

Chicopee Register

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COMMUNITY

LEDC donates \$1,000 to C3 Unit's Hispanic Heritage Dominoes Tournament

By Kristin Rivers
Editor
krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE - The Latino Economic Development Corporation donated \$1,000 to the police department's C3 Unit for the Second Annual Hispanic Heritage Dominoes Tournament.

The donation was presented by Andrew Melendez, the executive director of LEDC, to Mayor John Vieau, Capt. Douglas Lambert and Sgt. Thomas Gazda at City Hall Auditorium on July 29.

The Second Annual Hispanic Heritage Dominoes Tournament takes place on Aug. 17 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Wisniewski Park with food trucks, a live band and a DJ playing Hispanic music and more.

During the check presentation, Vieau thanked Melendez for his support, explaining the community event would help build positive relationships with the community and bring a focus to downtown Chicopee and public safety.

"The goal, as mayor, we're trying to erase the stigmatism of Chicopee Center. It's no secret that people talk about it and my



TURLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS

Capt. Douglas Lambert, Sgt. Thomas Gazda and Mayor John Vieau look on as Andrew Melendez, executive director of the Latino Economic Development Corporation, shares why he's presenting a \$1,000 donation to support the Second Annual Hispanic Heritage Dominoes Tournament. The tournament takes place on Aug. 17.

goal, as mayor, is to make sure that people feel safe, especially on every street and every square foot of this community," Vieau said. "And it's because of the Chicopee PD, our partnerships

with the stakeholders, making sure that there's constant communication and really special events like this Hispanic Heritage event where you bring the community together and they get to showcase

what Wisniewski Park is."

Melendez hopes to lift the community up by offering his support for the tournament.

"As we lift cultures up, let's celebrate it together. Bring peo-

ple together. This is an economic engine, right? This is not just an event to celebrate--it is--but it's also bringing people downtown," Melendez said. "Downtown Chicopee is thriving and this is another event that is bringing people together."

Melendez said the LEDC believes bringing community together, also, includes supporting local small businesses.

"There's been so many new businesses opening in downtown Chicopee and I really give credit to Mayor Vieau because the focus is--if it's a farmer's market or if it's a live band--maybe some people come just to have some fun, but they might go and spend some money down the street," Melendez said. "Supporting small businesses is such a focus for us."

He added that the partnership led by the police department and C3 Unit "speaks volumes."

"Police is a community service. It's not just a number you call when you're in an emergency. It's a community that you want to build," Melendez said. "Know-

See **DOMINOES TOURNAMENT** page 5

COMMUNITY

Mill Conversion and Commercial Center Overlay for Chicopee Street denied

City Council will review and vote Aug. 6

By Kristin Rivers
Editor
krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE - Zoning Committee recommended to deny a Mill Conversion and Commercial Center Overlay for Chicopee Street on July 31.

The decision will go before the full City Council on Aug. 6.

The overlay would have been applied to a proposed residential development for 0 and 445 Chicopee St., with the applicant as Chicopee Property Management LLC c/o Risa Teall.

After Rebecca Lee of R. Levesque Associates spoke on behalf of the applicant to explain this was recommended by the Planning Board and they were seeking approval, Ward 4 Councilor George Balakier said the item was being revisited from the May 29 Zoning Committee meeting.

"At the meeting, there was a motion made to approve the zone change from Business A and Residential A to Residential B. The zone change passed

under Res B, single-family and duplex housing as well," Balakier said.

From there, Balakier said the overlay was passed, initially, by the Zoning Committee and went before the City Council on June 4, where it was then voted and ordered that it'd be brought back to them.

"So, there were concerns about the possibility of, perhaps, subsidized housing, Section 8 housing by the neighbors, rental housing," Balakier said. "So, the overlay district regulation--Mill Conversion and Commercial Overlay District--there's no by-right use here. Under this, there's broad discretion from Chapter 275, Section 67. There's a special permit that has to be given in order to see what we could put there."

After reviewing comments for what could be put in this area if the overlay district is passed and depending on what is decided, Balakier added how it's been utilized for the former Belcher School, East Street for the former Masonic Temple, the RiverMills Assisted Living next door to the senior center

See **CHICOPEE STREET** page 6

COMMUNITY

Celebrating literacy intervention teachers at Elms College

By Amanda Munson
Correspondent

CHICOPEE - "What book are you currently reading?" Dr. Harry Dumay, the president of Elms College, questioned in opening remarks in the dining hall of the Mary Dooley Campus Center on July 30 honoring Western Massachusetts Literacy Collaboratives from a variety of schools, the audience enthusiastic to honor the student educators.

The learn and earn celebration included a welcome speech from Dr. Tyra Good of Elms College, opening remarks from Dumay, reflections of the summer teachings from directors of partnering schools and ending with a presentation of certificates.

Joyce Hampton Ed.D, vice president of Academic Affairs, commented on the partnerships with American International College and Westfield State University and surrounding school districts.

"This Western Massachusetts Literacy Collaborative was founded over a year ago in Spring 2023. Dr. Dumay had pulled a meeting with other area college presidents to discuss what they could do collaboratively to make an impact in the community. One of those pieces was to look at



TURLEY PHOTOS BY AMANDA MUNSON

Alhia Moore was a literacy intervention teacher and master's student at Elms College, able to hone her education skills with the Western Massachusetts Literacy Collaborative program.

early literacy. The national assessment of education progress, an exam done nationally and we looked at post-pandemic literacy scores in Massachusetts and where we were placed on that reading score. We saw overall we were doing well, but the success was not across the board. I was asked to pull together education divisions and, also, school partners, to see what we would be able to do to improve," Hampton

said. Hampton elaborated on what's happened since the collaborative began.

"We went from 12 L.I.T.s to 36 in just two years of this program. To start, we were able to do a week-long training for the teachers to learn some additional theory of early literacy pedagogy and cognitive responsive teach-

See **ELMS COLLEGE** page 6

Painting one dot at a time at Chicopee Library

By **Amanda Munson**
Correspondent

CHICOPEE - The Bazan Community Room was pouring out with paint and creativity, Q-Tips and imagination were the only things needed as groups of families and friends were able to sit, relax, and paint dots for a Dot Painting event on July 30.

This program was supported by the Frances Wilkins Charitable Fund, a Donor Advised Fund of the U.S. Charitable Gift Trust.

The library's Youth Services Coordinator Erin Daly talked about the kids' program and how it was enjoyable to see adults having a blast alongside them. The supplies were set up and ready for the start of the program and the adults could focus on the kids and be present with them.

"We have a good setup to do big art programs, which we have honed the last couple of years. The key seems to be having one really basic technique to show, preparing the space so folks can get started easily and encouraging everyone to be creative and explore however they'd like. We had almost 70 people painting together yesterday!" Daly said.

Daly elaborated on the setup for the event.

"We set up all of the tables in the Community Room. We covered the tables in plastic. We set out all of the paint, paper and Q-Tips before folks arrived. The paint we were using is the crayola non-toxic washable kind. I have been using that paint a lot with kids the last year or so. It works pretty well. It washes out," Daly said.

When questioned why a simple project like dot painting with a Q-Tip attracts the masses, Daly responded that no instructions is the key to the imagination.

Painting whatever the kids want is important.

"Paint is really fun, but you have to be prepared for it. I think it makes it easier for families to set everything up and clean everything up, so they can just focus on the project and have fun. We did a really chill painting program during February school vacation week. The technique was watercolor resist with crayon. The instruction was to draw something with crayon, paint over it and see what happens," Daly said.

She added how she included examples of dot painting for the attendees to use as a guide.

"This time, I added the slideshow of dot painting examples - mostly kid craft prompts with a bit of Georges Seurat and Roy Lichtenstein thrown in - and told folks, look to the screen for inspiration, then do whatever you want to do," said Daly.

The creations at the end were never the same, always different and unique. A variety of paintings were displayed like hearts, underwater creatures, video game



A mother and daughter are enjoying their time together, collaborating on what color to pick next.



Grandfather Rich, accompanied with grandson Richie, were grateful for the array of paint colors available.

characters or simply dots by kids and adults.

"I loved seeing all of the things that were painted! I'm so happy that adults were joining in. I think adults don't have enough time to sit and do something fun and creative like make art, so I'm happy I can provide them a bit of space to do that. I saw a lot of rainbows and nature scenes as well as abstract patterns and just playing with colors," Daly said.

