

# Chicopee Register

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COMMUNITY

## National Night Out connects police department and community

This year also marks 30 years

By Kristin Rivers  
Editor  
krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE - The community gathered in droves on Aug. 7 for this year's National Night Out at Sarah Jane Park, with this year also marking 30 years.

Throughout the evening, residents enjoyed a variety of activities including the National Anthem sung by Sgt. Erik Sunny, K9 demonstrations, a dance performance from Dance Dynamics, a Center for Martial Arts demonstration, the annual wing-eating contest between the Chicopee High School and Chicopee Comprehensive High School football teams--sponsored by Buffalo Wild Wings--a rock climbing wall and more.

Also, 70 vendors including the Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee, the library, Chicopee Public Schools, the fire department, CrossRoads Fiber, the Springfield Thunderbirds, the Center for Human Development, WestComm Regional Dispatch, Faded Barber Lounge, Way Finders, Holyoke Community



TURLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS

Members of the Chicopee Police Department pose for a group photo during this year's National Night Out at Sarah Jane Park on Aug. 7, also celebrating 30 years this year.

College, the Hampden County Sheriff's Department and many more.

Food was provided by ChicopeeFRESH and the police department's ice cream truck, with the evening wrapping up with a flashlight walk with the police department.

This year's sponsors were AlarmWorks/Cebula Electronics Corp., Buffalo Wild Wings, Gym Buddies, Chicopee Electric Light, The Center for Martial Arts, Chicopee Moose Lodge 1849, Florence Bank, Holyoke Medical Center, Mass Alternative Care, Metro Jeep of Chi-

copee, PeoplesBank, Westfield Bank, Polish National Credit Union, Republic Service and Walmart.

As another note, last year's National Night Out also received a National Award in 2023 in recognition of its outstanding participation.

In his opening remarks, Chief Patrick Major stressed the importance of partnerships.

"The City of Chicopee is fortunate to have such fantastic partners. I know speaking just from the police department, all

See **NIGHT OUT** page 5

COMMUNITY

## Yarn Installation brings community together



TURLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS

From the left, Bridget Healy, district aide for State Sen. John Velis (D-Westfield), Donna Marratta, Rosann Fleischauer, Rosann's friend Bea, Mayor John Vieau and Chicopee Cultural Council Members Wilhelmina Humphries and Kamy Sanghvi, cut the ribbon for the Yarn Installation outside Chicopee City Hall on Aug. 12.

By Kristin Rivers  
Editor  
krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE - After several weeks of collecting donated yarn and crochet pieces or contributing one's own, a yarn installation was put on full display outside city hall on Aug. 12.

The yarn installation, known as "yarn bombing," is a public fiber art installation

helping beautify and bring community together one stitch at a time, on display for one full week before moving on to the next town so they and their local cultural council can contribute their own creative pieces.

Other towns that have taken part in this movement, called "Yarning Across Massachusetts," include Wrentham, Franklin, Danvers, Boxford and more.

The installation was made

possible through the Chicopee Cultural Council, the Massachusetts Cultural Council, community members and First Byte Designs.

Rosann Fleischauer, a fabric artist from First Byte Designs, was excited to bring the yarn installation to Chicopee, explaining people donated their pieces--or materials--to the li-

See **YARN INSTALLATION** page 6

COMMUNITY



TURLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS

Ricardo Diaz, owner of Faded Barber Lounge, poses with a poster promoting the upcoming Third Annual Back to School event at Rivers Park on Aug. 25.

## Third Annual Back to School event takes place Aug. 25

By Kristin Rivers  
Editor  
krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE - The Third Annual Back to School event is coming to Rivers Park on Aug. 25 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Presented by Breaking Oppression, Faded Barber Lounge and the City of Chicopee, the event will include free haircuts from Faded Barber Lounge, ice cream from Roger's Ice Cream

to be distributed through the police department's ice cream truck, hot dogs, burgers and water donated by Roca, a workout with Lids Live Well, a DJ, free braids, blowouts and manicures from Aesthetic Beauty Revolution, pizza from C and T Pizza, Chicopee Public Schools registering students and distributing backpacks--which are sponsored by Cradles to Crayons--commu-

See **BACK TO SCHOOL** page 9

# Vehicle, equipment purchases for DPW approved

By Kristin Rivers  
Editor  
krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE - City Council approved vehicle purchases for the Department of Public Works on Aug. 6.

The approvals were among a series of numerous mayor's orders presented by Mayor John Vieau.

First, an appropriation of \$69,785 to the DPW General Maintenance Special Account for the purchase of vehicles from available funds in the Stabilization for Capital Budgeting.

Vieau explained how every year, the city prepares for capital needs, setting aside \$2 million under the City Council's guidance and financial team "to fulfill those needs."

"The committee met last month and these were the recommendations of urgent and of highest need for each department," Vieau said.

This order, Vieau said, would replace "what was a 1995 F-250 that has reached the end of its useful life."

DPW Superintendent Elizabeth Ba-

tista said the vehicle is "really old and no longer really safe for driving."

"So, this is a really critical piece that (needs) to be replaced for Central Maintenance," Batista said.

Next, an appropriation of \$97,120 for vehicle purchases to the DPW Administration Special Account.

Here, Vieau said the focus was mobilizing a second electrician and the recommended vehicle for the position is a F-350.

"The Planning Committee felt that it's in our best interest to fund that this year. We have, right now, a demand for a lot of electrical work throughout low-voltage, high-voltage work," Vieau said. "Specifically, working on our signals, our rapid flashing beacons, our signs and many other electrical components throughout the city and this would immobilize a second unit and also would be available for snow removal during the winter months."

Batista added this is something "we have been working for towards considering how much we would spend on contract, electrical work."

"This second vehicle will enable us

to work around our schedule, meeting our demands. There's a lot of demand in the city. Our treatment plants utilize a lot of their time," Batista said. "And so allowing them to have a utility vehicle fully equipped with the equipment that they need and materials will allow us to be more efficient with the work and getting more things done versus being limited by what they have access to as far as one has the fully-equipped vehicle and one has the smaller vehicle that they're borrowing right now from another department that isn't suited for being fit for all the needs of an electrician."

Following this, an appropriation of \$159,175.17 to the DPW Parks Special Account for purchasing equipment.

Vieau said this would be for a gang mower for the Parks & Recreation Department.

"It mows approximately 400 acres on a weekly basis. It's a 2014 and, according to our central maintenance garage, is constantly in for repairs and it's pretty much has reached the end of its useful life. So, it needs to be replaced," Vieau said.

Batista and Parks Superintendent Benjamin Strepka reiterated the need for the replacement as well.

Next, an appropriation of \$384,796.32 for the DPW Sanitation Special Account for purchasing a stabilization packer.

Vieau said, unfortunately, "that's how much they cost now" and another side loader needs to be ordered.

"These, like you know, are used for daily trash pickup throughout the city and there's a lot of wear and tear on these units and we need to order them and stay proactive in making sure that we keep our fleet in tip-top shape and replace our oldest one every year," Vieau said.

Batista said, "It's one of those things that we can't not move forward with" and hopes everyone supports it.

Ward 9 Councilor Mary Beth Costello agreed "It's a great investment for our city and every penny is a great investment."

"It sounds like a lot of money, but it isn't for the amount of work that goes into picking up our sanitation needs," Costello said.

All of these orders were later approved by the City Council.

# City Council approves vehicle purchases for CFD

By Kristin Rivers  
Editor  
krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE - City Council approved appropriations for vehicle purchases for the fire department on Aug. 6.

These mayor's orders were part of a series of appropriations from available

funds in the Stabilization for Capital Budgeting.

First, an appropriation of \$459,800 to the Fire Special Account for the purchase of a new ambulance.

Mayor John Vieau explained how "we need to make sure that our fleet is up and operable," adding how two ambulances are operated during the weekdays

and two impact shifts.

"One during peak hours and another one on the weekends for a total of four that's available on weekend time," Vieau said. "We want to make sure that our fleet is in excellent shape and it takes quite a while to get one in. If we were to order this in the immediate future, we'd probably receive it around early 2027."

Fire Chief Daniel Stamborski explained even though they received this quote and have been dealing with the vendor for the past few years, other options are being pursued.

"As soon as tomorrow, we're going to look at another company that may be able to produce something much faster than the 30 months, but currently this is what we're stuck with," Stamborski said. "So, we're trying to get ahead of the game."

Stamborski said the end goal was to have four ambulances and have two as backups.

"So, we're going to retain one of these vehicles and trade one of them in eventually," Stamborski said.

Councilor-at-Large Tim Wagner asked about the vendor.

"Chief, why is this sort of been the only company we've been dealing with on this? Wouldn't it make more sense to try and price it out beforehand with different (vendors)?" Wagner said.

Stamborski replied, "We always do" and have "for the last few years."

"This is actually the cheapest company we've come up with over the last few years. They make diesel ambulances that are actually more expensive. We've been making better gains with the gas ambulances," Stamborski said. "Our mechanic appreciates that with the diesel vehicles. Number one, they're more expensive and number two, they're designed for longer

trips where we have to go through regeneration process. We do short runs to the hospitals. The hilltowns utilize the diesels. They're more cost-effective there, but this is actually less expensive than some of the others, but we got a good handle on some research where we may even be able to save a little bit of money and get one sooner and we'll report that back to you, obviously."

