

Chicopee Register

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COMMUNITY



Asia-Mary Green hugs Kara Mitchell Gauthier after being awarded the Chrissy Myers DeCarmo Scholarship on May 30 in memory of Chicopee High School alum and beloved teacher, administrator and department head Chrissy Myers DeCarmo.

CHS seniors celebrated during awards ceremony, walkthrough

By Kristin Rivers
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CHICOPEE - Chicopee High School's Class of 2024 was honored in a senior awards ceremony and walkthrough on May 30.

During the ceremony, Guidance Counselor Dianne Vecchiarelli along with Principal David Lemke—who marked his final year at the high school—honored the graduates with awards and scholarships for their achievements in leadership, community service, academic excellence and other accomplishments during the school year, joined by fellow staff and teachers, Superintendent Dr. Marcus Ware and organizations including the police department, Delta Kappa Gamma, the Polish National Credit Union and more.

In his opening remarks, Lemke said, "Today, we gather to acknowledge not just the academic accomplishments, but the character, perseverance and spirit that have defined our students' journey through the school."

"Your hard work, dedication and resilience have brought you to this moment and each of you should be incredibly proud. This ceremony is not just a reflection of your intelligence, but also your commitment to growth and excellence," Lemke said.

Ware presented the Massachusetts Association for School Superintendents Award to Henry Ryczek.

Ret. Ofc. Chad Foisy presented the Battle of the Badges Scholarship to Nicholas Kendra, followed by Capt. Doug

See **CHS SENIORS** page 7

COMMUNITY

Western Mass Post 9/11 and Service Dog Memorial Park officially opens



TURLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS

The sign for the Western Mass Post 9/11 and Service Dog Memorial Park on Westover Road in Chicopee, which officially opened on June 1.

By Kristin Rivers
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CHICOPEE - The Western Mass Post 9/11 and Service Dog Memorial Park officially opened on June 1, honoring post-9/11 military members, service dogs and heroes.

The park, located on Westover Road, comprises seven acres of walking trails, fitness areas, signs about the weapons, aircraft, vehicles and service dogs used by Massachusetts units, a walking timeline, murals, a remembrance overlook plaza with a memorial dog tag sculpture, a pinnacle "desert" dune sculpture and meditation/reflection sand play area and more.

The park came together in collaboration between the Department of Veterans Services,

the Department of Parks & Recreation and the Department of Planning & Development along with input from veterans throughout Western Massachusetts and the community.

The opening ceremony included the posting of the colors by the Chicopee High School Junior ROTC, Sydney Benoit performing the National Anthem and remarks from Mayor John Vieau, former Mayor Richard Kos, Stephanie Shaw, director of Veterans Services, Benjamin Strepka, superintendent for the Department of Parks & Recreation, Planning Director Lee Pouliot, Col. Gregory Buchanan, commander of the 439th Airlift Wing at Westover Air Reserve Base, State Sen. Jacob Oliveira (D-Ludlow) and State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee).

Vieau reflected on the walk-

ing timeline, a pathway depicting the Massachusetts deployments during the War on Terror with a year and the number of deployed service members listed.

"In the first ten years, on the walk, are reflection space and the walk back is the second half of the war. You will see a constant giving of service from the Commonwealth," Vieau said.

Kos credited Shaw, Pouliot, Strepka, the city and the state for making the park a reality.

"Quite often, people question 'How many parks do you need?' and 'Do they make money?' or 'Are they breaking even?' Different discussions. It's all part of the quality of life that we all enjoy in this city and I think today we've increased the quality of life immeasurably by having

See **DOG PARK** page 8

COMMUNITY

CHS students reflect on high school years

By Kristin Rivers
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CHICOPEE - As seniors walked out of Chicopee High School for the last time as students on May 30, three of those students reflected on their time in high school.

Ahead of graduation, the Chicopee Register had the opportunity to sit down with Valedictorian Khushi Patel, Salutatorian Henry Ryczek and 2024 Class President DuWayne Barker to talk about the last four years and reflect on their final day at the high school.

In the fall, Barker will be attending Western New England University to double ma-

major in Chemistry and Biology, Patel is heading to UMass Amherst to major in Biology and go on the Pre-Med track and Ryczek will, also, go to Western New England University to major in Civil Engineering with a concentration in railway.

Walkthrough Day

Walking down the halls of Chicopee High for the final time, Barker said he had mixed emotions, but also excitement.

"I'm excited cos we can embark on this new adventure," Barker said.

Patel had tears as she bid farewell to teachers.

"I'm really happy, but it's really sad at the same time," Patel said.

Ryczek said it doesn't feel real to him yet about graduating.

"I don't know what to say to that, you know. We're done with high school, moving on now, new chapter of our lives," Ryczek said.

Reflecting on unity, hard work

Barker became class president this year, succeeding Chase Daigneault who had served for the past three years.

He stressed how, in the past year, the class became more unified.

"I think we've actually all come together this year, kind of took leadership and actually made everyone feel like they're

See **SENIORS REFLECT** page 8



TURLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS

A group photo of Chicopee High School Class of 2024 President DuWayne Barker, Valedictorian Khushi Patel and Salutatorian Henry Ryczek with the high school banner, showing off their Pacer Pride during their last day as high school students.

Fruit Fair breaks ground for rooftop greenhouse project

By Kristin Rivers
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CHICOPEE - Fruit Fair Supermarket held a groundbreaking ceremony on May 31 to kick off their rooftop greenhouse project.

The initiative is designed to help enhance urban agriculture while promoting sustainability in the community, transforming the rooftop of Fruit Fair into a greenhouse providing fresh, locally-grown produce all year round.

The project also received funding from the Food Security Infrastructure Grant, a grant program supporting local farms and businesses. Governor Maura Healey announced the recipients for the grant, including Fruit Fair, in Chicopee last summer.

Mayor John Vieau praised Jared and Sam Newell, the owners of Fruit Fair, for their innovation and helping combat food insecurity in the city, reading a quote he saw on a mural when walking through the parking lots: "The only way to survive is by taking care of each other."

"I know that Fruit Fair is doing that for this neighborhood. There's many people that are in walking distance that are able to come in and fill their shelves with food and put food on their table every single day," Vieau said. "It's an incredible accomplishment."

State Sen. Jacob Oliveira (D-Ludlow) explained how urban farming "is something that's unique, but also something that's growing" and, at the state level, the legislature has established a committee on agriculture and appointed a rural affairs director.

Oliveira stressed the importance



A group photo with local and state elected officials, Sam and Jared Newell, owners of Fruit Fair Supermarket, community members and more during the groundbreaking ceremony for Fruit Fair's rooftop greenhouse project.

of sustainability in the face of climate change, citing last summer's flood events and a late frost last winter.

"So, having something that's sustainable, on the roof that you can grow throughout the year, that you don't have to rely on the weather outside is something we're all focused in on," Oliveira said.

State Sen. Adam Gomez (D-Springfield) called the Newells' project "absolutely revolutionary," especially for inner cities and gateway cities.

"In certain areas, food deserts do exist, and especially with how long this place has been a footprint and a staple here in the city of Chicopee is so important," Gomez said. "This is just another add to the fight against food insecurity."

State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee) praised the Newells for putting this

project into action and persevering.

"What you're doing here, really thinking outside the box, it's plentiful. We need more of that. We need more innovative minds to address all different issues that are facing not only our city here but our Commonwealth and our nation. We need to think outside the box and Sam and her dream here is exactly that," Arriaga said.

Jared Newell explained the project will help provide greater access for fresh fruits and vegetables not just in Chicopee, but surrounding communities as well.

"That was one thing that we found out through the pandemic was that there was a limited amount of food access to fresh produce and vegetables," he said. "And so, the idea was to try to solve that problem here in Chicopee."

Reflecting on receiving the grant funding last summer to the groundbreaking that day, Sam Newell said, "It's been a crazy ride."

"This is the first project of its kind where we are trying to build rooftop greenhouses, which is like an enclosed growing space on top of an already existing building, so it was never in the plan of the original building which was built like 50, 60 years ago," she said. "The building codes were different and we're running into a lot of codes that are still not written yet because a project of this magnitude and



State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee) checks out the Bobcat during the groundbreaking for Fruit Fair's rooftop greenhouse project.

this innovation hasn't been tried before. So, we're just navigating that, slowly, and the city has been really helpful and they have been helping us navigate that. Our architect, our builders, everyone has been working in collaboration to navigate that."

Wayne Albrecht, one of the owners at All Tek Builders, said, "It's a privilege" to work in Chicopee and with the Newells on the project.

"I remember coming to Fruit Fair years ago, we're talking 35, 40 years ago practically. It's an old community here. Chicopee's warm. Like the mayor had already mentioned earlier, they're connected and Sam's doing a fabulous job. She's got a heart of gold," Albrecht said.

Sam Newell expressed her gratitude for the community support, wanting them to know "it just means a lot" and to continue supporting local businesses.

"Be it local farms, be it local grocery stores, be it local farm stands, just to allocate a majority of their grocery dollars locally so that the money, jobs, stay local in the community," she said.

Jared Newell also encouraged residents to stop by.

"Come and see what great things that we'll have next!" he said.



From the left, Ward 1 City Councilor Abigail Arriaga, City Council Vice President/Councilor-at-Large Robert Zygarowski, City Council President/Councilor-at-Large Frank Laflamme, Ward 4 City Councilor George Balakier, Sam and Jared Newell, owners of Fruit Fair Supermarket, Mayor John Vieau, State Sen. Adam Gomez (D-Springfield), State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee) and State Sen. Jacob Oliveira (D-Ludlow) celebrate the groundbreaking of Fruit Fair's rooftop greenhouse project with a ribbon-cutting.



Mayor John Vieau talks with Jared and Sam Newell, owners of Fruit Fair Supermarket, about the impact that their rooftop greenhouse project will have on Chicopee.



State Sen. Jacob Oliveira (D-Ludlow) talks about urban farming during the groundbreaking ceremony.



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Harmony House officially reopens in Chicopee

By Kristin Rivers
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CHICOPEE - Harmony House cut the ribbon to applause and celebration as they celebrated their grand reopening on May 31.

Harmony House, located on View Street, was founded in 2007 by the late Ruth Willemain and has five bedrooms, multiple accessible bathrooms, a kitchen, common room space, a chapel area and more.

A social model home, Harmony House provides end-of-life care and support to its residents.

State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee), who presented a citation from the House of Representatives to Gina Mazza, Harmony House's Board of Directors president, called the organization's work "remarkable."

