way of giving back. She was also a Big Sister for three years to a young girl who needed a little extra guidance in life. When the cold weather arrives, Michelle goes through her family's closets and donates winter clothing to shelters, another generous Random Act of Kindness.

She's done these things while maintaining her own marketing business, OMNI Consulting, using her twenty-five years as a marketing specialist. So she's helping people in yet another way, by guiding them to create a successful business with her expertise.

But the reason I really wanted to write about Michelle, is though all these things and more are pretty remarkable, it's her dedication of being a secret elf to as many as five families at Christmas time. She has done this for more than 10 years through references from friends, her church and even a local agency now reaches out to her. She then solicits help from people she knows and since they know it's legitimate, the outpouring is amazing.

She is given the ages, sizes and wishes of each child and though the parents generally say they want nothing, she doesn't eliminate them from the Christmas joy of gifts. Each member of each family has an individual box of presents and she makes sure each family member has the same amount of gifts. Most people drop off their donations but if they can't she goes and collects them. This takes a huge amount of time and organization as you can imagine, but she loves every minute of it!

But it doesn't stop there! She supplies all the wrapping necessities then wraps each item and labels them with the recipient's name. And again, it still doesn't stop because she and her husband add to the donations with a substantial amount of their own money to create these beautiful holidays for those who are temporarily struggling.

It creates such a wonderful feeling within yourself when you can help someone in need and do an unexpected kindness or even an expected one. Random Acts of Kindness don't always have to be for strangers! What a difference your gesture can make in someone's life. We all have things we have to deal with and to be able to help someone in their time of need with a simple deed, what a great way to promote positivity. Please be a part of that positivity and do your own Random Act of Kindness.

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

Win a Trip to Rome and Help Harmony House

CHICOPEE - Harmony House of Western Massachusetts, the home hospice patients, is sponsoring a raffle to win an all-inclusive trip for two to Rome and the Amalfi Coast from October 23, 2025 to November 2, 2025.

If you've always dreamed of a luxury vacation in Italy, now is the time to purchase a ticket and perhaps win the trip of a lifetime. Traveling with a small group and a private guide, the trip includes five nights in Maiori on the Amalfi

Coast and four nights in Rome, all transportation, hotel stays, daily meals, and beverages.

This Italian sojourn is valued at over \$9,000.

The trip is sponsored by Figaro Ristorante, Italian Exclusive Vacations, and the Giuseppe Polimeni Group.

Tickets are \$100 each and can be obtained from Board members, by emailing Lisa Potito at admin@harmony-housewma.org, or via Venmo. The drawing will be held on June 6, 2025 and the lucky

winner will be contacted.

It's time to brush up your Italian. Grazie Mille!

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 admin@harmonyhousewma.org.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RIVERS

State Sen. Adam Gomez (D-Springfield) provides remarks as Chicopee Colleen Court Members Emma Caproni, Hannah O'Neil, Chicopee Colleen Daiana Torres, Court Members Wilmette Cumba and Meghan Oxley, State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee), Mayor John Vieau and Ward 4 City Councilor George Balakier look on.

FLAG RAISING from page 1

throughout the country.

"I'm really delighted to be out in this weather. I think it's just going to give us more opportunity to learn a little bit more about the Irish community and culture," Arriaga said.

State Sen. Adam Gomez (D-Springfield) said he was proud to represent Chicopee and its Irish community, noting the recent festivities he's taken part in ahead of St. Patrick's Day and the upcoming parade, including learning the Irish jig.

Gomez also congratulated the Colleen and her court members.

"I just wanted to say congratulations to the Colleen and her court. Very well deserved, you guys are amazing, you guys are a testament of progress here of the city of Chicopee. Looking forward to watching you all walk down in the parade next weekend and just really, always, happy to be here," Gomez said. "It is going to be a great flag-raising today and like Mayor Vieau always says, it's always a beautiful day in Chicopee."

After reading the mayor's proclamation, Vieau ended his declaration with this.

"So, therefore as mayor of the city of Chicopee by the authority invested in me, I do hereby proclaim Friday, March 14, as Irish Heritage Day here in the city of Chicopee," Vieau said. "I urge all citizens to join me in expressing appreciation for the work building our community and the support of our city."

He then presented the proclamation to the Chicopee St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee to rounds of applause.

The ceremony concluded with Torres, O'Neil, Cumba, Caproni and Oxley teaming up to crank the lever to raise the Irish flag, followed by refreshments outdoors due to Phase II of



PHOTO COURTESY OF JOEL RODOWICZ

The Chicopee Colleen and Court crank the lever to raise the Irish flag. From the left, we have Court Members Wilmette Cumba and Meghan Oxley, Chicopee Colleen Daiana Torres and Court Members Hannah O'Neil and Emma Caproni.



PHOTO COURTESY OF JOEL RODOWICZ

Colleen Court Members Emma Caproni, Hannah O'Neil, Chicopee Colleen Daiana Torres and Court Members Wilmette Cumba and Meghan Oxley hold up their certificates of recognition they received from Mayor John Vieau during the Irish Flag Raising and the mayor's proclamation presented to the Chicopee St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee.

city hall renovations.

After sharing how he learned the Colleen Contest is an Irish-American tradition, Vieau's message to the Colleen and her court was this.

"So, I'm looking forward as the ambassadors of Chicopee continue to help promote the city that we all love. Thank you for being here today. I hope you have a memorable experience in the next year and congratulations to you. Chicopee's proud of you," Vieau said.

The Irish Flag blows in the breeze on a beautiful sunny day in Chicopee during the Irish Flag Raising.



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Lusitano awards return

The Lusitano Club of Ludlow returned to their tradition of giving out awards and scholarships to outstanding soccer players in the region

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW - More than 3,400 high school soccer players from throughout Western Massachusetts have been honored at the Lusitano Alumni and Fans (LAF) Awards Banquet during the past 35 years.

Because of the COVID 19 pandemic, the soccer banquet has been a lot smaller, but it's always a very special event.