Ward 9 Councilor Mary Beth Costello said the ambulance service "is absolutely wonderful."

"That's another service that Chicopee does a great job at and it's not an easy job to do ambulance service. You're on the front line and you begin patient care. So, thank you," Costello said.

Next, an appropriation of \$50,600 to the Fire Special Account for purchasing vehicles.

Vieau said this will be for the purchase of an F-150 pickup truck that would replace the 2008 Chevy Tahoe currently used by fire prevention, with Stamborski adding how it's reached "the end of its life expectancy" and "needs to be replaced."

Lastly, an appropriation of \$35,000 to the Fire Special Account for vehicle purchases.

This one, Vieau said, would be replacing a 2009 Chevy Cobalt used by fire prevention.

"We'll be replacing that with a 2024 Ford Bronco," Vieau said.

All of these orders were approved by the City Council.

Next week, the Chicopee Register will review the other numerous mayor's orders that were in the Stabilization for Capital Budgeting, including requests from the police department, a zoning ordinance and development regulations overhaul and more.

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## Chicopee High School 50th Reunion

CHICOPEE - The Chicopee High School class of 1974 will celebrate its milestone 50th reunion on Saturday, Sept. 21, 2024, from 5:30 p.m. to 10:30 p.m. at the Knights of Columbus, 460 Granby Rd., Chicopee, MA.

This special event will allow classmates to connect, reminisce, and enjoy the music of the popular 70's Project Band. Hors d'oeuvres and a delicious buffet dinner will be served. A memory slideshow and a few surprises will complement the evening's festivities. In addition, the Reunion Committee is working out the de-

tails for a tour of the old high school on the afternoon of the reunion.

The price for this extraordinary party is \$60 per person. The deadline to purchase tickets is September 6, 2024. Checks should be payable to Lynn M. Chretien, 80 Beeler Avenue, Chicopee, MA 01020. Zelle payments can be made to larc2203@gmail.com at 413-519-7727.

The Reunion Committee kindly requests your assistance in making the reunion unforgettable by sharing this information with your classmates.

# Chicopee Street Mill Conversion and Commercial Center Overlay denied

Other Zoning Committee report approved

By Kristin Rivers  
Editor  
krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE - City Council denied a Mill Conversion and Commercial Center Overlay on Chicopee Street on Aug. 6.

The decision comes after an unfavorable Zoning Committee report was presented to the councilors for review, where the committee had recommended a denial of the application.

The proposed Mill Conversion and Commercial Center Overlay was for the entirety of the property at 0 and 445 Chicopee St. for the purpose of a proposed residential development.

Several residents had voiced their concerns about the proposed overlay during the Zoning Committee meeting on July 31 and, also, during the Aug. 6 City Council meeting during public input.

Ward 8 Councilor Gary Labrie recapped the committee's meeting on the overlay when the order was presented, explaining how Planning Director Lee Pouliot provided a detailed definition of what the overlay would entail and abutters had spoken out against it.

"They'd like to see it stay residential," Labrie said. "We took a vote and the vote was one to four, one in favor

and four against. So, I'd like to put this on the floor tonight."

Ward 3 Councilor Susan Goff was not in favor of the Mill Conversion and Commercial Center Overlay for the area, saying it "does not apply to this property" and "it will create more problems than not."

"Like the residents spoke about, the traffic on Chicopee Street and the amount of people that have been killed especially on that corner. Two people were run down by a car taking that corner. It's just not a good fit for that area," Goff said.

Councilor-at-Large Tim Wagner--who requested the item to be taken out of order on the agenda during the meeting--previously voted twice against the overlay and said he would do so again to uphold the decision.

"As I said before, I think there's some prejudices against multi-family housing that have to be overlooked at some point when it comes to building housing. Just denser housing is just the way of the future, especially in a land-poor city like Chicopee," Wagner said. "But, that requires upping our game when it comes to planning our neighborhoods and developing them and just getting new, fresh ideas in there."

Wagner added he's sympathetic to the neighbors who live in the area, though, and wished the applicant, Risa Teall, a speedy end to the process.

"I hope that they're able to sell that property and finally settle all the affairs

that come with it," Wagner said.

Ward 9 Councilor Mary Beth Costello shared she was at the meeting and heard the residents' concerns and their reasons for not wanting the overlay.

She agreed with their concerns.

"They live there. They have valid reasons. Some of those reasons are public safety. So, I will be voting in favor of what the Zoning Committee has recommended," Costello said.

The motion to deny the Mill Conversion and Commercial Center Overlay for 0 and 445 Chicopee St. as was recommended by the Zoning Committee in their unfavorable report passed 12-0.

The other item taken out of order--a favorable Zoning Committee report for a special permit application for a warehouse and manufacturing site facility with associated site improvements for a portion of Robbins Road was also reviewed.

After Labrie shared how no concerns were raised and the Zoning Committee gave a unanimous recommendation, Ward 5 Councilor Frederick Krampits said he hadn't received any calls or concerns either.

"From my understanding in talking with the city planner, if the full facility has been built, it actually would not require a special permit from the City Council. So, I'll be voting in favor of it tonight," Krampits said.

The motion was approved 12-0.

# Polish Center of Discovery and Learning launches annual scholarship offering

CHICOPEE - The Polish Center of Discovery & Learning has announced it is launching an annual scholarship program for students of Polish heritage. The scholarship is provided through a generous donation from Donald Tenerowicz and is named the Theodore P. Tenerowicz and Mary E. Bigos Endowed Scholarship Program to honor his parents.

Kenneth Lemanski, Board member of the Polish Center and Chairman of the Education Committee, says "we are proud to help graduate and undergraduate students throughout New England and are extremely pleased to be able to help as they pursue their educational goals."

To be eligible, applicants must be enrolled full-time in an accredited university or college, be in good academic standing, maintain a GPA of 2.8 or higher and be of Polish heritage. Applications can be received after June 20, 2024, with an application deadline of September 15, 2024. Scholarship criteria can be found on the Polish Center's website <https://polishcenter.net>.

For more information about the Polish Center of Discovery and Learning, please visit <http://www.polishcenter.net> or call 413-592-0001.

# Chicopee Parade Committee to hold Designer Bag Bingo

CHICOPEE - On Saturday, Sept. 7, the St. Patrick's Parade Committee of Chicopee will host a fun filled night of Bingo at the Portuguese American Club, 149 Exchange St., Chicopee. All guests must be 18 years of age or older. Doors will open at 5 p.m. Bingo will start promptly at 6 p.m.

Prizes for the lucky winners will be designer handbags. Tickets for donated baskets will be available for purchase.

Admission is \$35...this will include 10 bingo card games and a door prize entry ticket. Dabbers will also be available for purchase. Additional bingo card games can be purchased for \$2 during the event.

Attendees are welcome to bring snacks but must purchase beverages from the bar.

Tables of eight can be reserved for \$240.00. The reservation must be paid no later than August 30. Checks should be made out to Chicopee Parade Committee and mailed to P.O. Box 495 Chicopee, MA 01021, or brought to 1 Central Ave., Chicopee MA during regular business hours (8 a.m. - 5 p.m.) Monday thru

Thursday

Photos will be posted on the committee's Facebook page for those interested in a preview of the prizes.

For more information or to reserve a table, please call or text Alivia @ 413-378-5694 or Aly @ 413-348-3053, and leave a full name and good contact # where you can be reached. Messages left will be returned as soon as possible.

Proceeds from this event will support the Chicopee contingent's participation in the Holyoke St. Patrick's Day Parade. The St. Patrick's Parade Committee of Chicopee strives to promote Irish pride and culture through its many events. For over 70 years, the committee has organized the annual Colleen Contest and Coronation Ball, constructed the Colleen's award-winning float, and awarded scholarships to young women who plan to further their education at a college or university.

Other upcoming events and fundraisers to which the public is invited will be posted on the group's website at [www.chicopeespc.com](http://www.chicopeespc.com) or on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/chicopeespc/>.

# Military Appreciation Breakfast at RiverMills

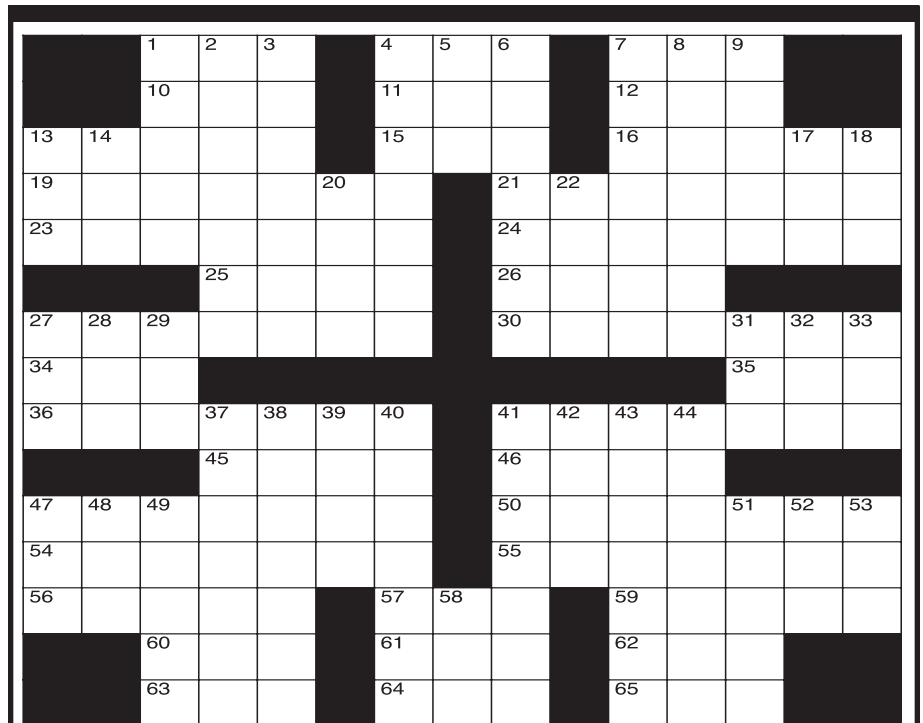
CHICOPEE - The Chicopee Council on Aging host a Military Appreciation Breakfast on Friday, August 30th at 8:30 a.m. at Chicopee Council on Aging's RiverMills

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.



**CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Major American automaker (abbr.)
- 4. Pressure measurement
- 7. Two-year-old sheep
- 10. Indigenous person from Laos or Thailand
- 11. Up in the air (abbr.)
- 12. Actress de Armas
- 13. Not moving
- 15. Cool!
- 16. Bog arum genus
- 19. Perceptible by touch
- 21. Type of test
- 23. Monetary units
- 24. Collection of various things
- 25. Sum of five and one
- 26. Type of sword
- 27. Hates

**CLUES DOWN**

- 30. Immobile
- 34. Pie \_\_ mode
- 35. Moved quickly
- 36. Passenger's place on a motorbike
- 41. A way through
- 45. Former US Secretary of Education Duncan
- 46. Leader
- 47. Flowing
- 50. Greetings
- 54. Remedy
- 55. Soft lightweight fabric
- 56. Building material
- 57. Sea bream
- 59. A way to cause to be swollen
- 60. One and only
- 61. People get one in summer
- 62. Wreath
- 63. Thus far
- 64. They \_\_
- 65. Sea eagle

**CLUES DOWN**

- 1. Policemen (French)
- 2. Toy dog
- 3. Inflamed colon disease
- 4. Can't move
- 5. Helps little firms
- 6. Lists of names, subjects, etc.
- 7. Takes down
- 8. Makes possible
- 9. Wife of Julius Constantius
- 13. Engine additive
- 14. Arctic explorers (abbr.)
- 17. Written account
- 18. Consumed
- 20. Something the first shall be
- 22. No (slang)
- 27. Gov't lawyers
- 28. Peyton's little brother
- 29. Small amount
- 31. Investment

- vehicle
- 32. Fall behind
- 33. Midway between northeast and east
- 37. Head pain
- 38. Popular sport in England and India
- 39. King Charles's sister
- 40. Boat race
- 41. About fish
- 42. Mayservant
- 43. Able to be marketed
- 44. Tinier
- 47. Parts per billion (abbr.)
- 48. Paddle
- 49. Oneness
- 51. Bitter chemical
- 52. Not around
- 53. Very fast airplane
- 58. Swiss river

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## GUEST COLUMN



### Maintenance tips for flowering annuals

Recently, we've had a lot of heat and humidity, and a fair share of downpours, too.

There are many times that I don't feel like going out into the flower garden. But then, sometimes around 7 or 8 o'clock at night, after it has cooled down a bit, I'll get out there like a woman on a mission.

Read on for a reminder of important tasks you should consider tackling this month to keep your annuals blooming through to the first frost!

I deadhead. A lot. Deadheading is a fun term used to describe the removal of spent flowers.

A plant produces flowers for one purpose: to survive. You see, once a flower has been pollinated it will produce seed, seed that will grow future plants. If a plant has produced enough flowers that have gone to seed it will consider its job to be done, flower production will cease, and it will begin to decline.

By deadheading, we keep the plant in reproductive mode, in other words, in flower! When you remove dying blossoms, make sure to pinch off the entire flower, not just the petals, or it will do no good. Include the stem as well to keep the plant tidy.

Petunias, marigolds, zinnias and salvia, among others, are examples of plants that require regular deadheading to look their best throughout the growing season.

Some annuals start to get a leggy appearance about now. Others may have brown tips.

These plants require more drastic measures to bring back youthful good looks. Consider shearing them back.

Usually you can look within the plant and find healthy, green growth. Cut calendulas, pansies and snapdragon back to that point. Plants like alyssum or lobelia can often be sheared to within inches of the ground.

Don't worry; they won't look bad for long! You can jump start regrowth with a bit of liquid fertilizer.

I feed, feed, feed them, especially if lower leaves start to yellow. It means flowering plants are hungry for nitrogen.

If flowering has slowed, phosphorus may be in low supply. Annuals planted in soilless mix of containers or "reused" soil in raised beds will especially need a boost.

You can use a balanced, water soluble, liquid feed every couple of weeks. If going natural is your cup of tea, make some!

Compost or manure tea has long been used to keep growth lush. Steep a burlap bag of either compost or aged manure in a large trash bucket filled with water and use as needed.

Smaller batches can be made right in a watering can. Likewise, there are numerous blends of seaweed and fish emulsions on the market that can be watered in or sprayed on the surface of the leaves as a foliar feed.

If Mother Nature decides to delay the deluges, don't forget to water your plants.

#### PEOPLE/MILESTONE NEWS

As a free service for our readers, we will print all births, weddings, engagements, milestone anniversaries, major birthdays, military achievements, honors and awards. We have a "people news" form available for you to submit these listings. This material is provided to us by our readers and local institutions and we do not charge to print this content.

For more information, or to submit people or milestone news for The Chicopee Register, please email [chicopeeregister@turley.com](mailto:chicopeeregister@turley.com).

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## GUEST COLUMN



By Ellenor Downer

### Sharp-shinned hawk

My daughter, Paula and family along with their dog JoJo experienced an unusual bird sighting.

Last week my daughter, Paula and family were running on the rail trail from the covered bridge to the Gilbertville mill. She said, "A hawk



dropped a dead pigeon into the woods about ten feet away from us. JoJo thought it was a food delivery for him. I couldn't tell what kind of hawk it was, but it didn't seem big enough for a red-tailed."

It was rusty/brown color on wings and back and barred feathers on underside. They didn't see it come back for the poor pigeon.

Since it was smaller than a red-tailed hawk, I think it might be a sharp-shinned hawk. The sharp-shinned hawk is 11 inches long and has rounded wings with a long narrow tail. It has heaving streaking on the breast and belly. It has reddish brown barring. The adult is blue gray above. The immature is dark brown above, lighter brown below and keeps that plumage for one year.

Sharp-shinned hawks feed by catching small birds in midair and carrying them off to eat. They also may hunt around bird feed-

ers. A plump pigeon would be quite heavy for this smaller hawk and probably that is why it dropped it.

The female lays three to eight whitish eggs with dark marks in a platform nest of sticks lined with bark, placed in a tree. They inhabit mixed deciduous and coniferous woods in summer and winters in woods and near bird feeders.

They make a rapid series of high "kek kek kek kek" notes given during alarm. The largest number of sharp-shinned hawks are seen on spring and fall migrations as it flies alone the coasts or mountain ridges.

### Hummingbirds

I saw at least two ruby throated hummingbirds feeding on the flowers on my hostas and on the tall phlox in my yard. I knew it was two different birds because I saw them at the same time and the flowers are located about 15 feet away from each other. Usually, hummingbird moths come for nectar at the tall phlox, but I have not seen one yet.

### Wild turkeys

Wild turkeys are a common site and I often see them when driving. Usually, there are several turkeys and sometimes I see poult with the adults.

### Foxes

Tuesday night I saw two foxes and in different towns. The first fox was smaller than the second one. I saw its eyes reflect in my headlights near Deacon Allen Drive on Barre Road. The second fox was a bit larger and I saw it on Depot Road in Barre near the Oakham line. Both looked healthy and had good coats of fur.

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](mailto:mybackyard88@aol.com) or [edowner@turley.com](mailto:edowner@turley.com) or mailing to Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.



I know this task is not nearly as much fun as it was when they were first installed, but don't stop now!

Sometimes plants show signs of a nutrient deficiency, especially a nitrogen deficiency simply because they haven't had a drink. When you water the garden, remember to do so longer but less often to encourage deep, penetrating roots.

Watering at the soil line either early in the

day or after the sun has set are your best options.

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](mailto:pouimette@turley.com) with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

### Letters to the Editor

Letters to the editor should be

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

Send letters to: The Chicopee Register,  
24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069  
or email [chicopeeregister@turley.com](mailto:chicopeeregister@turley.com).  
The deadline for submissions is Friday at noon.

## WE CARE ABOUT YOUR NEWS!

The Chicopee Register welcomes submissions of news in or related to Chicopee and its residents. Our "People News," is filled with submitted engagement announcements, wedding announcements, birth announcements, your new baby or news about your 25th or 50th anniversary celebrations. Please e-mail correspondence along with a photo to [chicopeeregister@turley.com](mailto: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  
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SPORTS EDITOR  
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[sports@turley.com](mailto:sports@turley.com)

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#### Editor

Kristin Rivers  
[krivers@turley.com](mailto:krivers@turley.com)

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# National Night Out



The Chicopee Galaxy Youth Athletic Association were one of the many vendors at this year's National Night Out.