"To hear that it doesn't cost a dollar to the patients, to the clients, who's in need of that bed, speaks volumes of the hearts of everyone standing here today, but especially of you and your team and all the great work they've done to continue to keep this alive because it's not easy as we know," Arriaga said.

State Sen. Jacob Oliveira (D-Ludlow) had a citation from the State Senate presented to Mazza, sharing how people are living longer and having a place like Harmony House to turn to makes a difference.

"Harmony House is a beautiful, beautiful tribute to them and their families to have a safe, loving, caring environment," Oliveira said.

Mayor John Vieau said the location "is a loving home" and "has evolved from a shell into something special because of this community."

"If there's a need, a cause or a reason, Chicopee comes through every single time and this will provide that care, 24/7, for those who need it, who can't afford it and who are at the end of their life and treated with respect and dignity," Vieau said.

Vieau praised the community and the people at Harmony House for their tireless work to get to today.

"It's a special day in Chicopee and a special day for Chicopee, a special day for Western Mass and for Ruth Willemain who is not with us anymore," Vieau said.

Mazza was excited to officially reopen Harmony House.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RIVERS

Gina Mazza, Harmony House's Board of Directors president, celebrates with the community as the ribbon is cut for the grand reopening of Harmony House on May 31. The ribbon was cut in honor of Ruth Willemain.

"The Chicopee community for sure and so many of the local businesses and local folks have made this dream come true," Mazza said.

With the reopening, Mazza said they are also looking for volunteers.

"We are still in need of caregiving volunteers who would like to come and volunteer here a few hours a week to help us take care of our residents. So, people that might have a healthcare background--you don't have to be a nurse or a physician--but some kind of healthcare background and you'd be willing to talk with us, we'd love to hear from you because we never leave anyone here alone. We provide 24/7 care and that takes a lot of people to do it," Mazza said.

Barbara Berthiaume is a volunteer at Harmony House and was also an original volunteer when they were on Pendleton Avenue, calling it "a wonderful experience."

Berthiaume was blown away by the community support.

"It just makes you feel like there's a lot of good people out there. In the world right now, it can be really easy to get depressed and feel like 'What's happening? What's happening to our country? Why don't people care?'" Berthiaume said. "But, when you get out here and you see this, I just get tears in my eyes because there's so many good people out there and

you don't always know that they are."

Berthiaume shared people have also donated items including recliners, televisions and more, and at other times, money to support Harmony House.

"People are amazing. They are amazing," Berthiaume said.

Mazza wants the community to know they can continue lending their support by attending the Wine Tasting & Silent Auction fundraising event on June 10 from 5 to 7 p.m. at the 350 Grill Steakhouse in Springfield.

Admission is \$50 and tickets can be purchased online under the events page at harmonyhousewma.org or at the door.

"It's our kickoff to an annual campaign and our goal is to raise enough money so that our residents never have to worry about paying for anything when they come here. We want to take care of everything, worry-free, but we need the help of everyone to do it," Mazza said.

Mazza's message was this.

"We're here for you. That's what we exist for. We get just as much back from giving to our community as we know our residents will receive, so we're ready, willing and able to get these doors open to people," Mazza said.

BeatleMania at RiverMills

CHICOPEE - The Council on Aging will host the program "BeatleMania" on Friday, June 28 at 1:30 p.m. at Chicopee Council on Aging's RiverMills Center, 5 West Main St.

Immerse yourself in timeless melodies from the Fab 4- featuring hires like Hey Jude, Let It Be, Eleanor Rigby and more. This program is sponsored in part by the Chicopee Cultural Council, a local agency sponsored by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency. You must register in advance.

Father's Day Breakfast

CHICOPEE - The Council on Aging will be having a Father's Day Breakfast on Friday, June 14 at 8:30 a.m. at Chicopee Council on Aging's RiverMills Center, 5 West Main St.

To all the special men out there! Enjoy a breakfast right here at RiverMills to celebrate Father's Day. The cost is \$5. You must register in person at RiverMills Center.

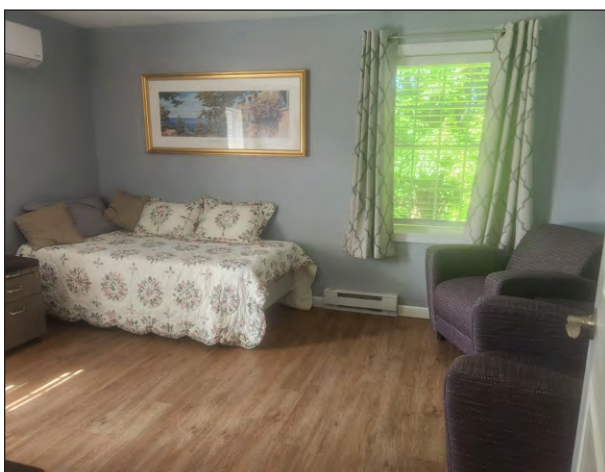
Chicopee Police K9 Demonstration at RiverMills Center

CHICOPEE - The Chicopee Council on Aging will host a K9 demonstration on Wednesday, June 12 at 10 a.m. at Chicopee Council on Aging's RiverMills Center, located at 5 W. Main Street.

Join Chicopee PD for a K9 information session about the K9 unit. There will be time for questions and answers, as well as a brief demonstration displaying obedience, how the K9s locate items such as evidence, and aggression control. This will be a fun and informative workshop. The Rain Date for this event is Thursday, June 13th. You must register in advance.



Attendees enjoy a spread of food, take tours and mingle during the grand reopening of Harmony House on May 31.



A bedroom for family members who visit loved ones during their time at Harmony House.



A photo of the celebratory cake for the grand reopening of Harmony House.

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GUEST COLUMN



June question for the Garden Lady

Aline, who gardens in Springfield wrote in with this question for the Garden Lady: "In my yard I have several trees with a grey/white substance. A plant expert at Sixteen Acres Garden Center diagnosed it as lichen. He said there was nothing I could do to treat it. This substance is covering my trees. Could lime on the soil help? My soil is acidic. I also have Japanese maple trees. I do not want lichen to attack them. There has to be a solution. Thank you for your assistance."

This was one of my more interesting questions!

Lichen is a living organism that is part fungus, part algae. It grows on many different things, from rocks, to trees, even the ground and other surfaces like gravestones and metal fences.

As far as your trees go, it isn't hurting them.

Because it grows on the surface of the bark, it doesn't affect the vascular system of the tree. In other words, it doesn't rob the tree of vital nutrients or moisture because it cannot penetrate that part of the plant; it is only on the surface.

Lichen simply needs sunlight, moisture from the air and a place to attach! Kind of amazing, if you think of it.

I realize you don't like it though, so what can we do?

One expert recommended spraying a soapy solution (made with a mild detergent) on the lichen and rubbing it off with a soft brush. I would be extra careful if I did that, especially on young trees or trees that have soft bark.

As you may have gathered, liming the soil will not help.

Melissa wrote in with this question: "Lilacs are among my favorite bushes! I really wish they had a longer bloom time than they do - doesn't everyone!? I didn't have as many flowers as I should have this year. I think my shrub needs to be pruned. Can you please advise? I remember hearing that you shouldn't do it too late in the summer, and how much is too much? I have some old stems that are a good 5-6 inches in diameter. I think they need to go but I wanted to hear what you had to say. Thank you!"

Here are the basics of lilac pruning, starting with deadheading. As soon as possible after the flowers have gone by it's important to remove spent blossoms down to the first leaf.

By doing this you will stop seed formation, energy will be conserved and redirected to next season's flower production. Since buds are set in summer you should tackle any necessary stem or branch pruning soon after flowering.

If pruning takes place in fall, winter, or in spring prior to bloom there is a good chance you will cut off next year's flowers!

How do you know if pruning is necessary?

One reason to prune would be because your flowers are out of reach- the bushes have simply gotten too tall. Another reason, and it usually joins the first, would be that the main stems have gotten woody and unsightly - this sounds like your concern.

Consider rejuvenating the plant.

Start in the center of the bush at ground level and work out, cutting out the oldest stems. Then concentrate on reducing the overall height to 6-8 feet.

Severely overgrown lilacs can be handled in this manner over a three year period, pruning out 1/3 each year. You will see

GUEST COLUMN



Social Security's earnings test and Cost of Living Adjustments

Dear Rusty

Is there a limit on earnings when you're fully retired? Also, should all retirees receive Cost of Living Adjustments or is there an exception?

Signed: Retired But Wondering

Dear Retired

Your questions are fairly simple but, nevertheless, often perplexing to those wishing to apply for Social Security, because the SS rules are many over 2,700 of them and those about to apply for their benefits may be simply unsure and want to avoid a costly mistake. I'm happy to answer your questions and, hopefully, clarify any uncertainties you have on these topics.

Social Security imposes an earnings limit on anyone who collects Social Security before reaching their Full retirement Age. If you haven't yet reached your FRA somewhere between 66 and 67, depending on the year you were born and you continue to work, there is a limit to how much you can earn before they take away some of your benefits.

So, the answer to your first question is, yes, there is an earnings limit \$22,320 for 2024 if you haven't yet reached your Full Retirement Age. If the annual earnings limit is exceeded, Social Security will take away some of your benefits (\$1 for every \$2 you are over the limit, up to the year you attain FRA when the assessment is less). However, if you have already reached your Full Retirement Age the earnings limit no longer applies and you can earn as much as you like without consequence. And here's a nuance to be aware of: if you work and exceed the earnings limit and

have some benefits withheld as a result, when you reach your FRA, you will get time credit for any months you didn't get benefits, which will result in your monthly amount being a bit higher after your FRA.

Regarding Cost of Living Adjustment, everyone, without exception, who has earned a Social Security benefit and reached eligibility age (62) receives the annual COLA increase whether they are already collecting their benefits or not. If you're not yet collecting, the COLA is added to your "primary insurance amount" or "PIA" on which your benefit will be based when you claim.

If you are already collecting SS, COLA will be added to your gross monthly SS benefit amount. However, since there was a \$9.80 increase in the 2024 Medicare Part B premium, and since the Part B premium is taken from everyone's SS benefit payment, Social Security recipients enrolled in Medicare Part B will not see the full 3.2% COLA in their net monthly Social Security payment. Everyone will receive the COLA increase, but no one enrolled in Medicare Part B will get the full COLA increase in their net SS payment because some of the COLA increase is used to pay their increased Medicare premium.

Social Security's rules are myriad and often confusing, but no question is too simple to be asked. The AMAC Foundation's Social Security Advisory Service is available, at no charge, to answer all your Social Security questions - SSAdvisor@amacfoundation.org via email or call 1-888-750-2622.

