

Chicopee Register

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COMMUNITY

Chicopee raises the flag to mark Juneteenth

By Kristin Rivers
Editor
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CHICOPEE - Community members, residents and more gathered outside City Hall on June 18 to raise the Juneteenth flag to mark Juneteenth.

Juneteenth, celebrated on June 19 and officially known as Juneteenth National Independence Day, commemorates the end of slavery in the United States when Union troops led by Major General Gordon Granger came to Galveston, TX and declared all enslaved African Americans were free on June 19, 1865.

The declaration was made nearly two years after President Abraham Lincoln signed the Emancipation Proclamation.

Juneteenth has, also, been officially recognized as a federal holiday since 2021.

During the ceremony, Mayor John Vieau explained how “this day is not only a celebration of freedom, but a reminder of our ongoing journey towards equality and justice for all.”

“Here in Chicopee, we honor the rich history and cultural heritage of African Americans. We remember the struggles, perseverance and triumphs that have brought us to this day. Juneteenth is a time to come together as a community to learn, reflect and to celebrate,” Vieau said. “It’s a



TURLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS

From the left, State Sen. Adam Gomez (D-Springfield), Ayanna Crawford, president of the Kwanzaa Collective, Jr. Miss Juneteenth Zaneiah Estrada-Crapps, Miss Juneteenth Justina Ortiz and Mayor John Vieau in a group photo with the mayor’s proclamation celebrating Juneteenth in Chicopee.

time to honor those who fought for freedom and those who continue to fight for equality today.”

State Sen. Adam Gomez (D-Springfield) shared ways individuals can contribute to creating “a more inclusive and equitable society with the spirit of Juneteenth.”

“Educate yourself and others about the history and signif-

icance of Juneteenth and the other important moments in African American history. We, also, can lift black-owned businesses and organizations here in the city of Chicopee. We can, also, advocate for policies and practices that promote diversity, equity and inclusion in the workplace and in the community,” Gomez said. “We can also listen and am-

plify the voices of marginalized communities and including our Black voices here in the Commonwealth, especially here in the city of Chicopee. Also, we can engage in conversations around race and privilege and work towards an understanding in dismantling systematic racism. We can also support and participate in initiatives and events that pro-

mote diversity and inclusion just like this flag-raising and other events that happen within the Commonwealth and also here in Western Massachusetts.”

Ayanna Crawford, president of the Kwanzaa Collective, emphasized how Juneteenth “is a day of reflection” and invited

See **JUNETEENTH** page 6

COMMUNITY

Chicopee library holds Summer Reading Kickoff”

Library providing programming for all ages throughout the summer

By Amanda Munson
Correspondent

CHICOPEE – The library held its annual Summer Reading Kickoff event on June 24, encouraging readers of all ages to “Read! Renew! Repeat!”

The kickoff was held in the Children’s Room, filled with activities such as a scavenger hunt, sensory walkway, sticker poster and New York Times word activity for kids.

During the summer reading program, the library is asking everybody, “Did you read today?”, a challenge that is happening through June 24 to Aug. 16, encouraging everyone of all ages to read as much or as little as you want.

The goal of the library is to spread the joy of reading and learning throughout the community, no matter how you read. Whether it is you read books or comics, listen to audiobooks, read to someone or listen to someone read to you...it all counts!



TURLEY PHOTO BY AMANDA MUNSON

Erin Daly, youth services librarian at Chicopee Public Library, and Brent Tenerowicz, youth services associate at Chicopee Public Library, pose next to a sign saying, “Did you read today?”, the challenge of this year’s Summer Reading Program.

To greet visitors of the library for the Summer Reading Kickoff, attendees were given a pamphlet outlining every event that will be happening this summer, for all ages to accommodate every family. A paper calendar was given to manually track the days you have read, with milestones such as a week, two weeks, 30 days, and all 53 days

of reading, with raffle prizes and rewards.

Bonus raffles offered are a VIP ticket to the Basketball Hall of Fame, family pass to the Eric Carle Museum, voucher for the Holyoke Children’s Museum, voucher for a free Make-Your-Own Jar Candle at Yankee Can-

See **SUMMER READING** page 7

COMMUNITY



TURLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS

From the left, John Arthur, co-president of the Rotary Club of Chicopee, Téa Labonte, Izabela Tabor and Lou Arasate, co-president of the Rotary Club of Chicopee, in a group photo outside Panera Bread on June 19. Tabor and Labonte are recipients of this year’s Rotary Club Scholarship.

CCHS graduates awarded Rotary Club Scholarships

By Kristin Rivers
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CHICOPEE - Two recent graduates of Chicopee Comprehensive High School were awarded \$1,000 scholarships from the Rotary Club of Chicopee.

Rotary Club Co-Presidents John Arthur and Lou Arasate presented the scholarships to

Izabela Tabor and Téa Labonte on June 19 at Panera Bread on Memorial Drive.

Tabor plans to attend Endicott College to major in accounting, while Labonte will attend Springfield College and go into the PA program for Physician Assistant Studies.

Tabor and Labonte explained they learned of the

See **SCHOLARSHIPS** page 8

City Council approves holding public hearing with HR Committee on insurance premiums

By Kristin Rivers
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CHICOPEE - City Council approved on June 18 to have a public hearing with the Human Resources Committee for an update on the status of health insurance payments for people who were not eligible between 2009 to 2022 and 2023.

In June 2023, it was brought to light how the city was paying insurance premiums to city employees after they had died or resigned, generating months of questions, audits performed by the city to look for further information, accusations of corruption, a departure and resignation from the Department of Human Resources followed by new hires for the department and implementing a new online platform to help with benefits.

The original order before the City Council, co-presented by Ward 9 Councilor Mary Beth Costello and Ward 3 Councilor Susan Goff, asked for the Committee of the Whole to hold a meeting for an update on this item.

Costello explained how it came to her and Goff's attention that "some people are not fully aware of what the results of the health insurance review are that has been taking place."

"I just want to make sure--and Councilor Goff agreed in regards to co-sponsoring this--is that everyone understands what transpired during the past year to update everyone on the health insurance issue, where people that weren't eligible from 2009 to roughly 2022 were receiving that,"

Costello said.

Costello said her and Goff's goal is "to make sure that people are totally aware of what's happened in regards to this health insurance issue."

"Because it is a big issue, and it does cost the taxpayers money. That's obvious," Costello said. "And that's the reason why myself and Councilor Goff want to bring this to the public's attention."

Goff elaborated on why she's co-sponsoring the order with Costello.

"I just think that it finally needs to be brought to light. I mean, I can see reports of it was 1% of the health premium that were paid. I'm a numbers person and need to see numbers," Goff said. "What were the numbers? What was paid out that shouldn't have been paid out? What did we receive back if anything? I deal with insurance companies. I know for a fact how hard it is to get money back for something that you paid for."

Goff stressed she was not saying that anyone did anything wrong.

"I think the numbers have to be brought out into the open. This is what happened, this is how much we were able to recoup and we need to make sure that what process is in place so it doesn't happen again. What did we do to resolve that? It's being open, honest and being able to answer those questions that the public asks of us," Goff said. "Last City Council meeting, we approved \$2 million dollars for the retirement health insurance, Well, how much of that was recuperated from the years past? I just want everything out in the open and everything put to bed. That's

the end of the conversation. These are the numbers. This is what happened. Let's just put it to bed so nobody can dig it back up again."

Ward 4 Councilor George Balakier said this had been addressed, explaining how the audit last year found premiums paid in error from 2017 to 2023 were less than one-tenth of 1%, the losses mostly recouped from the insurance companies and a second Benefits Coordinator was hired.

"So, something was done and is being done about this. There's also a new on-line platform which ensures better records management so this won't happen again. So, there are some safeguards that have been put in place addressing this. So, I just wanted to bring that to the council's and the public's attention that this is something that wasn't just not handled," Balakier said.

When Vice President/Councilor-at-Large Robert Zygarowski asked if Costello and Goff spoke to Human Resources about the order, Costello replied no.

After Ward 7 Councilor William Courchesne suggested a friendly amendment to the order to send to the Human Resources Committee for a public hearing as opposed to a Committee of the Whole, Costello agreed and said yes to the proposed amendment.

Councilor-at-Large Tim Wagner said he can see points on both sides, but "to Councilor Balakier's point about one-tenth of 1%, that's not exactly a number either."

"If they want some additional numbers or explanation, I think they might be entitled. I understand a conversation with the HR director might be beneficial, but there's certainly some merit for the public wanting to find out. I mean, our insurance premiums went up a whole heck of a lot for some of our plans and it had to have us rework our insurance entirely and bring in another provider," Wagner said. "Not the worst idea in my book."

President/Councilor-at-Large Frank Laflamme reiterated how a meeting was

held with Chief Human Resources Officer Stephen Zajchowski to talk about this, but understands how people want the figures and want to understand it.

He offered this suggestion.

"I encourage that you go and visit the department heads and talk to them," Laflamme said. "They come to our meeting and they don't have the answers anyways when they get there. So, please meet with the department heads and get what you're going to be asking them so they can bring that with them to talk to us."

Laflamme suggested Goff and Costello send the heads something to show what they're looking for, adding he doesn't agree on sending items to the Committee of the Whole "unless it's important."

After Wagner, Courchesne and Ward 2 Councilor Shane Brooks shared their perspectives and experiences with department heads and agreed there needs to be more cooperation and collaboration, Costello said the particular request "isn't about personalities and personal issues."

"This is about getting information, by the numbers, to the public. That's all this is about. I appreciate the comments because things do have to improve in some areas, but that's not what this is about. This is about--and Councilor Goff made it perfectly clear--about getting specific numbers out to the public so the public knows the status," Costello said. "And Councilor Wagner was right when he talked about Councilor Balakier's comment. We want specific numbers if we can get them."

Costello reiterated how contacting department heads and having private meetings with them was not what this request was about, sharing she's had positive experiences with department heads, including with the Department of Public Works.

"We're getting off the beaten track here. We got to make sure that whatever the numbers were in regards to this particular issue, the public understands the numbers and what has been done," Costello said.

The motion was approved 13-0.



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Residents cool off with ice cream from CPD



PHOTOS COURTESY
OF CHICOPEE POLICE
DEPARTMENT



CHICOPEE – The police department's ice cream truck was out in full force on June 18 delivering ice cream to residents as a summer heatwave began. The police department encouraged everyone to stay cool and hydrated.

City Council approves appropriations for educational purposes

By Kristin Rivers
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CHICOPEE - City Council approved on June 18 two appropriations for Stabilization for Educational Purposes and Reserve for Special School Custodians.

Mayor John Vieau announced for the Stabilization for Educational Purposes, it's an appropriation of \$2,295,695.84 from available funds for prior school year salaries and prior school year expenses.

The school prior year expenses are \$232,854.78 and the school prior year salaries are \$2,062,841.06.

"The School Department has a stabilization account that, just like the city, move their rollover expenses and their salary into their stabilization," Vieau said.

President/Councilor-at-Large Frank Laflamme asked Superintendent Dr. Marcus Ware this question.

"Can you just give us a broad what this money's going to be used for?" La-

flamme said.

Ware explained every year, the department "actually has monies that are not left over."

"So, what it specifically is going to be used for will be broken down into the line items...that's what's in the school budget. So, what I can tell you right now is that it will be going towards salaries again for the upcoming school year as well as other expenses including, more specifically, to balance our budget that we are going to present to you next week," Ware said.

Ward 9 Councilor Mary Beth Costello thanked Ware for being at the meeting and asked him this.

