

# Chicopee Register

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## COMMUNITY



Turley photo by Amanda Munson

Smiling with their dinners, Sandy Nadeau and Carole Tardif were happy to talk about why both joined the Elks and discussing next steps for the lodge.

## Spaghetti and meatballs served hot and fresh at the Elks

By Amanda Munson  
Correspondent

CHICOPEE - Chicopee Lodge of Elks #1849, located at 431 Granby Rd. offered a fresh homemade meal of spaghetti and meatballs, mixed with great company and friendly service on Sept 26.

Meeting with the exalted ruler, loyal knight and lecturing knight of the lodge, all of them shared their beginnings on how they started coming, new ideas for upcoming events and why they love the work they do for the Elks.

In a group conversation with Sandy Nadeau and Carole and Hughes Tardif, they spoke about what originally brought them here to the Elks.

"My brother-in-law brought me here. They are always looking for people to be on the board and volunteer and brought along my sister. We are trying to gear our events and activities towards the younger

community," Nadeau said, sister of Carole.

When asked about the idea of having a spaghetti and meatball dinner that was free to the public, the group reiterated the want to give back, the motto of their lodge and what they all stand for. Guests were served a hot dinner, with a roll, choice of cookies and drinks.

"My husband's been very involved for over 30 years, saying we needed people and I said that I would do it. It's my sister and I's third year doing it together. At the Elks, we want to give back to the community and that's what we are doing tonight. It's about giving back to the veterans, to our youth and bringing the community together. We are hoping for a bigger crowd at upcoming events, in hopes of bringing in new faces, help and people that bring in more ideas. The craft fair is new, we are trying new avenues

See **ELKS** page 5

## COMMUNITY

## Chicopee Chamber hosts Workforce Development Listening Session



TURLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS

Gina Kos, executive director at Sunshine Village, speaks with State Sen. Adam Gomez (D-Springfield), State Sen. Jake Oliveira (D-Ludlow), State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee), State Sen. John Velis (D-Westfield), State Sen. Patricia Duffy (D-Holyoke) and State Rep. Mike Finn (D-West Springfield) at her right for the Workforce Development Listening Session in Chicopee on Sept. 30. Kos served as moderator and also presented thoughts on the human services industry and addressing illiteracy.

By Kristin Rivers  
Editor  
krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE - The Chicopee Chamber of Commerce hosted a Workforce Development Listening Session from 8:30 to 10 a.m. with state legislators at City Hall Auditorium on Sept. 30.

The panelists were State Sen. Adam Gomez (D-Springfield), State Sen. Jake Oliveira (D-Ludlow), State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee), State Sen. John Velis (D-Westfield), State Sen. Patricia Duffy (D-Holyoke) and State Rep. Mike Finn

(D-West Springfield).

Gina Kos, executive director at Sunshine Village, served as moderator.

During the listening session, members of the business community shared their struggles and successes with workforce development, with topics ranging from family medical leave, elder care and caregivers and the human service industry to teacher retention, internships and apprenticeships, public housing and medium and heavy emissions legislation.

Maureen Cayer, director of the Agawam Housing Authority,

is a Chicopee resident and presented her concerns on public housing, explaining how there's a lack of affordable housing "and the understanding of what affordable housing is versus workforce housing" along with fair-market rates.

"There's a huge difference between what people understand as being able to be affordable on living wage and what affordable housing is to a community like Chicopee," Cayer said. "If we could continue the conversation

See **WORKFORCE SESSION** page 6

## COMMUNITY

## Chicopee author publishes book on children's WWII literature

By Kristin Rivers  
Editor  
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CHICOPEE - Local author Jacqueline Lynch has released a new book, "Children's Wartime Adventure Novels -- The Silent Generation's Vicarious Experience of World War II."

The book is available in eBook form through Lynch's Shopify, Barnes & Noble, Apple and is also found on Amazon in eBook, paperback and hardback form.

Lynch explained the book revisits middle-grade and young adult books "that brought the war home to kids too young to fight it but who were acutely aware of its tragedies, triumphs, anxieties and grim realities."

"These kids' books

were published not merely to entertain but to educate on what the war was ideologically about and to indoctrinate young readers to the kind of patriotic and self-sacrificing citizens they should try to be," Lynch said.

"Moreover, there was a burst of feminist inspiration as women not only desired to help the war effort but were actually needed to win the war, which was especially empowering for girls of the day. 'Cherry Ames' is notable for inspiring more than one generation to enter the field of nursing."

Lynch said history inspired the book, sharing how there are many ways of



Jacqueline Lynch

exploring it, including through pop culture.

"We can learn a lot about an era through its music, its fashions, etc., but children's literature is just as revealing, I think, of an era in time. Children were by

no means on the sidelines of World War II; they were actually more informed and more involved in national and world geopolitics than American youngsters are today," Lynch said. "It was fascinating for me to discover the various series books, and quite a challenge to find them, as most are out of print. It's funny that many of these titles, depending on their condition

today, have become collector's items."

It, also, has inspired her other books, with Lynch being a nonfiction and fiction writer.

"My non-fiction titles include local and New England history including 'A Tragic Toast to Christmas-The Infamous Wood Alcohol Deaths of 1919 in Chicopee, Massachusetts' and analysis of classic films. My fiction includes stories likewise of New England - for instance, 'Beside the Still Waters' is a story about the towns demolished to create the Quabbin Reservoir," Lynch said. "I also have a mystery series set in the early 1950s with New England locations. The last

See **CHILDRENS BOOK** page 8



PHOTOS COURTESY OF JACQUELINE LYNCH

Jacqueline Lynch's latest book, "Children's Wartime Adventure Novels -- The Silent Generation's Vicarious Experience of World War II."

# Elms College hosts Rev. Mariama White-Hammond at Academic Convocation

By Kristin Rivers  
Editor  
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CHICOPEE - Elms College held their annual Academic Convocation on Sept. 25 with Rev. Mariama White-Hammond as this year's convocation speaker.

White-Hammond was a former chief of Environment, Energy, and Open Space for the City of Boston, embedding equity throughout her work to lead initiatives for establishing carbon targets for existing large buildings, spearheading a city-led green jobs program for young people from environmental justice communities and for overseeing a surge in historic landmark designations particularly in communities of color.