Six scholarship winners were honored at this year's LAF banquet, which was held at the Gremio Lusitano Club in Ludlow on March 9.

The six award recipients are Thomas Wadas (Ludlow High School), Gabriella Fi-

alho (Pope Francis/Ludlow), Samantha Lowe (Pathfinder Tech), Kylee Gamache (Franklin County Tech), Kennady Marino (East Longmeadow High School), and Burke Warchol (Longmeadow High School).

Wadas, who's ranked seventh in the senior class academically with a 4.5 G.P.A., will be playing college soccer at UMass Amherst. He's also a member of the National Honor Society.

"I'm going to be playing soccer at UMass, which was my top college choice," Wadas said. "Staying close to home was really important to me."

A year ago, UMass lost at third-seeded Denver, 3-0, in



TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

The scholarship winners show off their awards.

the Elite 8 of the NCAA Division 1 tournament. The Minutemen finished with a 13-4-5 overall record.

"UMass had an outstanding season last year," Wadas said. "I'm just going to try my best to make an impact as a freshman. I'm really looking forward to playing soccer at the next level. The college game is a lot more physical and quicker."

The UMass men's soccer coach is Fran O'Leary.

Wadas, who's planning to study business in college, was a four year starter for the Ludlow boys' varsity soccer team, which is coached by Greg Kolodziej.

"Coach Kolodziej made a big impact on my life both on and off the field," Wadas said. "I'm going to do everything that he has taught me at UMass. I'm also going to miss playing soccer for him a lot."

Wadas, who was a team

captain last fall, was selected to the All-State soccer team twice.

The Lions won three out of the past four Western Mass. Class A titles. They also advanced to the Elite 8 of the Division 1 state tournament each year.

"The new state postseason tournament format allowed us to play a few more teams in the Boston area," said Wadas, who scored 13 goals and had 12 assists as a senior. "I think we did very well against them. We beat Newton South, who was the number one team in the state in last year's state tournament."

Fialho has been a high

See **LUSITANO AWARDS**
page 8



The winners pose with members of the Lusitano Club board.

Providence gets by T-Birds at 'sensory-friendly' Sunday

SPRINGFIELD — The Springfield Thunderbirds (30-23-2-4) could not keep the newest Bruin quiet as Providence (33-19-4-3) skated away with a 4-1 win on Sunday afternoon in front of another sellout crowd at the MassMutual Center on CHD Sensory-Friendly Sunday.

The day began with fireworks as Kale Kessy and Joey Abate got both benches on their feet with a fight just two seconds into the action. As a scoreless first progressed, a late post-whistle penalty to the T-Birds set the Bruins up for the game's first power play. Providence made Springfield pay, as newest Bruin acquisition Fraser Minten chipped a shot over Vadim Zherenko at close range to give the Bruins a 1-0 lead at 15:20 of the first, a score that held into the intermission.

Minten was far from finished in his first career game against the T-Birds, adding a second goal at 2:29 of the second as he parked himself in the paint and guided a Billy Sweezy shot behind a helpless Zherenko. The rookie then completed a natural hat trick at 9:55 with some crafty hands at the side of the net to chip a puck into the top shelf over

an outstretched Zherenko.

The T-Birds finally got a bounce to go their way, literally, at 12:46 when a Dalibor Dvorsky one-timer went off Bruins netminder Michael DiPietro, followed by the end glass. With everyone looking for the falling puck, it eventually careened off DiPietro's back and over the goal line, giving the T-Birds' 19-year-old his 19th goal of the season and making it a 3-1 game.

However, Springfield could not build upon their good fortune, as Minten fired another shot that Riley Duran tipped past Zherenko at 18:14 to polish off the rookie's four-point game and send the game into the third at a 4-1 score.

DiPietro proved too tough to crack in the final period, as each of Springfield's nine third-period attempts got swallowed up by the AHL's leading victor in net. DiPietro picked up his 22nd win with 24 stops, while Zherenko was saddled with the defeat following a 25-save afternoon.

The T-Birds continue their four-game homestand on Wednesday as the Hershey Bears make their final trip to the Thunderdome this season. Puck drop is set for 7:05 p.m. at the MassMutual Center.

Follow Turley Sports on Instagram

Turley Publications sports department has recently joined Instagram. You can find our account by searching "turleysports."

We will regularly feature samples of photos that you will see in our publications on a weekly basis.

Please follow and share with your friends and loved ones. 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.

Hall of Fame names senior all-stars



Taryn Carriveau will represent Chicopee Comprehensive in the Senior All-Star Game.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

Carriveau is the lone representative from both Chicopee schools in the game.

SPRINGFIELD — The Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame announced the team rosters for the 2025 Western Massachusetts Senior High School All-Star Games. On Thursday, March 20, the Hall of Fame will host the 2025 All-Star event on the Jerry Colangelo Court of Dreams at the Hall of Fame. A total of 60 players were selected from different divisions within the region to participate in three games that will showcase the top seniors in their final high school contest.

"We are proud to host the top high school basketball players from Western Massachusetts at our 14th annual All-Star celebration at the Basketball Hall of Fame," said John L. Doleva, President and CEO of the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame. "Residents of Western

Mass. are encouraged to join us as we honor these exceptional seniors as they play the final game of their high school careers."

A committee of local coaches and media members who represent each division on the boys' and girls' sides selected the teams. Using the designated classes for the PVIAC Tournament, the players will be divided into six teams: two girls' teams, two boys' teams of Class A and B players, and two boys' teams of Class C and D players. Only graduating seniors are eligible for the All-Star Games. Rosters can be found on the next page.

For the 14th year, the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame will recognize one boy and one girl as the Western Massachusetts Players of the Year. A special presentation will be made for the recipi-

ents during halftime of one of the participating games. A panel of local media members selects the award winners, who are recognized for their achievements on the court in addition to their sportsmanship and character off the court.