"Maybe this is an unfair question, but there is always concerns in regards to the School Department budget because it is our highest budget of any department and you have a lot of employees," Costello said. "Do you foresee, at this point in time, any major problems in regards to finances, say, within the next six months of the new fiscal year, Dr. Ware?"

Ware replied, "In the next six months, no."

"Next six months, no, because what I can tell you is that the budget is a needs-based budget--which I'll explain more next week--which means that we actually did a comparison between what's on our books versus what we need and the budget you will see in front of you is, actually, the bare bones of what we do and we are very confident with the stabilization that we'll use that we'll be able to fund this year with no problems."

The appropriation was approved 13-0. Next, an appropriation of \$40,142.36 to the Reserve for School Special Custodians from available funds in the Undesignated Fund Balance "Free Cash" Account.

Vieau explained, "This is something that we traditionally do every year."

"We take the funds from a cell tower that we have here in the city of Chicopee and use that money to fund the summer work program for our students," Vieau said. "They help clean up the schools and

they do a tremendous job."

Laflamme asked Ware about the number of cell towers.

"Do we still have one on the old Chicopee High School?" Laflamme said.

Ware said, "I don't believe so." Laflamme then asked this.

"So, how many more towers are on the schools that we get this from? What is the total?" Laflamme said.

Ware replied he believed it was three. "I believe it was a total of four with one gone. I believe it's still three," Ware said.

Costello said, "This is a great program."

"When I was on the School Committee, this was definitely one of my favorites. The kids really learn a lot and they participate. So, I appreciate you continuing the summer maintenance program," Costello said. "And they do great work. You should see the buildings when the kids are done."

The appropriation was approved 13-0.

Events & announcements schedule

HCHS Music Day

For families with children newborn to preschool

CHICOPEE - Join in for an afternoon of music, dance, and playing instruments!

Instruments will be provided. Please bring your own if you have them so we can learn together!

June 14 through August 16 on Wednesday & Friday: 2:30pm to 3:30pm

Wednesday -Location: Holyoke at Heritage State Park

Friday-Location: Sheridan Street Mini Park in Chicopee

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 lparlengas@hotmail.com; Mona Marcil Friberg at tinker245@aol.com, or Lynn Provost Larabee 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.

Ready for Kindergarten

CHICOPEE - FREE workshop with at-home activities and tools parents can use to help young children develop strong brain connections for success in school.

Childcare provided and program is for families of three to five year olds

Wednesday, July 24 at Lincoln Grove Head Start on 216 Broadway St., Chicopee at 5 p.m.

Join us for pizza at 5p.m.

FREE KIT WITH LEARNING MATERIALS also provided.

Please register for this program.

Call or e-mail: Silvia at Durands@headstart.org or 413-505-9053.

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

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

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

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

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

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


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

LifePoint Church visits CPD



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHICOPEE POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHICOPEE - LifePoint Church visited the police department on June 19 to drop off snacks for the police officers. The police department expressed their appreciation to the visitors on Facebook, saying, "They were greatly appreciated."



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Summer Concert Series

CHICOPEE - The FRIENDS of RiverMills Summer Concert Series at RiverMills Center kicks off Wednesday, July 10 and every Wednesday after with the last concert being August 21. The lineup is as follows:

July 10- The Eddie Foreman Orchestra

July 17- Amanda Meli as Dolly Parton

July 24- The O-Tones

July 31- Dave Colucci

August 7- Jimmy Mazz

August 14' Robert Black as Elvis

August 21- The Earls & Pearls

Tickets for all shows in July are on sale now, but will go quick! August show tickets will go on sale July 15. The first and last concert of the series will be \$10 as there will be dinner served. All other concerts will be \$5 with snacks provided. Beer, wine and non-alcoholic beverages will be available for purchase at all shows. No outside beverages allowed. You must purchase tickets in advance at RiverMills Center. Two ticket limit. For more information, please call RiverMills Center at 413-534-3698.

GUEST COLUMN



A rabbit rendition

Yesterday I walked up to one particular garden at Old Sturbridge Village and stood in amazement.

There was something off with the bed of red dahlia plants, orange cannas and a mixed color lot of rudbeckia that I had planted less than a month ago. What kind of animal would eat the rough, somewhat hairy leaves of the rudbeckia, better known as “brown-eyed Susan” almost all the way down to the ground?

The culprits ran or should I say “hopped” in front of me, just as I approached the bed. Peter and Petra Rabbit in plain sight.

If you too are plagued with rabbits, read on for a few tips straight from the archives on how to dissuade them from eating your precious plants.

I never had a problem with rabbits in my home garden until after the dog died. It would be safe to assume that “the marking of his territory” had something to do with keeping the bunnies at bay.

Outside of dog urine, there are lots of other deterrents out there that folks swear by.

One is dried blood. The smell signals danger. To be effective it must be reapplied each week as well as after it rains. You can either sprinkle a narrow band around the perimeter of the border or place containers of it in the garden.

Dried blood is a nitrogen fertilizer and is available at most garden centers. It will burn sensitive plants if applied directly on top of them, so sprinkle it a few inches away from the base. Along the same line would be ammonia sprays.

I have also heard of different home brews that you may, or may not want to whip up in your blender. One consists of garlic, hot peppers and marigold leaves – maybe this combination would work better than the other tactics already tried. These would need to be reapplied periodically, especially after it rains.

A less attractive but better option to control rabbits would be to install a wire fence. It should be at least three feet tall and dug into the ground four inches or more.

Be sure that the fence is fine enough so that the rabbit’s head won’t fit through the holes – the unfortunate rabbit that is able to fit his head may think that the rest of his body will follow suit. When it doesn’t, panic ensues, and the result is not something I would want anyone to find in his or her garden a day later.

Rabbits will eat almost anything except for prickly plants or strong smelling/tasting plants. For prickly plants think Globe Thistle (*Echinops Ritro*); blue globes bloom in early July. Sea Holly (*Eryngium maritimum*) is another similar plant.

Strong smelling/tasting plants include Bee Balm (*Monarda didyma*), Catmint (*Nepeta racemosa*), Yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*), Mints (*Mentha spp.*) Garlic and Onions among others. In fact, I read of one gardener having great success keeping rabbits away from her flowering plants by planting a living fence of garlic in between them.

This summer, when it came time to clip the scapes off of my garlic plants, I collected the stems and dispersed them in and amongst the broccoli. It worked for a time being, probably as long as the scapes held their stink.

Along the same lines are all natural pellets that are soaked mainly in garlic essential oil. These should be hung or planed about three feet apart to make a stinky barrier that the rabbit won’t cross to get to your plants.

I will certainly have to employ some of

GUEST COLUMN



By Ellenor Downer

Eastern towhee



A Brimfield resident reported his wife saw an Eastern towhee in their driveway.

It has been some time since I saw a towhee. I saw it hopping to get seeds on the ground under my feeder.

The towhee is eight inches long with a long tail. The male has a dark hood, beak and back with reddish brown flanks and white belly. The female is brown on top with the reddish flanks and white belly.

They hop backward, raking up leaf litter in search of insects and seeds. They eat insects, spiders, lizards, snakes and weed and grass seeds. They come to feeders for seeds on the ground.

The female lays two to six cream with brown spotted eggs in a nest of leaves, strips of bark and grasses lined with finer grasses. The female places the nest on the ground in a scratched depression under brush.

Towhees inhabit edges or open woods with shrub cover. Often towhees are heard rather than seen. The distinctive “chevink” or “chweee” call note of both sexes is a good clue to their presence. The noise from their “raking” of leaf litter is another clue they are nearby.

In the spring, the male sings and counter sings with neighboring males. He courts the female with song and by displaying with wings and tail spread. Their song is two whis-

bles followed by a high trill like “drink your tee.”

During egg laying and incubation, the male rarely comes near the nest and the female is secretive. Both parents feed the young.

Bobolinks

An Oakham resident sent an email, he said “In 1982, after graduating with my M.S. degree from Cornell, I worked as a field assistant on a bobolink study. We assembled staging in the fields to construct elevated observation platforms. Then we needed to capture and mark all the individuals. Several mist nets were set up.”

He said, “When a bird landed near one of the nets we would rush to it and try to scare the bird into a net, quite effective. With ‘bird-in-hand’ we needed to mark it to allow us to recognize it. So we painted the tails with different combinations of colors. Capturing the very last bird took a lot of time and effort.” He also said, “When females returned repeatedly to a particular spot, we searched there for the nests, which was very difficult, as the nests were well hidden. We could then monitor nest success.”

Bluebirds

I received an email from a woman, who also sent photos of fledgling bluebirds, in her yard. She said, “At the end of winter the mated pair shooed off their offspring and got down to nesting. We now have four fledglings visiting our mealworm feeder. They are too funny to watch, so hungry and they keep their parents very busy.” The bluebirds laid eggs for second time.

More Brimfield birds

The Brimfield resident, who sent the email about the towhee also said, “The other day I spent a couple of hours at the pond in South Street where the osprey nest is located. In addition to the osprey nest there are four great blue heron nests with at least eight chick, I can’t see the fourth nest very well but an adult is standing on the nest so I assume there are young chick there also. Young herons can’t stand for awhile so they probably wouldn’t be visible yet.”

He said he saw common grackles, chickadees and tree swallows at the pond as well phoebes, Eastern kingbirds and belted kingfishers.

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



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these tactics after I replant that garden.

You would think that the rabbits would have been happy enough with the clover in the lawn. I guess they are more “hoppy” with a varied diet.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the

Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 32 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.

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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From the left, Will McKinstry, Michaela Thomas and Warren Thomas pictured next to the “Fresh Strawberries” sign that welcomed locals for a fun day at the festival.



Tracey and Danielle Thomas pose with homemade baskets and quilts.

McKinstry Market Garden holds first-ever Strawberry Festival

Market provides fresh produce and a taste of tradition

By Amanda Munson
Correspondent

CHICOPEE - McKinstry Farms held its first Strawberry Festival from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. on June 22, celebrating the farm’s history and new traditions.

The festival was held outside at McKinstry Market Garden, with strawberry picking in the fields and vendors sprawled around the property.

Vendors included Local Girl Glassworks, K and H Jewelry Design, Annmarie Brown Nature Artist, Pearl & Company, Ashley’s Sweets, EJs Boards, Avon Health, Cherished Cookie Creations and many more.

The Happy Facepainter was next to the petting zoo, creating lovely artwork for the kids who attended the festival. Also, live music was played by Kittie Does Country, food provided by MoMo’s Snack Shack, McKinstry Farms ice cream and homemade strawberry shortcake and hot dogs from the First Congregational Church.

Nicole McKinstry, who operates the farm with her family Bill McKinstry, and sons Will and Warren, discussed the deep history of the McKinstry farm that started in 1752.

“My family has been farming this land for over 100 years. We started off with chickens and small vegetables,” McKinstry said.

Now, the McKinstry Market Garden has grown into its own, with appreciation towards the community who supports

them on a daily basis.

“The community has been amazing supporting the farm for many years, trusting us to grow fresh produce here at the farm. It’s been amazing, we appreciate them and their loyalty. Without our customers, we wouldn’t be here. It’s been an amazing feeling how much they are behind us. Our boys are the next generation, seventh-generation farmers who are in the midst of taking this over. As you can see, things have changed and we are a year round operation, no more seasonal. This is our first big festival they decided to do and they have a lot in store going forward,” McKinstry said. “It’s bigger than we have imagined and it’s only going to get better.”