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

Busy hurricane season predicted ...



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flower production increase dramatically if you follow these directions.

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

held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor should be 250 words or less in length. No unsigned or anonymous opinions will be published. We require letter writers to include his or her town of residence and home telephone number. We must authenticate authorship prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions deemed to be libelous or contain unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks, defamation of character and offensive language. All unknown or alleged facts and quotations offered by the author need to cite credible, unbiased sources.

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The deadline for submissions is Friday at noon.

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.

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Events & announcements schedule

Baby Kneads Sign Language Series

CHICOPEE – The Holyoke-Chicopee Family Community Program is offering a Baby Kneads Sign Language Series.

The four-week series, facilitated by Sheryl White, founder and owner of Baby Kneads, will support families in learning sign language with their child.

Baby sign language gives children the ability to communicate their needs and wishes, pre-verbal, without frustration, tears or tantrums. Babies and toddlers can learn signs important to their lifestyle such as “more”, “sleep”, “eat”, and so on.

This class is appropriate for parents/caregivers and their child over two months and pre-verbal.

The classes take place on Wednesdays at 11 a.m. at the Chicopee Public Library on June 12.

Please register by calling (413) 348-4355 or email zaskeyc@headstart.org.

Harmony House Schedules Wine Tasting Fundraiser

CHICOPEE - Harmony House of Western Massachusetts, the home for the terminally ill which is scheduled to re-open later this month, is hosting a Wine Tasting and Paired Appetizers fundraiser on June 10, 2024 from 5:00 – 7:00 p.m. at the 350 Grill Steakhouse located at 350 Worthington St. in Springfield. The Springfield Wine Exchange is co-hosting the event. Cost is \$50 per person and may be purchased on the Harmony House website at www.harmonyhousewma.org. Click on the “Events” tab to purchase your tickets. In addition to tasting exceptional wines and hors d’oeuvres, you can participate in a Silent Auction and Raffle.

The home is planning a ribbon-cutting ceremony for May 31 and will soon accept their first residents.

Harmony House is totally privately funded through the generosity of individuals, businesses, and foundations. Contributions are gratefully accepted at all times. “Someday you may need us; right now, we need you.” Please visit the website at www.harmonyhousewma.org or send your checks to Harmony House of Western Massachusetts, 66 View Street, Chicopee, MA. Harmony House is a 501(c)(3) corporation. If interested in learning more or becoming a volunteer, please contact Harmony House at 413-315-9784 or by email at harmonyhousewma@gmail.com.

Chicopee Comp Class of 1974 plans 50th Reunion

CHICOPEE - It’s the time to renew friendships and share memories with high school classmates. The Chicopee Comprehensive High School Class of 1974 will be holding its 50th reunion on Sept. 13 at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 460 Granby Rd. in Chicopee. The reunion party will begin at 5:00 p.m. with cocktails and dinner. Committee members are planning details for the festivities and also working hard to track down classmates and reach out to as many as possible. If you think you have contact information for long-lost friends, please send it to Linda Parlengas at lpargengas@hotmail.com; Mona Marcil Friberg at tinker245@aol.com, or Lynn Provost Larrabee at penrose43@comcast.net. We will be sending out details soon and would like to include everyone. Information can also be shared on Facebook at Chicopee Comp Class of 1974 Reunion Page or at Classmates.com.

Chicopee Public Library hosts programs for kids and families

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

Here is the slate of events for June 2024.

The Library’s All Ages Playgroup will be held in the children’s room on Saturdays, June 8, 15 and 22 from 1 to 2 p.m. While the children’s room playspace is always available to kids and families visiting the library, during playgroup there are extra toys to explore. It is a great time for families to meet up and play.

Little Movers will be held in the children’s program room on Friday, June 21 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.

Sensory Play Saturday will be held at 9:30 a.m. on Saturday, June 8. Come let your babies socialize and explore sensory play! We will have our play area set up with some sensory activities and other play opportunities. For babies 0-24 months and their caregivers. Kids ages six to nine are invited to come to the Maker Zone for projects, crafts, and experiments focused on Science Technology Engineering and Math.

Maker Zone will be held on Thursday, June 13 at 4 p.m. in the children’s program room. This month’s project is cloud dough.

The library will host programs just for middle and high school students in June.

Teen Throwback Tuesday will be held on Tuesday, June 11 from 2:30 - 4 p.m. Childhood nostalgia is on offer with fun games, coloring and the giant parachute.

The Chicopee Library’s Summer Reading Program begins on June 24. This year, the question is “Chicopee, Did you read today?” Kids, teens, adults and everybody of every age is invited to read every day from June 24 to August 16 and enjoy fun programs at the library!

Stop by the Kids Room from 3 to 5 p.m. on Monday June 24 for a Summer Reading Kickoff. There will be fun and games around the room, including a sensory walk, a scavenger hunt, and a giant sticker poster. Kids Room staff will be available to help get you registered for Summer Reading and then you can stock up on library books so you can read every day.

Summer Dance Parties will be held every other Tuesday morning. The first one will be on Tuesday, June 25 at 10:30 a.m. Join in to move and groove. Geared for kids five and under, but older kids are welcome!

The library will host a Learn to Draw Watch Party, where an online event and drawing lesson will be streamed on the big screen in the Community Room at 4 p.m. on Tuesday, June 25. All ages welcome. Join illustrator Jason Chin, illustrator for iREAD 2024 and illustrator of Life After Whale: the Amazing Ecosystem of a Whale Fall, coming in June, as well as Tara Audibert of JoJo Makoons Fancy Pants and graphic novelist Rachel Dinunzio, author of Forsynthia: Rise of the Cupcakes. Drawing supplies will be provided. This event is brought to you by Baker & Taylor.

On Wednesday, June 26 at 2 p.m., the library will host Taiko Thunder, a high energy Japanese drumming performance by Odai-ko New England. Fans of anime and manga, and fans of big drums should not miss this one! Registration is Required. Contact the Kids Room to sign up. This program is supported by a grant from the Chicopee Cultural Council, a local agency, which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

Visit the Chicopee Public Library all summer long for storytime, art projects, performances, concerts and more!

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



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4th Annual Chicopee Pride event set to celebrate diversity and acceptance at Szot Park

CHICOPEE - The Chicopee Pride Committee, chaired by Emarie Leatherwood, is thrilled to announce the 4th annual Pride Festival at Szot Park on June 15 from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. This vibrant celebration is made possible through the generous funding and support of the Chicopee Cultural Council, the Massachusetts Cultural Council and numerous local supporters. Mayor John Vieau commented, "Chicopee's commitment to fostering a welcoming and inclusive environment is at the forefront of our community initiatives. The Pride event at Szot Park is a celebration of this spirit, where we come together to support the LGBTQA+ community, but the shared values that unite us all as one city."

Event Highlights:

Entertainment-including local Drag Kings and Queens and a local published poet.

The Sashay: a chance for everyone to

show their most fabulous Pride selves

Local LGBTQA+ business and ally businesses

LGBTQA+ Community Organizations and supporters

Why Celebrate Pride? Pride events are a cornerstone in advancing the dialogue around the importance of inclusion and acceptance. They allow LGBTQA+ individuals to see themselves represented in their community and provide the broader community an opportunity to embrace

diversity. This visibility is crucial in promoting understanding and dismantling prejudices.

"Pride is more than a celebration; it is a vital movement towards achieving equality and acceptance for all," said Emarie Leatherwood, chair of the Chicopee Pride Committee. "By coming together, we honor the courage of those who live authentically and encourage a more inclusive society."

The Chicopee Pride Committee in-

vites all residents and visitors to join in this celebration of love, diversity and acceptance. Let's come together to support the LGBTQA+ community and move forward in unity and respect.

About the Chicopee Pride Committee: The Chicopee Pride Committee, a part of the Chicopee Queer Consortium, works tirelessly to ensure that the voices of the LGBTQ+ community are heard and celebrated. Through events like the Pride celebration, the Chicopee Queer Consortium strives to create a more inclusive and accepting society.

For more information, please contact: Emarie Leatherwood, Chair Chicopee Pride Committee Email: ChicopeePride413@gmail.com

Join us as we celebrate, reflect, and look forward to a future where everyone can live openly and proudly.

Johnny Cash Tribute Concert at RiverMills Center

CHICOPEE - The Chicopee Council on Aging will host a Johnny Cash Tribute Concert on Thursday, June 13 at 1:30 p.m. at Chicopee Council on Aging's RiverMills Center, located at 5 W. Main Street.

Matt York, long time New England Musician and Author and 2022/2023 nominee of the Boston Music Award for Best Country Artist and his album "Gently Used", will be at RiverMills for this performance of Johnny Cash songs and stories, from Cash's emergence as a performer to his marriage to June Carter, and many more.

This program is sponsored by the Chicopee Cultural Council, a local agency sponsored by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency. You must register in advance.

CPL announces upcoming programming

CHICOPEE - Here is a list of some of our upcoming library programs.

Tuesday, June 11 at 7:00 p.m. Decoupage Oyster Shells Learn how to paint, decoupage and shellac large oyster shells that can be used as jewelry dishes and ornaments. All supplies will be provided. You will go home with a beautifully decorated oyster shell designed by you!

Registration is required for this art class for adults. Register at the Reference

Desk (413-594-1800x3, cpl@chicopeepubliclibrary.org).

This program is supported in part by the Chicopee Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

For those interested in exploring their Family History, the Chicopee Library computer lab is available to work on genealogy 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. We have also recently added Newspapers.com to our genealogy resources available in the library.