The three All-Star Games will be held on Thursday, March 20. The first game of the evening will feature the Class C and D boys' teams at 5:30 p.m., followed by the girls' matchup at 7 p.m., and the final game will showcase the Class A and B boys' teams at 8:30 p.m.

Tickets for the All-Star Games are available at the Hall of Fame box office on the night of the event. Each ticket provides access to all three games that evening (Adults: \$20, Students: \$10). Advance tickets can also be purchased online.

COLLEGE

Parker scores 13 off the bench in title game for WSU

WESTFIELD — Senior forward Eric Johnson (Houston, Texas) delivered a double-double with an 18-point, 10-rebound performance to lead the top-seeded Westfield State Owls to the 2025 MASCAC Conference Championship title with a convincing 93-63 victory over the second-seeded Salem State Vikings earlier this month.

The championship victory secures Westfield State (21-6) the MASCAC's automatic qualifying bid into the NCAA Division III Tournament, which begins next week. Westfield also earned their third MASCAC title in the last five seasons and fourth championship under head coach Rich Sutter. It will be the Owls sixth NCAA tournament appearance.

The Owls enter the national tournament on a two-game winning streak and will await their seeding and opponent during Monday's selection show. Salem State (12-15), making their first championship game appearance since 2019, ends their season after a strong run into the title game.

The championship game, played before a capacity crowd at the Woodward Center, saw Westfield State overcome an early 5-3 deficit to build a commanding 59-37 halftime lead while shooting a blistering 69.7 percent from the floor (23-33 FG), including six of nine from beyond the arc. The Owls then cruised to a 30-point victory after outscoring the Vikings by eight in the second half. The Owls shot an impressive 50.7% from the field while holding Salem State to just 41.0% shooting, demonstrating their superiority on both ends of the court.

Salem State opened the scoring with Omri Merryman's (Lynn, Mass.) jumper two minutes into the contest, and the Vikings built a small 5-3 lead after LJ Hicks (Gardner, Mass.) connected on a three-pointer with 17:34 remaining in the first half. However, Westfield State quickly seized control when Xavier Lewis (Long Island, N.Y.) knocked down three first-half triples, including one at the 18:57 mark that gave the Owls their first lead at 3-2. From there, Westfield State's offense found its rhythm, moving the ball crisply and finding open shooters consistently.

Timmy Jacobus (Willemstad, Curacao) provided a scoring punch with consecutive three-pointers early through the first half, pushing the lead to double digits and energizing the home crowd. Salem State attempted to stem the tide as Jarnel Snow-Guzman (Lynn, Mass.) connected on a three-pointer to cut the deficit to 17-13 with 14:29 remaining, but the Vikings couldn't maintain the momentum. The Owls closed the first half with authority behind Lid Moreland's (Bridgeport, Conn.) aggressive drive to the basket, drawing contact and completing the three-point play to cap a 16-4 run that built the halftime advantage

See **COLLEGE** page 8

IN THE CITY

CFD celebrates new firefighter graduate



PHOTO AND CAPTION COURTESY OF CHICOPEE FIRE DEPARTMENT

CHICOPEE – On March 14, Chief Stamborski attended the Department of Fire Services Massachusetts Firefighting Academy Graduation of Career Recruit Firefighter Class S40. Congratulations to Probationary Firefighter Elizabeth Hinnebusch.

CFD takes part in firefighter down training



PHOTOS AND CAPTION COURTESY OF CHICOPEE FIRE DEPARTMENT

CHICOPEE – This past week our members have been training on firefighter down, responding to a mayday and using a Rapid Intervention Team.

LUSITANO AWARDS from page 7

honors student at Pope Francis since she was a freshman, and also has 4.5 G.P.A..

During Fialho's varsity soccer career, Pope Francis has captured the Western Mass Class title three times.

Last fall, Pope moved up to Class A for the first time and posted a 1-0 victory against Longmeadow in the championship match. They also celebrated 1-0 victories against West Springfield in the quarterfinals and Minnechaug Regional in the semifinals, which was decided in penalty kicks.

Just like Wadas, Fialho also will be playing college soccer close to home.

"I'll be playing college soccer at Springfield College next year," Fialho said. "I'm

very happy that I'll be attending a college and playing soccer close to home."

The Springfield College women's soccer team is currently looking for a new head coach.

Kristin Cannon will be stepping down from her coaching duties for personal reasons on June 30. Fialho is hoping that the current assistant coach Brendon Boates is named as the new head coach.

"I was recruited by coach Boates," Fialho said. "He has a passion for the sport of soccer, and he has a lot of energy."

Prior to her freshman year, Fialho decided to attend Pope Francis instead of going to Ludlow High School.

"All of my friends wanted me to go with them to Ludlow High School," she said. "It was

a very difficult decision for me to make, but I'm glad that I decided to go to Pope. It's a great school both academically and athletically."

Lowe, who lives in Ware, played soccer at Pathfinder Tech for four years and she was a team captain the past two seasons.

"I'm really excited to receive the scholarship award," said Lowe, who's not planning to play college soccer. "I'm proud of my accomplishments during my high school soccer career. The girls' soccer team has improved a lot since I joined the team."

Lowe is planning to pursue a degree in culinary arts at a local community college.

"When I was growing up, I was always in the kitchen with my mom and we've

grown a lot of our own food," she said. "I was also able to get into the culinary arts program at Pathfinder."

Lowe is currently working at Farmer Matt in New Braintree

"I've be working there for two years on April 1," Lowe said. "They have a store, and we also make homemade soups. Working in a kitchen is just as fun as being on the soccer field. I'm learning something new every day."

The LAF President is Joseph Jorge Sr., who received a 30 year service award. Jeri Humphries is the Vice President, Luis Vitorino is the Treasurer, and Steven DaSilva is the Secretary. The four board members are Joseph Jorge Jr., Richard Oliveria, Teri Myette, and Stephen Scott.

COLLEGE from page 7

to 22 points.