Michaela Thomas came to work at McKinstry Farm and made her way to becoming the field supervisor. Soon afterwards, she started to work on the agritourism for the farm, with big plans alongside Will and Warren McKinstry.

Thomas was the organizer of the Strawberry Festival, the first event held at the farm.

The inspiration for the Strawberry Festival was simple.

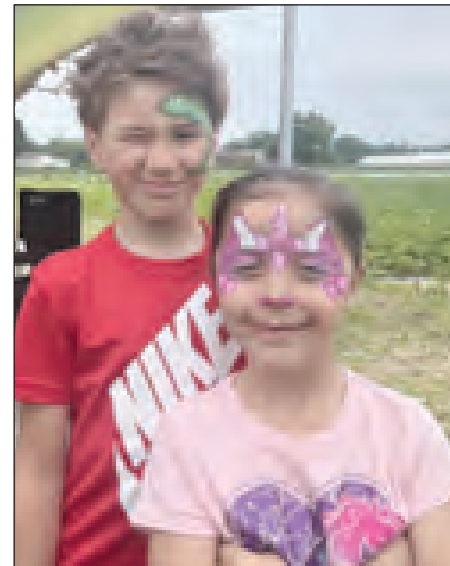
“Last year we planted a big field of strawberries to try to grow the agritourism, in hopes to do a pick your own strawberry event come springtime. I decided to start off the year with a Strawberry Festival for the first big event and go into it slowly. Maybe have a Fall Festival this year, offer more consistent pick your own, school and farm tourism and summer camps.” Thomas said.

Thomas hopes to do more too beyond the festival.

“I want to grow the agritourism side



Chicopee resident, Kathie, smiles with a “berry quart” of fresh picked strawberries.



Josiah and Isabella Sanchez smile with face painting.

of the business, starting to plan more events throughout the year, and see what that will offer in the future,” Thomas said. “The hope is to keep the Strawberry Festival a yearly occurrence, to try to highlight our crops throughout the year. An example of that is we do a customer appreciation event, right around the corn crop, offering a corn tasting event with five varieties of corn for customers to try. Customers can vote for their favorites, while listening to live music. The customer appreciation event will definitely happen this year since the McKinstry family has been doing it for a very long time. Hopefully with a successful fall harvest event as well.”

As a Chicopee resident and farmer, Thomas expressed her appreciation for their loyal customers.

“It’s great to be a Chicopee resident, to give back to the community, and to be one of the few farms in Chicopee that people realize where their food comes from and where it’s grown. It’s exciting to bring people to the farm and experience that,” Thomas said.

The Strawberry Festival was a huge

hit among residents and vendors also.

“I was drawn to the festival since it was going to be held in Chicopee. I wanted to support other small businesses and be part of this event” said Heather G., vendor and owner of Cherished Cookie Creations.

When asked why people should visit and shop at McKinstry’s Market Garden, Thomas expressed her appreciation towards the family’s hard work.

“It’s a family run business, a very hard-working family, and it’s so important to support local farmers that grow the freshest produce right in Massachusetts,” Thomas said.

The store is open all year round from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday through Saturday and daily from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. during the winter Mondays through Sundays.

MoMo’s Snack Shack is open daily from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. and Scotty’s Scoop-Shack, serving ice cream, is open daily from 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

To learn more about upcoming events on the farm, visit the McKinstry Market Farm’s Facebook page.



A close-up shot of homemade quilts from Tracey and Danielle Thomas.



Aidan, Michele and Addie pose with plenty of freshly picked strawberries.



The strawberry shortcake was sold at the festival with only fresh products. “Nothing better than fresh, locally grown produce and fruit. Fresh biscuits made in the bakery, strawberries picked right in the field, and fresh whipped cream made here,” said Gail, who’s pictured in the middle, who just sold it to a Chicopee resident.



Mayor John Vieau looks on as Ayanna Crawford, president of the Kwanzaa Collective, provides remarks on Juneteenth.



State Sen. Adam Gomez (D-Springfield) reflects on ways people can get involved and learn more about Juneteenth.



Mayor John Vieau presents the mayor's proclamation for Juneteenth as Ayanna Crawford, president of the Kwanzaa Collective, Jr. Miss Juneteenth Zaneiah Estrada-Crapps and Miss Juneteenth Justina Ortiz watch.

JUNETEENTH from page 1

attendees to participate in events throughout Western Massachusetts.

"To find a historical library to read about the history of Juneteenth. To attend a museum, to talk to your fellow coworkers to understand the significance of today," Crawford said. "As we do with any culture--as we do with the Italians, with the Polish, with the Puerto Ricans--we are here as people that, also, want to be represented and to have folks understand the significance of this day in terms of American history."

Crawford stressed how "we are all here together" and encouraged educators to do more to learn the history behind Juneteenth.

"Let us look at the significance of this day, understand it for generations to come that we have gotten a moment where, in history, we can remember so we don't go back," Crawford said. "Juneteenth is a time of celebration, it is a time of reflection and a time of understanding of what happened in our history. Two years after the Emancipation Proclamation was signed that black folks were still enslaved in Galveston,

TX. That is a historic moment that we cannot not remember, so we must remember. We must tell our children and we must really understand the significance and the historical context around this day."

Vieau then presented the proclamation to this year's Juneteenth Queens, Miss Juneteenth Justina Ortiz and Jr. Miss Juneteenth Zaneiah Estrada-Crapps.

Ortiz and Estrada-Crapps also had the honor of cranking the lever to raise the Juneteenth flag.

After the ceremony, Vieau said he hoped attendees took away the understanding of the Juneteenth flag and what it stands for.

"I want every single flag that we raise that recognizes a unique heritage, I want those people to feel proud of who they are and where they come from," Vieau said. "And I think that's really the message today with every flag-raising is that Chicopee is diverse. We are working more and more into being the most inclusive community in Western Mass that we can be, every single day, and we're all in this together and that's what Chicopee is all about."

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A Chicopee resident accompanied by her child does a sticker activity similar to a paint by number, provided by the Children's Department.

SUMMER READING from page 1

dle and a voucher to the USS Constitution Museum.

Check in with the library staff when you've reached the different milestones of reading.

Chicopee offers activity badges that encourage reading with a theme of read, renew, repeat, with activities including attending a library program, visiting Booker the Bookmobile, reading with someone, a librarian recommendation, beyond just books, found art/upcycling, reading outside, loving the earth and much more.

Upcoming activities for all ages include Thursday Night Concerts at 6:30 p.m., Ukulele with Julie Stepanek on July 12, Ice Cream with the Mayor on Aug. 21 and Friday Storywalks with Booker, with a variety of kid, teen and adult specific programs all summer long.

Erin Daly, the library's youth services coordinator, encourages families to explore the different libraries in the area because it offers a variety of free fun, educational offerings and cool places to hang out in the summer heat.

"Chicopee Public Library has lots of events going on, a very accessible reading program, a big space with a place to play and a big collection of materials. And we're fun nerds who are excited to talk with people about what they are interested in and find them books about it," Daly said.

At the library in Chicopee specifically, the staff wants to spread the joy of reading and encourage learning and participation for everyone.

"Our assistant director, Anne Gancarz, and I participated in a training over the past year called Building Equity Based Summers. It was about how we can reach all of the different people in our communities and hopefully connect better with historically marginalized groups and people who don't use the library as much. One of the things we talked a lot about is our "Why". Why do we have a summer program? Spreading the joy of reading and learning is our why. Creating a challenge that invites participation from everybody is a step towards expanding our reach," Daly said.

Spreading their own interests of what they love to read is Brent Tenerowicz, the library's youth services associate who



Isaac, Mike and Gridley Winnie pose for a picture next to the kid's play area during the Summer Reading Kickoff on June 24.

works out of the children's room.

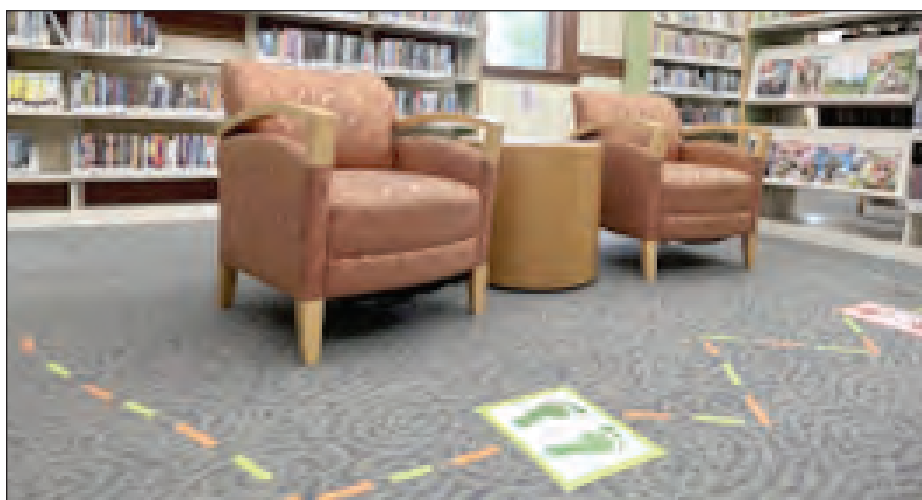
Tenerowicz discussed how his focus is to create programs for teens after school that he personally loves too.

"I love running the Anime Club for middle and high school students. I helped fully develop the manga and comic collection and now it's the most popular in the teen and children's areas. I enjoy guiding the teens in certain titles that I think would be a good fit," Tenerowicz said.

When asked why people should explore their local library, Tenerowicz expressed his encouragement to utilize the space that's meant for you and your family.

"We have something for everyone, whether it's a space to hang out, a play-space with board games, summer events, teen space, reference area for computer usage and technology assistance, study rooms, a history room for research, there is something for everyone," Tenerowicz said. "Go to every library that you can make it to. The more people we can get involved with libraries in general, or closer to them, is a win for us."

To learn more about upcoming events at the library, visit www.chicopeepubliclibrary.org.



A sensory walkway was placed throughout the Children's Room during the Summer Reading Kickoff, encouraging play and curiosity for all ages.



CFD visits Litwin School for safety fun

CHICOPEE – The fire department visited Litwin Elementary School on June 7 to take part in their Fun and Safety Day. The photos came courtesy of Litwin Elementary School.

PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHICOPEE FIRE DEPARTMENT

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CPD Awards Ceremony and Retirement Celebration

Honoring Service and Tradition

CHICOPEE - On May 29, the annual CPD Awards Ceremony and Retirement Celebration was held in the City Hall Auditorium. This tradition is a vital part of department's history allows us to honor those who have dedicated their lives to public service and to celebrate the achievements of the past year.

Chief Patrick Major along with Mayor John Vieau, City Council President Frank Laflamme, State Sen. Jake Oliveira (D-Ludlow) and State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee) took part in the ceremony.

First the retirees were acknowledged. The retirements represented 306 years of combined service to Chicopee.

The Retired Officers are: Chief William R. Jebb, Deputy Chief Lonny C. Dakin, Deputy Chief Jeffrey M. Gawron, Sergeant David A. Heroux, Detective John F. O'Shea, Detective Donald N. Le-Clair, Officer Jim Clark, Officer Francis E. McQuaid, Officer Ryan W. Romano, Officer Mark A. Wilkes and Officer Chad E. Foisy.

The ceremony then included the Chief of Police award presented to Officer Kyle Robbins, and the peer award for Officer of the year presented to C3 Officer



Flor Demaris De La Rosa.