Her accolades include the Barr Fellowship, the Celtics Heroes Among Us Award, The Roxbury Founders Day Award and the Boston NAACP Image Award and recognition as one of the Grist 50 Fixers for 2019 and one of Sojourners' 11 Women Shaping the Church.

She stepped down from her role in April 2024 to dedicate more time to her church--where she serves as a pastor at the New Roots AME Church in Dorchester--and community engagement work.

White-Hammond was excited to be at the college, sharing how when Elms reached out to her, they told her how the campus was reading "World of Wonders" by Aimee Nezhukumatathil.

White-Hammond was impressed with this.

"To be honest with you, there's a lot about environmentalism that has often made people think of folks of privilege or that you need to live in some far-off, rural place or there's sort of a limited group of people that we imagine, the kind of peo-

ple that you're used to seeing on the cover of Patagonia, right?" White-Hammond said. "What I really love is that both the book and from what I've been learning about the work that they're trying to do here is to engage a lot of young people. Not all of them are going to go into ecology or some specific field, but really seeing how our connection to nature, our own faith and cultural traditions and the academic work that we do in the world that they can all have connections. So, I like that that was the way that books are thinking and I always love the opportunity to be with young people, so that brought me here."

White-Hammond was looking forward to meeting the students, hoping to help them "really think about how their time here is not just about earning the credential that's going to let them get a job down the line."

"But, they have a real opportunity and a real space to imagine who they want to be and what kind of world they want to build, and then think, about how they use this time to get them started in their journey of building a better world," White-Hammond said.

White-Hammond also enjoys how the young people and the next generation ask tough questions and are energized, along with how global they've become and can motivate adults in addressing the climate crisis.

"Their world is much more connected than ours has ever been and I think that that means they have the ability to work cooperatively in a way we may never have seen before and it's a good thing



Rev. Mariama White-Hammond

because we really need that," White-Hammond said.

White-Hammond said one thing she would stress to the students is how "we are in a moment where we have to decide who we're going to be."

"What is the story we're going to write about yourselves and, I think, that is actually a profoundly spiritual, moral and ethical issue, not really a scientific one, and I have deep respect for science," White-Hammond said.

"It helps us to understand what's around us, it's beautiful, and, in this moment, we have to decide who we will choose to become and I think we're having a hard time. We're having a really hard time, in our country, figuring that out."

White-Hammond added she always felt "we can do better than this."

"I believe that God has gifted us with so many talents and opportunities and sometimes it's our small thinking that prevents us from imagining the better world that we can have," White-Hammond said.

White-Hammond hopes the students feel encouraged after her speech and on how they do projects, hoping the community-at-large can connect more with each other.

"The solution to so many of the challenges that we have lie in us actually connecting more, listening to each other more," White-Hammond said. "Maybe taking a walk outside, because it is hard to yell at somebody when you're in a beautiful place when you're walking together and being together. So, I hope they will connect with each other and connect with the students."

## Cancer Awareness at RiverMills Center

CHICOPEE - The Chicopee Council on Aging host a cancer awareness program on Tuesday, Oct. 8 at 10 a.m. at Chicopee Council on Aging's RiverMills Center, located at 5 W. Main Street.

The Oncology Department with Holyoke Medical Center will be at RiverMills to chat about the importance of cancer screenings and preventative measures you can take. You must register in advance by stopping by RiverMills center or by calling 534-3698.

## Dance Social at RiverMills Center

CHICOPEE - The Chicopee Council on host a Dance Social on Friday, Oct. 11 at 1:30 p.m. at Chicopee Council on Aging's RiverMills Center, located at 5 W. Main Street.

Richie Mitnick will be at RiverMills for an afternoon dance social! Come and sing and dance the afternoon away with your friends. The cost is \$3. You must register in advance at RiverMills Center.

## Ask An Attorney at RiverMills

CHICOPEE - The Chicopee Council on host "Ask An Attorney" on Wednesday, Oct. 23 at 10:00 a.m. at Chicopee Council on Aging's RiverMills Center, located at 5 W. Main Street. Hyman Darling of Bacon Wilson will be here to chat about Retirement plans. You must register in advance at RiverMills Center.

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## No Plantings Allowed at Fairview Cemetery

CHICOPEE - The Fairview Cemetery Commission and Chicopee Parks Department would like to remind families of loved ones buried at the Fairview Cemetery that plantings in the ground are not allowed. The Fairview Cemetery Commission and Parks Department are requesting that all plantings (flowers, shrubs, etc.) on graves and all decorations be removed by Oct. 1.

Cemetery staff will begin their fall cleanup that week and any remaining plants and decorations will be removed and discarded.

In an effort to improve safety of employees and those visiting the cemetery, the Chicopee Cemetery Commission ap-

proved the revisions to the rules and regulations of Fairview Cemetery in January 2019. Artificial grave ornaments, artificial flowers, enclosures of any kind, and new plantings in the ground are not allowed as they are hazardous to both visitors and workers. Holiday pots and boxes will only be allowed during the Memorial Day and Holiday seasons. Notices are being sent to deed owners regarding the removal of plants and/or decorations on their lots.

For a complete list of Fairview Cemetery rules and regulations, fees and charges, and monument policies, please visit [www.chicopeema.gov/384/Fairview-Cemetery](http://www.chicopeema.gov/384/Fairview-Cemetery) or call the Parks and Recreation Office at 594-3481.

## St. Stanislaus Basilica to host Annual Parish Bazaar on October 19

CHICOPEE - St. Stanislaus Basilica will host their annual Parish Bazaar on Saturday, October 19, from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. at St. Stanislaus School, 534 Front Street, Chicopee.

The Bazaar will feature a Polish-American kitchen serving a Polish plate with pierogi, golumbki, kielbasa, and kapusta. They will also have hamburgers, hot dogs, and kielbasa grinders fresh from the grill along with home baked pastries.

Various activities including games of chance, basket raffles, items from Poland, religious items, holiday decorations, and children's games will be available. Her-

itage "Pops" Polka Band and a DJ will provide entertainment for adults with Polish and American music; "Magic AI" and a balloon-making clown will entertain children.

Also, We will have representatives from Wreaths Across America accepting donations to decorate veterans' graves in December and a van from the PNCU collecting non-perishable food for our local soup kitchen.