Any hopes of a Salem State comeback were quickly extinguished as Westfield State opened the second half with a decisive 8-0 run, pushing their lead to 67-37. Johnson dominated the paint during this stretch, grabbing offensive rebounds and converting second-chance opportunities while altering numerous Salem State shot attempts on the defensive end. The Vikings continued to battle despite the growing deficit but struggled to find consistent offense against Westfield State's swarming defense.

The Owls' balanced

attack proved relentless throughout the second half. Kenneth Rogers Jr. (Springfield, Mass.) had his fingerprints all over this game with a strong stat line of 13 points, seven rebounds, and five assists.

Senior guard Lid Moreland (Bridgeport, Conn.) matched Johnson with a game-high 18 points while adding seven rebounds, six assists, three steals, and two blocks in a complete performance. Senior guard Kobe Parker (Chicopee, Mass.) provided crucial bench production with 13 points on an efficient 6-of-9 shooting performance, delivering timely baskets whenever Salem State threatened to build momentum.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103

In the matter of: Jacob Arthur-Isaac Barowsky CITATION G.L. c. 210, §6

TO: Christian Potter any unnamed or unknown parent and persons interested in a petition for the adoption of said child and to the Department of Children and Families of said Commonwealth.

A petition has been presented to said court by: Benjamin Whitten of Chicopee, MA Rebecca Whitten of Chicopee, MA

requesting for leave to adopt said child and that the name of the child be changed to Jacob Arthur Isaac Whitten

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

An indigent person is defined by SJC Rule 3.10. The definition includes but is not limited to persons receiving TAFDC, EACDC, poverty related veteran's benefits, Medicaid, and SSI. The Court will determine if you are indigent.

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT Springfield ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING (10:00 AM) ON: 04/14/2025.

WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M Hyland, First Justice of this Court. Date: March 10, 2025

Rosemary A. Saccomani Register of Probate 03/21, 03/28, 04/04/2025

THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS MASSACHUSETTS DEPARTMENT OF

TRANSPORTATION HIGHWAY DIVISION NOTICE OF A PUBLIC INFORMATIONAL MEETING Project Description: Chicopee Bridge Replacement, Br# C-13-038 I-391 over Route 116 (Chicopee Street) Project File No. 612187

A Public Informational Meeting will be held by MassDOT to discuss the proposed project in Chicopee, MA.

WHERE: Legacy Church 780 Chicopee Street Chicopee, MA 01013

WHEN: Thursday, April 3rd, 2025, 6:00 PM

PURPOSE: The purpose of this meeting is to provide the public with the opportunity to become fully acquainted with the proposed project.

PROPOSAL: The proposed project consists of the full replacement of the Vietnam Veterans' Memorial Bridge which carries I-391 over Route 116, locally known as Chicopee Street, in the Willimansett neighborhood of Chicopee.

Notice is hereby given by Interstate Towing, Inc. pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, section 39A, that on March 21, 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.

This location is accessible to people with disabilities. MassDOT provides reasonable accommodations and/or language assistance free of charge upon request.

Notice is hereby given by Interstate Towing, Inc. pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, section 39A, that on March 21, 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.

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 March 21, 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.

2011 Mini Cooper WMWSU3C59BT183919 Sheik Mohammad 3 Avalon Pl., Apt. 2 Worcester, MA 01609

2013 Nissan Sentra 3NIAB7AP2DL687271 Charles Neel 3 Algonquin D., Queensbury, NY 12804

2013 GMC Acadia SLE 1GKKVNE4DJ191204 Austin Dean

97 Robinson Hill Rd. North Franklin, CT 06254 2010 Chevrolet Aveo KL1TD5DE4AB046688 Lawrence Tetreault 79 Lyman St. North Attleboro, MA 02760

2006 Honda Accord SE 1HGCM55376A023068 JC Reliable Tow Service Corp 47 Fruit Ext. Milford, MA 01757

2001 Buick Lesabre 1G4HP54K314250247 Edward Therrien 4790 Lake Superior Drive Cocoa, FL 32926 03/07, 03/14, 03/21/2025

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 March 28th 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.

2012 Subaru Impreza VIN: JF1GJAH68CH006862 Anthony Ellington- Viner 50 Campechi St. Springfield, MA 01104

2005 Nissan Armada SE/LE VIN: 5N1AA08B35N728909 Krystal Hilton 567 Putnam Pike Greenville, RI, 02828

2004 Chevrolet Silverado VIN: 1GCEK14X14Z247011 Miguel Avila 321 Eastern St Apt A802 New Haven, CT 06513 03/14, 03/21, 03/28/2025

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

Notice is hereby given by Interstate Towing, Inc. pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, section 39A, that on April 4, 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 Nissan Altima

VIN: 1N4AL2AP0AN431287 Greybel Pena-Mesa 729 High St., Apt. 4L Holyoke, MA 01040 2009 Acura MDX VIN: 2HNYD28699H508028 Edwin Rolon 206 Allen Park Rd. Springfield, MA 01118

2003 Honda Accord LX VIN: 1HGCM56363A141140 Juan Andres Guzman De La Cruz 42 Tewksbury St., Apt. 1 Lawrence, MA 01843

2007 Honda Odyssey LX VIN: 5FNRL38247B125763 Julio C Mejias 23 Bend St. Providence, RI , 02909

2005 Nissan Sentra VIN: 3N1CB51DX5L564564 Michael Hill Po Box 445 Gilbertville, MA 01031

2015 Volkswagen Jetta Se VIN: 3VWD17AJ7FM221855 Heidi Dickson 7 Grove St. Kennebunk, ME, 04043

2012 Jeep Liberty Sport VIN: 1C4PJMAK8CW102229 Bernadette Roberts 221 Old West Warren Rd. Warren, MA 01083

2007 Toyota Tacoma VIN: 5TETX22N77Z402640 Bobby Pinkney 95 N Westfield St., Apt. 31 Feedinghills, MA 01030

2013 Gmc Acadia SLE VIN: 1GKKVNE4DJ191204 Austin Dean 97 Robinson Hill Rd. North Franklin, CT 06254 03/21, 03/28, 04/04/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103

Docket No. HD22P0417PM In the matter of: Diane Orlandi of Chicopee, MA

Protected Person/ Disabled Person/Respondent CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF CONSERVATOR'S ACCOUNT

To the named Respondent See more legals on page 10

and all other interested persons, you are hereby notified pursuant to Rule 72 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court, that the first and final account(s) of Nancy C Godbout of Granby, MA as Conservator of the property of said Respondent has or have been presented to the Court for allowance.