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the agencies that we're involved with that come out to support us and engage with our community to help us form better relationships with the citizens of Chicopee," Major said.

City Council President/Councilor-at-Large Frank Laflamme—who also served as acting mayor in Mayor John Vieau's absence—thanked everyone for coming out and said how "every year it's getting bigger and bigger."

"I want to thank all the volunteers on it, all the city departments and, also, all the vendors that come out on behalf of their companies or the cities or the Sheriff's Department or wherever to support this super, super organization for the whole city," Laflamme said.

Capt. Douglas Lambert, who chaired this year's event for the first time, was excited to carry the torch.

"There's been a lot done by my predecessors—that was Capt. Holly Cote, she's done a great job over the last 30 years organizing and building this to what it is today—so, that made it easy to keep that tradition going," Lambert said.

Reflecting on the 30th anniversary, Lambert said "It's been

absolutely amazing" and he was thrilled with the turnout, along with the opportunity to connect with residents.

"Showing the good side of policing. When we show up, a lot of times it's people's worst day and we don't want that for people. We want to be able to show them that we are humans too, that we're here to help them or we want them to be able to come to us when it's in their time of need," Lambert said. "These are the things that build those communities."

Fire Capt. Katie Collins-Kalbaugh, who also serves on the committee to plan National Night Out, is already looking forward to next year and shared an event like this also provides free community resources.

"Things like help with domestic violence, help with mental health issues such as anxiety or depression, martial arts programs for the kids. There's so much that's offered here and everything that was here tonight was great," Collins-Kalbaugh said.

Collins-Kalbaugh hopes attendees took away that local first responders are here for them.

"That people in Chicopee are here because we care about them, we care about giving them a great night out, we care about

their safety, we have programs to keep them safe and we're here for them any time they need us," Collins-Kalbaugh said.

Kimberly Downing, manager at Florence Bank on Memorial Drive in Chicopee, shared the bank was happy to be a sponsor for the event.

"We love being part of the community, so we like to support anything that we can. The children, the city, we just like to be a part of it all to help everybody," Downing said.

Downing said she and her staff enjoyed meeting with attendees and supporting the police department.

"It's just such a great community event. Everybody wants to support the police and the fire and it's great for the children to see the police and be able to experience that," Downing said.

Downing wants the community to know there are so many resources available in the city, stressing how National Night Out raises awareness for them.

"There's so many wonderful organizations in the community of Chicopee," Downing said.

Lambert's message was this. "We're always here and we're able to help you in your time of need," Lambert said. "We'll see you in 2025!"



Boomer of the Springfield Thunderbirds joins an attendee in meeting the horses with the Hampden County Sheriff's Department during National Night Out.



Members of the Chicopee High School football team join City Council President/Councilor-at-Large Frank Laflamme, Police Capt. Douglas Lambert, Fire Capt. Katie Collins-Kalbaugh, State Sen. Adam Gomez (D-Springfield), Superintendent Dr. Marcus Ware and Miss Western Massachusetts 2024 Meghan Kalbaugh for a group photo after winning this year's Wing-Eating Contest.



Fire Capt. Katie Collins-Kalbaugh, Monica Torres, community & constituent liaison, Chloe Soto, communications & special projects manager for the city, and Police Capt. Douglas Lambert pose for a group photo, the team behind planning National Night Out.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RIVERS

Attendees watch as Jonathan Mach from the Hampden County Sheriff's Office demonstrates a K9 responding to a command.

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# Fire Department hosts career fair

By Amanda Munson  
Correspondent

CHICOPEE - "If you want to help people, there's no better way to serve than being part of the fire service," said Fire Chief Daniel Stamborski when the fire department held its Second Annual Career Fair on Aug. 6, showcasing what it is like to go through the process of becoming a firefighter and if this position is right for those individuals.

Stamborski presented the basics of the fire department, the physicality of the position and advice regarding beginning steps while accompanied by Captain Katie Collins-Kalbaugh, Brianna Brit of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and the Human Resources Department.

Chicopee's fire department is the second largest department west of Worcester, responding to almost 16,000 calls every year.



Fire Chief Daniel Stamborski discusses the need for firefighters and why it's so gratifying to serve the Chicopee community.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY AMANDA MUNSON

A Chicopee Fire Department fire truck shines bright with equipment on display for attendees to view.

The busiest ELS. ambulance in the state of Massachusetts is part of the fire department, transporting over 10,000 patients over the course of 2023.

"It's a very gratifying position. I took the fire examination and it was the best thing I have ever done. You will make a living that can support a family at the end of the day, it's very rewarding. In the fire department it becomes your second family, your family away from home," said Stamborski. "If there is a fire in Holyoke or Springfield, I am pretty certain a Chicopee Fire truck is there somewhere. We also go to Granby and Ludlow as well. When there is a large incident, we help each other out, mutual aid we call it."

To become part of the fire department, Stamborski suggested becoming an EMT, volunteering in your community, gaining life experience and fully understanding the hiring process to

make it as easy as possible. He stressed that individuals should be prepared and becoming an EMT is the best way to stand out, saying that fire departments prefer EMT candidates, even if the department doesn't run an ambulance.

An EMT class can give you the knowledge and hands-on experience that can be helpful in the fire service, basic knowledge that you will carry for the rest of your life.

"If you like to be part of a team, this is right for you. There is nothing that you can do at a fire scene that you can do by yourself, you have to work as a team. We are huge on accountability, taking care of each other which is the best way to perform the services we do and the safety of ourselves. There are opportunities everywhere for fire service, even if you don't come to Chicopee, there are openings," Stamborski said.

With the deadline of the civil



Firefighters from the Chicopee Fire Department pose in front of the building to greet curious attendees and to show what it's like to work at the station.

service exam coming up, the fire department likes to hold the career fair around this time to help candidates in the process, with the civil service exam open until Aug. 27.

When talking about fire service and what pushed Stamborski to the position, he brought up his father and then his son Devan, who is a third-generation firefighter taking after him.

"After 28 years of service, my father retired. I always admired what he did and what he stood for. The fact that he was out there serving the public on a daily basis and he found it very gratifying. That is what really inspired me to come out to the job and once I did, I absolutely loved it," Stamborski said.

Stamborski explained how the career fair came together.

"We noticed a decline like many businesses that are having difficulty getting people to come work. When I went out for the

service, there were hundreds of people lined up to take the test and now, post-pandemic, we are noticing those numbers severely declining," Stamborski said. "We started the fair last year with the help of our HR department and with great success picking up great candidates after coming to the career fair. The room was packed, it is all in hopes to get quality employees like the employees we currently have right now. As a fire department, we are here to make somebody's day better and mitigate problems. The results are not always positive, sometimes it's tragic. The outcomes are always better than we found them, we are here to help."

For the Civil Service Examination, visit [www.mass.gov/info-details/2024-municipal-fire-fighter-examination](http://www.mass.gov/info-details/2024-municipal-fire-fighter-examination).

For employee benefits, visit [www.chicopeema.gov/270/Employee-Benefits](http://www.chicopeema.gov/270/Employee-Benefits).

## YARN INSTALLATION from page 1

brary, senior center and city hall.

Fleischauer said the installation also includes pieces from other towns throughout the state.

"The pieces that we're using today, we started collecting them in January. After I got the first grant, the first community to get back to me was Boxford and they immediately started collecting squares and they started collecting finished pieces," Fleischauer said. "So, we started with them and as the other communities started to assign their grant funds, we were able to get their grant funds as well."

After the yarn installation was put up on the trees and railings outside city hall, a ribbon-cutting ceremony made it official later that day.

Mayor John Vieau said, "This vibrant display of creativity is more than something beautiful for the eyes, but a testament of public art."

"Imagine walking past city hall and seeing the trees wrapped in cozy, colorful embraces of yarn. It's unexpected, it's playful and it's exactly the kind of surprise that makes Chicopee very special," Vieau said.

Vieau explained the yarn bombing "represents the warmth, creativity and the tight-knit nature of Chicopee."

"It shows how we can come together stitch by stitch to create something truly remarkable," Vieau said.

He also thanked Fleischauer



TURLEY PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RIVERS

Donna Marratta and Rosann Fleischauer put together one of the yarn installation pieces on a tree outside Chicopee City Hall.

and the volunteers who helped bring the display together and the cultural councils for their support of projects "like this that enrich the lives of our city and those of us who call Chicopee home."

"Your dedication, skill and imagination has given us all this wonderful gift," Vieau said.

Reflecting on the display, Fleischauer said she was "so happy" to have so many pieces from Chicopee in the installation, hoping it encourages residents to come together for their own future projects or groups.

"I think it's important because it means the community wants this sort of thing and the community is interested in

pursuing this sort of thing," Fleischauer said. "Now, we've opened the dialogue of, 'Hey we have all this creative talent here in town that, as a community, we can come together.'"