Everyone is invited for good food and fun times with free admission and free parking. For more information, contact the Parish Office at (413) 594-6669 or email at [contact@ststansbasilica.org](mailto:contact@ststansbasilica.org).

PLEASE REMEMBER TO RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

# City Council approves HR appropriation, reappointments

*Also, Mayor's appropriation for education approved*

**By Kristin Rivers**  
Editor  
krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE - City Council approved an appropriation for the Department of Human Resources, two reappointments for boards and commissions and a mayor's appropriation for education purposes on Oct. 1.

First, an appropriation of \$20,334.67 to the Human Resources Special Account for Indemnifications for Police and Fire from available funds in the Stabilization Fund.

Mayor John Vieau explained how it's no secret that the city is self-insured and "these are medical bills for our first responders."

Next, the appointment of Carissa Lisee as a member of the Zoning Board of Appeals to serve for a term through on October 1, 2031.

Vieau said this is a reappointment to the board.

"I want to thank her for her continued service on the Zoning Board of Appeals. She has, also, worn many hats in the city for many years and I want to thank her for volunteering her time," Vieau said.

Third, the appointment of Paul Babineau to the Commission on Disability, serving a term that will expire on October 19, 2027.

Vieau said Babineau is, also, a reappointment to the commission.

"Paul, thank you for your service and your continued service," Vieau said.

No questions were presented for these mayor's orders, all later approved 12-0.

**"The director of Budget and Finance, John Miarecki, who's also in the audience, he said that this money is needed."**

**- Ward 4 City Council  
George Balakier**

### Education Purposes Appropriation Update

In a follow-up from the Sept. 17 meeting, a mayor's appropriation of \$9,139,752.88 to the Stabilization for Education Purposes Account--comprising \$3,409,382.78 for school prior year expenses and \$5,730,370.10 for school prior year salaries--was approved.

The item was postponed at the time due to appearing on the agenda a day early before the School Committee could vote on it, which they did the following day on Sept. 18.

After Ward 4 Councilor George Balakier provided an overview of the numbers when presenting the motion, he said this.

"The director of Budget and Finance, John Miarecki, who's also in the audience, he said that this money is

needed," Balakier said.

This item was, also, approved 12-0.

### Addressing Public Input from Last Meeting

During public input, Balakier and President/Councilor-at-Large Frank Laflamme, speaking as residents, addressed comments that were shared at the last meeting, where four people from the United Sovereign Americans Mass Chapter gave a presentation regarding the validity of the 2022 Massachusetts General Election.

Balakier found the comments presented by the group "somewhat troubling and disturbing" as the presenters were not residents of Chicopee, but from other towns.

"Second, United Sovereign Americans is an organization that is controversial, contentious and they're very conservative. But, it's trying to disrupt the 2024 election through a series of anti-voter lawsuits, disrupting voter rules throughout the country and other election procedures," Balakier said. "Further, this has been referenced that in 2022 they said that the Mass General Election appears to have been invalid, which is really questionable. Election fraud is extremely rare in this country. Very few instances that have been proven."

Balakier said the city's clerk's office and city officials "take great care and they're very serious and we follow strict state guidelines regarding elections."

"The office of Keith Rattell--working with the Secretary of State and our

poll workers--are dedicated, experienced and hardworking to ensure that the election procedures follow both federal and state law and this does not violate the process," Balakier said.

Laflamme provided clarification, explaining how working with the Law Department, the city clerk's office and others, "any public from wherever they're from has the right to come and spend three minutes on our mic and public input."

"I cannot judge who they can only be city residents or whoever. So, I just want to be clear that we cannot judge who comes to the mic. Anybody has the right to come," Laflamme said.

Addressing how there were four speakers, Laflamme explained the woman who called their office wanted to speak for 10 minutes.

"I informed her that we will not have more than three minutes. Nobody can speak more than three minutes and we stated that and I am very strict in regards to that," Laflamme said.

He stressed anyone who comes to public input--resident or not--has a right to speak.

"She had the right to have other people come, speak three minutes on her behalf. We do not take three minutes. Someone takes two minutes and says, 'Well, I'll give my minute to someone else.' That's not allowed. Anybody that comes to the mic has three minutes to speak. So, I wanted to clarify the reason why I allowed it," Laflamme said.

## Chicopee resident to participate in Boston Marathon® Jimmy Fund walk presented by Hyundai

*Joan Leahy will join thousands in the iconic fundraising walk for Dana-Farber Cancer Institute to support all forms of cancer research and care*

CHICOPEE - One resident from Chicopee will participate in the Boston Marathon® Jimmy Fund Walk presented by Hyundai on Sunday, Oct. 6.

Joan Leahy, along with thousands of other walkers, will participate in the iconic annual event that will unite the community to raise funds to support all forms of adult and pediatric care and research at the nation's premier cancer center, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. The Jimmy Fund Walk has raised more than \$176 million for Dana-Farber in its 35-year history, raising a record-breaking \$9.4 million in 2023.

"For 35 years, the Jimmy Fund Walk has continuously supported lifesaving research and cancer care at Dana-Farber. Our goal is to build off of the momentum we've established throughout that history, and in 2024, aim to surpass our total from last year by raising \$9.5 million," says Cait-

lin Fink, assistant vice president of event fundraising. "Fighting cancer is what we do. The Walk unites our community under a common goal -to defy cancer together."

### One Walk, Four Distances, For All Cancers

The Jimmy Fund Walk is the only organized walk permitted to use the famed Boston Marathon® course, and participants have the flexibility to choose from four distance options: 5K walk (from Dana-Farber's Longwood Medical Campus); 10K walk (from Newton); Half Marathon walk (from Wellesley); and Marathon walk (from Hopkinton). Walkers can participate virtually as well.

Whatever route participants choose, they will be supported by hundreds of volunteers and treated to refueling stations with refreshments throughout the course. Poster-sized photographs of patients-Jimmy Fund Walk Heroes-are the heart of the event and appear along the course as inspiration. All routes will conclude at the Jimmy Fund Walk Finish Line Powered by Schneider Electric at Boston Common, by the corner of Charles and Beacon Street. Finish line activities will include a celebration with food, entertainment, and more.