You have the right to object to the account(s). If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 04/18/2025.

Additionally, within thirty days after said return day (or within such other time as the Court upon motion may order), you must file a written affidavit of objections stating the specific facts and grounds upon which each objection is based and a copy shall be served upon the Conservator pursuant to Rule 3 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court.

You have the right to send to the Conservator, by registered or certified mail, a written request to receive a copy of the Petition and account(s) at no cost to you.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

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

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

Date: March 13, 2025 Rosemary A. Saccomani Register of Probate 03/21/2025

SCHOOL COMMITTEE from page 1

do not move the needle on student achievement."

"Right now, what I can tell you, there's a lot of work being done between all the departments, as well as leadership between the principals and Unit B members and coaches and content specialists. What you're going to see this evening is something where I talk about benchmarking in the form of P.P.P. Procedures, processes, and protocols and what you should expect to see when we come back in June or July, where I will have the School Committee rate me on the work I've been leading this year," Ware said.

Utilizing a PowerPoint presentation, Ware introduced the five priorities which are in order as follows: English Language Arts, Mathematics, Improving Student Atten-

dance, Student Conduct and Student Social, Emotional and Mental Health. The presentation is to visually break down the work that is being done in the respective departments.

"When you see me again in June or July, I will have evidence speaking to all these categories so that you can actually say yea or nay to the actual work that's being done, continuing all the way down to the evaluation," Ware said. "I am taking the data of our current systems of the platforms we use in the ELA world and we do look at the data, but we also are talking about systems we want to put in place for the upcoming school year that most of our schools can use, not just factions of our schools."

For Priority One: English Language Arts, the four steps included data analysis, strategic planning, imple-

mentation, and evaluation that stated, "Compare end-of-year scores to baseline data. Report achievement and challenges to the School Committee."

For Priority Two: Mathematics, the four steps included data analysis, collaborative planning, implementation and support and monitoring and evaluation, stating the same as priority one.

Priority Three for Improving Student Attendance had four steps and baseline data which will "Identify chronic absenteeism rates and set measurable improvement targets." Step two is strategic interventions that will have positive reinforcement programs, mentorship initiatives, and family outreach efforts.

Step three is monthly monitoring and step four with incentive programs that will implement district-wide recognition programs, stating

"Celebrating both individual and school-level improvements."

For Priority Four: Student Conduct, the four steps included data analysis, strategic planning, implementation, and recognition programs that stated, "Develop district-wide programs to recognize positive behavior. Foster a supportive school climate."

Lastly for Priority Five: Student Social, Emotional, and Mental Health, the four steps included a baseline assessment, integration of social-emotional learning into the curriculum, support resources such as "implement counseling services, wellness rooms, and mindfulness programs," and recognition.

Ware also went over additional priorities such as HR process improvements and budget and finance improvements.

Conference on Aging

CHICOPEE - The Chicopee Council on Aging will host "The RiverMills Center Conference on Aging" on Friday, May 16 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Chicopee Council on Aging's RiverMills Center, located at 5 W. Main Street.

RiverMills Center is excited to present its first "Conference on Aging" that will feature break-out sessions on a variety of topics that impact older adults and their caregivers. Housing, home care, benefits, home safety are some of the topics, among others, that will be covered during this day-long conference.

A light breakfast and lunch will be provided, along with a keynote address by Motivational Speaker Carrie Stack. For more information on registering for this event, please contact Program Coordinator Casey Conroy at 413-534-3698 ext. 118 or Volunteer Coordinator Brandon Dumas at 413-534-3698 ext. 130.

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PUBLIC NOTICES

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Statutory Power of Sale referenced in a certain mortgage given by Willimansett Center East RE LLC to Love Funding Corporation dated August 1, 2012 and recorded August 8, 2012 with the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 19385, Page 88, the undersigned being the present holder by assignment of said mortgage (assignments recorded in Book 24344, Page 53, Book 25058, Page 158 and Book 25748, Page 88), for breach of the conditions contained in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosure, the same will be sold at Public Auction at **11:00 am on the 3rd day of April, 2025**, upon the mortgage premises known as 11 Saint Anthony Street, Chicopee, Massachusetts, being all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

That certain parcel of land situate in Chicopee, Hampden County, Massachusetts, bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at an iron pipe found marking the southeasterly line of Chicopee Street and at the northeast corner of land N/F Eugene J. & Joyce M. Stefanik; said iron pipe marks the southwest corner of the subject property;

Thence running N56-17-30E along the southeasterly line of Chicopee Street for a distance of 153.51 feet to a concrete bound found on the southwesterly line of Saint Anthony Street;

Thence running S49-49-30E along the southwesterly line of Saint Anthony Street for a distance of 215.51 feet to a concrete bound found at land N/F Shirley A. Orwat & Joanna V. Frost;

Thence running S40-10-30W along land N/F Shirley A. Orwat & Joanna V. Frost for a distance of 139.56 feet to an iron pipe found at land N/F William C. & Catherine A. Courchesne;

Thence running N51-34-52W along land N/F William C. & Catherine A. Courchesne, Richard A. Chapin III, William J. & Rosalie M. Connelly, Steven & Tammy Jo M. Champagne and Eugene J. & Joyce M. Stefanik for a distance of 258.24 feet to the iron pipe at the place of beginning.

Said Parcel is shown on ALTA/ACSM Land Title Survey, Chicopee, Massachusetts prepared

for The Northeast Health Group, Inc., prepared by D.L. Bean, Inc., Surveyors & Engineers, dated April 26, 2011, updated June 19, 2012 and recorded with Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 364, Page 25.