Upcoming programs at the library are BINGO for Books on Aug. 7 at 2 p.m., The Butterfly Guy Jerry Schneider! on Aug. 14 at 6 p.m., In Our Library Era: Friendship Bracelet Party on Aug. 8 at 2 p.m., the Bad News Jazz and Blues on Aug. 8 at 6:30 p.m. and much more.

To learn more about upcoming events, visit chicopeepubliclibrary.org.



Matching with purple shirts, a mom and daughter are making memories and painting away.



Caretakers and kids were able to create paintings, consisting of small dots, easy for everyone to do, including this heart-shaped dot painting.



Families worked on their dot paintings at the Chicopee Public Library on July 30.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY AMANDA MUNSON

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Harmony House offers volunteer and online training assistance sessions

The organization provides loving home for individuals with terminal illness

By Amanda Munson
Correspondent

CHICOPEE - "Harmony House is my love and I wanted to give back," Barbara Berthiaume said, a retired registered nurse, who has been a dedicated volunteer for years at Harmony House.

A volunteer and online training assistance session took place on July 27 to educate those who came to learn more about the organization's mission, understanding the importance of their work and why volunteering here is fundamental to the function of the business.

Harmony House has recently moved into its new location at 66 View St., with a spacious yard and deck, updated and newly renovated interior and a total of five rooms for care.

When touring the property, Berthiaume spoke highly about the volunteers who put their hard work into making this beautiful transition, pointing out donated items and finished renovation projects; it was the Chicopee and outside communities who showed the support they needed.

"So many people were here, this building was stripped down to the studs, the electrical and plumbing were all done over. You are seeing a major transformation. They were able to build a facility with everything we needed, even though our first place on Pendleton was homey and nice, it was tiny," Berthiaume said.

The house has not opened its doors yet for patients, highlighting the need for volunteers to help as direct/general caretakers. The anticipated opening is the be-



A dedicated sign, located right in front of the house, to show appreciation to those who have helped, donated and who continue to support. Harmony House also celebrated its grand reopening on May 31.

ginning of August, with hopes of ample volunteer readiness and support of the community.

"We are ready to open the first or second week of August, but the thing that was holding us back was having enough volunteers, and we are close. Most of the time the hours are 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. for volunteers. With the exception of overnight and weekend workers, we are always in need of volunteers. What we require to begin as a direct caregiver is someone who has had a background of caring for patients, like those who have worked in a soldier's home or nursing home. All we are looking for is loving people who are able to talk to the patients and are able to provide personal care. Then we have general caregivers who are like an assistant to the direct caregiver

that we are looking for also," Berthiaume said.

There is a full kitchen, dining room, living area and the sense of serenity once entered. The house creates a calming space for families of the patients, the chance to talk to the caregivers who are able to guide them and offer support when they need it.

"I think people are curious on why I would want to be involved in end-of-life care, which is what we provide, and what I say it is so moving to be part of that. It's not only for the patient, but for the families who have been the caregivers, and may



TURLEY PHOTOS BY AMANDA MUNSON

Currently in the month of July, Harmony House has raised \$20,000 in fundraising, with the next fundraising event being Sept. 6 At the Chicopee Moose Lodge.

have gotten to the point where they cannot be there all the time. This is a beautiful place to stay, families can stay all night, we encourage people to come and tour. It's beautiful! I am overwhelmed," Berthiaume said.

The late Ruth Willemain, the founder and hospice volunteer, founded the Harmony House of Western Massachusetts in 2007 and has created a Chicopee staple that embodies physical, emotional and spiritual support for years to come.

Visit harmonyhousewma.org for more information.



Outside shows accessibility on all entrances and exits of the house, creating easy access to patients for easy transport.

Food and Culture of India on Aug. 16

CHICOPEE - The Chicopee Council on Aging offer the program "Food and Culture of India" on Friday, Aug. 16 at 1:30 p.m. at Chicopee Council on Aging's RiverMills Center, located at 5 W. Main Street.

Join Raj Sanghvi, small business owner of Kamy's and Shell Food Mart in Chicopee, as he talks to you about the history and rich culture of India and it's diversity in food and traditions. There will also be a sampling of delicious Indian cuisine! Raj is a member of the Planning Board for the City of Chicopee, and his wife Kamy is on the Chicopee Cultural Council. You must register by stopping by RiverMills center or by calling 534-3698.

Wood Walk!

CHICOPEE - Step into Nature's classroom and embark on a fun-filled exploration of our local plants and animals.

Our nature hike is the perfect chance for kids to connect with the great outdoors, learn about the fascinating plants and animals that call our community home.

The next hikes is Aug. 3.

Things to bring

*Comfortable shoes to walk in

*Water and snack will be provided

*Bring a want to explore

Location: Ashley Reservoir, Whitney Ave Holyoke

Saturday 10 a.m. to Noon Rain or Shine!

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GUEST COLUMN



By Ellenor Downer



Male scarlet tanager

Early this week I saw two scarlet tanagers on the ground in my daughter's driveway.

As I drove in, they flew up. The red of the male was clearly visible. I think the second bird was either a juvenile or a female. It has been years since I have seen a scarlet tanager. The previous sighting was one along the side of the road near my house.

The scarlet tanager is about seven inches long. The male is scarlet red as the name implies with black wings and tails. The female is yellowish below and greenish feathers above with grayish brown wings. The juvenile male has patches of red and yellow with dark brown

wings and tail. The juvenile female is like the adult female.

They feed on the ground where I spotted these two and in foliage. They eat insects and wild berries. The female lays two to five pale blue green eggs with brown dots in a nest of twigs, grasses and rootlets placed in a tree from five to 75 feet above the ground.

Scarlet tanagers inhabit mature, deciduous forests. Tanagers are often heard rather than seen despite the males bright red when in the forest canopy. They make a two part whistle "zureet zeyeer zeero." Their call is a metallic "chip."

Other birds

This past weekend while traveling on Route 122 in Barre, I saw three great blue heron fly over. I often see a lone wild turkey on New Braintree Road in Oakham.

Whippoorwills

I received two more comments about whippoorwills since the last column. A Pelham resident sent an email. He said, "I live in Pelham and hear an eastern whippoorwill most nights around 8:30. It's a beautiful call." A Brimfield resident, who regularly sends emails about birds in his area, also had a comment about the whippoorwill. He said, "I saw you most recent column where you wrote about a woman reporting whippoorwills. We built our house in Brimfield in 1981 and during the summer of 1984 we heard whippoorwills calling behind the house all summer. Unfortunately they have never returned."

Brimfield birds

In the most recent email from the Brim-

field resident, he said, "In the yard I have started to see young birds recently out of their nests. Three juvenile Baltimore orioles were following an adult male

around the yard, also juvenile cardinal (dark bill), male hairy woodpecker (red on top of it head), blue jays (young begging with quivering wings) and towhee have been seen recently. House wren and great crested flycatcher used nesting boxes in the yard and the young have fledged."

Birds near water

The Brimfield resident frequently checks local ponds. He reported the common grackle nesting in a tree cavity, kingbird, chickadee and tree swallow with nests he watched at a pond in Warren all fledged their young.

He also keeps track of four great blue heron nests and said the first nesting herons to start incubating fledged their young a week ago. The other three nests still have young herons in them. He also watches an osprey nest, which has three chicks. He said, "About a week ago on a very hot and sunny day I saw that the adult on the nest was spreading its wings to provide shade for the chicks. I watched the nest for over an hour and the adult kept its wings spread the entire time trying to provide shade for the young birds." He said the young stay around the pond for awhile after fledging, sometimes until late August.

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

Tomato dreams and then there's reality



by Roberta McQuaid

I always have such high hopes for my tomato plants.

They go into the ground so healthy and green and for the first few weeks manage to stay that way. Then the inevitable yellowing and dropping of some bottom leaves happens from early blight.

The plants are outgrowing their cages and this point, though, so I just accept this as a normal condition and get excited for the first harvest. Some tomatoes look OK, but others are exhibiting strange, less than perfect, symptoms.

Read on to learn which conditions are which and what that means for your harvest.

My paste tomatoes in particular seem to

always be susceptible to blossom end rot. It looks exactly as it sounds and is characterized by leathery brown or black spots on the bottom of the fruit.