Lifesaving awards were given to: Captain Doug Lambert, Sergeant Tom Gazda, Sergeant Mark Page, Officer Matthew Naglieri, Officer Joseph Pieczarka, Officer Lindsay Beshara, Officer Austin James, Officer Andrew Piquette, Officer Alexander Trusiewicz, Officer Matthew Goonan, Sergeant Joseph Conroy, Officer Jack Wanat, Officer Ryan Laflamme and



Chicopee Fire Personnel FF Valerie Stein, FF Brandon Haden, FF Drew Broska, FF Nathan Carvalho, FF Andrew Galik as well as National Ambulance Paramedic Gerald Loughman.

Meritorious awards to Sergeant Tom Gazda, Officer Edward Kennedy, Officer Juan Aponte and a Community Helper Lifesaving Award was presented to Dennis Acevedo and Andrea Rosario.

A unit citation was presented to Sergeant Matthew Muldoon, Detective Steven Sawyer, Detective Pete Szura, Officer John Roach and Officer Aaron Beaulieu.

Polish National Credit Union sponsored a luncheon and was presented with a certificate of appreciation for their contributions to the community.

We thank all the attendees and retired officers.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHICOPEE FIRE DEPARTMENT



SCHOLARSHIPS from page 1

scholarship through the high school's career center and applied from there.

"I had never heard of the organization before, but I thought this is a local chapter of a well-known club, so I thought it would be a great opportunity not just to get some college money, but to meet some new members of the community," Tabor said.

"I did some research on the club and everything that they do and I was just really interested and I like to help the community," Labonte said.

Tabor and Labonte were grateful to receive the scholarships, sharing what it means for them.

"It's really nice to receive some recognition for all your hard work and then, also, get some money to pay for school so you can do better things later on in life," Tabor said.

"It's great to get the scholarship. I'm really thankful for the help with paying for college and all the things I'll be able to do

later," Labonte said.

Tabor and Labonte said applying for scholarships is important, especially when local organizations provide opportunities for students.

The girls added seeking out scholarships is crucial too.

"There's only so much the school can do, so it's really important for the individual to seek out monetary resources," Tabor said.

"I think it's definitely important to search around for scholarships. I mean, they are a big help and you can find so many different ones online or around your community," Labonte said. "So, I think it helps to look out for them."

Tabor and Labonte shared volunteering--which is part of the Rotary Club's mission--is also important to them, having been officers for the National Honor Society during their time at Comp.

"So, service is a big thing for Téa and I because it's a great way to connect with your community, meet new people, but

also feel good about yourself for helping others," Tabor said.

"We've done a bunch of stuff. We've done can drives, food drives, stuff for women's shelters. A bunch of stuff like that," Labonte said. "Community service through our school."

Reflecting on volunteering and giving back to the community, Tabor and Labonte shared what they enjoy most about giving their time to others.

"I think it's nice to help other people who are in need or provide a service for someone that isn't able to do so or give them a product or monetary compensation," Tabor said.

"I think it's great to be able to just give stuff to people who don't have it, especially if we have the ability to do that. It's great to be able to give to people who don't have those things," Labonte said.

Tabor and Labonte encourage future classes to apply for scholarships.

"I think it's really wonderful that organizations in Chicopee offer these schol-

arships to students and then that they're available in Chicopee Public Schools," Tabor said. "I wish more organizations would do it, so I'm really thankful to Chicopee Rotary for giving Téa and I the opportunity to apply."

"For the upcoming classes, I would just tell them even if you think you're not going to get the scholarship, always apply. A lot of people think, 'Oh I won't get it. There's so many people applying,'" Labonte said. "But definitely do. It's a good chance and anything will help."

Tabor and Labonte had this message for Arthur and Arasate.

"Thank you both so much for being so kind and so great during this process. Every time I got a phone call from John, he was so awesome and so kind," Tabor said. "So, thank you guys so much and thank you for giving me this opportunity."

"Thank you guys so much! This will help a lot with college and everything and you guys are both so kind," Labonte said. "So, thank you."



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Madison Boulanger goes for a throw-in.



Taryn Carriveau socks a clearing kick.

Comp falls to Pope Francis

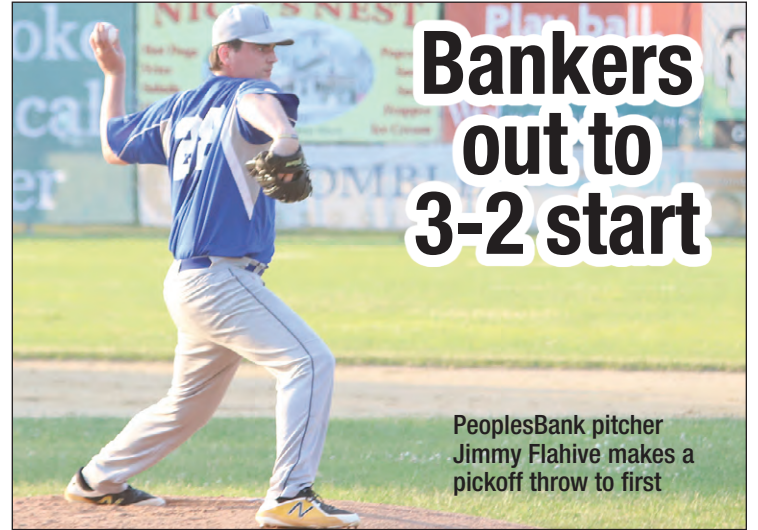
CHICOPEE – The Chicopee Comprehensive girls summer soccer team fell to Pope Francis 1-0 last Thursday evening. The Colts also defeated East Longmeadow 5-0 during the past week. Comp is out to a 1-2-1 start this summer.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM
Dakota Piedra emerges from traffic with the ball.



Annie Dulong takes the goal kick.

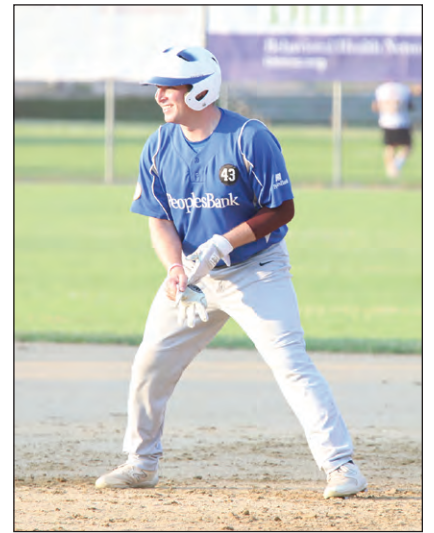


Bankers out to 3-2 start

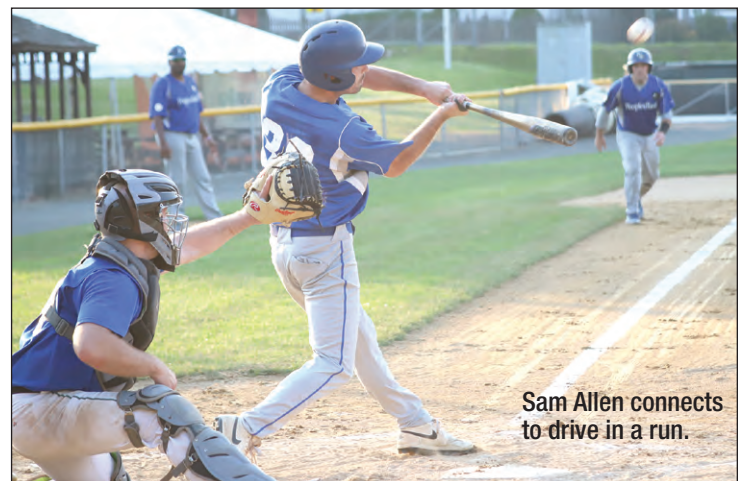
PeoplesBank pitcher Jimmy Flahive makes a pickoff throw to first

HOLYOKE – Last week, PeoplesBank was in action in the Tri-County Baseball League. The Bankers faced Chicopee and BankESB during the week. The Bankers narrowly defeated ESB to improve to 3-2 on the young season. The Bankers are in the middle of the pack currently with Hilltown Tents holding an 5-2 record for first place. Chicopee and Teddy Bear Pools have second place with four wins each.

Cam Rivest, of Agawam, leads off first.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI



Sam Allen connects to drive in a run.

Pioneers keep playoff hunt alive with win

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent



TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM
Leonel Vergara meets up with the ball.

LUDLOW—Just like every other player listed on the Western Mass. Pioneers roster, Alec Hughes would like to play for a professional soccer team in the future.

Led by Hughes, who recorded a hat-trick in the first half, the Pioneers remained in the playoff hunt by defeating Boston City FC, 6-1, at Lusitano Stadium last Friday night.

“It’s always nice to get off to a fast start in every game,” said Hughes, who only played the first 45 minutes of last Friday’s home match. “The turf field was a little bit slick which helped us move the ball a little faster. It was very similar to playing on grass.”

While it rained prior to the start of last Friday’s match, the rain stopped sooner than it was

expected to and it was a pleasant evening weatherwise.

The Pioneers had a 7-1-1 overall record and they moved into second place behind first place Seacoast in the USL League Two Northeast Division standings.

Since losing to the Seacoast United Phantom, 3-2, at home on June 7, the Pioneers have gone 3-0-1 in their next four matches.

“It was another very good performance, especially since it was at home,” said Pioneers head coach Federico Molinari. “Everyone is playing very well.”

Hughes entered last Friday’s contest tied for the most goals in the USL-2 with eight. He finished the match with a total of 11 goals.

Hughes scored a team-leading 15 goals for the UMass

See **PIONEERS** page 8



Augustine Boadi fakes and heads up the field.

Blue Sox get big win over North Adams

HOLYOKE - Sunday was a statement game for the Valley Blue Sox against the North Adams Steeplecats.

Scoring in the first inning off a double hit by Chris Jans, the Blue Sox never trailed in this game.

However, the Steeplecats did not give up whatsoever.

With the Blue Sox holding onto that 1-0 lead, both teams were in a stalemate going into the fifth inning. Pitcher Jax Traegar took early care of the Steeplecat offense in the top of the inning, to give the bats back to the Blue Sox. It was just the momentum needed to deliver a shot to blow the game wide open.

The Blue Sox did just that, starting with Jonathon Hogart's RBI single bringing Chris Jans home



and Michael O'Connor following it up with a highlight, two run home run. When it was all said and done, the Blue Sox scored five total runs to extend their lead to 6-0.

The Steeplecats scored two runs over the last three innings, but the deficit was simply too large to overcome. The most intriguing

aspect of this game was that both teams had eight total hits, yet the Blue Sox took advantage of far more to win the game.

In a game where early on it was clear hitting and scoring was going to be a deciding factor for the victor, the Blue Sox came together as a team to deliver just that. Throughout this season, it has been discussed that hitting was a "work in progress" for the Blue Sox, and that they leaned on their pitching for many of their wins. However, tonight they proved that when needed their hitting was also reliable.

It's a major stepping stone for the Blue Sox offense, and it helps them advance to a 2-0 season record over the Steeplecats and 8-5 overall.

PIONEERS from page 7

men's soccer team last season.

He also attended the MLS combine in Arizona, but he wasn't selected in the MLS draft last December.

Hughes will be wearing the Minutemen uniform again this fall.

"I wasn't drafted last year, but I was planning on going back to school," Hughes said. "I'm hoping to play for a professional soccer team in the future. It would be a great honor."

Molinari, who has watched several of his players turn pro during the past 15 years, is hoping Hughes is drafted.

"It's Alec's dream to play professional soccer and I really hope he makes it," Molinari said. "He's our leading goal scorer this year. I'm very happy for him."