Said Premises will be sold subject to any and all unpaid taxes and other municipal assessments and liens, and subject to prior, liens or other enforceable encumbrances or instruments of record entitled to precedence over said mortgage, and subject to, and with the benefit of, all easements, restrictions, reservations and conditions of record having precedence over the Mortgage and subject to all leases, tenancies and/or rights of parties in possession, including rights or claims in personal property installed by tenants or former tenants now located on the subject premises and the right of redemption, if any, to the Internal Revenue Service. Said premises to be sold at the sale "AS IS WHERE IS." It shall be the bidder's sole responsibility to ascertain all items described in this paragraph and no representations are made concerning compliance with applicable zoning, building, sanitary or other state and/or municipal laws, ordinances or regulations.

TERMS OF SALE: FOUR HUNDRED THOUSAND and 00/100 (\$400,000) DOLLARS in cash, certified or bank check to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The successful bidder shall be required to increase the deposit to a full ten (10%) of the purchase price within five (5) business days of the public auction and the balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, certified or bank check and the foreclosure deed shall be delivered and accepted within thirty (30) days after the public auction at the offices of Halloran & Sage LLP, 225 Asylum Street Hartford, CT 06103.

The successful bidder of the Premises will be responsible for all closing costs, recording fees, deed stamps and shall be required to sign an Auctioneer's Memorandum of Sale containing the terms of sale at the time and place of the public auction. The successful bidder of the Premises shall be subject to a 1% buyer's premium.

This mortgagee's sale of real estate may be postponed or ad-

joined from time to time, if necessary, by the attorney or auctioneer for the mortgagee at the scheduled time and place of sale. The description for the premises contained in said Mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

In the event that the successful bidder at the foreclosure sale fails to purchase the described Premises according to the terms of this notice of sale or as provided for in the Memorandum of Sale executed at the time of foreclosure, the mortgagee reserves the right to sell the Premises by foreclosure deed to the next highest bidder provided that the next highest bidder shall deposit with the mortgagee's attorney, said Halloran & Sage LLP, the amount of the required deposit and execute an agreement similar to said Memorandum of Sale, within three (3) business days after written notice of default of the previous highest bidder. Title shall be conveyed to the next highest bidder within twenty (20) days of said written notice.

OTHER TERMS, IF ANY, TO BE ANNOUNCED AT THE TIME AND PLACE OF SALE.

Willimansett Holdings LLC Present Holder of Said Mortgage By Scott Rousisse, Manager Attorneys for Willimansett Holdings LLC

Oscar L. Suarez, Esq.
Halloran & Sage LLP
225 Asylum Street
Hartford, CT 06103
03/07, 03/14, 03/21/2025

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE

By virtue and in execution of the Statutory Power of Sale referenced in a certain mortgage given by Willimansett Center West RE LLC to Love Funding Corporation dated August 1, 2012 and recorded August 8, 2012 with the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 19385, Page 141, the undersigned being the present holder by assignment of said mortgage (assignments recorded in Book 24344, Page 55, Book 25057, Page 157 and Book 25748, Page 225), for breach of the conditions contained in said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosure, the same will be sold at Public Auction at **12:00 pm on the 3rd day of April, 2025**, upon the mortgage premises known as

546 Chicopee Street and a parcel on East Side Chicopee Street, Chicopee, Massachusetts, being all and singular the premises described in said mortgage, to wit:

Certain pieces or parcels of land situated in the Town of Chicopee, Hampden County, Massachusetts, more particularly described as follows:

Parcel 1: 546 Chicopee Street, Chicopee, MA (Parcel 5 and Parcel 6)

Beginning at a re-rod set marking the northwesterly line of Chicopee Street with the Southwest-erly line of Warregan Street; said re-rod marks the southeasterly corner of the subject property;

Thence running S56-17-30W along the northwesterly line of Chicopee Street for a distance of 200.88 feet to a stone bound found on the northwesterly line of Artisan Street;

Thence running N50-37-30W along the northwesterly line of Artisan Street for a distance of 167.72 feet to a re-rod set at land N/F Meg Realty, LLC;

Thence running N39-22-30E along land N/F Meg Realty, LLC. For a distance of 137.01 feet to a re-rod set at land N/F James Long;

Thence running N56-17-30E along land N/F James Long for a distance of 118.60 feet to an iron pipe found on the southeasterly line of Warregan Street;

Thence running S33-42-30E along the southeasterly side of Warregan Street for a distance of 200.33 feet to the re-rod set at the place of beginning.

Parcel 2: Unnumbered parcel on East Side Chicopee Street, Chicopee, MA (Parcel 4)

Beginning at a granite bound found marking the intersection of the southeasterly line of Chicopee Street and the northeasterly line of Saint Anthony Street; said granite bound being the northwest corner of the subject property;

Thence running N56-17-30E along the southerly sideline of Chicopee Street for a distance of 119.70 feet to a re-rod set at land N/F Louis M. Bouchard;

Thence running S49-49-30E along land N/F Louis Bouchard for a distance of 112.84 feet to a re-rod set at land N/F Mirta I. Diamond;

Thence running S40-10-30W along land N/F Mirta I. Diamond for a distance of 115.00 feet to a

magnetic nail set on the north-easterly line of Saint Anthony Street;

Thence running N49-49-30W along the northwesterly line of Saint Anthony Street for a distance of 146.07 feet to the granite bound found at the place of beginning.

Said Parcels are shown on ALTA/ACSM Land Title Survey, Chicopee, Massachusetts prepared for The Northeast Health Group, Inc., prepared by D.L. Bean, Inc., Surveyors & Engineers, dated April 26, 2011, updated June 19, 2012 and recorded with Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Plan Book 364, Page 26.