Fleischauer was blown away by the community support for the official unveiling, also crediting Chloe Soto, communications & special projects manager for the city, and Monica Torres, community & constituent liaison, for their support along with Laura Bovee, the library's director.

She was also thankful to the Chicopee Cultural Council for their support.

"I thought it was really wonderful to actually have in-

volvement from the town itself and have city officials come and say, 'Hey, this is just something for us to all enjoy. It wasn't just some random person who did something. This was done for us, by us,'" Fleischauer said. "I think it was important that a representative of the community was here to make sure that it was acknowledged that way."

Fleischauer encourages the community to stop by and check out the display, taking photos or videos and tagging her in them.

"I'd love to see how they interpret it over the next week," Fleischauer said. "I just want people to enjoy it and to have a good time."



Bridget Healy, district aide for State Sen. John Velis (D-Westfield), Mayor John Vieau and Rosann Fleischauer check out the yarn installation.

Fleischauer's message is she hopes the yarn installation brings the community together.

"I just want people to be nice to each other one stitch at a time and just help somebody out. Whether it's helping somebody by just opening the door for them or opening the door for a new craft," Fleischauer said. "Multi-generational enjoyment and just to be able to sit around like people used to and laugh, share some jokes and make something."

The Yarn Installation will next head to Medfield, where pieces from the larger display will be on the move while others will stay right in Chicopee.

# Sports

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## Chicopee falls to Frontier in PVSSL finals



SUBMITTED PHOTO

The Chicopee Pacers finished as the runners-up of the PVSSL B Division this year.

By **Tim Peterson**  
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—The Chicopee Pacers compiled an impressive 18-6-4 overall record during the past two seasons in the Pioneer Valley Summer Soccer League.

Just like they did last summer, the Pacers played in this year's Boys B-Division championship match.

Unfortunately, the second-seeded Pacers didn't take

home the championship trophy once again, as they suffered a 3-1 loss to top-seeded Frontier at Lusitano Stadium in Ludlow on Aug. 3.

"We've played in the PVSSL finals the past two years," said Chicopee summer league coach Paul Langevin, who shared the coaching duties with Miguel Ribiero. "Losing in the championship match both times is a little bit frustrating. This is a great group of kids and

I'm hoping they have a successful fall season."

A year ago, the Pacers lost, 3-1, to Pittsfield in the B-Division finals.

The players listed on the 2024 Chicopee Pacers B-Division roster are Mohanad Aljashaam, Raed Aljashaam, Abdulwahhab Alnuaimi, Jason Brown, Lucas Carreira, Tiago Destapado, Dom Garcia, Jason Gregoire, Marcello Gomez, Izan Guerra, Chris Guerra, You-

sif Hamid, Tyler Hoar, Brandon Langevin, Matheus Lima, Rafael Lima, Lucas Marcelino, Shawn Murphy, Travis Podolski, Adrian Ramos, Cristian Ribeiro, Bryce Roberson, Lukasz Wadas, Griffen Wrisley, and Zach Yarovoy.

Yarovoy is normally the starting goalie for the Pacers summer league team, but he didn't play in either the semi-

See **PACERS** page 8

## Conte leads way in Owls golf tourney

WESTFIELD – Sunny skies met the 33 registered foursomes for the 18<sup>th</sup> annual Owl Club Tournament at Crestview Country Club in Agawam, Mass. on Monday.

The tournament is a key fundraiser for Westfield State athletics with alumni, sponsors, families and university coaches and staff all participating to net more than \$21,000 to support Owls' athletics. Westfield Bank again served as the lead sponsor of the event.

Westfield State president Linda Thompson welcomed the players at dinner and thanked them for the support of the University and Owls athletics. She mentioned her increased focus on the success of the Owls athletic teams and their role in university life, and reminded players that the University will be celebrating its 185th anniversary this fall with a gala event as part of the homecoming weekend on Oct. 18.

Westfield State director of athletics Richard Lenfest, Jr. for-

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## Here for Beer comes up short in PVSSL finals



TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

Lindsey Marjanski, of South Hadley, makes her way up the field.

By **Tim Peterson**  
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW—Six of the ten women teams in the Pioneer Valley Summer Soccer League qualified for the playoffs.

The Lusitano Women and Here for Beer finished the regular season with 6-4-2 records and a coin flip was held to determine their playoff seeds. The two squads wound up facing each other in the championship match.

The fifth-seeded Lusitano Women took home the championship trophy for the first time since 2019 with a 3-0 shutout

victory over the sixth-seeded Here for Beer at historic Lusitano Stadium, last Friday night.

"We've always made the playoffs, but it feels really good to win the championship game for the first time in five years," said Lusitano Women player/coach Taylor Jordan. "We're an experienced team this year, and everyone showed up ready to play in tonight's match."

Jordan shared the coaching duties with Stephanie Goncalves.

The Lusitano Ladies, who play their home matches at Lu-

See **PVSSL** page 8



TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

Seth Allen looks to get things going for PeoplesBank.



Jimmy Flahive delivers a pitch home.

## Bankers take 11th consecutive playoff title



Pete Hogan hustles down the first.

HOLYOKE – PeoplesBank of the Tri-County Baseball League continues to field one of the best rosters in Western Massachusetts. Last Tuesday evening, the Bankers would capture their 11th consecutive championship with a two-game sweep of Hilltown Tents, ending with an 8-3 win last Tuesday night. The Bankers had an unusual playoff path, having to wait nearly two weeks after the end of the regular season to compete in the playoffs. The quarterfinal series went through several postponements following the end of the regular season. When the Bankers finally came to play, they rounded off four wins in five days to take the semifinals and finals. The Bankers defeated St. Joe's, their longtime rivals, in the semifinals.

# Actions picks up at Thompson Speedway

THOMPSON, CT — What started out as a gloomy day in the quiet corner of Connecticut turned sunny for the teams, fans and supporters of the 5/8-mile Thompson Speedway. Track championship action started with the AZ Roofing SK Light Modified division under the command of John O'Sullivan and Rob Schultz. O'Sullivan quickly took charge on the bottom groove with Schultz sliding back on the outside. Launching into a four-car race saw Meg Fuller, Tyler Chapman and Nick Hovey join O'Sullivan under a blanket at the front.

Fuller stole the lead before a hard-charging Chapman took over on lap five as Nick Hovey stalked from behind. The extra-distance feature saw the three leaders run nose-to-tail before a mid-race caution for the spinning Rob Schultz set up a dash between Chapman and Hovey. The two leaders turned sour in turn two, spinning off the treacherous turn and leaving Fuller the lead for the restart with eleven laps remaining. In just five laps, Hovey and Chapman returned to the front as Hovey tried his best to claim the win but Tyler Chapman took down his fifth win in a row at Thompson with John O'Sullivan taking third.

The Mini Stocks were next on the field with Rick LaFlesh and Steve Michalski in command under the green flag. LaFlesh led the early goings before Kevin Moore pow-

ered through on the bottom to lead lap 4 with defending champ Jarred Roy patiently making his way to the front. After battling LaFlesh for second place lap after lap, Roy finally made his way into the runner-up spot with five laps remaining and set his sights on Moore. Side-by-side under the white flag, both former champions gave it all they had but it would be Kevin Moore at the line to snap Jarred Roy's four-race wins streak with Ryan Pomposelli joining the podium in third.

Moving on to the Street Stocks, rookie Austin Flanagan and Icebreaker winner Al Stone III brought the fan-favorite division to the initial green with trouble early for Ryan Waterman and Scott Souza as they dragged across the length of the backstretch wall. After rookie Flanagan led lap one, Stone powered back to the lead with Scott Sundeen, Corey Fanning and 'Leadfoot' Larry Barnett following him on the bottom. Fanning used a strong run through turns one and two to launch under Stone and lead lap seven.

The Thompson Late Models jumped on the highbanks for their 25-lap feature with Ryan Morgan and Derek Gluchacki leading the charge into turn one. Kulwicksi Driver Development Program (KDDP) finalist Gluchacki led the early circuits with Jake 'The Jet' Johnson trying to track him down as Connor Souza made a physical bat-

tle in his fight to third-place. Three wide with former champions Morgan and Nick Johnson, Souza battled hard to join the top-three. The physicality continued to the lap 10 caution with Souza sent to the rear for contact that sent Morgan around in turn two. One final late race caution for rookie Kyle Gero's dust-up in turn three set up a final chase to the checkers with Derek Gluchacki becoming the first repeat Late Model winner at the Big-T with Jake Johnson and Matt Lowinski-Loh rounding out the podium.

The Tripoint Showdown 50-lap main event for the Thompson Sunoco Modifieds rounded out the evening's program under the lead of Danny Cates and Josh Carey. Cates led from the start as Jon Puleo motored into second with Kieth Rocco looking to come from the back of the pack. Puleo and Cates would swap lanes over and over again with crossovers galore as Rocco watched from two car lengths back in the catbird seat. The first caution would slow the field as Derek Ramstrom smacked the turn one wall with Puleo getting the restart jump on Cates. Cates and Josh Carey would suffer the same fate on lap 27, slamming into the turn one wall. Jon Puleo would take off on the restart and lead down to the wire with Keith Rocco and Isaiah Newcomb rounding out the podium three.