Boston City (1-5-2) had a golden opportunity to take a 1-0 lead during the ninth minute of the opening half, but Western Mass. goalie Gianluca Cersosimo (2 saves) made a diving save.

Two minutes later, Laurie Goddard sent a crossing pass into the box from the right side and Hughes headed it into the right corner past Boston City goalie Sebastian Montoulieu.

"I always try to find a gap between the defenders," Hughes said. "It was a perfect pass from Laurie and all I needed to do was head the ball into the net."

The Pioneers took a 2-0 lead twenty minutes later.

This time, Aidan Kelly sent a long pass to Hughes, who controlled the ball with his chest before tapping it across the line.

Hughes capped off his hat-trick by firing a shot into the left corner of the net during the 34th minute.

With about five remaining in the opening half, it looked like Oscar Sears had scored his first goal in a Pioneers uniform, but it was disallowed by referee Jonathan Luk because a Pioneers player was offside.

Sears, who has been on the Pioneers roster all season long, played in his first game at Pathfinder FC, which was a 2-0 win, last Tuesday night.

Sears was a member of the men's soccer team at Wake Forest. He'll be playing soccer at Bryant University this fall.

Holding a 3-0 halftime advantage, Hughes was replaced by Scott Testori at the start of the second half.

Testori, who's a member of the UConn men's soccer team, added his name to the score sheet with an unassisted goal during the 55th minute.

Goddard scored the Pioneers fifth goal two minutes later, which was assisted by Camilo Comi.

Josh Tubbs, who made his first appearance of the season for the Pioneers, replaced Cersosimo in goal during the 68th minute.

Boston City got on the scoreboard with a goal by Thiago Goes with 20 minutes remaining in regulation.

Ali Taleb capped off the scoring for the Pioneers with a breakaway goal in the 88th minute. Testori was credited with the assist.

The Pioneers are scheduled to host the Albany Rush at 7pm on Friday night. They'll then play three road games before returning to Lusitano Stadium to face the Vermont Green on July 13 in the regular season finale.

Bonsignore wins Mohegan Sun 100

LOUDON, N.H. - Justin Bonsignore had a busy Saturday at New Hampshire Motor Speedway - one that ended with his 42nd career NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour victory - and a strong performance in his NASCAR Xfinity Series debut with Joe Gibbs Racing.

Bonsignore started the day early - as the Whelen Modified Tour hit the track for the Mohegan Sun 100 at 10 a.m. Bonsignore ran inside the top-three for the duration of the race after rolling off on the front row for the 100-lap event. In the final laps, he battled with his cousin, Kyle Bonsignore, for the win. Justin kept control of the race for the final restart, then drove away from Kyle on the backstretch and back to the start-finish line to rocket to Victory Lane.

The Whelen Modified Tour win was Justin's second of the season through seven events, and tied Ted Christopher for third all-time

on the series wins list. Bonsignore now sits behind Reggie Ruggerio (44) and Mike Stefanik (74) on the wins list.

"We have 16 awesome races in a year, but this is our Daytona 500," Justin said. "Everyone wants to win this race. There's so much that goes into putting yourself in position and having a good car. It's mentally tough to control and understand what you need to do in these late restarts."

Bonsignore pulled within two points of leader Ron Silk in the championship standings as the series heads for the halfway point of the season in the next race, set for July 20 at Monadnock Speedway.

After the Whelen Modified Tour win, Bonsignore moved to his NASCAR Xfinity Series debut with Joe Gibbs Racing, competing in the SciAps 200. Driving the M3 Technology, USNE No. 19 Toyota GR Supra, Bonsignore started 25th in

the field after qualifying was canceled on Friday due to rain. In the early part of the race, Bonsignore pitted and stayed out at the end of the first stage, taking the lead of the race. From there, he ran in the top-five for a large portion of the day.

After a late caution, contact in turn one sent Bonsignore spinning, pushing him to a finish of 23rd in his debut. However, the result didn't show the day the New York native had on NASCAR's National Series stage.

"You really couldn't have asked for a better day with Joe Gibbs Racing," Bonsignore said. "Our crew chief played some great strategy to get us up there. I was still learning even right to the end of the race. I was getting better and better all day long and we had a really good car. I can't thank M3 Technology, USNE and everyone else who made this possible enough for the opportunity."

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Chicopee Register

Chicopee Public Library hosts Summer Events for Kids and Families

CHICOPEE - Each month the Chicopee Public Library hosts a variety of free programs for children and families. The summer months, when kids are out of school, are among the busiest times at the library and the Youth Services Department seeks to provide even more free opportunities for learning and fun! Here is the slate of events for July 2024.

The Summer Reading Challenge is on! This year, the library is asking, "Chicopee, did you read today?" If you're already signed up, keep reading. If you haven't yet, there is still time to join. The challenge runs from June 24 until August 16 and is open to all ages - kids, teens, adults!

Storytime will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesdays, July 2, 16 and 30. Enjoy books, rhymes and songs along with a craft or activity. Geared towards families with kids 2-8.

Little Movers will be held in the children's program room on Fridays, July 5, 12, 19 and 26 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.

Wind down with an Evening Storytime, Mondays at 6 p.m., July 8 & 22. Books, rhymes, and songs, along with a craft or activity. Geared towards kids ages 2-8 and their families.

Move and groove at a Summer Dance Party on Tuesdays, July 9 and 23 at 10:30 a.m. Songs, dancing and big movement geared for kids 5 and under, but older kids are welcome!

A Summer Playgroup will be held on Tuesday, July 2 at 2 p.m. The Community Room will be open with extra toys for free play! For littles through elementary school age kids.

Cardboard Creation will be on Wednesday, July 3 at 2 p.m. It's the semi-annual build stuff out of cardboard experience! Materials will be provided, bring your own creativity. For all ages.

Buildwave will facilitate a series of high energy hands-on building challenges for ages 8-18 on Tuesday, July 9. Two sessions will be available - 2 and 3 p.m. Registration is required. Sign up in the Kids Room. This program will appeal to fans of LEGO and other creative construction toys.

You are invited to a Bluey Party on Wednesday, July 10 at 6 p.m. Celebrate all things Bluey with games and activities. Fun for kids of all ages and the whole family!

Julie Stepanek will teach a Beginner Ukulele class on Friday July 12 at 1 p.m. This class will be open to ages 7 and up (adults welcome!). Register at the Reference Desk.

Come to a Found Art Crafternoon on Tuesday July 16 at 2 p.m. to create an art project with everyday materials. For ages 3 and up. Participants in this program will earn a summer reading activity badge for creating art out of recycled materials.

Storytime Quintet will introduce different musical instruments and play Prokofiev's "Peter and the Wolf" on Wednesday, July 17 at 3 p.m. Music lovers of all ages are welcome!

Build with LEGO on Tuesday July 23 at 2 p.m. Freeform building time with our big pile of LEGO! Recommended for ages 6 and up.

Join Mike the Bubble Man for an exciting, crowd-pleasing show that's fun for the whole family! Wednesday, July 25 at 2 p.m.

Create a Q-Tip Dot Painting on Tuesday, July 30 at 2 p.m. For ages 5 and up. Registration is required. Sign up in the Kids Room.

Join DJ Matt Peterson for a Family Dance Party on Wednesday, July 31 @ 6pm

The library will also host some programs just for teens (ages 11-18) on Thursdays in July. Registration will be required for all teen events. Sign up in the Kids Room.

On Thursday, July 11 at 2 p.m., teens can make an Upcycled T-Shirt Bag.

On Thursday, July 18 at 3 p.m., the library will host a special Yoga Class for Teens with our regular library yoga teacher Carolyn Ruzsala.

On Thursday, July 25 at 2 p.m. there will be a Summer Anime Club where teens can learn more about the iconic cherry blossom trees and enjoy some fun, themed crafts.

The ChicopeeFresh Curbside Cafeteria will be at the library weekdays from 1:30 to 2 p.m. to provide free meals for kids 18 and under. This program will run from July 1 through August 16.

Meet up with the Bookmobile for StoryWalks in the Parks this summer. A StoryWalk is a picture book that has been taken apart and mounted on yard signs. You can take a walk and read a book at the same time. July's book is *Something, Someday* by Amanda Gorman illustrated by Christian Robinson. It will be available displayed in both English and Spanish in the parks on Friday afternoons from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.

July 12 - Szot Park

July 19 - Sarah Jane Park

July 26 - Lincoln Grove Park

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.

Report shows drop in student receiving free breakfast at Massachusetts' High-Poverty Schools

New Eos Foundation study finds that when breakfast is offered in the classroom, and after the start of the school day, participation rates often double

BOSTON - Newly released data from the Eos Foundation revealed that only 48% of students enrolled in the Commonwealth's 813 high-poverty K-12 schools* are receiving the free breakfast to which they are entitled, down from the high-water mark of 58% during 2019/20 school year.

According to Eos' 2023/24 school breakfast report card, Ending Hunger in Our Classrooms: Expanding After the Bell Breakfast to Fuel Student Learning, participation rates would jump if schools switched to the after-the-bell model, which could increase breakfast participation rates up to 80% or more. For example, Springfield Public Schools provides breakfast after-the-bell and in the classroom to 85% of students each day, including those in high schools.

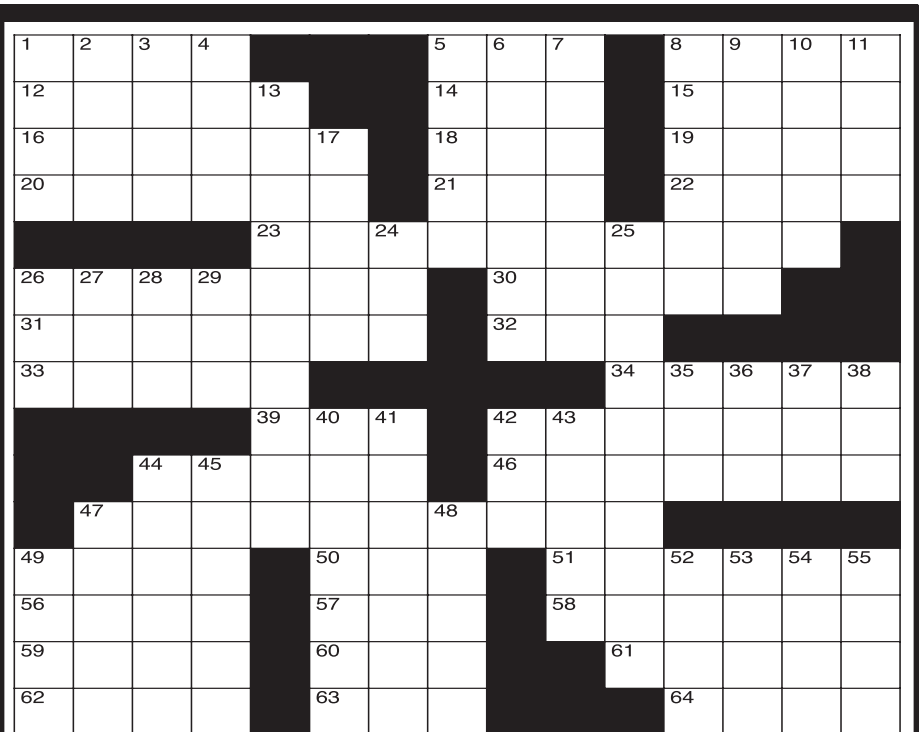
"Universal free breakfast, after-the-bell and in the classroom, is the single greatest opportunity to reduce child hunger in our state, removing the stigma and encouraging all students to break bread together," said Andrea Silbert, President of the Eos Foundation. "It

results in higher academic achievement, fewer nurse visits, better nutrition, and increased funding for school nutrition department budgets."