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

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

HCHS holding Baby Playgroup June 18

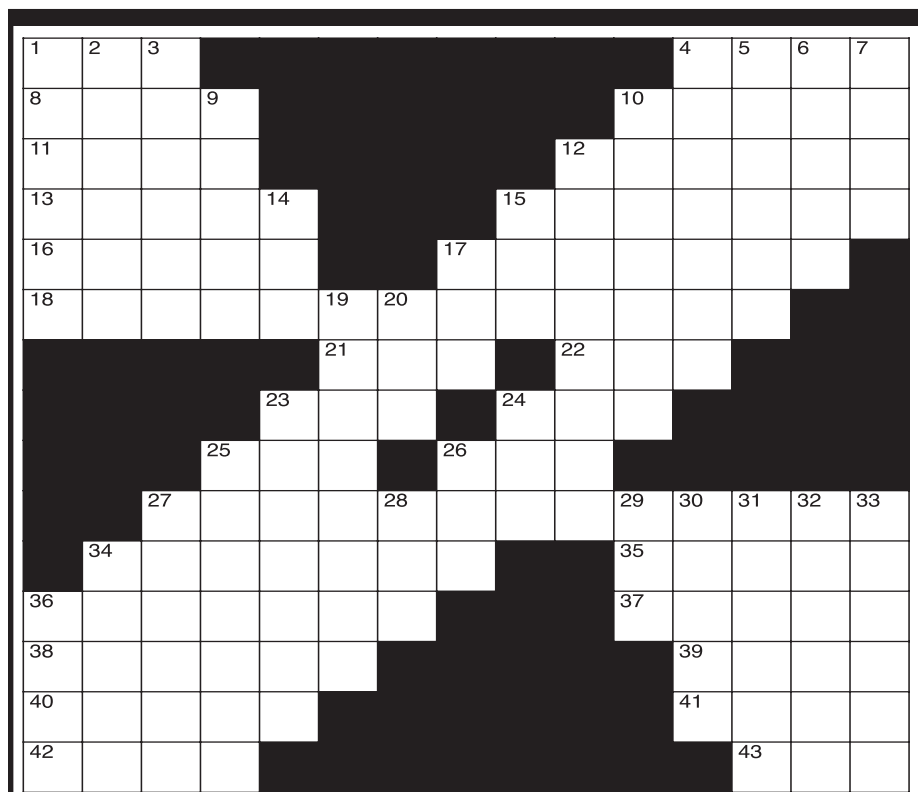
CHICOPEE - The Holyoke Chicopee Family Community Program is holding a Baby Playgroup.

You are Invited to Baby Playgroup, ongoing weekly on Tuesday.

Join us on June 18 from 3 to 4:30 p.m., for ages 0-12 months.

Lincoln Grove Head Start, 216 Broadway St., Chicopee, MA 01020

Connect with other parents and bring your little one for nursery rhymes, sensory play, story time and more



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Baby's dining accessory
- 4. Something free
- 8. Ancient Egyptian deity
- 10. Set-like mathematical categories
- 11. Top-quality
- 12. Expansive
- 13. Seizure
- 15. People with congenital absence of pigment
- 16. Gains
- 17. Mocked online
- 18. Clint's son
- 21. Body part
- 22. Humor
- 23. Code number
- 24. Your physique

25. Family of regulator genes

- 26. LA football player (abbr.)
- 27. "The Blonde Bombshell"
- 34. Charity
- 35. Bluish greens
- 36. Examined closely
- 37. A type of equation
- 38. Stretched uncomfortably
- 39. Indian religious god
- 40. Clocks
- 41. Slowly leak through
- 42. Witnesses
- 43. Midway between south and southeast

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Nestlings
- 2. Induces vomiting
- 3. A place to eat
- 4. Partner in the air
- 5. Offered one's take
- 6. Nobel-winning French biologist
- 7. Farm animals
- 9. Prevent from growing
- 10. Sensationalist periodical
- 12. Soft-bodied beetle
- 14. Very fast airplane
- 15. Imaginative creation
- 17. Recipe measurement (abbr.)
- 19. Evoked a response
- 20. French river
- 23. Shiny yellow minerals
- 24. Make illegal
- 25. U.S. military branch
- 26. River in France and Belgium
- 27. A woman of refinement
- 28. Male child
- 29. Type of medication
- 30. German city
- 31. Animal disease
- 32. Mediterranean dietary staple
- 33. Sneak out
- 34. Radioactivity unit
- 36. Performs on stage

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Chicopee High School Principal David Lemke fist bumps a graduating student during the senior class's walkthrough on May 30. This year also marks Lemke's final year at the school.



Senior Class Advisers Jessica Major and Joseph Noyes hold the Class of 2024 banner with Pacer Pride as they lead the senior class through the lobby during their walkthrough.

CHC SENIORS from page 1

Lambert awarding scholarships to Kaisha Serrano, Chase Daigneault and Alanys Torres Velardo in memory of School Resource Officer Angela Santiago.

"Her tragic passing had an impact on the entire Chicopee community, but even more so with the school community. Her legend will always live on through many ways, but this scholarship will always remind generations of students who Angela was and the impact she had on the school," Lambert said.

In an emotional moment, Kara Mitchell Gauthier and Hunter DoCarmo presented the Chrissy Myers DoCarmo Memorial Scholarship.

The scholarship was named for Myers DoCarmo, a Chicopee High School graduate and later, a teacher, administrator and department head in the Mathematics Department at the high school who tragically passed away in a car accident in 2007.

"She left a lasting impression on her students and the faculty here at Chicopee High. When Hunter was little, one of the first phrases she taught him was 'Chicopee High, home of the Pacers!' and we would make him say it everywhere we brought him," Mitchell Gauthier said. "It was important for me to start this scholarship in her name so her memory would live on at her beloved CHS."

The scholarship was awarded to Asia-Mary Green.

Next, Kathy Balakier presented the DKG Scholarship to Maricelys Lacen, Urszula Kulig from Polish National Credit Union presented scholarships to Julia Swiatlowski, Danieliz Jiminian and Julianna Giec and Vecchiarelli presented the Page Scholarship to Sheariah Manu, Zy'aisha Kelley and Alexis Ferraro on behalf of City Treasurer Marie Laflamme and Mayor John Vieau.

Jerry and Paul Rogers presented the Kelly Lynn Rogers Scholarship, a cheerleading scholarship in her memory.

Rogers was a cheerleader at Chicopee High School for four years and passed away four years after graduation, with the scholarship established in 1988.

"Cheerleading is a very valuable asset at every school. Every student works so hard to entertain us during timeouts and breaks at every game and in competitions all over the state and country and they represent Chicopee High School very well. So, let's give a cheer for the cheerleaders," Paul Rogers said.

The Kelly Lynn Rogers Scholarship was awarded to Sheariah Manu.

Following this, Senior Class Adviser Jessica Major presented the stoles for the National Honor Society to 17 students, Wellness Curriculum Specialist Danielle Hill recognized 13 students who graduated from the high school's Health Academy and five with EMT program certificates and



Chicopee High School Class of 2025 President Nyeira Wilson shares parting words to the Class of 2024 on May 30.

Girls Lacrosse Coach and Girls Soccer Coach Ashley Ziemba presented two scholarships from the Chicopee Athletic Hall of Fame to Henry Ryczek and Maria Fareti and the Edward Rybek Scholarship to Chase Daigneault, Marc Bernard and Henry Ryczek.

Senior Class Adviser Joseph Noyes presented certificates for the Criminal Justice Academy to Chase Daigneault, Kayden Joseph, Wyatt Kasulinous, Daijalei Luna, Kayla Morrisette, Gabriel Nieves Santiago, Noah Stone, Paola Torres Nieves, Charlene Torres Torres and Paola Torres Velardo.

The Career and Technical Education Department recognized four students with achievement awards and over 60 students with articulation certificates.

Lastly, Spanish Teacher Daisy Cruz recognized 11 students who received the State Seal of Biliteracy and Guidance Counselors Melissa Harms, Laura Kinney and Jennifer Murphy presented the Chicopee High School Faculty Council Scholarship to 22 students and Vice Principal Ben Masse presented attendance awards to Amber Henriquez and Sage Brooks.

Class of 2025 President Nyeira Wilson had these final words for the graduating class.

"The world beyond these walls awaits you with open arms ready to be explored, challenged and transformed by your talents and passions. While today marks the end of a chapter, it also signifies the beginning of another," Wilson said.

Afterward, the graduates walked the four floors of Chicopee High School for the very last time, saying farewell to their fellow students, teachers, staff and faculty, culminating in uniting with their families outside the main lobby with hugs, tears and a sense of Pacer Pride at all they have accomplished, ready for graduation and the next chapter of their lives.



Superintendent Dr. Marcus Ware reads about the Massachusetts Association for School Superintendents Award as Salutatorian Henry Ryczek, the recipient, looks on.



Nicholas Kendra shakes hands with Ret. Ofc. Chad Foisy after being awarded this year's Battle of the Badges Scholarship.



Chase Daigneault shakes hands with Principal David Lemke after receiving a scholarship award during the senior assembly on May 30.



The Class of 2024 walks the lobby for the last time as students during their walkthrough.

DOG PARK from page 1

this dog park opened,” Kos said.

Strepka said the park is “a living, breathing piece of our community,” reminding attendees that after completion, “a park is never truly done.”

“The trees and flowers and grasses will continue to grow and Mother Nature will take her hold. Let us take care of our park so it may continue to live and grow. It will continue to listen and tell the stories of all our servicemen and women who made it possible for us to be here today,” Strepka said.

Pouliot shared how Shaw came to him with a sketch of the park on a napkin, emphasizing her desire for the park is what stayed with everyone involved throughout the process and “that collaboration is why we’re all standing here today.”

“It was a desire of the veterans community to celebrate service and that has been the theme in every grant, every design, schematic that we looked at moving forward,” Pouliot said.

Shaw reflected on the groundbreaking last year and recognized the members of the original 2012 committee for their vision.

“I hope, truly, truly hope that what we’ve done here and what we’ve been able to accomplish today meets your respect and your vision and is sufficient for what you had hoped to create for this space on these seven acres,” Shaw said.

Buchanan said the park’s opening was personal to him and his fellow service members, having done seven deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan.

He appreciated the service dogs, also, being recognized at the park.

“So, it’s important that while we, as humans, were out there doing what we got to do to take care of this great country that our



TURLEY PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RIVERS

A close-up shot of dog tags hanging on the memorial dog tag sculpture at the remembrance overlook plaza at the Western Mass Post 9/11 and Service Dog Memorial Park in Chicopee.



A sign with information on Belgian Malinois, a breed of service dog that served alongside service members during the War on Terror, on display at the Western Mass Post 9/11 and Service Dog Memorial Park.

great pooches were out there as well,” Buchanan said.

Oliveira, who later presented a citation from the State Senate, reflected on the War on Terror, having had friends and family members signing up to serve after 9/11.

“Many of you gave back by serving your country and some of us made the ultimate sacrifice, including people in this community and from Western Massachusetts. So, having a park to remember them is truly something that’s wonderful to have right in our backyard,” Oliveira said.

Arriaga, accompanied by her dog, Mina, reminded everyone not to take our freedoms and liberties for granted.

“We can at least take this moment, this park, to thank them, respect them, honor them, remember their sacrifices and I hope everyone that strolls through this park finds some solace and some peace in this park,” Arriaga said.

The ceremony concluded with these words from Vieau, Shaw, Pouliot and Strepka.

“The park is open!” they said.

SENIORS REFLECT from page 1

part of the class rather than just be in one clique,” Barker said. “We all kind of came together as one.”