PVSSL from page 7

sitano Stadium, advanced into the finals after defeating the fourth-seeded Western Mass. Extremes, 1-0, in the quarterfinals, and the second-seeded Heat, 3-1, in the semifinals.

"We won our first two playoff matches on the road. We just wanted to end the season by playing another game on our home field," Jordan said. "It's always very special to play a match here."

Back in 2019, the Lusitano Women celebrated a 3-0 victory over the Xtremes in the championship match. The previous year, they lost by the same score to Here for Beer in the finals.

Following the last Friday's championship match, Julia Farnham, who's a third year member of the Lusitano Women, received the M.V.P. award.

"I didn't score any of the goals or had an assist, but I did help my teammates set up the goals," said Farnham, who's a midfielder. "It feels great to win a championship game for the first time in the three years that I've been playing for this soccer team."

Farnham lives in Amherst, and played soccer at Vassar College, which is in Poughkeepsie, New York. She led her college soccer team in minutes last fall as a senior.

Here for Beer, who plays their home matches at South Hadley High School, advanced into the finals after posting a pair of road victories. They beat the third-seeded Monson Mustangs, 4-3, in the quarterfinals, and upset the top-seeded Westside Sports Shop, 2-0, in the semis. Westside Sports Shop had won the last three women's championship titles.

"We began the season well before suffering a couple of injuries," said Here for Beer player/coach Cassie Ashwell. "I never thought that we would make it to the finals this year, but we knocked out the top-seeded team in the semifinals. It was a fun season."

Ashwell, who was selected as the M.V.P. of the 2018 championship match, shares the coaching duties with Gina Lord.

Ashwell is normally a midfielder, but she was the starting goalkeeper in this year's finals.

"Our starting goalie, Sue Jenney, suffered an ACL injury during the regular season. Our back-up goalie, Kelly Callahan, suffered a season ending injury in our semifinal match on Wednesday," Ashwell said. "I've never been a goalie before the other night. I was our starting goalie in tonight's game and it's the first time I've played a full game at that position. You just need to have a different mindset being a goalie than a field player. I just needed to step up for my team."

The Lusitano Ladies took a 1-0 lead following a free kick goal during the eighth minute.

Ada Siepman, who plays soccer at Mount Holyoke College, fired a high shot that Ashwell couldn't save. The ball landed in the right corner of the net.

"I tried my best to make the save on their first goal," Ashwell said. "I just hesitated a little bit and the ball got past me."

Two minutes later, Lauren Cantin delivered a pass from the left side to Trystin Burger, who finished off the play by scoring the Lusitano Women's second goal.

Burger also played soccer at Granby High School and AIC.

The final 30 minutes of the opening half was evenly played.

Here for Beer best scoring chance came on a shot attempt during the 18<sup>th</sup> minute of the first half from Lauren Majanski, who graduated from South Hadley High School.

The Lusitano Women built a 3-0 lead following a goal by Jordan Chatman with about twenty minutes remaining in regulation.

The Lusitano Ladies will be looking to defend their PVSSL women's championship title a year from now.

PACERS from page 7

finals or finals. He was replaced in goal by Garcia, who had never played the position before.

"You always want your guys to step up, especially in a summer league," Langevin said. "I give a lot of credit to Dom stepping up."

Garcia returned to the field during the final 15 minutes of the championship match. He was replaced in goal by Roberson.

The Pacers advanced into the B-Division finals with a 3-1 home win versus the seventh-seeded Granby Rams in the quarterfinals on July 30. They then dispatched third-seeded South Hadley, 5-0, in the semifinals in another home

match two nights later.

One of the Pacers seven regular season victories this summer was a 1-0 shutout victory against Frontier.

Last Saturday's contest remained scoreless until the 28<sup>th</sup> minute of the first half.

That's when Frontier took a 1-0 lead following a goal by Nathan Donovan.

Two more goals by Ian Paciorek and Gus Radner during the final five minutes of the opening half gave Frontier a 3-0 halftime advantage.

"We got a little bit tired late in the first half," Langevin said. "We just lost our shape in the middle."

Radner received the M.V.P. award following the match.

Ten minutes into the second half, a shot attempt by Hamid sailed high over the crossbar.

Another shot by Wisley was saved by Frontier goalie Owen Babb.

The Pacers avoided being shut-out on a tap in goal by Mohanad Aljashaam following a corner kick with a little more than ten minutes remaining in regulation.

"It's nice not to be shutout," Langevin said. "We're hoping to make it back to the finals again next year."

Even though the outcome didn't go their way in the championship match, it was still a very good experience for the Pacers players.

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OWLS from page 7

mally introduced Westfield State's new head football coach Lou Conte, Jr., as the guest of honor at the tournament's post-round dinner, sponsored by Westfield Gas and Electric and Whip City Fiber.

"Coach K and Coach Marino I held in high regard as a young man," said Conte in his remarks about the Owls previous two head coaches, both in attendance at the tournament. "I knew what I wanted to do, I wanted to coach football .... They were kings to me, and to be able to follow in the footsteps of the path that they laid out, both individually and together, and I am so appreciative, and so lucky to be here. I'm so excited for the season and there are many great things here that makes it feel like the right move for us."

Conte, an Agawam native, noted that he and his wife and children were excited to be able to set down roots in Western Mass again after stints coaching at Lenoir-Rhyne and the Citadel in South Carolina.

Players played in the scramble format at Crestview, former home of the LPGA's Friendly's classic and a qualifying site for the PGA's Travelers Championship. Players received lunch, sponsored by College Hype Sportswear and Screenprinting, and competed in variety of contests on the course, including long drive, pot of gold, a putting contest, shot for a \$5,000 hole in one prize, and contested closest-to-the-pin on multiple holes. Carts were sponsored by the Follett Campus Bookstore.

The Owls 2023 MASCAC Champion women's soccer team helped out as

volunteers on the course, running several of the contests and staffing the players' Oasis on the course, which was sponsored by Pepsi and Commercial Distributing. Part of the proceeds from the event will help support women's soccer's season-opening trip to the Nashville, Tenn. area for a multi-day tournament.

Conte's big day continued as his foursome won the tournament's open division with a remarkable score of 17-under par.

"I hope his playbook is as good as his scorecard," joked tournament director Dave Caspole, the Owls associate director of athletics, in announcing the winners.

A foursome headed by Conte's father, Lou Sr., topped the senior division with a 16-under score.

Westfield State athletic trainers Cheryl Lee Scecina and Katie Sylvain were part of the winning coed foursome with a score of nine-under.

Other honors went to baseball alumnus Jack Mosko '78 who won the putting contest, hockey alumnus Chad Lesage '78 who topped the long drive, and Deb Murphy p'17 who topped the women's long drive. Closest to the pin honors went to Tom Mathis, Jake Hough, and former Owls men's basketball guard Austin Joseph '18. Retired Owls cross country coach and Owls Hall of Famer Bill Devine '73 won the pot of gold drawing after hitting the green in regulation on the 11<sup>th</sup> hole.

The tournament is annually contested the first Monday in August, as the Owls ramp up for their teams to arrive for fall preseason. Conte's football team will be the first ones back on campus beginning Aug. 13.

munications & special projects manager, and Kristen Coelho, family and community engagement facilitator for Chicopee Public Schools, for their guidance and support in organizing the event, adding Homes Logic and Breaking Oppression have been supportive as well with the logistics.

"They've been amazing, amazing, amazing. They literally have taken their time to set up meetings with me and just kind of guide me through all this," Diaz said. "It's amazing to see while we're giving back, it's being recognized by the city."

He also cited Ed Casey from the Hampden County Sheriff's Department as a mentor, who has been doing Holyoke's Back to School events for the last seven years.

"We've been working with him for the past four years and they've been super supportive, so all the haircutting at his event, we take care of it. So, we kind of took what he was doing there and what I had already done years ago and we just started doing it in the city of Chicopee," Diaz said.

Diaz stressed that while the event--which originally began at the Faded Barber Lounge--is moving to Rivers Park to accommodate its growth, "the core of our event remains the same: to give back to the community."

Also, it empowers everyone. "That, to me, is one of the most important things is empowering the community," Diaz said. "Just kind of going in and motivating them and just showing them that there are resources out here."

Diaz encourages the community to stop by and take a second to take in what's around them and think about what can happen when everyone comes together.

Also, to have fun. "If everybody gets together, puts their time, effort and volunteer and whatnot, great things can happen. We can empower so many people, we can motivate so many people and that's aside from all the resources that are there," Diaz said. "I want everyone to feel empowered, I want everyone to feel some type of motivation where we can all be successful."

# 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:

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 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.

## 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.

## BACK TO SCHOOL from page 1

nity resource vendors including the Valley Opportunity Council and more.

The sponsors include Chicopee Electric Light, Cradles to Crayons, Faded Barber Lounge, Homes Logic Real Estate, Tony Digital, Roca, the fire and police departments, the parks & recreation department and Goodworks Coffee.

Ricardo Diaz, owner of Faded Barber Lounge, expressed excitement for the event as it's grown since its inception 12 years earlier, calling it an "end of the summer get together, party, for the kids."

Diaz is passionate about giving back to the community and bringing people together, hoping the event helps bring resources to residents' attention, especially if afraid to ask for help or support.