Usually, it is seen on the first few developing tomatoes and occurs when there is trouble with calcium absorption.

The plan of action for this year would be to regulate your watering, since calcium assimilation can get botched up when plants suffer from drought. Applying a layer of mulch will help to encourage the deep rooting that is essential for nutrient transmission.

In the meantime, send a sample of your soil off to the UMass Extension Service Soil Testing Lab and adjust calcium levels per their recommendation if need be. If by chance you are growing a new variety of tomato and are experiencing blossom end rot for the first time, consider switching to another variety; some are more susceptible to it than others.

In my garden it is habitually only the paste tomatoes that suffer.

Regarding harvest and use: if you cut the end of the tomato off and then cut into the seed

cavity and there is no black area, feel free to use. Sometimes there will be sections of black within the cavity but not always.

This malady can also be seen on peppers and eggplants. Sometimes, though, sun scald can sort of look like blossom end rot in peppers. Planting peppers closer together so that foliage shields developing fruit can help with that issue.

Fruit cracking around the stem, either in rings or radiating downward is caused by over-watering; we or Mother Nature can be at fault. This year I will blame her for some of it.

A little over a week ago many gardeners in the area received an inch or more of rain in two separate deluges. Keep in mind that most veggies require about an inch per week. Adjust your irrigation to accommodate.

As mentioned above, mulches do well to moderate soil moisture; if you mulch, you can water less often! If cracking ends up being a big problem for you, consider scouring the seed catalogs for varieties that are resistant to it.

As long as the cracks are fresh, and haven't begun to show mold, I use the fruit anyway.

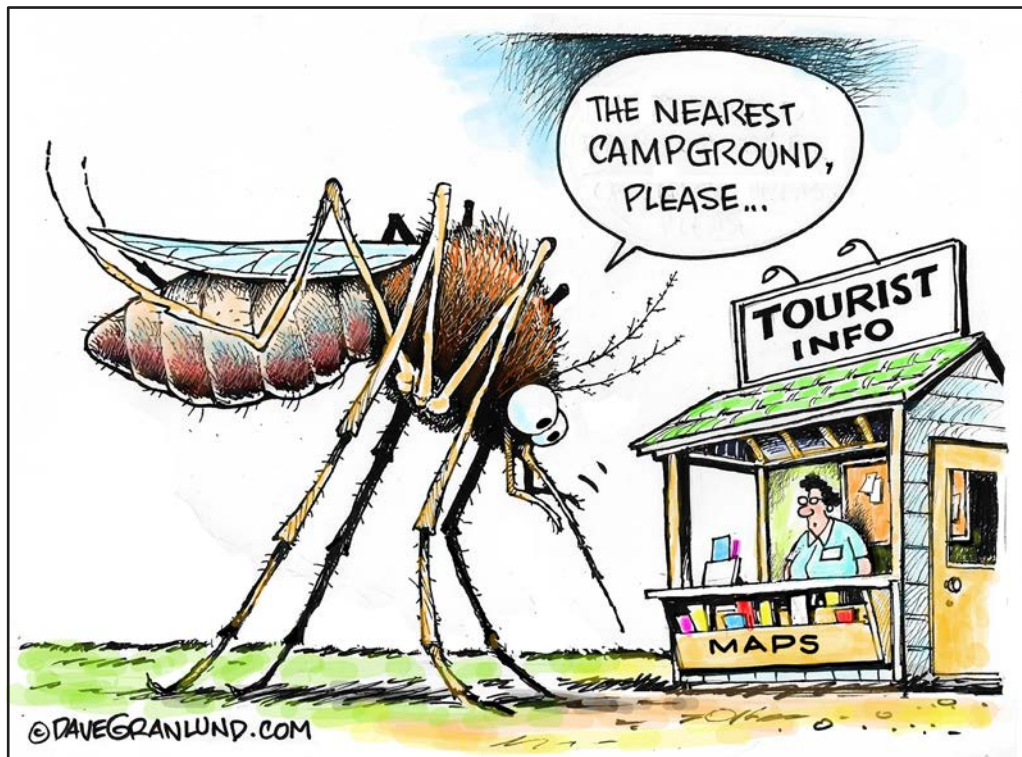
Another problem many gardeners experience is a condition called yellow shoulders, in which tomatoes never ripen fully on the top or stem end. This is usually a genetic problem, but it can be lessened by allowing the fruit to ripen slowly under the cover of surrounding foliage rather than out in the open.

High organic matter content and a pH of 6.4 or lower is said to help with this condition—another good reason to have your soil tested and see where it stands.

You can still use these tomatoes. Simply cut that portion off or use it regardless.

These conditions don't have to mean the end of your harvest. By working around the issues, making some minor adjustments and choosing appropriate resistant varieties, tomato sauce is still in your future!

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.

Chicopee Register TEAM



EDITOR
Kristin Rivers
krivers@turley.com



ADVERTISING SALES
Wendy Delcamp
wdelcamp@turley.com



SPORTS EDITOR
Greg Scibelli
sports@turley.com

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WEB

www.chicopeeregister.turley.com

PATRICK H. TURLEY
CEO

KEITH TURLEY
President

DEANNA SLOAT
Graphics Manager

Turley Publications, Inc.
www.turley.com

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413.283.8393
Fax: 413.283.7107
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EMAIL

Advertising Sales
Wendy Delcamp
wdelcamp@turley.com

Editor
Kristin Rivers
krivers@turley.com

WEB

www.chicopeeregister.turley.com

@ChicopeeRegister

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Zoning Committee recommends special permit for 0 Robbins Rd.

By Kristin Rivers
Editor
krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE - Zoning Committee unanimously recommended a special permit application for a warehouse and manufacturing facility with associated site improvements on July 31.

The application pertains to a portion of 0 Robbins Rd., with the applicant as Trafa Pharmaceuticals Inc., c/o Shahid Habib.

Rebecca Lee of R Levesque Associates Inc. was joined by AJ Crane of A. Crane Construction on behalf of the applicant, with Habib also present.

Lee explained the approval of the special permit pertains to the use of a manufacturing house facility within the Chicopee River Business Park, with a building measuring 100,000 square feet and being constructed in two phases.

"Phase one will be 50,000 square feet. Phase two which will be completed shortly after another 50,000 square feet. The facility will be accessed via Robbins Road via two curve cuts. The rear of the building will have some loading docks for pickup and

deliveries," Lee said. "There's parking for pedestrians, vehicles along the front here. We are proposing a stormwater basin to meet the requirements for stormwater specifically designed for the requirements of (the) stormwater report for the business park."

Lee said since their last submission, there has been some development taking place with further plans and details for stormwater features, landscaping, utility connections and indications on loading dock locations.

Crane added the project does not impede anything with the Conservation Commission and no issues from SPRAGG.

Ward 4 Councilor George Balakier went through reports for the record, with one highlight being a report from the Engineering Department.

"The Engineering Department will perform a full review of the site plans and drainage computations as part of the SPRAGG. Apparently, there was a SPRAGG meeting that the applicant was scheduled for on July 18, 2024," Balakier read.

The Health Department had no concerns at this time and no report from the Billing Department,

with the Department of Planning & Development describing the proposal and recommending approval.

"If approved, the project will require both preliminary and definitive site approvals from the Planning Board in addition to a possible filing with the Conservation Commission," Balakier read.

The Collector's and Treasurer's Department had no outstanding bills reported.

Planning Director Lee Pouliot explained the special permit request is because the project "is a two-phase project."

"Because the first phase is warehouse and distribution and the project does not meet the definition of last-mile courier and logistics, it requires a special permit from the City Council prior to advancing plans for construction," Pouliot said. "If the production piece were going first, the warehouse piece would be ancillary to the production use but the applicant needs the storage space now and plans to build out a phase two at a later date. So, the special permit is exclusively for the use of this property that is in this business park with unique zoning to start

as just as warehouse and distribution facilities."

Pouliot added the property was previously the site of a Harvey Windows manufacturing facility that was never constructed.

"This development is much smaller in scale than what that proposal was, so, clearly the infrastructure we have in place should be able to tolerate bringing this facility on board," Pouliot said.

Crane clarified the infrastructure and parking lots would also be constructed during phase one, with phase two more focused on manufacturing.

"So, it won't be major construction. It'll just be the addition to the building. All of the fire suppressions, all of the parking lots, all fire access, all of this drainage, all of that stuff, will be part of phase one," Crane said. "So, there won't be any major utility work or anything like that as part of phase two."