## Touch a Truck event takes place Oct. 6 at Chicopee Elks

CHICOPEE - A Touch a Truck event will be taking place at the Chicopee Elks Lodge 1849 on Sunday, Oct. 6 from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

There will be games for the kids and hot dogs and hamburgers for sale (cash only).

\$5 for hot dog, chips and soda

\$7 for hamburgers, chips and soda

A 50/50 raffle will support the Boys & Girls Club of Chicopee and there will be an additional raffle table.

The Chicopee Elks Lodge is located at 431 Granby Rd.

To learn more, call 413-592-1849.

## Send Us Your Community Dazzler Events

**Turley Publications will print your holiday calendar events FREE OF CHARGE in our Dazzler Supplement which will be published November 20, 2024.**  
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## GUEST COLUMN



By Ellenor Downer



### Northern Harrier

A Brimfield resident recently visited a pond on New Reed Street in Warren where he saw a northern harrier “cruising” over the marsh.

He said in an email, “The bird (northern harrier) dove after something on the ground then sat for a couple of minutes before taking off to cruise over the vegetation along the far side of the pond.”

The northern harrier is 18 inches long. It feeds by coursing close to the ground and quickly swooping down on its prey.

This behavior is what the Brimfield resident observed. The male is grey above and white below. The female is larger than the male, common in many hawks, brown above and streaked underneath. The immature harrier is brown above, reddish brown to creamy below and streaking only on the chest. Harriers eat mice, rats, birds, snakes, frogs and other small animals. They inhabit open fields, grasslands, prairies and marshes.

The female lays three to nine bluish, white eggs in a nest of sticks and grasses lined with finer materials placed on the ground. Males are polygamous, mating with up to three females.

They often hunt at dusk and catch prey by sound as well as sight. Their owl like facial disk of feathers may function to help them locate sounds.

### Other birds in Warren

Other birds at the pond on New Reed Street in Warren beside the northern harrier were an adult bald eagle, adult osprey, four great egrets, a great blue heron and a belted kingfisher.

On another trip to to the ponds in Warren with his wife, the Brimfield residents saw two great egrets at one pond and one great egret at another pond. They also saw an adult osprey, a belted kingfisher, two great blue heron, three eastern phoebes and six mallards. The male mallards were in eclipse plumage.

### Unsuccessful hawk watch

He also did a mini hawk watch – an hour in the morning and an hour in the afternoon. He said, “Unfortunately, the hawks chose not to participate.” He did see a Carolina wren and two ruby-throated hummingbirds, one an immature male.

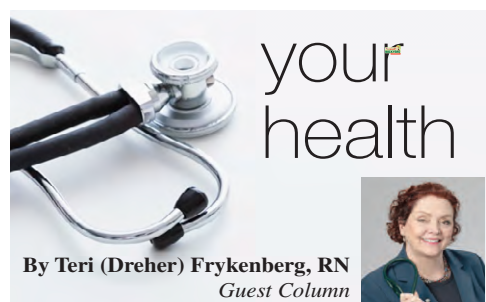
### Feeding peanuts

The Brimfield resident likes to feed the birds whole peanuts. He fills a tray feeder every day and by the end of the days, they are gone. Blue jays and tufted titmice are especially fond of them along with an occasional red-bellied woodpecker. This summer he has had up to eight blue jays at a time come for the peanuts. He said, “Lately the peanut tray has not been empty when I go out to take down the feeder and some days I only see one jay and most days and I did see three a few days ago.”

I feed shelled peanuts in the winter in a tray feeder and they are very popular. I’ve had up to ten blue jays at a time and the smaller birds like titmice and downy wood-

See **BACKYARD** page 8

## GUEST COLUMN



By Teri (Dreher) Frykenberg, RN  
Guest Column

By Teri Dreher Frykenberg, RN  
Guest Columnist

Hello, readers!

Having spent my growing-up years and graduating from nursing school here in western Mass, I am delighted to be able to share my perspective on today’s health care with you in this new weekly column.

Health care has changed in a million ways since I earned my RN at Memorial Hospital School of Nursing in Worcester in 1976. I went on to become a critical care nurse and worked for decades in hospitals. I am now a board-certified patient advocate, owner of NShore Patient Advocates, and considered a national authority in the field of patient advocacy.

My columns and two Amazon best-selling books arise from my philosophy of health care: That knowledge is power and that we are empowered to take charge of our health.

As a private patient advocate, I help people do just that: Take charge. I leverage my knowledge of the health care system to help them navigate complex issues, whether it’s caring for a loved one with dementia or getting a second opinion.

While I believe everyone needs a health-care advocate, I also believe that we can learn to advocate for ourselves and our loved ones. It just takes a bit of common sense and preparation.

Here are a few of the basics:

Be a good patient.

You are a good patient if you are on time for your appointments, have your questions written down in advance, are succinct in your questions and comments, take your medications as prescribed and follow all health-care instructions. Sometimes, it’s also helpful to bring someone with you – spouse, partner, child, friend – who can listen, fill in information gaps and help you remember what the doctor said.

Good patients are also respectful. You want to be the patient who doctors, nurses and health-care providers enjoy serving.

Be prepared.

A medical emergency can happen at any time, and when it does, our minds seem to go blank because of fear and worry. Here’s where a little bit of preparation comes in handy.

Compile the following and keep it where you or first responders can find it:

Health conditions (i.e. heart disease, hypertension, cancer, diabetes, etc.)

Copies of insurance cards

All surgeries

All medications, with dosages and when they’re taken

Allergies

Name and contact information for the primary care doctor

Name and contact information for the patient’s representative, if that person isn’t on hand

A signed HIPAA release form

Be knowledgeable.

In this era of internet scams, bogus information and deep-fake videos, we must take care to get our health-care information from reputable sources – and it’s not some random Facebook account or website.

When you’re searching for information about healthy lifestyles or medical conditions, stick with tried-and-true resources such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (cdc.gov), WebMD (webmd.com) or Harvard Health (health.harvard.edu).

Know your rights.

Who owns your health-care information? You do! Not the doctor or the hospital. You have the right to see and review your medical records, doctor’s notes after an appointment and what medications you might be receiving in the hospital.

You also have the right to appoint a patient representative, also known as an advocate. This is someone who is authorized to communicate on your behalf with health-care providers – they are your stand-in. In most states, the default patient representative is a spouse or a parent, if a child is under 18.