"If they go to an event and it's there in front of them, they just might grab that flyer," Diaz said. "Just being able to have all those resources there for the families, the kids, parents is big. I would say aside from all the services that we're going to be doing, the resources, to me, is the biggest thing for me out of this, is being able to give these families and the community the resources that they may need."

Diaz explained when he first came to Chicopee with his partner, he didn't see a back-to-school event in the area, whereas other cities like Holyoke and Springfield had them.

He wanted to change that, later sharing he had attended similar events when he was younger and wanted to do one himself when he was older.

"So, we took initiative and we said, 'Hey, let's make it happen. Let's do something for the community.' The same people that live in our area--our community--they come here, they get haircuts. Or, even if they don't get haircuts, they'll pass by and say hi. They all became kind of family," Diaz said. "So, it's a way for us of giving back, show them appreciation. I mean, you guys always show us love and come get haircuts and support everything that we got going on. We would love to do something for you guys."

Diaz expressed gratitude to Mayor John Vieau, Monica Torres, community & constituent liaison, Chloe Soto, com-

## Polish National Credit Union promotes Dionne

CHICOPEE - Polish National Credit Union (PNCU) is pleased to announce the promotion of Rachel Dionne to Vice President, Credit Risk Officer. Rachel Dionne, a resident of Southampton, Massachusetts, has been with the credit union since 2017, most recently serving as, AVP Credit Risk Officer.

Dionne brings over two decades of extensive experience in financial analysis and credit risk management. In her new role, she will be responsible for overseeing the credit risk management strategies and ensuring the credit union's continued financial stability and growth. Her promotion is a testament to her dedication, expertise, and significant contributions to the organization.

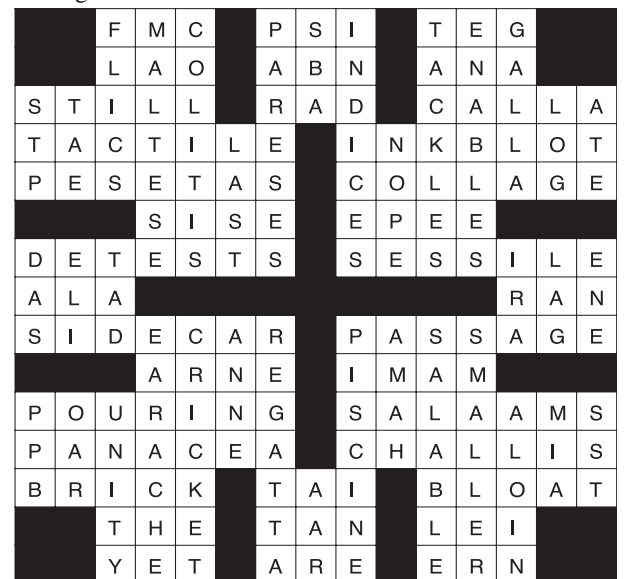
"We are thrilled to promote Rachel Dionne to Vice President, Credit Risk Officer," said James P. Kelly, President and CEO of Polish National Credit Union. "Rachel's extensive experience, strategic vision, and unwavering commitment have been invaluable to our organization. Her promotion is well-deserved, and we are confident she will continue to excel in her new role."

Dionne holds a Master of Science in Non-profit Management and a Bachelor of Science in Accounting, both from American International College (AIC) in Springfield, Massachusetts.

Before joining Polish National Credit Union, Rachel's career in finance spans over two decades, including

significant roles at Mont Marie Health Care Center as Director of Finance and at Dielectrics Inc. as Accounting Supervisor. At Mont Marie Health Care Center, she led the accounting team, prepared annual budgets and financial reports, and presented the financial status to board members. Her tenure at Dielectrics Inc. involved preparing financial reports, cost accounting, and maintaining audit papers.

Beyond her professional achievements, Dionne has been an active member of the community, serving on the Board of Directors for PVP (Pioneer Valley Performing Arts) in South Hadley, Massachusetts, and holding positions as both Board Member and Treasurer. In addition, Dionne recently joined the Board of Directors for Providence Ministries, a non-profit organization serving the greater Holyoke, Massachusetts region.



## 25th Anniversary Ken O'Neill Dawn to Dusk Golf Marathon to Benefit the Jimmy Fund

Aug. 26 at Chicopee Country Club

CHICOPEE - On Monday, Aug. 26, the 25th Anniversary of the Ken O'Neill Dawn to Dusk Golf Marathon will take place at the Chicopee Country Club. This annual event is a dedicated fundraiser for the Jimmy Fund, with all proceeds supporting cancer research at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

This year, Mike O'Neill will be playing an incredible 108 holes (six rounds of 18 holes) of golf in memory of family and friends who have

been lost to cancer. "This marathon holds a special place in my heart," said Mike O'Neill. "It's not just about playing golf; it's about honoring those we've lost and supporting the fight against cancer. I'm deeply moved by the support this event has received over the years, and I'm committed to making a difference."

Throughout the day, Mike will be joined by guest golfers, each of whom has a personal connection to the cause, having lost loved ones to cancer. The event will culminate in the "109th Hole Reception" at 6:00

PM at The Boathouse in South Hadley. The reception will feature entertainment, food, an opportunity drawing, and silent auction items.

Tickets for the reception are available for a \$35 donation, and all are welcome to attend and support this important cause.

Businesses and individuals interested in becoming sponsors for this special event are encouraged to contact Mike O'Neill directly at 413-478-6409. Your support will go a long way in helping to fund crucial cancer research.

## 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](mailto:cbordeau19@gmail.com). Or call 413-534-5657 Christina to make reservations.

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!

## PUBLIC NOTICES

### CHICOPEE CITY COUNCIL ZONING COMMITTEE LEGAL NOTICE

The Zoning Committee of the Chicopee City Council will hold a public hearing **Wednesday, August 28, 2024 at 6:30 PM\*** in the Chambers, 4th floor, City Hall Annex, 274 Front Street., Chicopee, MA 01013 to discuss the following:

Zone Change from Res A to Res B for +/- 12,778 SF of property located at 586 Montgomery St. for the purpose of converting to 2 family. Applicant - Valerie Duprey, Ronald Sagan, 586 Montgomery St., Chicopee, MA 01020.

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

The August 28, 2024 Zoning Committee hearing shall be available to the public via zoom and in person. Zoom credentials are available upon request by calling (413) 594-1435 or email [aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov](mailto:aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov).

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

### CHICOPEE CITY COUNCIL ZONING COMMITTEE LEGAL NOTICE

The Zoning Committee of the Chicopee City Council will hold a public hearing **Wednesday, August 28, 2024 at 6:30 PM\*** in the Chambers, 4th floor, City Hall Annex, 274 Front Street., Chicopee, MA 01013 to discuss the following:

Zone Change application from Business A to Residence A for 7,378 SF of property located at 1230 Montgomery St. for the purpose of sin-

gle-family residence. There is no business here. Applicant - Donald J. Ruel, 72 Parenteau Ct., Chicopee, MA 01020.

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

The August 28, 2024 Zoning Committee hearing shall be available to the public via zoom and in person. Zoom credentials are available upon request by calling (413) 594-1435 M-F 8:30 AM - 5 PM or by email at [aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov](mailto:aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov).

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

**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. HD24P1627EA Estate of: Thomas W Adasiewicz Also known as: Tom W Adasiewicz Date of Death: 03/09/2024 CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons: A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Paul Adasiewicz of West Springfield, 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: **Paul Adasiewicz of West Springfield, 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 08/30/2024. 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: August 02, 2024 **Rosemary A Saccomani**, Register of Probate 08/16/2024

### CHICOPEE CITY COUNCIL ZONING COMMITTEE

The Zoning Committee of the Chicopee City Council will hold a public hearing **Wednesday, August 28, 2024 at 6:30 PM\*** in the Chambers, 4th floor, City Hall Annex, 274 Front Street.,

Chicopee, MA 01013 to discuss the following:

Ordinance Amendment to delete in its entirety Chapter 275-66A Burnett Rd. and insert new language for Chapter 275-66A Burnett Road Special Permit process. Complete text available in the City Council Office. Applicant - Councilor Samuel Shumsky (Ward 6), City Council Office, City Hall Annex, 274 Front St. Chicopee, MA 01013.

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

The August 28, 2024 Zoning Committee hearing shall be available to the public via zoom and in person. Zoom credentials are available upon request by calling (413) 594-1435 M-F 8:30 AM - 5 PM or by email at [aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov](mailto:aczarniecki@chicopeema.gov).

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

08/09, 08/16/2024

### INVITATION FOR BID CHICOPEE ELECTRIC LIGHT 725 FRONT STREET, CHICOPEE, MA 01020 BID NO. CEL. 24-0514 ISSUE DATE: AUGUST 12, 2024

Sealed proposals are being accepted for: **"OVERHEAD MULTIPLEX SERVICE CABLE (ANNUAL BID)"**

**BID OPENING DATE, TIME AND LOCATION: September 5, 2024 at 10:00 A.M.** at Chicopee Electric Light, 725 Front Street, Chicopee, MA 01020-1778.