Habib, the applicant, explained there currently is a warehouse and the proposed use would be warehousing for pills in powdered form, such as Vitamins A, B or C for example.

"So, it would be a food-grade facility since it has to be edible, so that would be one requirement. Second phase would be really light manufacturing. For example, now we have the powder. We have to put those in the pills which normally happens inside closed rooms. No heat or anything like that is involved, no smoke is involved," Habib said. "Very light manufacturing."

When Vice President/Councilor-at-Large Robert Zygarowski asked about the number of employees, Habib said it would be 25 to 30 employees.

After further information on the location of the facility provided by Crane, Zygarowski was satisfied.

"Well, I'm glad to see it's going to be developed because it's been empty about 15 years," Zygarowski said.

The motion to approve and recommend the special permit application with conditions for preliminary and site approvals by the Planning Board and a possible filing with the Conservation Commission passed 5-0.

The item will next go before the City Council on Aug. 6.

DOMINOES TOURNAMENT from page 1

ing that the officers are able to know people in the community by name and say hello, these are ways that we are bringing people together. So, government, non-profit and for-profit organizations supporting each other is a really cool thing."

Ofc. Elly Rodriguez of the Chicopee Center C3 Unit expressed excitement for this year's event, anticipating "a much larger crowd" thanks to community requests along with donations and sponsorships from community-owned small businesses and other agencies.

Rodriguez explained the event came together last year "on the spur of the moment."

"I proposed the idea to Sgt. Gazda who is the commanding officer in my unit and he liked the idea; which was then approved by Capt. Lambert who oversees the unit," Rodriguez said. "Throughout the course of the event, approximately 50-60 people showed up and participated. Everyone had nothing but good things to say about it and requested it be done again for this year."

Rodriguez expressed his gratitude to the LEDC for their support.

"Receiving a donation towards this event from the Latino Economic Development Corporation is an amazing gesture, as it helps out a lot towards this year's and, potentially next year's, third annual tournament. Our gratitude is beyond words and it's very much appreciated," Rodriguez said.



Capt. Douglas Lambert and Sgt. Thomas Gazda smile as Mayor John Vieau shakes hands with Andrew Melendez, the executive director of the Latino Economic Development Corporation, after Melendez presented a \$1,000 donation to support the Second Annual Hispanic Heritage Dominoes Tournament.

Rodriguez said the game of dominoes has been a staple of Hispanic culture for many years, expressing hope for the event bringing the community together in "a welcoming, positive gathering."

"According to the Decennial Census, 23.4% of the population in the city of Chicopee is of Hispanic or Latino identity. This type of event is much needed not only to foster and build a good relationship between the police department and the community, but also amongst our residents," Rodriguez said. "Although the event is guided towards the Hispanic population to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month, it is encouraged for all nationalities within the city of Chicopee to come and participate as well."

Melendez also encourages the community to check out the tournament and start practicing.

"If you play dominoes, it gets intense. You're going to have some laughs, you might have some slaps on the table once you have your last domino. It's fun and live music and businesses and they're all going to be able to support. It's a very, very nice time," Melendez said.

Rodriguez had these messages for Melendez and the supporters for this year's tournament: thank you.

"To Mr. Andrew Melendez, executive director of LEDC, and to everyone who has donated towards the event, the Chicopee Police Department and the C3 Center Unit want to express our most sincere appreciation of the donation; as it is donations like these that will keep this amazing community events going forward for many years to come," Rodriguez said. "I also want to give thanks to Monica Torres and Chloe Soto



Capt. Douglas Lambert smiles and Mayor John Vieau looks on as Sgt. Thomas Gazda shakes hands with Andrew Melendez, executive director of the Latino Economic Development Corporation, after he presents a \$1,000 donation to support the Second Annual Hispanic Heritage Dominoes Tournament.



Capt. Douglas Lambert and Sgt. Thomas Gazda watch as Mayor John Vieau provides remarks about the \$1,000 donation from the Latino Economic Development Corporation on July 29 to support the upcoming Second Annual Hispanic Heritage Dominoes Tournament. Andrew Melendez, the organization's executive director, presented the donation.

from the Mayor's Office, who are also part of the 'Mass Cultural Council', for their endless hard work in canvassing the center of Chicopee, handing out flyers and helping promote the event."

To learn more, check out the flyer posted on the police department and mayor's office Facebook pages or contact Rodriguez at 413-388-7090 or Erodriquez@chicopeepolice.com.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RIVERS



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ELMS COLLEGE from page 1

ing. Those pieces were implemented into the school systems in Springfield Public Summer School last year, while this summer adding in the Empowerment Zone and East Longmeadow. The expansion created more of an impact due to the school partners and receiving the Department of Elementary Secondary Education Collaborative Grant, the person behind the D.E.S.E. was Laura Mendes," Hampton said.

Laura Mendes, director of Literacy, Elementary and Early Education of Springfield Public Schools discussed the partnership with Elms and the growth and success of the program in only two years.

"We have a really urgent, critical data set across the region that children are struggling with learning to read. We also know that our teacher preparation programs need to improve to help prepare our educators for that task. We partnered to make sure that happened. Over the summer we hired college students, this is year two. We paid the same as we would as teachers in the system to do actual literacy interventions, to our students we call striving readers. We train the L.I.T.s in a training week with curriculums we use in our district, we have coaches that go out and support those students out in the schools and have college students work closely with teachers who will continue to teach those same students in the school year," Mendes said.

Mendes highlighted the growth that's taken place since the program's implementation.

"We have expanded with more students, coaches and got another district involved. I would love to see this program go to scale, Springfield--most definitely--Holyoke, Chicopee and the surrounding districts. I would love to see college stu-



Elms College President Dr. Harry Dumay and Joyce Hampton, Ed.D. vice president of Academic Affairs, greet attendees, L.I.T.s from Elms, American International College and Westfield State University and the directors of the represented schools.

dents get more field experience that has a meaningful impact on students. Summer school is such a short window but can prevent summer slide. It may not elevate kids forward, but can help keep the foundation much stronger," Mendes said.

Dr. Susan Henderson, dean of School of Education at AIC, described the partnership with Elms and the importance of a literacy program for our youth.

"It was focused on early literacy which is so important for our younger children, we decided as a college that it was an important endeavor to take on. Elms and AIC have been excellent partners, so it made sense. We have to prepare our kids for what's happening in the world, they need those literacy blocks and support. This summer program creates an additional layer to that," Henderson said.

Alhia Moore, a student at Elms College, talked about her summer experience impacting literacy in our region, reflecting on the skills she earned and how the training she received at Elms on culturally responsive and evidence-based literacy interventions was critical to her work.

"This opportunity came up

in Dr. Good's class one day, it was a great option to earn my last few credits to graduate and have this teaching experience. This is my last step in earning my masters degree in teaching. I love seeing the gears turning in the student's heads, reaching them in their environment. Even though it was a four-week program, I feel like I have made a difference already," Moore said.

Yesenia Gorham, another Elms College student, concluded her time as a L.I.T. and



Laura Mendes, director of Literacy, Elementary and Early Childhood Education of Springfield Public Schools reflects on the summer 2024 learn and earn sessions.



Tyra Good, Ed.D., executive director of the Center for Equity in Urban Education and Professor of Education smiles before the opening reception on July 30.

shared how that teaching experience made her a better science teacher.

Gorham highlighted how important it is to be a well-rounded teacher to students who need guidance in all areas of learning.

"I am a recent graduate of the Cynthia Alliance of Equity of Urban Education, earning my masters in education. This summer I worked as a L.I.T. at a middle school and we worked with a program named Amira Learning, an A.I. program allow-



Yesenia Gorham was a literacy intervention teacher, recently receiving her master's in education and sharpening her skills as a science teacher.

ing students to read out and it is able to pick up any literacy gaps, reading fluency and much more. It is able to identify any potential dyslexia. Although the program was short, it was helpful to the teacher who will be with those same students next school year. We were able to see where their support is needed in the upcoming year," Gorham said.

Gorham also stressed the importance of literacy and collaborating with her fellow teachers.