On achieving valedictorian and salutatorian, Patel and Ryczek shared a lot of studying and work got them to this point.

“This past year was a lot of stress, of course, for studying and everything. It was a lot of studying, a lot of work, a lot of classes. But, it went really well. I’m happy,” Patel said.

“It was definitely a lot of work this year. You got to put a lot of the time and work into everything, but every day was fun. There was always something to enjoy: teachers, classmates, friends, talking with other people,” Ryczek said. “It was a fun experience even with all the workload. It didn’t feel as complicated as it was.”

Thinking back on the last four years

Barker called the last four years, “bittersweet,” explaining how during freshman and sophomore years, students were still getting to know one another and not many were still in school due to the hybrid model.

By junior year, Barker said, “We became a little more connected” and overcame challenges together.

“More friend groups, kind of start to mesh,” Barker said. “And then senior year, I feel like we all kind of just meshed all as one. There’s different friend groups but we all worked together, we all collaborated and we’re just like one big friend group.”

Patel reflected on seeing people through the screens on Zoom during freshman year and she didn’t really know anyone.

“But as soon as we got into the school, we got to know everybody and we just sort of formed this whole community,” Patel said. “And by senior year, now that we’re all finally knit together, it’s time to go our own paths.”

Ryczek agreed, adding how the first two years “didn’t really feel like the general high school experience almost,” due to everything being so different than normal during the pandemic.

“Once junior and senior year rolled around, we started talking with more people, opening up and that’s when it really started getting good,” Ryczek said.

Gratitude for Awards and Scholarships

Reflecting on the senior assembly earlier that day, each student expressed gratitude for the scholarships they received and for being recognized for their achievements.

“Personally, I think with the scholarships and all of the recognition, I think it kind of pays off for the past four years. That we all put into school and we all tried very hard to kind of put our names—not on the map—but on the map for school, to be known around, to have a good reputa-

tion. I think that it just kind of builds off our legacy that we leave,” Barker said. “People will remember us, I guess. I think as we leave, they’ll all know us and the legacy of us.”

“I’m very grateful for these organizations who are willing to support the graduates and help us fund for college because it’s hard. But all of the scholarships we’ve gotten, I think we all deserve it for all the hard work we put in for the past four years, so I’m very thankful for those organizations,” Patel said.

“I’m very thankful for all the awards that they presented today,” Ryczek said. “It’s kind of like you give what you get sort of thing. You put the work in, you put in the effort and rewards will come. It’s supposed to be a good thing.”

What They Will Miss

Barker, Patel and Ryczek have a variety of people they will miss upon graduation from teachers and students to fellow classmates, staff and the faculty.

“I thank the teachers and admin for their compassion and unlimited support,” Barker said.

“The teachers for sure, their dedication, passion for their work is amazing,” Patel said. “As well as a lot of the students, like all of us friends are going to different colleges. So, it’s bittersweet.”

“I’ll miss all the faculty and staff, my friends. Everyone that we’re leaving behind. Everyone that’s just helped us along our journey through high school, because without them, none of it would be possible,” Ryczek said.

Advice to other classes

Barker, Patel and Ryczek shared these pieces of advice for the other classes.

“Get involved in your community. Volunteer, get a part-time job,” Barker said. “Get involved in clubs, do everything around the school that would make you become a better person and a very well-rounded individual.”

“Don’t be afraid. Just take the risk,” Patel said. “It’ll be fine in the end.”

“Make sure you stay on top of all of your work and assignments,” Ryczek said. “Just have fun in the process because it’s going to end at some point. You just got to make the most out of life.”

Final Words of Gratitude

The students thanked the teachers and staff for their endless support throughout their four years, with these parting words for the Class of 2024.

“Keep that motivation up. Keep going at it. Reach for those goals and never stop making goals for yourself,” Barker said.

“We’re all great people. We can all do it, you’re going to be fine. Just take the risk. You’ll make it,” Patel said.

“This isn’t the end. This is only the beginning. We need to keep striving forward, always do better than you have in the past. Put 110% effort in and the rewards will come,” Ryczek said.



A shot of the pinnacle “desert” dune sculpture and meditation/reflection sand play area at the Western Mass Post 9/11 and Service Dog Memorial Park.

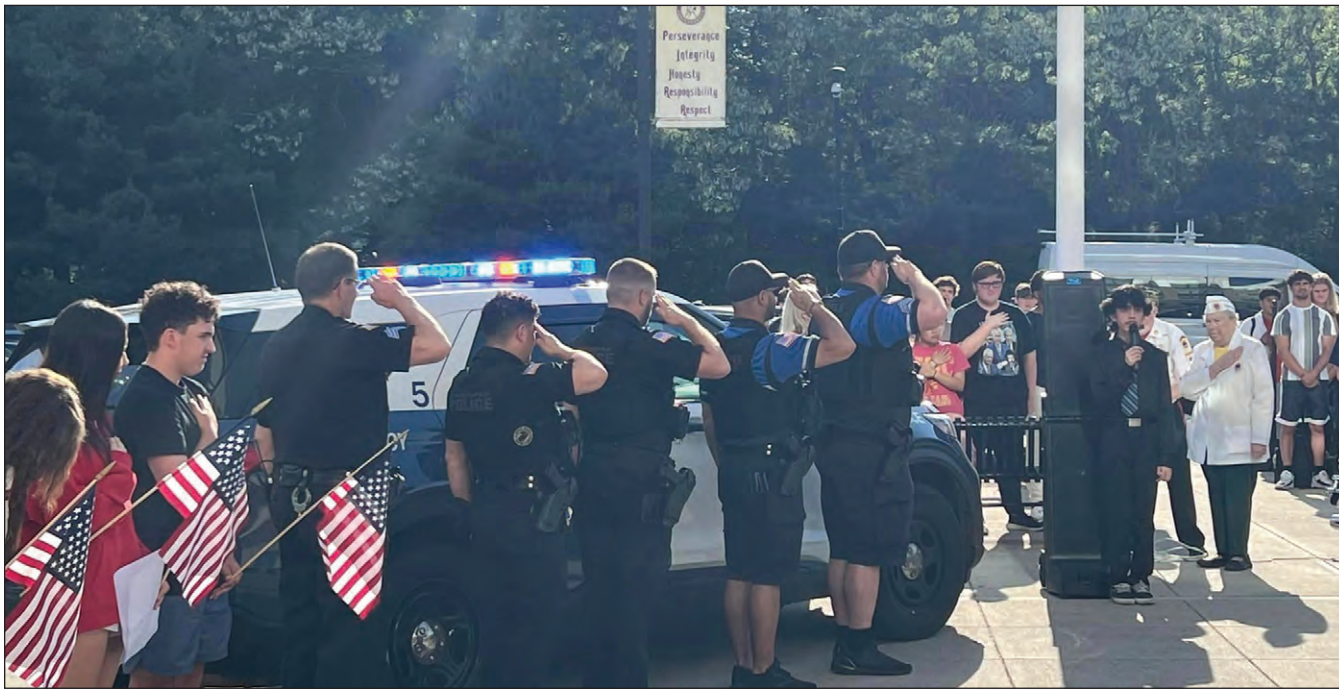


Stephanie Shaw, director of Veterans Services, reflects during her remarks for the grand opening ceremony of the Western Mass Post 9/11 and Service Dog Memorial Park.



Col. Gregory Buchanan, commander of the 439th Airlift Wing at Westover Air Reserve Base, shares about his service and honoring service dogs.

IN THE CITY



CPD joins CCHS for flag raising



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHICOPEE POLICE DEPARTMENT



CHICOPEE – The police department joined students from Chicopee Comprehensive High School for their annual flag raising honoring veterans and first responders on May 24.



Summer Carnival at RiverMills

CHICOPEE - The Council on Aging will have a Summer Carnival on Tuesday, June 25 from 3 to 6 p.m. with a Rain Date of Thursday, June 27 at Chicopee Council on Aging's RiverMills Center, 5 West Main St.

Join us for our Third Annual Summer Carnival. Come try your hand at some games, eat some carnival treats and sit back, relax and enjoy a summer night with your friends at RiverMills Center. Tickets are \$10 and include a

hamburger, hot dog, chips, drink and ice cream. All other concessions and game tickets will be available to purchase at the time of the event. There will be no formal time for dinner, but ticket sales are limited.

There will be music by DJ Luis D on the patio and some other fun carnival entertainment!

This is a senior center event and it open to anyone 55 and older. You must register in advance at RiverMills Center.

Mayor Vieau visits Lorraine's Soup Kitchen



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CITY OF CHICOPEE MAYOR'S OFFICE

CHICOPEE – Mayor John Vieau stopped by Lorraine's Soup Kitchen & Pantry on April 29 to volunteer and cook a meal. On that day, Vieau helped cook chicken and broccoli fettuccine alfredo. Lorraine's Soup Kitchen serves between 100 and 150 families daily and is always looking for volunteers.



Frozen Polish Food Sale June 8

INDIAN ORCHARD – There will be a Frozen Polish Food Sale for pierogi with cabbage, potato and cheese, sweet cheese and blueberry offerings, golumpki, and

kapusta will be available for purchase on Saturday, June 8 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Immaculate Conception Church Hall, 25 Parker St. Indian Orchard, MA.

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Sports

Comp wins state tourney opener

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

CHICOPEE—Chicopee Comp boys varsity volleyball coach Brittany Dussault likes to treat every match that her team plays like it's the finals of the Division 2 state tournament.

Comp, who had lost in the round of 32 on the road during the past two years, won a state tournament match for the first time since defeating Natick High School, 3-2, in the 2010 state finals.

The 22nd-seeded Colts defeated 43rd-seeded Pioneer Charter School of Science, which is located in Everett, 3-0, (25-19, 25-15, 25-20) in a Division 2 preliminary round match held at Herbert H. Curry Gymnasium, last Thursday night.

"I treat every match that we play like it's the state finals," said Dussault, who's been coaching the Colts boys' varsity volleyball team for the past eight years. "We were very fortunate



Noah Johnson sets the ball straight up.



Chace Murphy goes for a spike.

See **COMP WINS** page 11



Josue Hernandez gets some air for the spike.



Alexander Rivera reaches out for a bump.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

Nevaeh Santiago makes a headfirst slide

Torres no-hits Ware in season finale

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

WARE—Even though the Ware varsity softball team stranded a total of ten base runners, they were held hitless in what probably was their final home game of the 2024 campaign.