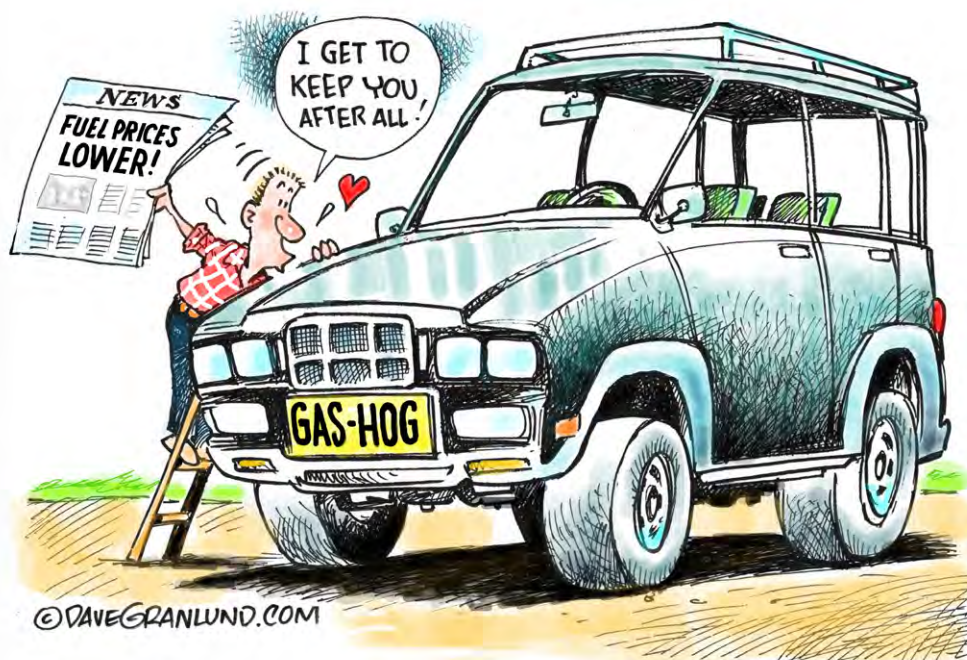
But if you can designate anyone by completing a HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act) release form, which is available on the Massachusetts Department of Public Health website. Make sure it’s on file with your doctor and the hospital.

My first experience advocating for a patient was during a family cruise in the Caribbean when my then-father-in-law developed a life-threatening health emergency. I stayed with him in order to communicate with doctors and make sure he was well-attended.

Back at work in the hospital ICU, I advocated for a patient who was experiencing complications from surgery. The doctor didn’t like my questioning the patient’s treatment, so I was placed on leave – and during my downtime, I realized the good I could do by helping other patients in similar situations. A patient advocate was born.

I hope you’ll join me every week as I discuss current issues in health care and provide the tips you need to advocate for yourself and loved ones.

Teri (Dreher) Frykenberg, RN, is a board-certified patient advocate and Monson resident. A critical care nurse for 30+ years, she is founder of NShore Patient Advocates, (www.NorthshoreRN.com). Her book, “How to Be a Healthcare Advocate for Yourself & Your Loved Ones is available on Amazon. She is offering a free phone consultation to Turley Newspaper readers. Contact her at Teri@northshorern.com to set it up.



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# City Council approves proposed ordinance for plastic bags

Ordinance goes into effect June 1, 2025

By Kristin Rivers  
Editor  
krivers@turley.com

CHICOPEE - City Council approved a proposed ordinance for plastic bags in the city on Oct. 1.

The decision comes after a favorable Ordinance Committee report, which would amend the definitions for Chapter 280-1.

Approval of the motion would accept the favorable report and enroll and ordain the proposed ordinance.

After Ward 5 Councilor Frederick Krampits explained the plastic bag ordinance would enact a plastic bag ban through the city, Ward 6 Councilor Samuel Shumsky--who co-sponsored the order alongside President/Councilor-at-Large Frank Laflamme, Ward 4 Councilor George Balakier and Vice President/Councilor-at-Large Robert Zygarowski--called it "a big win for the city."

Shumsky said this was proposed "as a means to try and help mitigate the situation that was prevalent in my area of Chicopee" where the Chicopee Market-

place is located.

"I, truthfully, think this is a great initiative to help clean the city up because when you come into the city, you're greeted by the so-called--or what I would call--trash ornaments hanging from the tree and I don't think it's a good look for the city," Shumsky said. "I think that taxpayers who live here should not have to be picking up trash from people who are careless, want to litter and just don't care about the cleanliness of a city. So, I appreciate everyone's support, Lisa Sanders over at Health and my fellow colleagues for backing me on this, supporting me. This is a big win not just for me, but for the city of Chicopee."

Krampits added the proposed ordinance would affect retail only, not volunteer organizations that distribute food.

"I understand why it was filed and that, but I still feel kind of sad about it because I'm a person that reuses their plastic bags for their trash to try and be frugal I guess," Krampits said. "It's just kind of one of those things that when people are messy and throw their bags and I certainly understand the issues that have been going on in Ward 6 with Councilor Shumsky, that it's

sad that we have to come to this where we have to ban them. I've had constituents call me about this that use the plastic bags for their own trash so they're not running out and buying them. I will be, reluctantly, voting in favor of it tonight."

Ward 9 Councilor Mary Beth Costello thanked Shumsky and the councilors for their work, saying "It's a great idea."

"I know it's for retail only, but it's the start of something positive for the city and maybe modify behavior of people when they see that there's more litter being picked up and that it now becomes a trash-free city," Costello said. "This is a step in the right direction and again, Councilor Balakier, Councilor Zygarowski, Councilor Laflamme and especially to Councilor Shumsky for your leadership in trying to keep Chicopee clean."

Councilor-at-Large Tim Wagner is "wholeheartedly in favor" of this and also thanked Shumsky, sharing the trash problem in Chicopee "is getting quite bad."

Wagner said when he used to work at Big Y in high school, he saw the trash ornaments "all the time" when he was out getting shopping carts.

"So, I think it's a good step toward banning them and I hope to see this pass tonight," Wagner said.

Ward 1 Councilor Abigail Arriaga--whose ward is right next to Shumsky's--said she receives phone calls from constituents "because the wind carries it through the neighborhood."