"I am a science teacher and I was able to work with the E.L.A. teacher to see the skills they used and implement in the nonfiction reading I have to do for science. When the reading is hard, it gets in the way of understanding the concept for students, so it was really nice to learn those skills to help them get through it. It's important for checking for understanding and it is critical in preparing my students for the science MCAS. It also is helpful for my E.L.A. coworker who needs help with literacy. Teachers look out for each other," Gorham said.

At the event's conclusion, the teachers were presented with certificates.

TURLEY PHOTOS BY AMANDA MUNSON

CHICOPEE STREET from page 1

and more.

Planning Director Lee Pouliot provided an overview of the applicability for the district and how it operates, sharing with the committee how it sits on based zoning.

"In this case, the overlay district just offers a potential developer an opportunity to permit a different type of project through a different pathway. So, they can either use the based zoning--which in this case, now, is Residential B, which allows for single-use families or duplexes--or, they can propose to the City Council a mixed-use project through the mill conversion overlay district," Pouliot said.

Pouliot reiterated how there are no by-right uses for the overlay district and are all special permit uses, later adding nothing is automatically approved.

"Meaning, the City Council has the discretion to decide the project is appropriate and, therefore, should be granted a special permit," Pouliot said. "So, to be clear, just because you apply the overlay district to this property does not mean you are obligated to approve any proposal that is submitted to you with a special permit application. It gives you an opportunity to review and have a discussion and determine

whether or not the proposal is appropriate for the site within its context within a neighborhood."

A resident named Mike, who did not share his last name, lives on Empire Street and recalled the May 29 meeting, saying how "there was a lot of flip-flopping going on," due to the motion being denied at first.

"And you asked counsel for advice if you change your mind in the future, could you do that, okay? And he said, 'Yes, you can. You can vote yes now or no later,'" he said. "So, we're asking, as the taxpayers, to pull that Zone B back to Zone A because there was a lot of flip-flopping going on."

After asking if there was a comprehensive plan on the floor for the property, he shared how no one was informed.

"The zone change should be consistent with what I understand with the area and zoning it B for multi or duplexes isn't consistent with that area," he said.

This led Balakier to clarify that it focused on single-family or duplexes, not multi-family, which the resident then updated his comment.

"We're taking a low-density area and we're going to make it a high commercial? That's what you want to do?" he said. "If it's inconsistent, it should be denied."

As a back-and-forth began

between him and Balakier, a point of order was declared by Councilor-at-Large Tim Wagner, quickly restoring order to public input.

Carol Sliwa said how Chapter 275 is "quite clear" in the stipulation that "it's for underutilized or abandoned quote unquote industrial properties--which this never was--and commercial centers--which this never was."

Sliwa said the property--which was a house with a small storefront--being considered for commercial center "defies logic."

"It never was and now you're trying to repurpose it for something that it never was, ever," Sliwa said. "And I don't care how many permits or regulations they put...the applicability of this chapter, of that property, is putting a square peg into a round hole. It is not appropriate and would be subject to legal challenge because there's no way that that meets that definition."

Sliwa also brought up the two other housing complexes in the area, so the concern with density is around that and pedestrian safety.

"This is not an appropriate place for another dense housing complex where there are already two there," Sliwa said.

Teall herself weighed in, explaining the property has been

commercial since 1965 and she and her family have been doing everything they can to try and sell the property.

She also expressed frustration with the process.

"That's all we want to do. We do not have plans, we just want to sell it so we can close the estate. My mother died three years ago, we're still dealing with this. The City Council meeting was a fiasco," Teall said. "People were not informed, they passed something, then they went back and forth and here we are again. How long is this going to be postponed? We have land, we want to sell, we worked hard, we're business people, we have a residential home there. Just let us sell this land! Someone else buys it, then they can do all the planning or whatever they have to do to make that property something that this community can benefit from."

Teall added how "there's so much prejudice here" and called on residents to be compassionate for housing for people who need it.

"How about looking at what a community needs? How about a grocery or something? There's so many potential uses of this property that would be beneficial to the neighborhood, to Chicopee, to my family," Teall said. "And I'm just hoping you will do the right thing so we can have closure

and that's why I'm here."

Wagner had voted against the overlay district last time and said he would again, reflecting on the prior meetings, specifically the June 4 City Council meeting.

He was fine with sticking with Residential B and taking other options off the table.

"We try and give it our all. Sometimes we get it right, sometimes we don't. But, I hope, always, that we keep it coherent and rational and thoughtful, orderly. That meeting was not that. Not the city, not showing what the city is capable of," Wagner said. "I think it was a shameful display of lack of understanding of zoning ordinances, even though we all try our best to understand it and it was--it's not something I was proud of."

Ward 8 Councilor Gary Labrie had voted for the overlay previously and said after hearing the comments from the applicant, he's willing to keep it as Residential B also.

"So, if somebody else does buy the property and wanted to do something with it, then they would have to come in and see us," Labrie said.

The motion to approve the addition of a Mill Conversion and Commercial Center Overlay for 9 and 445 Chicopee St. for a proposed residential property was denied 4-1.

Sports

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Aldenville reaches American Legion district finals

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

SPRINGFIELD—Things didn't start out very well for the Aldenville Post 337 Legion baseball team in the District 3 Senior Division semifinals against East Springfield Post 420.

Aldenville was trailing, 3-1, before they came storming back in the bottom of the fourth inning.

After Post 337 tied the score, Topher Reardon, who was the Post 337 starting pitcher, blasted a double to deep left field bringing home all three baserunners giving his team a 6-3 lead.

Aldenville never relinquished the lead as they advanced into the District 3 championship game for the second time in the past three years with a 7-5 victory, at Springfield Central, last Tuesday night.

"This is the second time that we'll be playing in the finals in the past three years," said Aldenville manager Mason Scott. "I just have to give these kids a lot of credit. They came here and played very hard. We fell behind early, but we were able to battle back. This team never gives up."

The contest was scheduled to be held at Szot Park in Chicopee, but that field was unplayable due to rain. Aldenville also plays home games at South Hadley High School, which was also un-



Topher Reardon fires a pitch home.



Nate Carillion makes the off-balance throw after fielding a grounder.



Spencer Labonte pounces on the grounder.



Justin Moskal watches the ball into his glove.

See **ALDENVILLE** page 8



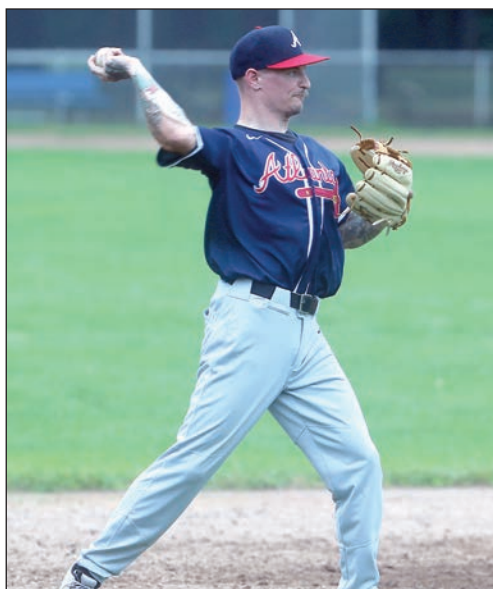
The Tigers' Brad Bullough delivers a pitch.



Justin Morin fields the bouncer to third.

Quabbin regular season nearing end

WEST SPRINGFIELD – The Quabbin Valley Over-28 Baseball League continues Sunday morning action into August with just three more games remaining in its regular season. So far, the Orioles are at the top of the league followed by the Tigers in second place. The Quabbin League playoffs will follow, and this year, the league will be hosting a fall league for players 28 and over.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM
The Braves Jamie Ryan throws to first.



Adam Kinney, of Wilbraham, delivers a pitch for the Braves.



Randy Marseau fields a grounder for the Tigers.

Big inning leads Blue Sox to win

HOLYOKE— After the Blue Sox took both games of Saturday's double-header, they were hungry for more against the Westerners on Sunday afternoon.

Valley capitalized on an eight-run seventh inning to win Sunday's game 13-5. The Blue Sox continue to cushion their lead of the eighth seed in the NECBL playoff picture.

Danbury starter Alex Mach struggled early and gave up four runs in the bottom of the second inning. Blue Sox designated hitter Jay Bant hit his third home run of the season. Two of those runs were scored as unearned as Danbury made two errors (one on catcher Roman DiGiacomo and second baseman Carl Schmidt). After two innings, it was 4-0 Valley.