Chicopee junior righthander Jeneida Torres hurled her first no-hitter in a varsity softball game, as the Pacers closed out their season with a 13-1 victory in a non-playoff game. The game, held on May 23, came to an end following the fifth inning due to the 12-run mercy rule.

"Our pitching has been very inconsistent, but it was Jeneida's best performance of the season, which is very special," said Chicopee head coach Mel Sasser. "We also won three of our final four games and I'm happy for the girls."

Torres, who issued a total of ten walks in her final start as a junior, was one of the Lady Pacers three pitchers this spring. Their other two pitchers are junior Ariliz Rolon and freshman Natalie Irish.

The last Chicopee High pitcher to toss a no-hitter was Sarah Frattesi, who hurled a total of five no-hitters during her outstanding varsity softball career. Frattesi also had more than 500 strikeouts and she was inducted into the school's Athletic Hall of Fame in 2023.

The Lady Pacers, who are members of the Suburban East Division, finished the season



Natalie Irish makes a catch.

See **SOFTBALL** page 12

Pioneers piling up goals, pick up another shutout

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—The Western Mass. Pioneers outscored their first four opponents of the regular season, 14-0.

The Pioneers improved to a perfect 4-0-0 and remained in first place in the USL-2 Northeast Division standings with a 5-0 shutout victory over Black Rock FC before a large crowd at Lusitano Stadium in Ludlow, last Friday night.

"It's always very nice to win a home match," said Pioneers head coach Federico Molinari. "We scored a couple of early goals, which took a lot of pres-

sure off the players. The starters and the reserve players played very well tonight. I'm very happy with the performance."

The Seacoast United Phantoms, who are the only USL-2 team to beat the Pioneers on their home turf since the start of the 2019 regular season, will be making their only visit to Ludlow during the regular season on Friday night.

"That's going to be a very big match," Molinari added. "The players have been working hard so far this season. We must continue to work hard next week at practice and remain focused."

See **PIONEERS** page 12



Gianiuca Cersoismo sends a long kick away.



Jared Smith tries to settle the ball

Quabbin League wants to fill remaining roster spots

Rosters spots are dwindling, but there are still some spots available as the Quabbin Valley Over-28 Baseball has begun its season. There are still several open spots to get filled despite the season being underway.

While the fee for the full season is \$190, the league will prorate the fee as the season goes on. Teams are still looking to fill their last couple of roster spots and plenty of season remains.

Registration for the 2024 season is now open and any interested players can go to www.quabbinvalleybaseball.org to get registered, or to seek more information or make inquiries about the league.

The league plays most Sunday from late April through late August with playoffs following that. The league plays a 15-game schedule and typically fields six teams each year. Games are

usually played at 10 a.m. with fields in Easthampton and South Hadley used as well some expansion to the surrounding area this season. The league does not play on Mother's Day or Memorial Day weekends.

The Quabbin Valley league is an all-abilities league and all are welcome to join. Eligibility is players who are age 28 and over. You must be 30 to be eligible to pitch in the league. Your age for eligibility is whatever age you will turn in 2024. The league is also able to entertaining taking in an entire group as a team to add to the league. Please email the league board for to inquire about entering a team.

The league can also pro-rate registration at this point. Simply contact a league board member. Contact information is located at the registration link.

Registration now open to take part in Bay State Games

WOBURN – Registration for the 42nd annual Bay State Summer Games is now open. The 2024 Summer Games will include thirty sports with competitions from May 11 – July 27 at venues throughout eastern and central Massachusetts including Game On in Fitchburg, Boston Sports Institute in Wellesley, Union Point Sports Complex in Weymouth, and North Star Ice Sports in Westborough. Bay State Games participants range in age from 5 to over age 75 and represent more than 300 Massachusetts communities as well as surrounding New England States in some sports. From grassroots participants to accomplished amateur athletes, the Bay State Games provide opportunities for the athlete in all of us.

Seven high school showcase sports will take place for a variety of sports, including baseball, basketball, field hockey, ice hockey, soccer, softball, and volleyball. Athletes currently in grade 8-11 who live or go to school in Massachusetts are eligible to attend regional tryouts during the month of June. These tryouts will determine teams representing the various regions of the Commonwealth that will compete against each

other in July. Check each sport page for specific eligibility requirements.

The Summer Games include a wide variety of individual sports including swimming, track & field, figure skating, pickleball, wrestling, weightlifting, badminton, and more. These sports are open to a wide range of ages and skill levels from youth participants to masters-aged athletes. Adaptive sport divisions in archery, swimming, and track & field are offered, as well. Bay State Games also organizes tournaments for pre-existing teams in rugby, and 6v6 field hockey.

Returning in 2024, Table Tennis will take place on June 1 at PingPod in Boston after a 5-year hiatus from the Summer Games sport lineup. New venues include Babson College, which will host the Girls Basketball Showcase, and NorthStar Ice Sports, which will host Figure Skating and the Girls Ice Hockey Showcase. Game On in Fitchburg will serve as a hub venue for eight sports. Bay State Games expects 1,500 athletes and their families to attend competitions at Game On during the second week of July.

For questions, email info@baystategames.org or call 781-932-6555.



SEND US YOUR SPORTS PHOTOS

Have you taken photos at a local sports event and want to see them published in this paper? Email your image(s) with description to:
sports@turley.com

T-Birds hosting Community Caravan

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds today announced the return of the T-Birds Community Caravan, with support from MassMutual. This marks the second annual iteration of this community program.

The T-Birds Community Caravan will make a total of three stops in the Springfield area throughout the summer months:

Saturday, June 8 - Look Park (Northampton), 12 to 3 p.m.

Saturday, July 20 - Forest Park (Springfield), 1 to 3 p.m.

Saturday, August 17 - Amelia Park Arena (Westfield), 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Each event will feature an appearance from Thunderbirds mascot Boomer and team staff, as well as a wide variety of activities and vendors, street hockey activities, and various food options. Additionally, each Caravan will also feature a benefactoring non-profit organization.

"We're delighted to support the Springfield Thunderbirds not only on the ice but also throughout the local community," said Dennis Duquette, head of community responsibility at MassMutual and president of the MassMutual Foundation. "Their caravan provides terrific activities for local kids and families, and we're proud to be a part of it!"

"After a successful launch of this event last summer, we are excited to see it grow even more this year," said Thunderbirds President Nathan Costa. "We are excited to welcome MassMutual as a new partner for this initiative, and we thank them for sharing in our goal of being champions within our community, even in our offseason months."

More details of each Caravan stop will be announced in the coming weeks on the Thunderbirds website and social media platforms.

COMP WINS from page 10

to earn a home match in the first round of the state tournament. It's something that these guys have never experienced before, and they really enjoyed playing at home."

The last time that Comp (8-13), who didn't qualify for this year's Western Mass. Class A tournament, won a postseason tournament match was in 2021. They defeated Sabis, 3-0 at home in the Western Mass. quarterfinals that season before losing to Westfield in the semifinals.

The Colts had never hosted a state tournament match before last Thursday.

Prior to 2022, the winner of the Western Mass. tournament would play in the state semifinals and finals at a neutral site.

Since the state tournament format was changed, Comp lost at North Division rival Ludlow, 3-1, in the round of 32 two years ago. They also lost at Putnam, 3-0, in the same round a year ago.

The North Division is one of the best high school volleyball leagues in the entire state.

Westfield and Agawam are the top two seeds in this year's Division 2 state tournament. West Springfield is the eighth seeded, while Minnechaug is #13 and Ludlow is #16.

Most of the players listed on the Comp boys' volleyball roster are members of the sophomore class.

The Colts only two seniors are Pavel Kiriukhin, and Edrien Roman, who's the libero. They joined the varsity squad as sophomores.

"I've been playing for this volleyball team for the past couple of years and it just feels amazing to finally win a match in the state tournament on our home court," Roman said. "We worked very hard during the regular season and I'm very proud of my teammates."

While Roman had a team-high 18 digs, the sophomore duo of Chace Murphy (13 kills) and Josue Hernandez (11 Kills) combined for 24 of the Colts 41 kills in the home win.

"Chace and Josue are both playing key roles for the varsity team this year," Roman said. "They've really improved a lot. I'm looking forward to coming back and watching the younger guys play in the future."

Roman, who has had more than 700 digs during his varsity career, played basketball before switching to volleyball.

"I used to play basketball, but I really needed a change in my life," Roman said. "Playing volleyball has really helped me a lot. It has also been a lot of fun being a member of this team during the past couple of years."

Roman is also a co-captain, along with sophomore Daniel Gauthier, who had 12 digs against Pioneer Charter.

Sophomore Noah Johnson, who's a setter, had all 35 of the Colts assists.

Another sophomore is Modesto Galindrez, who was credited with eight kills.

The other sophomores listed on the Colts volleyball roster are Ayan Khattak, Noah Trainor, Andrew Courchesne, and Alex Rivera, who had 10 digs.

Rounding out the varsity squad are junior Dominik Wurszt, freshman Hunter Pirog, and freshman Edwar Fernandez.

Pioneer Charter School of Science, who only had eight players, arrived late to Comp and the start of the preliminary round match was delayed about 30 minutes.

The delay really didn't both the Comp players very much.

After falling behind 2-1, the Colts managed to hold onto the lead for the rest of the opening set.

The home team held a 17-15 lead before pulling away with the help of an 8-4 run. It began with back-to-back kills by Murphy and Hernandez.

The Colts held the lead throughout the entire second set, which ended with a kill from Kiriukhin.

The Panthers (10-9) managed to tie the score at 15-15 in the third set before winning the next three points.

After Dussault called a time out, Murphy had three kills and Hernandez added another one, which helped the Colts retake the lead at 19-18. Comp then scored the final four points of the third set. Hernandez closed out the final home match of 2024 with an ace.

The Colts also posted a 3-0 road victory in the round of 32 against 11th-seeded Greater Lowell Tech 24 hours later.

Comp was scheduled to face sixth-seeded Boston Latin Academy in the round of 16.

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New names make Bay States Games HOF

BOSTON – Boston Field Hockey Umpires Association, Fred Roach (Softball Coach), and Kevin Cummings (BSG Executive Director) have been selected for induction into the 2024 Bay State Games' Hall of Fame. The inductees received their award at a pre-game ceremony at Fenway Park on May 25 prior to the Red Sox game against the Milwaukee Brewers.