The report found that if all 813 of the state's high-poverty schools reached 80% of their students with free breakfast, 150,000 more young people would eat school breakfast each day, and collectively, these schools would receive an additional \$67 million in federal U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) reimbursements, which is currently being forfeited.

In May 2023, Governor Maura Healey signed into law the School Meals for All Act, making Massachusetts the eighth state in the country to provide free breakfast and lunch to any child in the K-12 system by supplementing the funding provided by the USDA for low-income children. Nearly one out of four Massachusetts' households with children face food insecurity, according to Project Bread.

A longtime funder of anti-hunger initiatives, Eos is distributing more than \$100,000 in Healthy Start Grants to 109 schools and districts that serve breakfast to 80% or more of their students, including eight in Chicopee. Eos is also issuing \$10,000 launch grants for schools rolling out after-the-bell breakfast starting in the fall of 2024.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Volunteer school groups
- 5. Cash machine
- 8. Title of various Muslim rulers
- 12. Indian hand clash cymbals
- 14. Scarf
- 15. Easily manageable
- 16. Cry
- 18. Financial term
- 19. Reactive structure in organic chemistry (abbr.)
- 20. Clean out a riverbed
- 21. Seaport (abbr.)
- 22. English seascape painter
- 23. Bring back again
- 26. Subtracted from
- 30. Related on the mother's side
- 31. Mooches
- 32. Commotion
- 33. Boer War general
- 34. Silklike nylon fabric

CLUES DOWN

- 2. Denial
- 29. Northeastern institution of higher learning (abbr.)
- 35. A doctrine
- 36. Consumed
- 37. Trent Reznor's band
- 38. Perform in a movie
- 40. Schoolhouse implements
- 41. Mathematical term
- 42. Man who behaves dishonorably
- 43. Expression of regret
- 44. Martens
- 45. Approval
- 47. Pleasantly warm
- 48. The Eurasian hoopoe
- 49. NBAer Bradley
- 52. Engineering organization
- 53. Horsecfly
- 54. Type of sandwich
- 55. A day in the middle of the month

CLUES DOWN

- 39. CNN's founder
- 42. Sarcastic in a bitter way
- 44. Minute reproductive unit
- 46. Nourishment
- 47. Large predatory tropical fish
- 49. Small, rich sponge cake
- 50. Drink a small amount
- 51. Golfer Rodriguez
- 56. Nurse personification of old age
- 57. Large flightless bird
- 58. Capsized
- 59. Convicted American spy
- 60. Music genre
- 61. Makes tractors
- 62. Undergo cell disintegration
- 63. Patti Hearst's captors
- 64. Selfs

Haluch's MEMORIALS
Cemetery Memorials • Markers
Granite Benches
Religious Statuary • Outdoor Display
RAY HALUCH INC.
 1014 Center St | Ludlow, MA | 583-6508
haluchsmemorials.com

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Comments?
Story Ideas?
Let us know how we're doing.
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 Chicopee Register, 24 Water St., Palmer • 413-283-8393

Healey-Driscoll Administration expands Universal Pre-K Access in eight additional school districts

Expansion invests \$1.7 million, adding 259 pre-k seats for children in Gateway Cities and rural communities

BOSTON - The Healey-Driscoll Administration announced today that eight school districts are receiving \$1.7 million in new Commonwealth Preschool Partnership Initiative (CPPI) grants to further support their efforts to expand access to affordable high-quality preschool. Six currently participating districts will be expanding their efforts, adding 10 preschool classrooms, representing an additional 259 seats across public schools and community-based preschool programs. This includes Gloucester, Haverhill, Holyoke, Hoosac Valley (that covers Adams and Cheshire MA), New Bedford and Westfield school districts.

Further, the administration is awarding \$50,000 each to the Chicopee and Taunton school districts as new grantees to support planning and early implementation of a universal access to affordable high-quality preschool plan. These grants will support districts in building partnerships with local community-based early education and care programs, developing a leadership team, conducting a needs assessment, and drafting a strategic plan.

"We know that the high cost of childcare is holding back our families, our providers and our economy from their full potential. That's why we have been focused on expanding access to affordable, high-quality preschool, creating new seats for children in Gateway Cities and rural communities across the state," said Governor Healey. "Our 'Gateway to Pre-K' agenda would build on this progress by expanding high-quality pre-k access to even more communities, lowering costs for more families, and ensuring our hardworking providers have the support they need to deliver high-quality care."

"As a former mayor, I know how important access to high-quality preschool is for families and for closing the learning gap before kids enter kindergarten. This funding is going to local school districts and community-based early education and care programs, highlighting our commitment to supporting cities and towns from Western to Southern Massachusetts in meeting the needs of their residents and making our state a more affordable and equitable place to live, learn, work and play," said Lieutenant Governor Driscoll.

A main driver in the administration's approach to expand preschool access and promote kindergarten readiness, CPPI establishes a district-wide preschool program across classes in public and community-based early education and care programs. By working across the state's mixed early education system, districts are expanding access to a range of programs that meet different needs of working families. CPPI also promotes equitable access to special education to ensure full inclusion of children with disabilities across all settings. Through this program, the CPPI funding also provides scholarships to participating families to enroll in preschool at no or low cost and enables full day/full year services to families through public and community-based classrooms.

"The Healey-Driscoll Ad-

ministration is committed to expanding access to affordable high-quality preschool across Massachusetts. In partnership with the Legislature, we delivered \$16 million already this year and with \$1.7 million more now, we're making the necessary investments to reach more kids in more communities," said Education Secretary Patrick Tutwiler. "This is not just an investment in our children and families, early childhood educators, and local communities-it's a downpayment on the future success of our state."

"The Administration is focused on expanding low or no cost preschool access to provide children across the state with the high-quality early education experiences we know give them the academic and social-emotional skills they need to enter kindergarten," said Early Education and Care Commissioner Amy Kershaw. "We are glad that six additional districts are receiving expansion grants to add classrooms and serve additional families across the state. EEC also looks forward to working with the Chicopee and Taunton school districts, and their partners, to support them in planning and implementing universal access to pre-k in their districts through our diverse mixed-delivery system."

"The Commonwealth Preschool Partnership Initiative is a great example of how the state is

bringing high-quality preschool experiences to more families," said Elementary and Secondary Education Acting Commissioner Russell D. Johnston. "We're happy to see districts participate in this opportunity."

These grants build on the \$16.4 million already awarded this fiscal year for districts and early education and care programs universal access to preschool. Governor Healey's proposed "Gateway to Pre-K" agenda will further expand these efforts, investing an additional \$15 million in fiscal year 2025, for a total of \$38.7 million, to move Massachusetts closer to meeting the goal of universal, high-quality preschool access for four-year-olds in all Gateway Cities by the end of 2026. With this new announcement, 19 gateway cities are now receiving CPPI to enable expanded affordable preschool access.

"The CPPI Grant is transforming Gloucester's approach to early childhood education and care. Through Gloucester Public Schools' partnerships with Pathways for Children, the Cape Ann YMCA and Kindred Gardens, more families are accessing affordable early childhood programs and special education services. Our work together is making sure Gloucester's youngest students are getting the high quality curriculum and services they need at the program that is the best fit for their family,"

said Superintendent of Gloucester Public Schools Ben Lummi.

"Over the last two years, Westfield Public Schools has partnered with our local Boys and Girls Club and the YMCA to expand pre kindergarten offerings in our community because we know that students who are able to attend preschool have significantly improved learning outcomes. We are grateful to the Healey-Driscoll Administration for continuing to support this critical initiative to support our early learners," said Superintendent of Westfield Public Schools Stefan Czaprowski.

"New Bedford Public Schools and our community partners have expanded access to preschool for city families at historically high rates and with the sustained support of the Department we are seeing very clear longer-term benefits for New Bedford children's academic and social development," said New Bedford Superintendent Andrew O'Leary.

"This grant allows us to plan the most effective, impactful, and equitable expansion of PreK services across our City," said Taunton Superintendent John J. Cabral. "It also enables us to further strengthen our vital community partnerships with Head Start and the Old Colony YMCA and reinforce our commitment to nurturing our youngest learners' social and emotional development."

School District Cities & Towns Served Award

Second round of FY24 new CPPI awardees:

Chicopee Public Schools

Chicopee
\$50,000

Taunton Public Schools

Taunton
\$50,000

Second round of FY24 CPPI expansion awardees:

School District Community-Based Partners Award

Gloucester
YMCA of the North Shore (Cape Ann YMCA); Pathways for Children; Kindred Garden Early Learning and Care (new) - \$279,949

Haverhill

Community Action, Inc; Haverhill YMCA; Urban Village Montessori, Inc. (new) - \$250,000

Holyoke

Valley Opportunity Council; Greater Holyoke YMCA -138,800

Hoosac Valley

Childcare of the Berkshires; Youth Center - \$328,000

New Bedford

Little People's College; North Star Learning Center; PACE Head Start; YMCA Southcoast - \$330,000

Westfield

Boys and Girls Club of Westfield; YMCA of Great Westfield - \$250,000

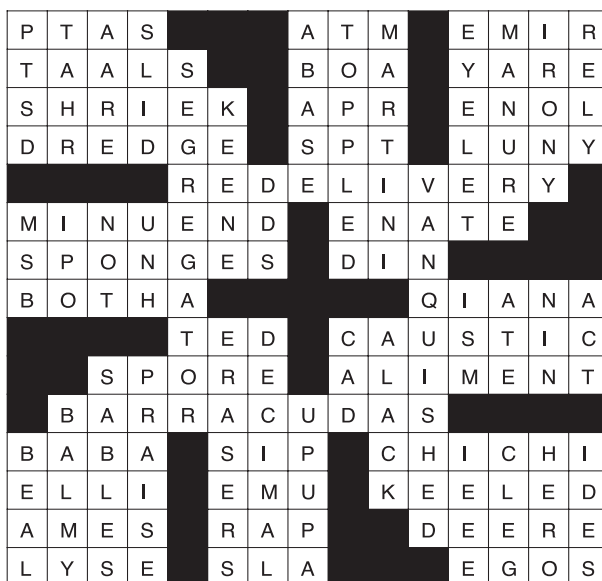
CORRESPONDENT OPPORTUNITIES

Turley Publications seeks **Experienced Writers/Journalists** to produce news and/or feature stories of local interest for various towns and cities.

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- **Salary based on a flat rate by story and photo**

Send writing samples with resume to

Deanna Sloat
24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069
or email directly to dsloat@turley.com



Chicopee Register OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

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

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

NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.

PUBLIC NOTICES

Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and
Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD24C0185CA

In the matter of:
Alan David Atkins
CITATION ON PETITION
TO CHANGE NAME

A Petition to Change
Name of Adult has been
filed by Alan David Atkins
of Chicopee, MA requesting
that the court enter a Decree
changing their name to:

Alan David Freitas
IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for
purposes of objecting to the
petition by filing an appear-
ance at: **Hampden Probate
and Family Court before
10:00 a.m. on the return day
of 07/15/2024.**

This is NOT a hearing
date, but a deadline by which
you must file a written appear-
ance if you object to this pro-
ceeding.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara
M Hyland**, First Justice of
this Court.