Danbury chipped its way back into the game, scoring one run in the third, fourth and fifth innings. In the top of the sixth inning, Danbury left fielder Jaden Sheffield, son of Major

See **BLUE SOX** page 10

Hopkins takes win in Calef 125

WALPOLE, N.H. - A busy stretch of four races in four weeks for the Granite State Pro Stock Series wraps up this Friday night at one of the series' staple venues.

Lee USA Speedway, only a short drive from the New Hampshire seacoast, welcomes the GSPSS back for their first of two visits this year with this Friday's Clash on Calef 125.

Unique among the tracks on this year's GSPSS itinerary, Lee hosts its own regular Pro Stock division, welcoming the class back to its weekly program a few years ago. Lee's own big-ticket Pro Stock shows earlier this year boasted plenty of names familiar to GSPSS fans and followers. But Friday night's showdown, named for the state highway on which Lee has been situated since the 1960s, is the first opportunity for those Pro Stock wheelmen to score points toward the series crown.

That contest took an intriguing turn Saturday evening at Speedway 95, with hometown hero Mike Hopkins the fifth different driver to wave the GSPSS checkered flag this season. The two strongest title threats in attendance, Casey Call and Evan Beaulieu, each faced their own pitfalls in the race. But where Call exited early with chassis damage, Beaulieu recovered from a mid-race spin to finish fifth, chipping away at Call's healthy advantage.

Call's calamity ended a season-opening streak of finishing no worse than fourth, while Beaulieu has back-to-back top-fives after a slow start. Both drivers have a lot of work ahead to be ready for Friday, and with the season's deepest entry list in hand, winning promises to be a tall order.

A trio of Maine rookies have run the majority of the rac-

es this year, with Jamie Wright, Morgan Call and Miller Buzzell all set to carry on their season-long efforts at Lee. Joining them from the Pine Tree State is veteran Gary Smith and multi-track titlist Dave Farrington, Jr., who won his GSPSS debut back in 2016.

Wiscasset Speedway veteran and 2023 Speedway 95 winner Josh St. Clair is on the entry list, as well as Nick Jenkins and Matt Dow. Cole Robie, who hails from Maine, but has Granite State ties through his father Jarod and grandfather Carleton, plans to make his series debut as he graduates from Legends and Bandoleros into full-size fendered cars this season.

Local racers Bobby Bailargeon, Bobby Frappier and Frankie Eldredge plan to put their Lee expertise to the test. Dan Winter has stepped up his GSPSS appearances this year and wants to replicate his top-five run at Star Speedway in May's season opener. Andy Shaw missed the season opener, but he and the Dale Drew Racing team have been at every event since.

Massachusetts teammates Alex Quarterley and Jeremy Sorel are back for more GSPSS action, with Sorel still smiling after his second-place finish at Claremont Motorsports Park earlier this month.

Cory Casagrande is back after a week off, with the Connecticut star anxious to avenge a hard crash at Lee a month ago. Fellow Nutmeg Stater Anthony Bello is back with the series as well, racing for Maine car owner Shawn Knight.

With big-league racing on a summer recess, Maine native and NASCAR spotter Derek Kneeland is dusting off his race car for his first GSPSS start since 2022. Kneeland accompanied

his driver, Kyle Busch, to June's Keen Parts 150 at Lee, where he and Busch both outlasted the carnage to post top-five finishes.

But the early favorites are sure to be those who have a record of past success at Lee. Ryan Green's redemption arc remains in play after a grinding crash at June sidelined his own race car. Green borrowed a car from friend Joey Doiron to race at Claremont this month, reintroduced his repaired mount at Hudson two weeks ago, and will be a threat in whichever car he brings to the track this week.

Brandon Barker, the first Pro Stock champion at Lee after the division's revival a couple years back, won the Keen Parts 150 in June and took home a \$10,000 prize. Barker has a pair of GSPSS wins at Lee in 2018 and 2019 and would love to add to the trophy case.

Reigning Lee track champion Wayne Helliwell, Jr. last won a GSPSS feature in 2014, a dry spell the New Hampshire all-star would love to erase. Helliwell's longtime rival, Joey Polewarczyk, won a GSPSS feature at Lee that season, one of two touring wins at the track. "Joey Pole" was victorious at Hudson Speedway two weeks ago, his eighth series victory.

And Corey Bubar won the GSPSS' last outing at Lee, taking home \$8,500 in last fall's Bosowski Properties 150. The Beech Ridge Motor Speedway veteran is one of several racers who came to Lee after Beech Ridge was shuttered, and one of many to find success at his new home track.

In a showdown between the proven veterans and the optimistic hopefuls, the sure winners are the fans in the stands who can take in Friday night's on-track fireworks.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

Kwame Adu-Gyamfi tries to keep the ball from going over the sideline.



Leonel Vergara makes a throw-in.



Lawrence Goddard sends a shot on goal.

Pioneers defeated in second round of playoffs

LUDLOW - After a phenomenal season, the Western Mass. Pioneers were defeated for just the third time this season.

The Pioneers lost 2-1 against Lionsbridge FC on the road. The Pioneers opened up the playoffs with a 3-1 win against FC Motown.

The Pioneers season ends at 13-3-1.

ALDENVILLE from page 7

playable. The game was moved to the brand new turf baseball field at Springfield Central and Aldenville remained the home team.

Reardon, who lives in Holyoke and was a school choice student at Easthampton High School, hurled the first five innings against East Springfield. He wound up as the winning pitcher after allowing three runs on seven base hits with three walks and seven strikeouts.

"Topher didn't have his best stuff in tonight's game, but he just battled out there," said Scott said. "He was able to keep us in the game. He also helped us with his bat."

Reardon threw a total of 108 pitches and won his first Legion playoff game.

"This is my first win in a legion playoff game and it's a great feeling," said Reardon, who's planning to be a freshman member of the Anna Maria College baseball team next year. "We're now looking forward to playing in the championship game."

Aldenville finished the regular season with an 11-7 record.

Post 337 began their post-season journey by squeaking out a 7-6 home win over West Springfield Post 207 in a first round game. Lefty Brady Burnett was the winning pitcher in that contest. They then defeated Pittsfield Post 78, 7-1, in the quarterfinals with righthander Matt Dro-

biak earning the victory.

Aldenville's season came to an end following a 6-5 loss to top-seeded Belchertown in the finals.

The four Aldenville players, who'll be too old to play for the legion team next year, are Nate Carillon, Nik Misiaszek, Oldenberg, and Burnett.

Carillon, who began the semifinal game at shortstop, replaced Reardon on the mound in the sixth inning. He allowed two runs on two hits. His younger brother, Noah, was Aldenville's starting centerfielder and his cousin, Brandon, started the semifinal game in left field.

"It's awesome playing on the same baseball team with my younger brother and cousin," said Nate Carillon, who was a freshman on the Westfield State University baseball team last spring. "I did play high school baseball with my brother when I was a se-

nior at South Hadley. This is the first time I've been teammates with my cousin. He has played a key role for us during the playoffs."

East Springfield (9-6-2) scored the two runs of the semifinal game on a ground ball single into centerfielder by first baseman Sal Ortiz with two outs in the second.

Burnett, who started at first base, drew a leadoff walk in the third before crossing the plate on a throwing error by the pitcher, which sliced Aldenville's deficit in half.

Another RBI single by Ortiz gave his team a two run advantage with one-out in the top of the fourth.

Aldenville took control of the contest as they batted around in the bottom half of the frame.

After loading the bases against righty Eddie Villavane, Brandon Carillon, who's a mem-

ber of the Granby varsity baseball team, walked making the score 3-2. Two batters later, Nate Carillon knocked home the tying run with a single into left field. After the next batter struck out, Reardon delivered the biggest hit of the ballgame.

"The pitcher threw me a fastball right down the middle," Reardon said. "My extra base hit changed the momentum of the game."

Reardon struck out the final two batters that he faced in the fifth inning leaving the bases loaded.

East Springfield closed the gap to 6-5 in the top of the sixth, but Aldenville added an unearned run in the bottom half of the frame.

It turned out to be a huge insurance run, as East Springfield had a runner standing on third base when Nate Carillon ended the game with a comebacker.



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BLUE SOX from page 7

League Baseball superstar Gary Sheffield, struck out looking and was ejected by home plate umpire David Speranza.