Boston Field Hockey Umpires Association - Field Hockey

The Boston Field Hockey Umpires Association (BFHUA) was founded in the mid 1960's and is the largest field hockey umpire association in Massachusetts with over 200 members that

officiate at the middle and high school level. BFHUA has supported Bay State Games on a volunteer basis since the early 1980's. Accepting the award, Patti Rowe has been on the organization's executive board since 1987 and has served as president since 2020. Fred Roach - Softball

Fred Roach is from South Hadley, Massachusetts. Fred has coached high school softball in western Massachusetts for the past 24 years, currently at West Springfield High School. Fred has been Head Coach of the West Region softball team for 21 seasons, having led the team to many gold medals. He has served as a dedicated volunteer for decades and mentored countless western Massachusetts softball players who have gone on

to successful playing careers in college. Kevin Cummings - Bay State Games Executive Director

Kevin Cummings from Medford, Massachusetts has been involved with the Bay State Games since 1984 and is celebrating his 40th year with the organization in 2024. Kevin started with the organization as a Sport Coordinator and was promoted to Executive Director in 1999. He has dedicated his life's work to organizing the Bay State Summer & Winter Games and helping to provide opportunities to tens of thousands of athletes over 40 years. Kevin's induction into the Hall of Fame was a surprise organized by board members and fellow staff members.

The Bay State Games Hall of Fame

was created to recognize past participants who have gone on to prestigious and successful athletic careers, as well as former and current coaches, officials, sports organizers, and volunteers who have made significant contributions to the organization throughout its 38-year history.

Past inductees among the over 60 previous honorees include the NBA's Dana Barros ('06), Tom Thibodeau ('17) and the late Reggie Lewis ('02); WNBA's Rebecca Lobo ('03), the NHL's Bill Guerin ('09) and Keith Yandle ('14); Major League Baseball's Carlos Pena ('11) and Rich Hill ('13); Olympians Nancy Kerrigan ('07), Jim Pedro ('04) and Bill Cleary ('14) as well as US Paralympic Gold Medalist Joe Lemar ('15).



Jeneida Torres delivers a pitch to the plate.

SOFTBALL from page 9

with a 3-15 overall record. Their other victories were against Southwick (17-10) and Pioneer Valley Regional (17-13).

Caroline Vieu, who started in left field, is the only senior listed on the Chicopee varsity softball roster.

Had the Lady Indians (8-9) won the non-playoff home game, they would've clinched a berth in the MIAA Division 5 state tournament for the first time in two years. They did have one final chance to qualify for the state tournament with a make-up game at Pioneer Valley Regional the following afternoon.

"We just need to move on from this loss because we have another game tomorrow," said Ware head coach Charlene Vallee. "We had a lot of runners on base in today's game, but we just didn't hit the ball very well. It wasn't our best game of the season."

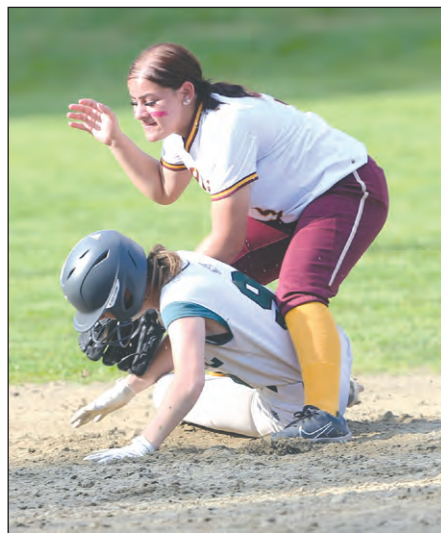
Two years ago, the Lady Indians posted a 12-0 home win over Pathfinder in Division 5 state preliminary round home game before losing to Greenfield in the round of 32. Abigale McQuaid, who was a freshman that season, was the winning pitcher against Pathfinder.

The junior righty didn't have the same amount of success in last Thursday's home game.

The Lady Pacers, who scored six runs in their first at-bats, held a 4-0 lead before the first out of the inning was recorded.

Junior center fielder Julianna Renfer drew a leadoff walk before stealing second base. After advancing to third base on a wild pitch, sophomore third baseman Lorraine Olbrych drove Renfer home with a groundball single up the middle into centerfield. Junior first baseman Jaylanie Nieves also contributed with an RBI single. Three more runs crossed the plate on wild pitches and another run scored following a fielding error.

Junior centerfielder Shelby Hogan led off the bottom half of the frame with a walk before stealing second base. Then McQuaid was safe at first base



Arliz Rolon gets a tag on the runner.

following a throwing error by the third baseman putting runners at the corners. McQuaid was thrown out trying to steal second by junior catcher Kali Riley, but Hogan trotted home on the play.

After the Lady Pacers added another run in the top of the second inning, the Lady Indians loaded the bases with one-out following walks by freshman designated player Maeve Stevens, sophomore leftfielder Isabella Cotaj, and Hogan. The next batter hit a line-drive caught by junior Nevaeh Santiago. The runner at first towards second on the play and Santiago threw the ball to Nieves to complete the inning ending double play.

"The double play was huge for us," Sasser said. "Jeneida also had a couple of key strikeouts with the bases loaded. We played very well defensively."

The Lady Pacers, who only had five base hits, scored four more runs in the third inning, which increased their lead to 11-1. The biggest hit of that frame was a hard ground ball single to left by Riley, which drove home a run. Their other three runs crossed the plate with a little bit of help from the Ware defense.

Once again, the home team drew three more walks in the bottom of the third, but Torres escaped that jam without giving up a run following a strikeout.

Chicopee scored two more runs in the fourth inning against eighth grade relief pitcher Taylor Thornton, who's a righty.

Three more walks by senior first baseman Mia DiRienzo, sophomore second baseman Olivia DiRienzo and Stevens loaded the bases with two outs in the bottom of the fourth, Torres recorded another strikeout for the third out.

Torres would retire the side in order in the fifth inning, which ended the first ever softball game between the two high schools a couple of innings early.

The Lady Indians made the long bus ride to Northfield 24 hours later looking to keep their season going a little bit longer.

PIONEERS from page 9

While the Pioneers will have a full week to get ready for the home match, the Phantoms (3-0-0) were scheduled to play at Block Rock FC on Tuesday night.

"We're now looking forward to next week's home match against Seacoast," said Pioneers forward Alec Hughes. "If we can win that one, we'll be a very tough team to beat this year. We're the top two teams in the Division and it's a game that you always want to win."



Kerman Sukia traps the ball and looks to pass.

A year ago, Seacoast walked into Lusitano Stadium and celebrated a 2-1 victory. It was the Pioneers' only home loss during the 2023 regular season.

The dynamic duo of Scott Testori and Hughes combined to score three of the five Pioneers goals in last Friday's home match against Black Rock.

"I scored two goals and Scott scored one goal, but I also thought we left a few goals on the table," said Hughes, who has another year remaining as a member of the UMass men's soccer team. "We share a lot of the same traits and it's a lot of fun playing with him. We work well together."

Testori, who plays college soccer at UConn, scored the first goal of the match on a tap in during the sixth minute of the opening half.

Patrick Gryczewski was credited with the assist.

During the 20th minute, Hughes added his name to the scoring sheet following a corner kick goal.

Jared Smith sent the ball into the box from the left corner where Hughes headed it into the net past Black Rock goalie Christian Braae-Anderson.

"It's always nice to score a goal, especially on a set piece," Hughes



Santiago Gomez guides the ball left.

said. "It gave us an early 2-0 lead."

The Pioneers third goal also came on a header from Aidan Kelly following another corner kick.

Braudilio Rodrigues, who was a member of the Western Mass. Pioneers in 2022, was recognized during a ceremony at halftime. He's currently playing professional soccer for the Seattle Sounders.

Twenty minutes into the second half, Gryczewski sent a pass from the right side to Hughes, who finished off the scoring play by putting a low shot into the left corner of the net.

Lawrence Goddard, who scored a pair of goals in the Pioneers' previous road match against the Albany Rush, replaced Hughes.

About ten minutes later, Mamadi Jiana, who played soccer at Chicopee High School, also came off the bench and scored an unassisted goal.

Holding a commanding 5-0 lead, the only question remaining for the Pioneers faithful supporters during the final twenty minutes of the match was if goalie Gianluca Cersosimo would post his fourth consecutive shutout.

"This is just an amazing team," said Cersosimo, who didn't have to make any saves. "Even though I didn't have to make any saves, I still had to remain focused for the entire match, especially during the final twenty minutes. Shutouts are nice, but the most important thing for us are the wins."

Cersosimo, who's a second-year member of the Pioneers, graduated from Long Island University. He also replaced Nicholas Oberrauch as the team captain for the match. Oberrauch didn't play against Black Rock because of an injury.

PUBLIC NOTICES

CHICOPEE CITY COUNCIL ZONING COMMITTEE LEGAL NOTICE

The Zoning Committee of the Chicopee City Council will hold a public hearing **Wednesday, June 26, 2024 at 6:30 PM*** in the Chambers, 4th floor, City Hall Annex, 274 Front Street., Chicopee, MA 01013 to discuss the following:

Special Permit application under Chapter 275-51.1 for the purpose of membrane covered structure storage of a boat. Approx - 22 ft - 10 ft. located at 2 Daniel Drive. Applicant-Duane Mitchell, 2 Daniel Drive, Chicopee, MA 01013.

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

The June 26, 2024 Zoning Committee hearing shall be available to the public via zoom and in person. Zoom credentials are available upon request by calling (413) 594-1435 M-F 8:30 AM - 5 PM or by email at aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov.

The petition and materials related to this proposal are on file in the Office of the City Council, Chicopee City Hall, 274 Front Street, (plans and applications are also available on the City Council website <https://www.chicopeema.gov/880/Pending-Applications>). You may also call (413) 594-1435 or email aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov. 06/07, 06/14/2024

CHICOPEE CITY COUNCIL ZONING COMMITTEE LEGAL NOTICE

The Zoning Committee of the Chicopee City Council will hold a public hearing **Wednesday, June 26, 2024 at 6:30 PM*** in the Chambers, 4th floor, City Hall Annex, 274 Front Street., Chicopee, MA 01013 to discuss the following:

Special Permit application under Chapter 275-67 due to the fact that the subject parcel is located entirely within the Mill Conversion and Commercial Center Overlay District. The proposed residential development is allowed by Special Permit with the City Council located at 105 East Street. Waivers requested (1) waiver from section 275-67(G)(2)(d) (3) for a historical narrative prepared by a preservation consultant (2) waiver from section 275-67(G)(2)(d)(6) from a traffic impact study. Applicant - PREM, LLC c/o Dennis Patel, 36 Yarmouth Dr., Agawam, MA 01001.

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

The June 26, 2024 Zoning Committee hearing shall be available to the public via

zoom and in person. Zoom credentials are available upon request by calling (413) 594-1435 M-F 8:30 AM - 5 PM or by email at aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov.