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

### BIDS.

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

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

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

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

Please submit Bids in **duplicate** clearly marked with the Bid Number and Title:

**BID NUMBER: C.E.L. 24-0514**

**TITLE: "OVERHEAD MULTIPLEX SERVICE CABLE (ANNUAL BID)"**

Natalie Colberg Purchasing 08/16/2024

### 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 30, 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.

1999 Chevrolet S10 VIN: 1GCCS1441XK117014 Michael Wright 206 1st St Pittsfield, MA 01201

2003 Ford F150 VIN: 1FTRF17WX3NA62373 Anthony Ellcocka

301 W Chestnut St. Brockton, MA 02301

2004 Acura TL VIN: 19UUA66234A055957 Lenny Marrero 54 Washburn St. Apt 54 Springfield, MA 01107

2005 Honda Pilot VIN: 2HKYF18485H523582 Mohamed Barrie 38 Kenneth St #2FL Hartford, CT 06114

2005 Toyota Rav4 VIN: JTEGD20V450066564 Kimberly Guzman Santana 462 Front St Apt 3R Chicopee, MA 01013

2007 Subaru Forester VIN: JF1SG636X7H716865 Patricia J. Tino 23 Neck Rd. Clinton, CT 06413

2016 Nissan Versa VIN: 3N1CN7AP2GL820115 Uma Paladugu 2034 Riverdale St Apt 205 West Springfield, MA 01089

2000 Chevrolet Malibu VIN: 1G1ND52J2Y6283516 Robert Nieves 10 Mill St. Springfield, MA 01108

2006 Saturn Vue VIN: SGZCZ33D06S828404 Ivelis Diaz 52 High St. Apt 413 Springfield, MA 01105

2008 Ford Explorer Eddie Bauer VIN: 1FMEU74858UA23793 Russell & Jennie Cleaver 580 Kelly Lane Newport, PA 17074

2011 Honda Pilot VIN: 5FN9YF4H21BB088026 Edna Mabel Vargas Acre 219 Hough Ave Bridgeport, CT 06608

2012 Kia Rio VIN: KNADN4A30C6075640 Jaime Violano 660 Mix Ave. Hamden, CT 06514

2024 Honda Accord VIN: 1HGCY1F32RA024192 David Rivera 36 Decker Pl. Apt 36 Springfield, MA 01104

08/09, 08/16, 08/23/2024

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**HANDYMAN RESIDENTIAL REPAIRS.** Powerwashing, home repairs, interior/exterior painting, ceiling/wall repairs and chimney repairs. Fully licensed/insured. Lic. #105950CSL. Call **413-566-5596/413-433-5073.**

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## HELP WANTED

The Trustees of the Otis Library seek applicants for a **Library Director Position.** The position pays \$21-\$25 per hour commensurate with experience. The Director can expect to work between 25-30 hours per week. An application packet is available by emailing [otislibrary@cwmar.org](mailto:otislibrary@cwmar.org) or at the **Otis Library at 48 North Main Road, Otis, MA 01253. (413) 269-0109.** The application deadline is **September 13, 2024.** The Otis Library Board of Trustees is an equal opportunity employer.

## REAL ESTATE

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**ALL REAL ESTATE** advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

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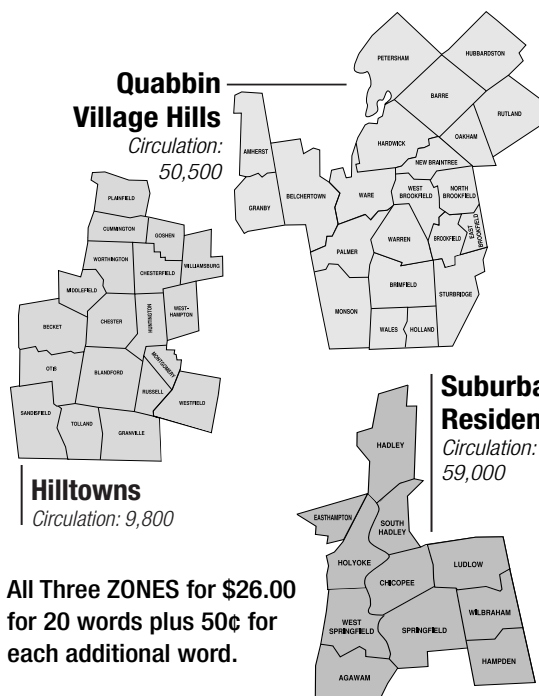
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# Community enjoys OneUp Games event at library

The latest video games at your fingertips!

By Amanda Munson  
Correspondent

CHICOPEE - Virtual reality, game consoles, screens, huge selection of games and controllers were set up for the kids wanting to play Fortnite, Minecraft, Super Smash Bros, and more as the Bazan Community Room was transformed into a gamers paradise on Aug. 6.

The stations were equipped with the newest and well known games that all kids could play along with One Up Games.

On the Go strives to bring professional level gaming events and tournaments around the country, creating a fun and competitive environment for all players of each event. The library is one of hundreds of events that they travel and engage all ages to play video games, even librarians!

Brent Tenerowicz, the library's youth services associate, expressed his love for gaming and why it was important for the library to be involved in a program that brought the most current games to the community.

"Back in 2018 to 2019, I received an email regarding One Up Games and how the company visited a library and conducted a gaming event where they brought everything--a newer offering at that time--and a service I wasn't aware of. The library did not have a Nintendo Switch of our own. We just had the Wii U, occasionally holding teen events and hooking it up to the projector, where they could play Just Dance and other group games. It was great, but we had to play



URLEY PHOTOS BY AMANDA MUNSON

Lia, an On the Go employee, discusses with the Leone brothers what game they are going to pick next.

games that a lot of people had to play at once. It was a larger event and only one system," Tenerowicz said.

Tenerowicz was impressed by the coordination of the company and how easy it was to hold them at the library. It brings games that aren't easily accessible to a wide audience that's free to do so.

"You hang out and get to play a bunch of different games, this is the 6th or 7th time coming here. We have had them come and done open play with the



In front is David, playing virtual reality with controllers, occasionally walking around and experiencing the game through an unforgettable experience.

virtual reality composed of gaming systems and headsets and we also have held a Mario Kart Tournament that was pretty fun. At the library, we have a Nintendo switch and a video game collection that circulates for anyone who has a library card," Tenerowicz said.

Lia is a team leader, one of the first employees to be hired for On the Go for One Up Games, who talked about the basics of the program and what the company has to offer.

"It's definitely grown over the past few years. Last summer we were working for 180 different libraries and now it is over 300. Next summer will be even busier due to the summer reading program theme being about gaming, we are already booking for next summer and telling libraries to schedule soon. It is up and down the east coast, Rhode Island, New Jersey, Connecticut at Mohegan Sun doing CT Gamer Con like hosting Mario Kart and Smash Brothers. We are On the Go and then there is another business that is called One Up Games, a store in Plainville Massachusetts," she explained.

She also shared their offerings.

"We have two groups of gear, 6 Xbox's, and a virtual reality gaming set-up. It all depends on the size of the event and where we are. We also offer mini golf, 9 holes and 18 holes with options to play at night with lights," she said.

Max, meanwhile, is an employee for On the Go, explaining his ties to the company and how this job doesn't feel like work.

"We just got back from a trip to Maryland. We have gone pretty far down. I really like libraries that have history and unique stories tied to them. It's a great community working with them. Before we started On the Go, I was a fan of Fortnite and my cousin Pete was a fan of the store, then we both did a tournament and loved it. Pete and Brian started talking and they built a business. We are hoping to expand and do more events. Our largest event was around 500 people," he said.

The program was supported by the Chicopee Cultural Council.

To learn more, visit [www.onthego.games/](http://www.onthego.games/).

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## Harmony House Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser to benefit the home for the terminally ill

CHICOPEE - Harmony House of Western Massachusetts, a home for the terminally ill, has scheduled a spaghetti and meatball dinner to be held on Friday, September 6th from 4:30 - 8 p.m. at the Moose Family Center, 244 Fuller Road, Chicopee. Dinner will be served from 4:45 to 6:45. Bring your friends and family for a fun evening of food and fun, including entertainment and exciting raffles for prizes including a television, barbecue grill, dinner and a show at the Majestic Theatre in West Springfield, and many more. The donation is \$15 and dinner is free for children under the age of six. Tickets can be purchased by calling and leaving a message at 413-315-9784 or visiting the Alden Credit Union at 710 Grattan Street in Chicopee. Venmo is also available at @harmonyhousewma and entering #tickets Spaghetti Dinner. Tickets will also be available at the door.

Founded by the late Ruth Willemain, a hospice volunteer for many years, the goal

of Harmony House is to provide a comfortable, compassionate, and loving environment to people who have little or no resources or family and are entering the final stages of life. The organization provides personal care with honor and dignity at little or no cost to terminally ill individuals.

Harmony House is totally privately funded through the generosity of individuals, businesses, and foundations. Contributions are gratefully accepted at all times. "Someday you may need us; right now, we need you." Donations are always appreciated. Please visit the website at [www.harmonyhousewma.org](http://www.harmonyhousewma.org) or send your checks to Harmony House of Western Massachusetts, 66 View Street, Chicopee, MA 01020. Harmony House is a 501(c)(3) corporation. If interested in learning more or becoming a volunteer, please contact Harmony House at 413-315-9784 or by email at [harmonyhousewma@gmail.com](mailto:harmonyhousewma@gmail.com).

## 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.

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