Going into the top of the seventh inning, Valley had the 4-3 lead. KJ Lavoie surrendered singles to Kobe Mentzer and Lo-

renzo Rios. Danbury took a 5-4 lead going to the bottom of the inning.

Mach entered the bottom of the inning and was taken out after immediately loading the bases on an E4, walk and single. Max Foster entered the game and got two quick groundouts.

Jonathan Hogart and Bant singled in runners. Anthony Scarabino walked and Zev Moore also singled in runners. Kyle Henington capitalized the eight-run seventh inning to make it 12-5. Valley tacked one more in the bottom of the eighth and won 13-5

IN THE CLASSROOM

Western New England University Spring 2024 Semester President's List

SPRINGFIELD, MA-- Western New England University (WNE) takes immense pride in recognizing the outstanding academic achievements of over 540 students who have been named to the President's List for the Spring 2024 semester.

A WNE education provides career-span agility through a curriculum grounded in professional/experiential studies, enhanced by the liberal arts, and enriched by mentored research that equips graduates to adapt and succeed in the workplace of the future.

Benjamin Shirely is working toward

a BA in Creative Writing.

Isabella Piantoni is working toward a BA in Creative Writing.

Jadyn Smith is working toward a BA in Law & Society.

Julie Mason is working toward a BA in Psychology.

Jenna Dirosa of is working toward a BA in Psychology.

Jessica Lindsey is working toward a BA in Secondary Education/English.

Emily Meyer is working toward a BS in Criminal Justice.

Katherine Warzybok is working to-

ward a BS in Health Sciences.

Jaenedy Alcantara is working toward a BS in Health Sciences.

Michael Gauthier is working toward a BSBA in Accounting.

Logan Los is working toward a BSBA in General Business.

Justin Clarkson is working toward a BSBA in Sport Management.

Guilherme Garcia is working toward a BSE in Civil Engineering.

Caitlyn Crochiere is working toward a BSE in Civil Engineering.

Vladimir Popovichenko is working

toward a BSE in Electrical Engineering.

Daniel Mogan is working toward a BSE in Electrical Engineering.

Sophia Gonzalez is working toward a BSE in Electrical Engineering.

Jack Ryczek is working toward a BSE in Mechanical Engineering.

Anthony Czarniecki is working toward a BSE in Mechanical Engineering.

Benjamin Halley is working toward a BSE in Mechanical Engineering.

Daniel Hocog is working toward a BSE in Mechanical Engineering/Mechanics.

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. HD24P1592EA

Estate of:

Joyce A Blanchard
Date of Death: 06/10/2024
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:

A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Nadine Viens of Chicopee MA and Gail Lempart of Chicopee, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: Nadine Viens of Chicopee MA and Gail Lempart of Chicopee, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/27/2024. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

A Personal Representative appointed under the MUPC in an unsupervised administration is not required to file an inventory or annual accounts

with the Court. Persons interested in the estate are entitled to notice regarding the administration directly from the Personal Representative and may petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of administration

WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M Hyland, First Justice of this Court.
Date: July 30, 2024

Rosemary A Saccomani, Register of Probate
08/02/2024

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758

Docket No. HD24P1516EA

Estate of:
John W Hammon
Date of Death: 07/04/2024
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:

A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Robbin Smith of Springfield, TN and Scott A Hammon of Chicopee, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: Robbin Smith of Springfield, TN and Scott A Hammon of Chicopee, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/16/2024. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a

timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M Hyland, First Justice of this Court.
Date: July 18, 2024

Rosemary A Saccomani, Register of Probate
08/02/2024

SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES

Under G.L. c.255 Sec. 39A
Notice is hereby given by Interstate Towing, Inc. pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, section 39A, that on August 9, 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.

2008 Honda Accord
VIN: 1HGCP26418A087266
Shanna White
316 Halstead St Apt 2R
East Orange, NJ 07018

2006 Mazda 5
VIN: JM1CR293060115993
Luis Ocasio
321 Tokeneke Rd
Holyoke, MA 01040

2005 Acura TSX
VIN: JH4CL96815C000373
William Terrell
32 Putnam Ave
Lowell, MA 01851

2003 Toyota Camry
VIN: 4T1BE30K43U751835
Jonathan Dube
85 Thompson St.
Hyde Park, MA 02136

2009 Acura TL
VIN: 19UUA96589A002870
Melwin Rivera
2309 Main St Apt 7
Springfield, MA 01107

2008 Pontiac G6
VIN: 1G2ZG57NX84164513
Craig Pearlman
3106 S Main St
Bondsville, MA 01009

2007 Nissan Maxima
VIN: 1N4BA41E07C852158
Michael Rodriguez
178 Florence Rd, Apt 7D
Florence, MA 01062

2011 Jeep Liberty
VIN: 1J4PN2GK0BW565278
Richard Bennett
450 Morningstar Rd
Staten Island, NY 10303

2001 Acura MDX
VIN: 2HNYD18681H508990
Herbert & Cynthia Borenstein
72 Atwater Rd
Canton, CT 06019

2005 Volvo S60
VIN: YV1RS592152434470
Thomas Smith
17 Linda Ave.
Chicopee, MA 01013

2010 Toyota Prius
VIN: JTDKN3DU5A0034526
Kevin Kelly
118 Draper St
Springfield, MA 01108
07/26, 08/02, 08/09/2024

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758

Docket No. HD24P1507EA

Estate of:
David A Rivest
Date of Death: 05/30/2024
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:

A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Carol T Jennison of Chicopee, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: Carol T Jennison of Chicopee, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/14/2024. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M Hyland, First Justice of this Court.
Date: July 17, 2024

Rosemary A Saccomani, Register of Probate
08/02/2024

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758

Docket No. HD24P1505EA

Estate of:
Walter James Trybulski, Jr.
Date of Death: 02/06/2023
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal

Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by MaryJane Trybulski of Chicopee MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: MaryJane Trybulski of Chicopee MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 08/15/2024. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M Hyland, First Justice of this Court.
Date: July 18, 2024

Rosemary A Saccomani, Register of Probate
08/02/2024

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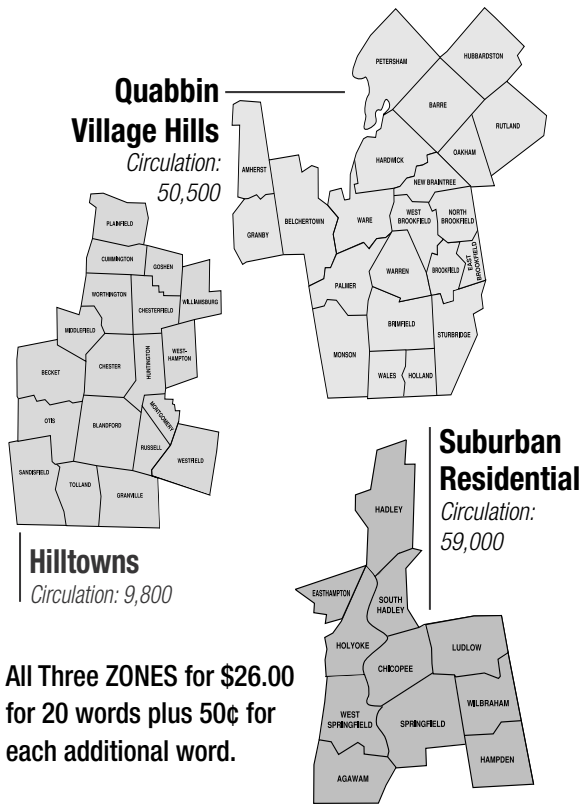
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9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28
29	30	31	32
33	34	35	36
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Events & announcements schedule

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: Szot Park in Chicopee

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 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.

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 ShanewW@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.

Benefits of Seasonal Fruits and Vegetables at RiverMills

CHICOPEE - The Council on Aging will host Ascentria Care Alliance on Thursday Aug. 15 at 10 a.m. at Chicopee Council on Aging's RiverMills Center, 5 West Main St.

Join Ascentria Care Alliance for a workshop in July and August where they talk about the benefits of seasonal fruits and vegetables. There will also be food demonstrations both classes, as well as tastings of what is prepared! You must register for both events separately.

RiverMills Center Transportation Services

CHICOPEE - The Chicopee Council on Aging's Transportation Department provides rides to the senior center, doctor's offices, supermarkets, pharmacies, etc. for Chicopee older adults.