Date: June 17, 2024

Rosemary A Saccomani
Register of Probate
06/28/2024

COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
SALE OF REAL ESTATE
UNDER M.G.L. c. 183A, §6
AND
M.G.L. c. 254, §5 AND §5A
UNIT 6026C,
DOVERBROOK ESTATES
CONDOMINIUM
70 GREENWOOD
TERRACE, CHICOPEE,
MASSACHUSETTS

By virtue of Judgment
of the Chicopee District
Court (Civil Docket No.
2320CV000243) in favor
of the DOVERBROOK
ESTATES CONDOMINIUM
against MICHAEL J.
AXTON establishing a lien
pursuant to M.G.L. c. 183A,
§6 on the real estate known as
70 Greenwood Terrace, Unit
6026C, in the Doverbrook
Estates Condominium, for
the purpose of satisfying
such lien, pursuant to M.G.L.
c. 254, §5 and §5A, the
real estate be sold at Public
Auction at **11:00 O'CLOCK
A.M. on the 25th DAY OF
JULY, A.D. 2024** at the prem-
ises located at 70 Greenwood
Terrace, Unit 6026C,
Chicopee, Massachusetts.
The premise to be sold is
more particularly described
as follows:

All that certain parcel
of land situated in
Chicopee, Hampden County,
Massachusetts, more particu-
larly described in Exhibit "A"
attached hereto.

As per M.G.L. Chapter
188, sect.13, the Grantor,
under oath and subject to the
pains and penalties of perjury,
does hereby depose, state
and certify that: (i) I release
all rights of Homestead in
the subject realty, (ii) that no
spouse, non-owner spouse,
former spouse, or any other
person resides in the home,
and (iii) at the time of deliv-
ery of this deed, no spouse,
former spouse, or any other
person is entitled to claim the
benefit of an existing estate of
homestead.

Being the same prem-
ises conveyed to the grant-
or by deed dated November
2, 2010, recorded in the
Hampden Country Registry of
Deeds, Book 18531, Page 33.
EXHIBIT "A"

The Unit 6026C contains

871 square feet of building
area, more or less, and is laid
out as shown on the Unit Plan
attached hereto and record-
ed herewith, which Unit
Plan is a copy of a portion
of the plans recorded with
the Master Deed. A verified
statement in the form provid-
ed for in Section 9, Chapter
183A, of the General Laws of
Massachusetts, is attached to
such Unit Plan.

The Unit is conveyed
together with a 0.1621917%
undivided interest (subject
to adjustment in accordance
with the applicable provisions
of the Master Deed) in the
Common Areas and Facilities
as defined and described in
the Master Deed. The Unit is
subject to and has the ben-
efit of all applicable provi-
sions contained in the Master
Deed (including the provi-
sions granting exclusive use
rights), and in the Declaration
of Trust (including by-Laws)
of the Doverbrook Estates
Condominium Trust dated
December 3, 1982 and
recorded in Hampden County
Registry of Deeds, Book
5351, Page 220, and the rules
and regulations from time to
time adopted thereunder by
said Trust, including with-
out limitation the provisions
for assessment of common
expenses.

The Unit is also conveyed
together with an exclusive
right to use: (a) the parking
space assigned to the Unit in
Exhibit B to the Master Deed
and shown on the Site Plan
recorded with the Master
Deed; (b) the garden area
adjacent to the Unit as shown
on the Site Plan; and (c) the
storage area, if any, assigned
to the Unit in Exhibit B to the
Master Deed and shown on
the Site Plan.

Except as otherwise pro-
vided in paragraph 8 of the
Master Deed, the Unit is
intended to be used for resi-
dential purposes. The Unit is
subject to the restrictions on
use contained in paragraph 9
of the Master Deed, which are
incorporated by reference.

The Grantee is acquir-
ing the Unit with the ben-
efit of, and subject to the
provisions of Chapter 183A
of the General Laws of
Massachusetts relating to con-
dominiums, as that Statute
is written as the date hereof,
and as it may in the future be
amended.

Grantee, for Grantee and
Grantee's successors and
assigns, as owners of the Unit,
by executing and accepting
this Deed, hereby appoints
and constitutes Grantor,
and Grantor's successors
and assigns, as Grantee's
true and lawful attorney-in-
fact with full power coupled
with an interest which can-
not be revoked, to vote for,
execute, acknowledge, deliv-
er and record (i) one or more
amendments to the Master
Deed, pursuant to paragraph
12 thereof, for the purpose
of adding additional phases
to the Condominium (ii) one
or more amendments to the
Master Deed, and deeds, ease-
ments or other instruments,
pursuant to paragraph 14
of the Master Deed, for the
purpose of dedicating streets
within the Condominium, in
whole or in part, as public
ways; and (iii) one or more
amendments to the Master

Deed, and deeds, easements
or other instruments, pursuant
to paragraph 4 of the Master
Deed, for the purpose of con-
veying a parcel of land within
the Condominium to the City
of Chicopee as war memorial.

Being the same prem-
ises conveyed by Quitclaim
Deed from Doris I. Hebert
and William V. Guiel, Jr.
to Michael J. Axton dated
January 26, 2022 and record-
ed with the Hampden County
Registry of Deeds in Book
24375, Page 343.

Said Unit is subject to any/
and all covenants, easements,
encroachments, conditions,
restrictions and agreements
effecting the unit whether
recorded or unrecorded.

TERMS: A deposit pay-
able in cash or certified bank
check or money order of
\$5,000.00 shall be payable at
the Auction and the balance
of the payment shall be pay-
able by cash, certified bank
check, money order or wired
funds within thirty (30) days
of the Auction.

Other terms to be
announced at the sale, includ-
ing a minimum bid and the
right to reject all bids if none
are acceptable.

DOVERBROOK
ESTATES CONDOMINIUM
Dated: May 15, 2024

By Its Attorney,
Gina M. Desrochers
(BBO #681910)
Perkins & Anctil, P.C.
6 Lyberty Way, Suite 201
Westford, MA 01886
(978) 496-2000
gdesrochers@perkinslawpc.
com

06/28, 07/05, 07/12/2024

LEGAL NOTICE

In accordance with
the provisions of the
Massachusetts General
Law 105A, for the purpose
of satisfying the liens of
CJK Realty, LLC, Storage,
in order to satisfy past due
rents and other expenses, the
stored goods of the follow-
ing named people, including
household items, trunk &
other miscellaneous items,
will be sold at public auction
to the highest bidder or oth-
erwise disposed of on **July
1, 2024 at 9:00 a.m.**, on the
premises of 20 Ames Avenue,
Chicopee, MA 01013 (413-
348-7663):

Unit #12
Mark Schmitter
PO Box 1981 Memorial
Dr., Chicopee MA 01020-
4322

06/21, 06/28/2024

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

Notice is hereby given by
Interstate Towing, Inc. pursu-
ant to the provisions of G.L.
c. 255, section 39A, that on
July 7, 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.

2004 Ford Escape
VIN: 1FMYU03164DA15723
Anthony Williams
288 Centre St. Apt 3
Springfield, MA 01151

2005 Acura TL
VIN: 19UUA66205A038826
Jason Riddick

41 New Haven Ave
Waterbury, CT 06708

2005 Nissan Armada
VIN: 5N1AA08BX5N732133
Shalisa Wilson
174 Fort Pleasant Ave Apt 1
Springfield, MA 01108

2005 Nissan Xterra
VIN: 5N1AN08W65C640049
Nicole Macnell
93 Grochmal Ave
Indian Orchard, MA 01151

2008 Audi A4
VIN: WAUDF78E58A048590
Keila Paris
473 Allen Park Rd
Springfield, MA 01118

2013 Chevrolet Impala
VIN: 2G1WC5E30D1242825
Armando Aviles
37 Theroux Dr. Apt N
Chicopee, MA 01020

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

2023 Kawasaki Zx636K
VIN: JKBZXJH18PA019119
Joel Arietti
1011 Main St.
Somers, CT 06071

06/21, 06/28, 07/05/2024

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

Notice is hereby given by
Interstate Towing, Inc. pursu-
ant to the provisions of G.L.
c. 255, section 39A, that on
July 12, 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.

1998 Mazda B2500
VIN: 4F4YR12C7WTM14221
Joe Santiago
105 North East St Apt 4R
Holyoke, MA 01040

2006 Buick Lacrosse
VIN: 2G4WD582961172215
Myles Minfield
203 Oxbow Dr.
Willimantic, CT 06226

2006 Ford F150
VIN: 1FTPX14556NB55919
Edgardo Feliciano
522 South St.
Holyoke, MA 01040

2007 Honda Civic
VIN: JHMFA36247S014790
Rafaela Goncalves De Souza
Felix
35 Ashwood St.
Worcester, MA 01604

2007 Toyota Sienna
VIN: 5TDBK22C67S001246
Juan Ortiz
625 Bridge St. Apt 3
Lowell, MA 01850

2007 Toyota Yaris
VIN: JTDDBT923371171907
Christopher Michaud
35 Parker St.
Enfield, CT 06082

2008 Honda Civic
VIN: 2HGFA16918H329513
A1A Auto Group LLC
3345 Youngstown Rd SE
Warren, OH 44484

2011 Nissan Altima
VIN: 1N4AL2AP4BN407849
Neema Zaituni
613 Dickenson St.
Springfield, MA 01108

2011 Nissan Altima
VIN: 1N4AL2AP5BN482611
Jerry Latonya & Jenkins,
NYA
6 Fox Run

Stafford Springs, CT 06076

2012 Jeep Liberty
VIN:
1C4PJMAKXCW153490
Aida Luz Del Valle Perez
9 May St. Apt 300
Worcester, MA 01610

2017 Chevrolet Impala
VIN: 2G1105S33H9100340
Rhonda Cheverier
14 Rhodora Terr
Windsor, CT 06095

2017 Subaru Outback
VIN: 4S4BSETC5H3334438
Dominic Torretti
26 Young Circle
Seabrook, SC 29940

2021 Harley-Davidson
FXBBS
VIN:
1HD1YYK1XMB016376
Corey Bryan
26 Savin Hill Ave. Apt 2
Boston, MA 02125

2023 Lexus Gx 460
VIN: JTTJAM7BX7P5377592
Venkata Rajesh Kesineni
9631 Turtle Landing Ct.
Orlando, FL 32832

06/28, 07/05, 07/12/2024

Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and
Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield MA, 01103
Docket No. HD24P0077PM

In the matter of:
Mary Lebeau
of Chicopee, MA
Protected Person/Disabled
Person/Respondent
CITATION GIVING
NOTICE OF
CONSERVATOR'S
ACCOUNT

To the named Respondent
and all other interested per-
sons, you are hereby notified
pursuant to Rule 72 of the
Supplemental Rules of the
Probate & Family Court, that
the Temporary Conservator's
First and Final account(s)
of Alison M Bartlett-
O'Donald of Holyoke, MA
as Conservator of the prop-
erty of said Respondent has
or have been presented to the
Court for allowance.

**You have the right to
object to the account(s).**
If you wish to do so, you
or your attorney must file
a written appearance and
objection at this court on or
before 10:00 A.M. on the
return date of **07/30/2024**.
This day is NOT a hearing
date, but a deadline date by
which you have to object to
the account(s). If you fail to
file the written appearance
and objection by the return
date, action may be taken
in this matter without further
notice to you, including the
allowance of the account(s).

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

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

IMPORTANT NOTICE

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

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

Date: June 18, 2024

Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
06/28/2024

COMMONWEALTH OF
MASSACHUSETTS
Hampden, ss.
Superior Department
Civil Action No.:2479CV107
COMPLAINT
Mikhail Okhrimenko
Plaintiff

vs.