Said Premises will be sold subject to any and all unpaid taxes and other municipal assessments and liens, and subject to prior, liens or other enforceable encumbrances or instruments of record entitled to precedence over said mortgage, and subject to, and with the benefit of, all easements, restrictions, reservations and conditions of record having precedence over the Mortgage and subject to all leases, tenancies and/or rights of parties in possession, including rights or claims in personal property installed by tenants or former tenants now located on the subject premises and the right of redemption, if any, to the Internal Revenue Service. Said premises to be sold at the sale "AS IS WHERE IS." It shall be the bidder's sole responsibility to ascertain all items described in this paragraph and no representations are made concerning compliance with applicable zoning, building, sanitary or other state and/or municipal laws, ordinances or regulations.

TERMS OF SALE: FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND and 00/100 (\$500,000) DOLLARS in cash, certified or bank check to be paid by the purchaser at the time and place of sale. The successful bidder shall be required to increase the deposit to a full ten (10%) of the purchase price within five (5) business days of the public auction and the balance of the purchase price shall be paid in cash, certified or bank check and the foreclosure deed shall be delivered and accepted within thirty (30) days after the public auction at the offices of Halloran & Sage LLP, 225 Asylum Street Hartford, CT 06103.

The successful bidder of the

Premises will be responsible for all closing costs, recording fees, deed stamps and shall be required to sign an Auctioneer's Memorandum of Sale containing the terms of sale at the time and place of the public auction. The successful bidder of the Premises shall be subject to a 1% buyer's premium.

This mortgagee's sale of real estate may be postponed or adjourned from time to time, if necessary, by the attorney or auctioneer for the mortgagee at the scheduled time and place of sale. The description for the premises contained in said Mortgage shall control in the event of a typographical error in this publication.

In the event that the successful bidder at the foreclosure sale fails to purchase the described Premises according to the terms of this notice of sale or as provided for in the Memorandum of Sale executed at the time of foreclosure, the mortgagee reserves the right to sell the Premises by foreclosure deed to the next highest bidder provided that the next highest bidder shall deposit with the mortgagee's attorney, said Halloran & Sage LLP, the amount of the required deposit and execute an agreement similar to said Memorandum of Sale, within three (3) business days after written notice of default of the previous highest bidder. Title shall be conveyed to the next highest bidder within twenty (20) days of said written notice.

OTHER TERMS, IF ANY, TO BE ANNOUNCED AT THE TIME AND PLACE OF SALE.

Willimansett Holdings LLC Present Holder of Said Mortgage By Scott Rousisse, Manager Attorneys for Willimansett Holdings LLC

Oscar L. Suarez, Esq.
Halloran & Sage LLP
225 Asylum Street
Hartford, CT 06103
03/07, 03/14, 03/21/2025



NAMI Western Massachusetts 14th Annual Art and Poetry Show

Reception to be held in Chicopee

HOLYOKE - NAMI-WM (The National Alliance on Mental Illness of Western Massachusetts) will hold an opening reception for its 14th Annual Art and Poetry Show featuring the work of artists and poets living with mental health conditions.

Taking place on Wednesday, April 1 from 6 to 8 p.m. at the Chicopee Public Library, 449 Front St. The reception, and parking adjacent to the library, are free.

The show will feature art and poetry works, some for sale to the public, with all proceeds going to the artists. Complimentary refreshments will be served and all are welcome to attend this very

special event. The exhibit runs the entire month of April. This is a wonderful venue for artists and poets with lived experience to have a showcase for their work. It provides an important opportunity to educate the public about the lives, abilities, and creativity of individuals in the Western Mass. community with mental health conditions. NAMI Western Massachusetts is dedicated to building better lives for individuals and families affected by mental health conditions. According to statistics, 1 in 5 Americans will face mental health problems every year. With your help, NAMI-WM can continue to raise awareness and provide essential education, advocacy, and support programs for people in our community.

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CABOTVILLE from page 1

tween \$95,000 and \$300,000, with the \$95,000 one chosen.

Boron later added, also, the boarding up would take up to two weeks and the contractor was ready to go once he called them.

"Then there will be a daily one-hour visit from the security company to check the riser rooms and the alarm panel and make sure there's been no vandalism to the boarding and make sure all the doors are secured and that's what we need to do by law," Boron said. "So, we are going to board it and we're also going to have the security company just go up once a day for about an hour, check everything out and go from there."

The fee, Boron said, would be \$25 and charging the city for the daily check, coming out to "just under \$10,000 a year."

"But we have a potential buyer, so we're hoping if that thing moves quicker that this will get off our plate and the new buyer will take over from there," Boron said.

Ward 6 Councilor Samuel Shumsky "appreciated this effort being done" as

he's done some history on regional disasters in relation to mills catching on fire, noting two of these fires happened in Springfield and that one—a chlorine fire—displaced a third of residents in the city.

"I know this issue was not contested, but it was kind of a hot topic the last couple months and now that we have a lien going on the property, we're going to recoup all that money. I think this is a great effort and I applaud everything that's being done," Shumsky said.

Ward 9 Councilor Mary Beth Costello agreed with Shumsky and said Boron "should be commended for the amount of security that you're applying to this particular building."

"It's going to be quite a tax relief—a tremendous tax relief—when this building is sold and somebody else is responsible, and I'm only hoping that that day comes sooner than later because this has been back and forth in regards to the money, taxpayers and security since roughly March or April of 2022. I think that's when the city condemned it and they had to go in and, unfortunately, it should be the owner of this building that should be providing that," Costello said.

When Costello asked about the lien to help recoup the money, Vieau explained when the building was con-

demned and tenants were asked to leave, the owner had paid for security when court-ordered and "they did for a significant time period," with Boron adding it was for about a year the owner had paid and then they stopped.

"Like the Building Commissioner and police, we've had many meetings with the fire department, the Building Department, in trying to make sure that we had the authority to enforce what was security through the courts of Western Mass—through the Housing Court—and sharing with that, I've learned that certain things are out of my control," Vieau said. "This is a private sector-owned property. It's not owned by this municipality, but we are ordered by law to protect that asset from, like mentioned, a catastrophe where someone gets in there and lights it on fire. When they stopped paying, we had to."