Transportation service is available Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Reservations must be made at least five business days in advance by calling 413-536-5733.

A \$7,875.00 grant from West Mass Eldercare has allowed the senior center to expand its transportation offerings. Shopping Trips are funded in part by a Title III/Older Americans Act grant from West Mass Eldercare, with support from the Mass. Executive Office of Elder Affairs and the Federal Administration for Community Living. There is no charge for this service, but participants are welcome to make a voluntary, confidential donation for a shopping ride.

Elder Law Presentation at RiverMills

CHICOPEE - The Chicopee Council on Aging host an Elder Law Presentation on Friday, Aug. 2 at 10 a.m. at Chicopee Council on Aging's RiverMills Center, located at 5 W. Main Street.

In celebration of Law Day, Gina M. Berry with Bacon Wilson, PC will be at RiverMills for a chat on saving assets from the nursing home. This program is sponsored by The Massachusetts Bar Association with the assistance and collaboration with the Massachusetts Chapter of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys. You must register in advance.

Military Appreciation Breakfast at RiverMills

CHICOPEE - The Chicopee Council on Aging host a Military Appreciation Breakfast on Friday, August 30th at 8:30 a.m. at Chicopee Council on Aging's RiverMills Center, located at 5 W. Main Street.

To say "Thank You" to all past and present military members, we invite you to RiverMills Center for a Military Appreciation Breakfast. All past and present Military Service Members eat free. All other participants pay \$5. You must register in advance at RiverMills..

Happiness for Seniors at RiverMills Center

CHICOPEE - The Chicopee Council on Aging will offer the program "Happiness for Seniors" on Tuesday, Aug. 27 at 1:30 p.m. at Chicopee Council on Aging's RiverMills Center, located at 5 W. Main Street.

Join Henry Quinlan as he chats about how to build a life that has meaning to us and is rewarding in our senior years. This is a presentation that starts with defining happiness and we soon discover there is no one definition that everyone agrees on. You must register by stopping by RiverMills center or by calling 534-3698

EASE with the Hampden County DA

CHICOPEE - The Chicopee Council on Aging will host the Hampden County District Attorney's office on Thursday, Aug. 8 at 10 a.m. at Chicopee Council on Aging's RiverMills Center, located at 5 W. Main Street.

The Hampden County District Attorney's Office will be at RiverMills Center to talk about the Education Against Senior Exploitation (EASE) workshop. This presentation is aimed at protecting seniors and preventing abuse by providing the information they need to avoid becoming victims of financial exploitation and scams. You must register by stopping by RiverMills center or by calling 534-3698.

IDO Team USA Fundraiser Designer Purse Bingo

CHICOPEE - An IDO Team USA Fundraiser Designer Purse Bingo event will be taking place at Ste. Rose de Lima Church in the Church Hall on Friday, Sept. 20.

Doors open at 5 p.m. and the games begin at 6:30 p.m.

A \$40 donation includes 10 games, a bingo marker, door prize ticket and light refreshments.

Hot food will be available to purchase. Lots of raffle prizes to win! Food,

raffle tickets and additional bingo cards will be cash only.

For ticket reservations, email cbordeau19@gmail.com. Payment must be made or discussed at time of reservation.

Please wait for confirmation before sending payment. Venmo preferred: @Christina-Bordeau

Space is limited!

Make sure to add "Purse Bingo" and guest names/phone numbers in the description!

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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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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 August 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 Aug. 16 and is open to all ages - kids, teens, adults!

Little Movers will be held in the children's program room on Fridays, Aug. 2 & 9 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, finger-plays and movement.

Storytime will be held at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 13. Enjoy books, rhymes and songs along with a craft or activity. Geared towards families with kids 2-8.

Wind down with an **Evening Storytime**, Mondays at 6 p.m., Aug. 5 and 19. 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, August 6 and 20 at 10:30 a.m. Songs, dancing and big movement geared for kids 5 and under, but older kids are welcome!

Join us for an afternoon of gaming on Tuesday, Aug. 6! **One Up Games** is back and they're bringing their Free Play Arcade with them once again, complete with Nintendo, X-Box, and more! For Ages 8-18. Registration is required, contact the Kids Room to Sign up. There will be two sessions of this program, 2 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. Teens (11-18) will be given priority for 2:p.m. session registration.

Kids and families are invited to play **BINGO for Books** on Wednesday,

Aug. 7, at 2 p.m. Come enjoy a few rounds of BINGO and the chance to win some fabulous prizes: Books! This is a great event for the whole family, no registration required.

Support our Pollinators! Learn about local pollinators, featuring bees, bats, hummingbirds, beetles, dragonflies and butterflies. Then stay for a t-shirt craft. This fun, educational program will be presented by Jerry Schneider, The Butterfly Guy on Wednesday, Aug. 14, 6 p.m. For Ages 5-11. Registration is required. Sign up in the Kids Room!

Swifties and crafty folks will enjoy attending **In Our Library Era: Friendship Bracelet Party** on Aug. 8 at 2 p.m. Geared toward tweens and teens ages 11-18. Sign up in the Kids Room!

Eat Ice Cream with the Mayor! Mayor John Vieau will be at the library to host an ice cream party on Wednesday, Aug. 21 at 2 p.m. Come cool off with a tasty treat in celebration of your summer reading achievements! All are welcome!

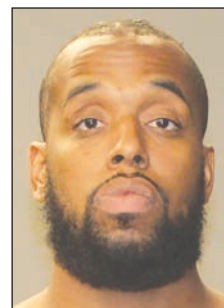
The **Chicopee Fresh Curbside Cafeteria** will be in the library parking lot on weekdays from 1:30-2 p.m., through August 18 to provide free meals for kids 18 and under

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. August's book is *Hike* by Pete Oswald. It will be available displayed in both English and Spanish in the parks on Friday afternoons from 2:30-4:30.

August 16 - Szot Park
August 23 - Sarah Jane Park
August 30 - 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

Victim in fatal Chicopee crash identified

CHICOPEE - On Thursday, July 25, the Chicopee Police Department responded to a two car crash at 11:25 p.m. in the vicinity of the 1200 block of Memorial Drive where it intersects with Jamrog Drive. The driver of one of the vehicles was taken to Baystate Medical Center in serious condition. He passed away the following day after succumbing to his injuries.



Andrew Wilkins

The victim has been identified as Mr. James Menard, 59, of Chicopee.

The operator of the second car, Andrew Wilkins, 37, of Springfield was arrested on July 25 at the scene on the following charges: operation while under the influence of alcohol causing serious injury, negligent operation of a motor vehicle,

leaving the scene of personal injury, and speeding. He was arraigned in Chicopee District Court on July 26, 2024 with bail being set at \$7,500 with a condition of wearing an alcohol monitor if released. His next scheduled court date of September 12, 2024.

This in an ongoing investigation being conducted by members of the Chicopee Police Department, Massachusetts State Police Detective Unit assigned to the Hampden District Attorney's Office and the Hampden District Attorney's Office's Motor Vehicle Homicide Unit.

Hampden District Attorney Anthony Gulluni extends his sympathies to Mr. Menard's Family.

Willimansett Heights Improvement League hosting neighborhood yard sale

CHICOPEE - The Willimansett Heights Improvement League will host a neighborhood Yard Sale on Saturday Aug. 24, 2024, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Participating residents in the Willimansett Heights section of Chicopee (adjacent to Dale Street) will display signs on their front lawns for easy identification. The public is invited.

The Willimansett Heights Improvement League is a nonprofit organization that has served the area since 1949. It has organized social events for adults and children, hosted the Mayor's neighbor-

hood meetings, joined in the Chicopee "clean sweep" days, and advocated for quality-of-life issues for neighborhood residents. The group annually awards a scholarship to one or more residents of the neighborhood. The club's hall at 118 Mt. Vernon Road can be rented for weddings, parties, meetings and other functions, and now has Wi-Fi available.

Information on the Yard Sale can be obtained by viewing the club's Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/Willimansettheightshall> or by calling 413-206-9574.

Firefighter Tim Barry receives Badge 1



SUBMITTED PHOTOS

CHICOPEE - Firefighter Tim Barry received the Badge 1 honor from the fire department on July 2, Barry was pinned by retired Firefighter Bill Philbrick who was pinned Badge 1 in 1997 and retired in 2002.



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