Rose Mortgage, Inc.
Defendant

ORDER OF NOTICE

This matter came before
the court upon the Plaintiff's
motion for an order of notice,
it is:

Ordered, and adjudged
that an order of notice issue
to the Defendant and to any
others claiming an inter-
est in a mortgage given by
Arthur Benoit and Edna C.
Barton to Rose Mortgage,
Inc. on or about September
23, 2005 which was record-
ed on or about November
2, 2005 and recorded in the
Hampden County Registry
of Deeds at Book 15464,
Page 89 encumbering the
land located at 6 Mount
Carmel Avenue, Chicopee,
Massachusetts 01013, by
publishing an attested copy
of this order once each week
for three consecutive weeks
in the Chicopee Register, a
newspaper published within
the City of Chicopee, at least
fourteen (14) days before
July 12 2024, and that all
named and unnamed defen-
dants do cause an appear-
ance to be entered and an answer
or other responsive pleading
be filed in the Office of the
Clerk of Superior Court, in
Springfield, Hampden County
on or before July 12, 2024.
If you, the above named
defendant, or any unnamed
defendant fails to do so, judg-
ment by default will be taken
against you for the relief
demanded in the Complaint.

Unless otherwise provid-
ed by Rule 13(a) your answer
must state as a counterclaim
any claim which you have
against the plaintiff, which
arises out of the matter, trans-
action or occurrence that is
the subject of the plaintiff's
claim or you will thereafter
be barred from making such
claim in any other action.

By the Court
Edward J. McDonough, Jr.
Entered: 6/7/24

Attorney for the Plaintiff
Brian Shea
430 Main Street,
Suite 3

Agawam, MA 01001
06/14, 06/21, 06/28/2024

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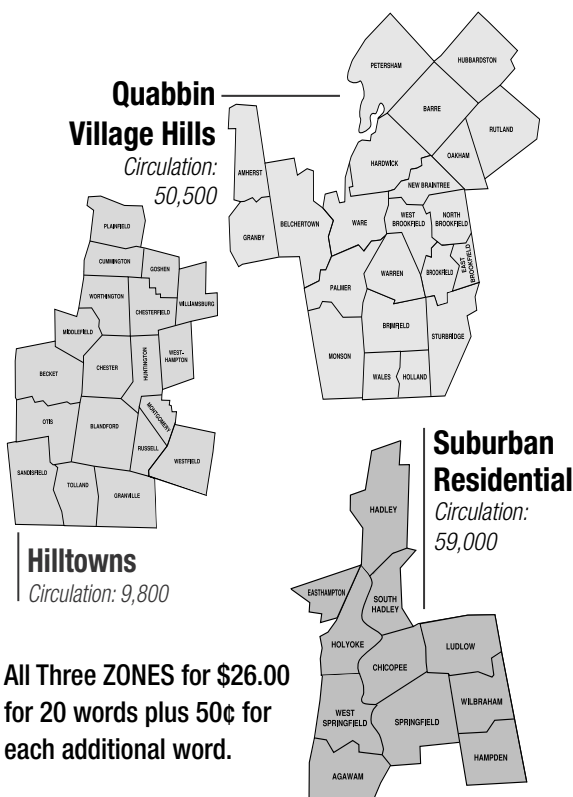
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29 Base Price \$30.50	30 Base Price \$31.00	31 Base Price \$31.50	32 Base Price \$32.00
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Elms College hosts 7th Annual Executive Leadership Breakfast

CHICOPEE - Elms College hosted its 7th Annual Executive Leadership Breakfast on June 11 in the Dooley Student Center at the Elms Campus. Approximately 200 people, including area leaders from local colleges, businesses, and municipal and state organizations were present.

Elms President Dr. Harry E. Dumay spoke briefly about the important role area colleges like Elms play in the local economy and in producing a talented pool of qualified employees throughout the Pioneer Valley.

Main Speaker James Rooney, president of the Boston Chamber of Commerce, spoke about why other parts of the state outside of Greater Boston must be involved in any discussion of ways to move the state economy forward.

"I do firmly believe that it is only through collaboration that big, important complex problems can be solved. Historically, collaboration has been vital for all of the colleges and universities in Western Massachusetts. When we in higher education have collaborated, as we did so well through COVID, we have all emerged stronger, and we've offered solutions to the region," Dumay said.

Dumay also spoke of the importance of higher education in improving the quality of life and the economy in Western Massachusetts and the entire state.

"We believe that one of the best ways to move the region

forward is through education. Our internal surveys show Elm College graduates living in 49 states and in more than 20 different countries, but the bulk of our more than 11,000 alumni—more than 50% of them—live here in the Pioneer Valley," Dumay said. "Simply put, many of our graduates are your employees. We are conscious of the importance of Elms College for the city of Chicopee...We know the importance of Elms College for Western Massachusetts. That is why we value so much our collaboration with all of you."

Rooney was introduced by Rick Sullivan, president and CEO of the Western Mass. Economic Development Council, who he has known for years. He called Rooney an advocate for the region who works with government, private companies and public institutions to advance "the future of commerce with public policy and legislation that champions dynamic and resilient people, communities and workplaces."

Rooney said: "The continued economic success of Boston, which I'm charged to help drive depends on the growth and economic success of the rest of the state including greater Springfield and Western Massachusetts. We need you. We need you. Now that was not always a widely held perspective, I know that. It was not always the way Boston-based businesses and political leaders approached economic develop-



Photo courtesy of Patrick Johnson

ment. In fact, if we want to be really intellectually honest about it, there was an element of competition in the way we thought about economic development," Rooney said. "I would submit that a critical success factor for Boston is that Western Mass., Central Mass., the South Coast, (and) North Shore all succeed economically."

He spoke of the high cost of housing in Boston, the high cost of development, and the scarcity of available land. Surveys show that many college graduates want to remain in Massachusetts, but the job market and cost of housing leave them unable to afford it. Many talented, educated people are moving to other states. The state needs to be strategic in addressing affordable housing, the cost of education, and improving transportation. "The business community

has to step up statewide to ensure an equitable economy both socially and geographically, and to drive public policy that enables all regions and all businesses, and help people to succeed in Massachusetts," Rooney said. "The economic future of Boston depends on us having a statewide economic growth strategy so we can grow our key industries, open up housing opportunities, and address the issues of climate change together. I'm confident in our colleges and universities, our community college system, our regional primary and secondary school systems. But we need to be intentional and strategic about lifting them out in connecting those education systems. Together, we leaders in business leaders and education find that the public sector can advocate to make our region more livable and equitable. Our competitive edge

is strongest when the leaders in every city and town convene and collaborate with the shared goal of making our Commonwealth a place where our businesses and our people can thrive."

Boston in the last 20 years has become a global leader in higher education, medicine, and life sciences research. Nineteen of the top 22 biotech research companies are headquartered in

Boston and Cambridge. Rooney said the next big opportunity is to grow a biomanufacturing industry to match.

Once a biotech company develops a new drug or a new medical device, they need somewhere to manufacture it. Land is scarce in Boston and the cost of development is high, so developers are looking to other states. Massachusetts needs to get in on that action by touting the opportunities in places west of Boston, he said.

"My advocacy has been we need to capture biomanufacturing and I can't compete for that in Boston," Rooney said. "What I can do, however, is create a vision when attracting these

companies and these businesses. Imagine, if you will, an economic development strategy where you can do your research in Boston and your manufacturing about an hour or 90 minutes away. And if the researcher or the physician needs to go and visit the manufacturing facility, it's a nice easy ride on that beautiful turnpike."

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Each

College's announce Dean's Lists

American International College Spring 2024 Dean's List

SPRINGFIELD - American International College (AIC) in Springfield, MA, is proud to announce that 470 students have earned a place on the Dean's List for the spring 2024 semester. These full-time students have attained GPAs ranging from 3.3 to 4.0. AIC applauds the dedication and achievements of these enterprising students.

The following students from Chicopee were named to the Spring 2024 Dean's List:

Emma Davis, majoring in Nursing
 Alicia Dugre, majoring in Nursing
 Thalia Felix, majoring in Nursing
 Kayla Melendez, majoring in Undeclared
 Kevin Mrozinski, majoring in Nursing
 Murtadha Noori, majoring in Public Health
 Drew Orzechowski, majoring in Occupational Science
 Giovanni Paz, majoring in Occupational Science
 Samara Robles, majoring in Psychology
 Kayla Romano, majoring in Nursing
 Shayliez Rosario, majoring in Sociology
 Tiffany Tedeschi, majoring in Nursing
 Hunter Terlik, majoring in Health Science
 Christina Valentino, majoring in Nursing

Emmanuel College Announces Spring 2024 Dean's List

BOSTON - In recognition of their outstanding academic achievement, Emmanuel College has named more than 800 students to the Dean's List for the Spring 2024 semester. To earn a spot on the Dean's List, Emmanuel students must achieve a grade point average of 3.5 or higher for a 16-credit semester.

The following students from Chicopee made the Spring 2024 Dean's List:

Dafne Burgos, Bryana Figueroa, Victoria Lopez and Jacob Proulx.

Chicopee students named to dean's Spring 2024 at Quinnipiac University

HAMDEN, C.T. - The following area students were named to the dean's list for the Spring 2024 semester at Quinnipiac University:

To qualify for the dean's list, students must earn a grade point average of at least 3.5 with no grade lower than C. Full-time students must complete at least 14 credits in a semester, with at least 12 credits that have been graded on a letter grade basis to be eligible. Part-time students must complete at least six credits during a semester. Names followed by an asterisk denotes with honors.

The students from Chicopee are Nicholas Farrell, Madeline Fournier, Gracie Martineau and Shreeya Patel.

Elms College 2024 Commencement

CHICOPEE - College of Our Lady of the Elms congratulates more than 400 students who received their degrees during its 93rd Commencement held on May 18, 2024 at the Mass-Mutual Center in Springfield, Massachusetts.

The following students from Chicopee graduated from College of Our Lady of the Elms:

Fawz Ahmad Alothmin, Bachelor of Arts degree in Education Studies
 Brittany Antuna, Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing
 Kelsey Bennett, Bachelor of Arts degree in Criminal Justice
 Kayla Blackbird, Bachelor of Arts degree in Chemistry
 Gabrielle Delaney, Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing
 Veronica Dinnell, Bachelor of Arts degree in Chemistry
 Diana Divnich, Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing
 Jackeline Garcia Zambrana, Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing
 Yennafer Garcias, Bachelor of Science degree in Social Work
 Sara Ghumman, Master of Science degree in Biomedical Science
 Maxine Griffiths, Doctor of Nursing Practice degree in Adult Gerontology Acute Care
 Nevaeh Haas, Bachelor of Arts de-

gree in Elementary Education
 Nicole Jaworski, Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing
 Julia Kampew, Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing
 Gabriella Lacapruca, Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing
 Brandi Moore, Bachelor of Science degree in Social Work
 Jenna Munro, Bachelor of Science degree in Social Work
 Stacy Riley, Master of Arts in Teaching degree in Teaching
 Allison Roberts, Master of Education degree in Education Studies
 Kellie Serrao, Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing
 Karly Setterstrom, Bachelor of Arts degree in Communication Sciences & Disorders
 Agnieszka Stebbins, Doctor of Nursing Practice degree in Family Nurse Practitioner
 Iqra Tahir, Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing
 Maurice Turner, Doctor of Nursing Practice degree in Family Nurse Practitioner
 Melanie Ward, Bachelor of Arts degree in Life Sciences
 Krysta Wondolowski, Bachelor of Science degree in Nursing
 Edwige Yapo, Master of Education degree in Education Studies



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