Vieau added the prospective buyer also put in for and hired a design engineer firm and, also, put in an application for a special permit.

"So this is one, I say, substantial step towards moving towards getting a new owner and in the meanwhile, I think it's in our best interest to do what's right and board this first floor and the lien will be attached and that would be something I ask the City Council to make sure that

those liens are paid at the closing upon issuing a special permit," Vieau said.

Councilor-at-Large Tim Wagner asked who the design engineer firm was, explaining he wanted to avoid any possible conflicts of interest and abstain from any votes going forward if need be.

"My company contracts out with several engineering firms just as a point of reference, so I'm just trying to avoid anything," Wagner said. Vieau replied the design engineer firm is VHB.

Councilor-at-Large Jerry Roy asked about the security.

"The security, it's going to be prorated if somebody ends up buying it? Or do we have to fulfill the full-year contract?" Roy said.

Boron replied he already has a contractor ready to sign with the security company moving forward and "will need a week in advance to close out the contract."

"I got them on board for the next month to see how things play out so that the closing can go through and everything gets applied for and they say once we know what's going on, either the new owner will take over the security in the meantime or they'll hire their own company," Boron said. "But, by law, they'll have the right to take over that once they take the ownership of the property."

SOCIAL SECURITY from page 4

ther a supplemental insurance plan or a Medicare Advantage plan. But, in either case, you must still have both Medicare Part A and Part B to obtain such additional healthcare coverage.

The Association Mature Citizens Foundation and its

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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.

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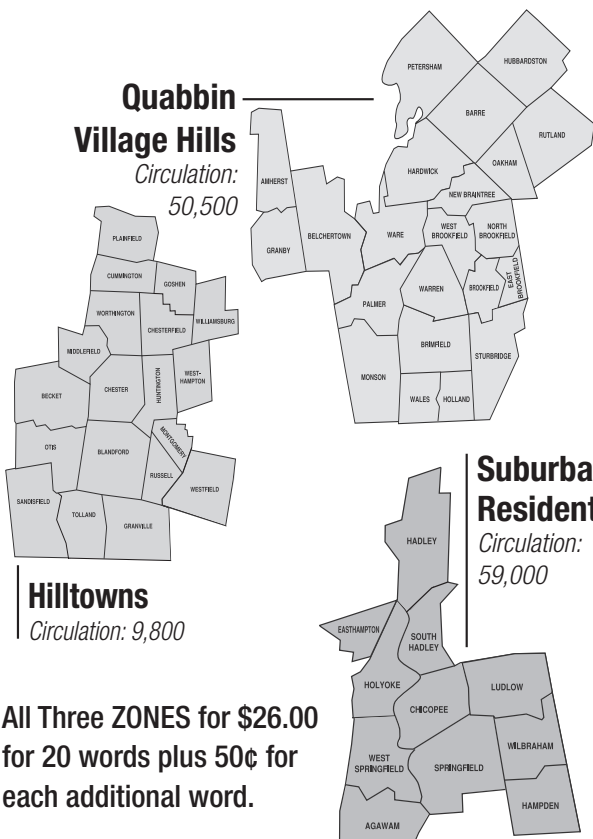
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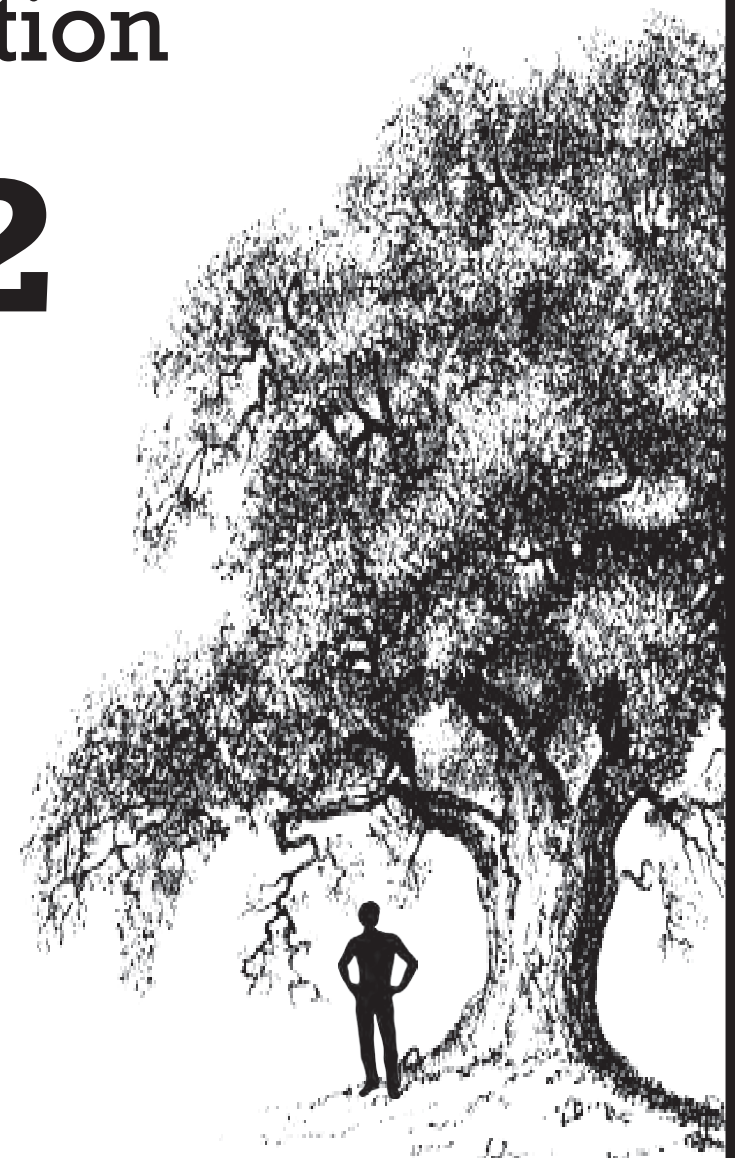
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