"So, a lot of the neighborhoods are very excited about this, at least in Ward 1. I've gotten a lot of phone calls and they've been in support and very excited about it, so thank you," Arriaga said.

Balakier stressed how the city needs to be cleaned up and "if this is one way of doing it, I'm all in favor of it."

"We're going to benefit (from) it throughout the city," Balakier said.

Laflamme elaborated on how the council has been dealing with this issue for "a long, long time" and has been back and forth with Walmart, Home Depot and the other big stores and was "glad to see this hopefully pass tonight."

He, also, wanted to thank Walmart for their efforts in the last six months after they were brought in to address the issues.

"I've been going by there

the last couple of days. The trees, they've been pulling them out of the trees, they have the security and they have people out there trying. But, unfortunately, you can't watch everybody when they put stuff in their cars," Laflamme said. "And one of my concerns is--why I'm supporting this tonight--is because, as you know, they just developed a drive-up and they bring your food to their cars, and what a lot of these people do is they have the solid bags and they take the plastic bags and put the stuff into their solid bags and they're all over the place and they're out there picking them up. I just want to give credit to Walmart for trying to do the best they can, but this is something that we had to do to help the community."

Zygarowski added this would go into effect on June 1, 2025, asking Shumsky this clarification question.

"How do we notify all these establishments that the change (is) in our ordinance?" Zygarowski said.

Shumsky said Sanders, the Health Department's director, has a list of all the businesses she will send out a letter to inform them of the change.

The motion passed 12-0.

## ELKS from page 1

and ways to engage," Carole Tardif said.

The building consists of a banquet hall, member lounge, cocktail lounge, activities hall, pool room and lodge gym. With a couple of families and friends scattered around the lower level of the lodge, most of them were hanging out and enjoying each others company, with music playing in the background.

Hughes Tardif shared what he enjoys about being part of the Elks.

"I enjoy it and being involved with different things. It's part of my life, we've had some rough years so, hopefully, this year will be different. For me, it's fun and all volunteer work, but it's tough. We need more people to be involved and more members. We are getting back on track by offering a community supper tonight for free, a donation from us. We have future plans to do this again. The cook and kitchen volunteers have been here all day," Tardif said.

The dedication and hard work doesn't all come from one place, especially with one volunteer who is originally from Germany. Nicole Traxel, a member for almost a year who was friends with manager Ryan Maloney, en-



Guests were served spaghetti, meatballs with sauce, a roll, with a choice of a chocolate chip or white chocolate cookie.

couraged her to come to the Elks and show what they do for the community.

"I loved it and how involved they were in the community. I am from Germany so I don't have family near. I work for Chicopee High so that's my family and I have family here at the Elks too. The way the Elks took me in right away was awesome, you don't see that often. Everyone supports each other, whether it's in the Elks or in Chicopee, there is support. You can be so involved here. The work ethic is not what you do for me, it's always what I can do for you. To me, it's what made me want to be here," Traxel said.

For upcoming events, Traxel added her new spin on their Nationality Night dinners.

"When I first joined the Elks, I was introduced to Nationality Night and I immediately suggested an Oktoberfest. It is all of my mom's recipes for the dinner, along with a raffle and live music. All are welcome!" Traxel said.

Oktoberfest will be held on Oct. 10 starting at 5:30 p.m., with a full menu of bratwurst, potato salad, cucumber sal-



Smiles and delicious food were to be had at the Chicopee Lodge of Elks #1849 for their Spaghetti and Meatball Dinner event on Sept. 26.

ad, red cabbage, prezle, and apfelkuchen (apple cake). Tickets for German night are \$18 and are for sale in the lounge, located in the lower level.

The craft fair is Sunday, Nov. 3 at 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. with over 30 crafters locked in, ready to show and sell their creations in the ballroom.

Hughes Tardif ended by saying this.

"We are family here, please visit anytime," Tardif said.

For more information on upcoming events, visit the Chicopee Elks's Facebook page.

If interested in becoming a member, please visit 431 Granby Rd. or call 413-592-1849.



Better known as a family, the volunteers and members were grateful and excited to spread the news about upcoming events for the public.

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# CPL announces upcoming programming

CHICOPEE - Here are some of our upcoming library programs.

Tuesday, Oct. 8 at 6:30 p.m. Poetry and the Spoken Word

Join us for Poetry and the Spoken Word at 7pm in our Community Room. Registration to share your own poetry or readings starts at 6:30 p.m. The program begins at 7 p.m.

The featured guest reader for October will be Roxanne Bogart. Roxanne is a local wildlife biologist and poet. She will read from her full-length book of poetry, *All That Sustains*, published in 2022 by Off the Common Press, as well as more recent poems. Roxanne's poetry pulls from nature. Time in nature offers sustenance as does nature poetry. Come listen to poetry inspired by the beautiful landscapes of the Pioneer Valley, Vermont, Maine, and locations farther afield. Visit [Roxannebogart.com](http://Roxannebogart.com) to learn more about her work. Teens and adults are welcome.

This program is hosted by local poet Don Fisher. This program is supported in part by a grant from the Chicopee Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

Thursday, Oct. 10 at 1 p.m. Art for

Everyone

Join us in the Conference Room for all ages crafting with artist and teacher Dr. Amber Scoon. All ages and levels are welcome! Materials will be provided. Art class consists of simple and fun exercises designed to help you explore mark making, color and hand eye coordination. Amber is an artist, teacher, philosopher and mother. She has been teaching art classes for twenty years in the USA and Italy.

Thursday, Oct. 17 at 6 p.m. Needlecraft Circle

Do you want a place to work on your needlecraft projects while you chat with other crafters? Join us in the Conference Room on the third Thursday of each month to work on your projects.

Monday, Oct. 21 at 6:30 p.m. Paranormal Investigations

Join us for an evening with paranormal investigator, author and historian Don DeCristofaro. Don has been a paranormal investigator for more than 20 years. He and the group he founded, the Greater Boston Paranormal Associates, have been featured on *Kindred Spirits*, *Most Terrifying Places*, *Ghost Hunters* and ESPN's *College Game Day*. They've

photographed the nation's first female serial killer in Charleston, SC, conversed with the entities who inhabit the infamous Conjuring House in Harrisville, RI and spent the night infamous Conjuring House in Harrisville, RI and spent the night at the Villisca Axe Murder and Sallie Houses. The GBPA are the exclusive paranormal partners of USS Salem in Quincy, MA, which many consider to be the most actively haunted location in New England, and hosts of Greater Boston Paranormal TV which is carried by many cable access systems across Eastern Massachusetts. Don and his partner, Sondra Morgan are the hosts of the *Observations from the Road Less Traveled* podcast and his book, *The World Through Evil Eyes*, will be available before the end of 2024. No registration is required.