The petition and materials related to this proposal are on file in the Office of the City Council, Chicopee City Hall, 274 Front Street, (plans and applications are also available on the City Council website <https://www.chicopeema.gov/880/Pending-Applications>). You may also call (413) 594-1435 or email aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov. 06/07, 06/14/2024

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No. HD16P0681GD
In the matter of:
Ericka L Agron
formerly of Chicopee, MA
Now Of: Springfield, MA
RESPONDENT
Incapacitated Person/
Protected Person
CITATION GIVING
NOTICE OF PETITION
FOR TERMINATION OF
GUARDIAN FOR
INCAPACITATED**

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Dept of Developmental Services** of Springfield, MA in the above captioned matter requesting that the court: Terminate the Guardianship of the Respondent.

The petition asks the court to make a determination that the Guardian and/or Conservator should be allowed to resign; or should be removed for good cause; or that the Guardianship and/or Conservatorship is no longer necessary and therefore should be terminated. The original petition is on file with the court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 AM on the return date of **06/20/2024**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial

affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M. Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: May 22, 2024
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
06/07/2024

**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 June 14, 2024, 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

1978 Theu Trailer
VIN: 3N54779
Caravan Inc
3278 W Cedar St.
Allentown, PA 18104

2008 Acura Rdx
VIN: 5J8TB18568A014487
Kiana Gonzalez
309 Tokeneke Rd
Holyoke, MA 01040
2009 Nissan Sentra
VIN: 3N1AB61E09L631653
Zachary Lasky
15 Pleasant St Apt 1
Westfield, MA 01085

2018 Ford Escape
VIN: 1FMCU0GD8JUC90083
Dorothy Thomas
39 Massachusetts Ave
Springfield, MA 01109

2004 Cadillac Escalade
VIN: 1GYEK63NX4R273453
Wilmer Parker
52 Pendleton Avea
Springfield, MA 01109

2007 Honda Fit Sport
VIN: JHMGD38677S031448
Cosmo Casamassa Jr.
63 Main St.
Charlton, MA 01507

2010 Infiniti Ex35
VIN: JN1AJ0HP7AM701876
Joanne Delgado
887 Lincoln St.
Franklin, MA 02038

2006 Honda Civic
VIN: 1HGFA16856L060519
Nicholas Grieco
64 Ridgemont St 1
Alliston, MA 02134

1989 Mercedes-Benz 420 Sel
VIN: WDBCA35D5KA434109
Gregg Moffitt
2 Bel Air St
Worcester, MA 01609

2004 Pontiac Montana
VIN: 1GMDX03E64D211038
Cameron Gagnon
268 Palmer Rd Trlr 14
Monson, MA 01057

2007 Lexus Es 350
VIN: JTHBJ46G172094646
Elizabeth Acevedo
65 E Allen Rdge Rd

Springfield, MA 01118
2017 Volvo Vn Vnlaa
VIN: 4V4NC9TK2HN980719
Genesis PA Trucking Corp
3278 W Cedar St.
Allentown, PA 18104
2008 Honda Odyssey
VIN: 5FNRL38688B045550
J M Sanchez Devalentin
6419 Palmetto St.
Ridgewood, NY 11385
05/31, 06/07, 06/14/2024

**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 June 21, 2024, 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.

2002 Chevrolet Silverado
VIN: 1GCEK14T1Z2150210
Amy-Lynn Winch
16 S Longyard Rd.
Southwick, MA 01077

2003 Honda Odyssey
VIN: 5FNRL18043B066677
Raul Bracetty
85 Beech St
Lowell, MA 01850

2004 Pontiac Vibe
VIN: 5Y2SM64804Z430631
Paul Doucette
153 Dicenzo Blvd
Marlborough, MA 01752

2006 Chevrolet Hhr
VIN: 3GNDA23P36S661243
Brittany Tobey-Bowers
27 Overlook Dr.
Springfield, MA 01118

2009 Buick Enclave
VIN: 5GAEV23D39J171528
Angel Ortiz Tirado
5348 Millenia Blvd 7102
Orlando, FL 32839

2015 Kia Soul
VIN: KNDJN2A21F7213668
Hiram Vargas
32 Main St.
Ware, MA 01081

2015 Kia Soul
VIN: KNDJN2A21F7213668
Hiram Vargas
32 Main St.
Wales, MA 01081

Moped
VIN: L8YTDNPA5BM020545
Colby Hudson
59 Main St.
Coeymans, NY 12045
06/07, 06/14, 06/21/2024

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD24P1177EA
Estate of:
Janine Claire Rider
Also known as:
Janine Claire Rita Rider,
Janine C Rider
Date of Death: 04/07/2024**

CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

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

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

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 06/27/2024. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: May 29, 2024
Rosemary A Saccomani
Register of Probate
06/07/2024

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
Docket No. HD24P1207EA
Estate of:
Misty J. Roule
Date of Death:**

March 10, 2024 INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Kayla J. Erwin of Chicopee, MA**.

Kayla J. Erwin of Chicopee, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without surety** on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
06/07/2024

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD24C0174CA**

**In the matter of:
Samantha Lee Smith
CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME**

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by **Samantha Lee Smith of Chicopee, MA** requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

**Surise Iaim Sanchez
IMPORTANT NOTICE**
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: **Hampden Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 07/01/2024.**

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

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: May 30, 2024
Rosemary A Saccomani
Register of Probate
06/07/2024

Chicopee Register OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

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

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

WE'VE EXPANDED OUR WEB SITE PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

1 Email all notices to notices@turley.com

2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.

3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

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

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

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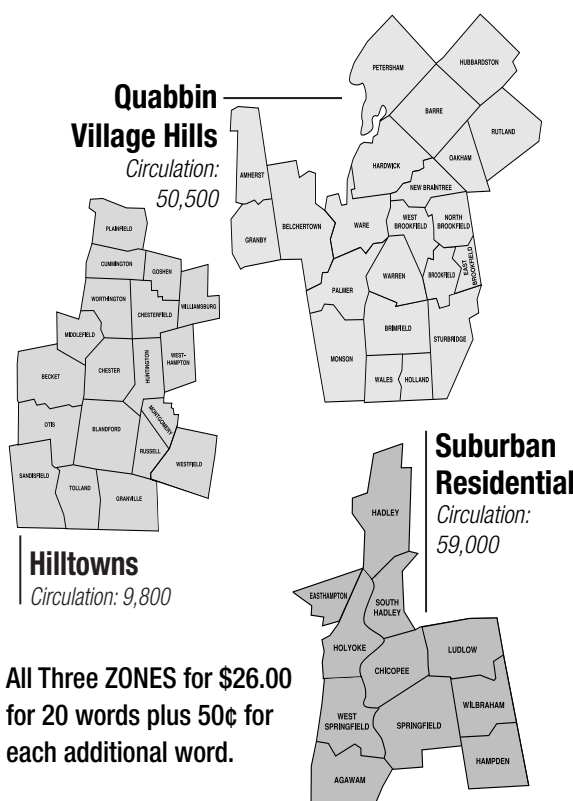
MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069
or call: 413-283-8393

DEADLINES: **MONDAY AT NOON**

| CATEGORY: | | | |
|-----------|----|----|----|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 |
| 9 | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 |
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| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 | 31 | 32 |
| 33 | 34 | 35 | 36 |
| 37 | 38 | 39 | 40 |

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CPD takes part in Police Unity Tour



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHICOPEE POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHICOPEE – On Wednesday May 8, Team Western Mass left New Jersey on a 300-mile bicycle ride to Washington DC to honor Officers who were killed in the line of duty.

The Police Unity Tour began in 1997 and consisted of 18 riders, this year as the tour pulled into the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial there were almost 3,000 riders.

Team Western Mass is made up of officers from the Chicopee Police Department, Ludlow Police Department, Westfield Police Department and the Easthampton Police Department. Together our team raised over \$10,000 to be donated to the Fallen Officers Memorial Fund.

This grueling ride takes over four days to complete and the riders were faced with some pretty difficult weather on one of the longer days. As the riders entered the hotel, soaking wet, shivering from the cold they all said the same thing “We Ride For Those Who Died”.

They acknowledged how hard the day was for them but reflected on the meaning of the ride and how important it is to the survivors.

Each year the team dedicates their ride to a fallen Officer. This year we rode in remembrance of Officer John DiNapoli of the Holyoke Police Department. Officer DiNapoli was killed on December 22, 1999. This

year marks the 25th anniversary of his death, your sacrifice will never be forgotten sir.

We would like to thank the following Officers of Team Western Mass for making the trek and paying homage to all of the Officers killed in the line of duty last year.

Officers Mark Hammon and Travis Odiome of the Chicopee Police Department, Captain Eric Hall of the Westfield Police Department, Sergeant Jhon Wielblad of the Ludlow Police Department and Sergeant Andrew Beaulieu of the Easthampton Police Department.



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| | | | | | |
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| USDA INSP. FROZEN ST. LOUIS PORK RIBS..... | \$2⁹⁹ lb | USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN BEEF FLANKEN RIBS (KOREAN STYLE) | \$9⁸⁹ lb | USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS & SKINLESS CHICKEN BREAST 10 LB BAG..... | \$2²² lb |
| USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS PORK BUTT STRIPS..... | \$2⁹⁹ lb | USDA INSP. FROZEN WHOLE CHICKEN..... | 99¢ lb | USDA INSP. FROZEN CRYSTAL BLUE SEAFOOD MIX Great For Salads! 1 LB BAG..... | \$4⁹⁹ ea |
| SLICED IN OUR DELI CHICKEN BREAST..... | \$2⁹⁹ lb | USDA INSP. STORE MADE BONELESS ITALIAN MARINATED CHICKEN BREAST..... | \$2⁹⁹ lb | USDA INSP. IQF FROZEN RAW SHRIMP EASY PEEL 31/40 COUNT 2 LB BAG..... | \$8⁸⁸ ea |
| GREAT ON THE GRILL | | USDA INSP. STORE MADE BONELESS KOREAN MARINATED PORK BUTT STRIPS..... | \$3³⁵ lb | 90 Meat Outlet 90 Avocado St. Springfield 413-737-1288 www.90meat.com | |
| USDA INSP. STORE MADE BONELESS KABOBS WITH VEGGIES | \$7⁹⁹ lb | USDA INSP. STORE MADE BONELESS BEEF OF CHICKEN..... | \$5⁴⁹ lb | HOURS: Mon. - Wed. 8-4 Thurs. 8-6 • Fri. 8-6 • Sat. 8-3 | |

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