Tuesday, Oct. 22 at 6 p.m. Planning for Medicare

Planning for Medicare is a presentation and discussion led by a Blue Cross Blue Shield of Massachusetts representative. It's geared towards individuals approaching Medicare Eligibility. Topics covered include health insurance information outside of employer sponsored coverage, such as an explanation of

Medicare, the Medicare enrollment timeline, Medigap and Medicare Advantage plans and programs available to early retirees, and COBRA. This is a great presentation for seniors in the community who are looking at their retirement options. Please register with the Reference Desk at 413-594-1800x3 or [cpl@chicopeepubliclibrary.org](mailto:cpl@chicopeepubliclibrary.org).

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

If you need technology help, we offer one-on-one computer help on Mondays and Fridays at 2 p.m. or by appointment. We also have two special technology support sessions with Tech Hub on Oct. 18 from 1 to 3 p.m. and Oct. 28 from 3 to 5 p.m. These are free to attend and you can bring any technology question you have.

For more information, email or call the Reference Desk at [cpl@chicopeepubliclibrary.org](mailto:cpl@chicopeepubliclibrary.org) and 594-1800 x3.



Carl Ingram, director of Career and Technical Education at Chicopee Comprehensive High School, shares his thoughts during the Workforce Development Listening Session. Ingram focused on education, specifically internships, apprenticeships, teacher retention and the CTE program.



Maureen Cayer, director of the Agawam Housing Authority and resident of Chicopee, talks about public housing and affordable housing.

## WORKFORCE SESSION from page 1

of having education around what affordable housing is and what public housing is in our communities, especially neighboring communities. It means so much to maintain teachers, maintain police officers, maintain a healthy respect for all of the services' needs, many of them who are represented here today."

J. Marshall, director of career services at Elms College, was among those who focused on education, with his thoughts centered on low-cost education solutions.

"Workforce development is something that is very personal to me and very important to me. I actually worked in workforce development and everything I learned, I learned from MassHire," Marshall said. "We just want to be a part of the solution. We want to partner with you to ensure that we have the workforce for this region to continue to be able to continue to compete."

Carol Campbell, president and CEO of Chicopee Industrial Contractors, presented several topics, with one highlight pertaining to ways to support small businesses and employment.

"There is in our tax credits for manufacturing, health care, etc. It would be beneficial to other small businesses if those tax credits were just extended to other businesses," Campbell said.

Campbell stressed how training "certainly goes a long way," and a tax credit for manufacturing could support six to eight weeks of onboarding for a technician, for example.

"So, I'm just asking for you to look into extending those tax credits for all small businesses," Campbell said.

After the attendees shared their thoughts and questions, the delegates shared their takes and thanked everyone for presenting their concerns.

Among the highlights, Oliveira said the delegates do not take lightly what was shared with them.



A photo of the members of the Chicopee Chamber of Commerce in attendance for the Workforce Development Panel with the state legislators at City Hall Auditorium in Chicopee on Sept. 30.

"We take it back, we think about it and we want to work together to solve these major issues, because those victories that we had in the past two years came from a lot of the concerns that we heard from all of you," Oliveira said.

Arriaga said how all the issues presented are connected.

"These issues are valid and I thank all of you for taking the time on a Monday morning to come and share them with us. Most importantly, please do not hesitate to reach out to us outside of this," Arriaga said. "Call us, let us know how we can be of help."

Duffy shared "legislation is not a one-way street."

"We put stuff out there and then it has impacts and unforeseen consequences and ramifications, so we need to hear these stories. I really thank you all. There's a lot of great food for thought today," Duffy said.

Melissa Breor, executive director for the chamber of commerce, stressed the importance of offering opportunities like this for the business community to have that direct interaction with legislators at any level of government.

"It's a goal of ours to create those opportunities so that they can really develop

relationships that are productive and help them in their businesses," Breor said. "And always great to have an opportunity for the legislators to hear from their constituents that may not be their direct voters, but they're the businesses and the business owners who are in the communities they represent."

Breor was thrilled to see many of the members in attendance, especially with the focus on workforce development.

"I think it's just really telling that it's an important topic, it's an important opportunity for them to take advantage of to have that dialogue with the legislators," Breor said.

Breor thanked the legislators for coming out for the listening session and for meeting with the chamber members.

"We're really grateful that they all came out. This is the first time that I had an event where I invited 100% and had gotten 100% attendance from the delegation," Breor said. "We got people from outside of the chamber community to come as well this morning, which I think is telling that the Chicopee Chamber is creating these opportunities for our business community and beyond to really work on issues and solutions together."



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# Sports

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## Tigers fall to Comp



Adrian Gonzalez and Tyler Larkin work together to make a tackle.



The Comp defense tries to hold South Hadley down

**SOUTH HADLEY** – Last Friday night, former Thanksgiving rivals Chicopee Comprehensive and South Hadley faced off on South Hadley’s turf with the Colts grabbing a 22-8 win thanks to a pair of touchdowns in the second half. Comp had an 8-0 lead at halftime and both teams scored in the third quarter making the score 14-8. Comp would put the game away with a score in the final frame. Matthew Perez and Joziah Feliz each scored touchdowns. Feliz had 121 rushing yards for the Colts. Both teams are 1-2 heading into their conference schedules.



Matthew Perez emerges on a run.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

Shane Upham heads up the field.



Christopher Carrasquillo makes a block.

## Offense breaks out in win for Chicopee girls

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

**CHICOPEE**—The Chicopee girls varsity soccer team only scored 15 goals a year ago.

The Lady Pacers nearly equaled that total in a 12-0 home victory against the Taconic Braves last Wednesday afternoon.

“Before we beat Palmer last week, the girls’ soccer team hadn’t won a game since October of 2022. It does feel very nice to win our second game of the season,” said first-year Chicopee head coach Emma Simkewicz. “All the girls’ hard work is paying off, which is great to see. There has been a drastic improvement since the first day of practice. We’re in the rebuilding process, but we’re hoping to win several more games this year.”

The Lady Pacers (2-5) snapped their 23 game losing streak with a 2-1 come-from-behind home win versus Central Division rival Palmer on September 18.

“The girls were thrilled after we beat Palmer,” Simkewicz said. “It was also my first win as a varsity soccer coach. It’s awesome.”

Simkewicz, who grew up

in Northern Worcester County, played soccer at Oakmont Regional High School and at Plymouth State. She graduated from college last May and is a first-year Health and Physical Education teacher at Chicopee High School.

“I love being a soccer coach,” Simkewicz said. “I played for several different soccer coaches, and I learned a lot from them. I’m trying to pass the things that I’ve learned on to these players.”

Simkewicz is only a couple of years older than her players, which hasn’t been a major issue.

“I was a little nervous about it at the beginning of the season,” she said. “We do have a lot of respect for each other. I’m hoping that we’re a much better team by the time that the freshmen are seniors. I’m not planning to leave here anytime soon.”

The Lady Pacers assistant coach is Miguel Ribeiro.

The Chicopee senior tri-captains are Jocelyn Coira, Ashley Galica, and Ivelise Gonzalez.

Another senior listed on the Lady Pacers varsity roster is Autumn Seymour. She recorded her first hat-trick in the non-league match against Taconic (0-8).

Seymour also assisted on

the Lady Pacers first goal which was scored by freshman Sophia Moreira during the second minute of the opening half.

Following back-to-back goals by Seymour, the home team took a 4-0 lead with an unassisted goal by sophomore Cassidy Pytel less than ten minutes into the contest.

“It was nice to score some early goals,” Simkewicz said. “In the games that we’ve lost so far this season, our opponents had taken an early lead.”

A couple of minutes later, Pytel netted her second goal on a low shot into the left corner of the net which was assisted by freshman Cayla Ribeiro.

During the 22<sup>nd</sup> minute, freshman Brooke Oldenburg scored her first varsity goal. Ribeiro was credited with another assist.

Late in the first half, Taconic (0-8) was given a penalty shot following a foul in the box. The kick sailed high over the crossbar keeping the shutout intact.

Holding a 6-0 halftime lead, the Lady Pacers kept their foot on the gas pedal throughout the second half.

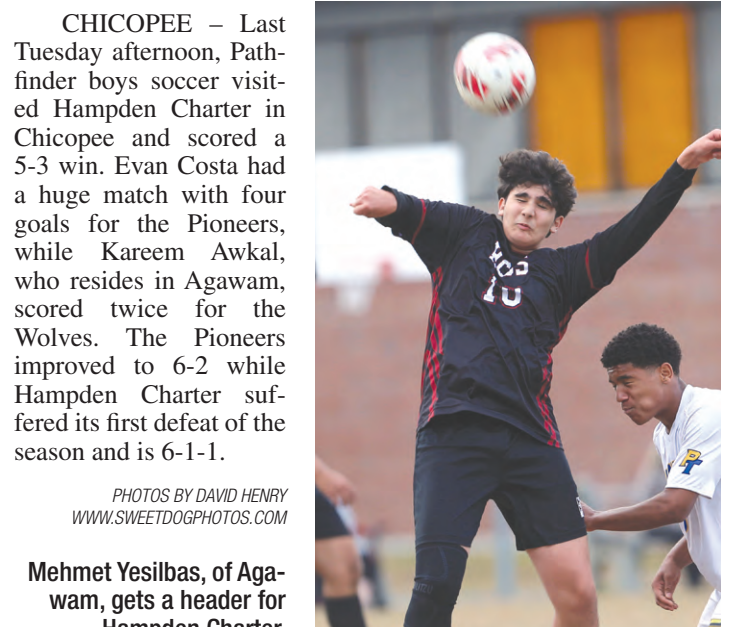
Junior Magalena Lapierre,

See **CHICOPEE GIRLS** page 8

## Awkal scores pair for Wolves



Kareem Awkal takes a free kick for Hampden Charter School of Science in a matchup last week with Pathfinder. Awkal, who resides in Agawam, scored a pair of goals for the Wolves.



Mehmet Yesilbas, of Agawam, gets a header for Hampden Charter.

PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY  
WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM

**CHICOPEE** – Last Tuesday afternoon, Pathfinder boys soccer visited Hampden Charter in Chicopee and scored a 5-3 win. Evan Costa had a huge match with four goals for the Pioneers, while Kareem Awkal, who resides in Agawam, scored twice for the Wolves. The Pioneers improved to 6-2 while Hampden Charter suffered its first defeat of the season and is 6-1-1.

# Emerling takes modifieds event at Monadnock

WINCHESTER, N.H. – Empire State Modified star Patrick Emerling had a huge day Saturday at Monadnock Speedway, topping the 200-lap second annual Winchester Fair main event and, with that win, securing the 2024 Granite State Short Track Cup championship while also moving just shy of the top of the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour points parade.

The quarter-mile oval's last event of the 2024 season ended with a large fireworks display lighting up the crisp autumn air with all the oomph and pizzazz that JDV Productions shows have been known for this summer, but not before Emerling had basked in the glory of victory lane, as had Chris Riendeau, twice, Randy Cabral, and Rob Richard Jr. ...

No fewer than seven drivers turned in blistering sub-12 second laps in pre-event qualifying for the USNE Power presents the second annual Winchester Fair main event. Youthful rocketman Austin Beers

was quickest, setting fast time at 11.723 seconds around the high-banked quarter-mile.

A top-four redraw would switch Beers and Craig Lutz spots on row one, with Lutz taking over the inside groove pole. From there, he was all over the lap-one lead, setting a fast pace that would keep him at the head of the 21-car pack for 76 laps.

Matt Hirschman, Big Money Matt, firing from row three, took second from Beers on lap 18, then grabbed Lutz in a high-speed bear hug before low-lining to the point on the 77th circuit. He held the lead until lap 191 when Emerling sped by.

But while Lutz, then Hirschman, was putting on a show up front, much of the huge crowd's eyes were on superstar Ron Silk. Involved in a lap-three tangle that dropped him to 19th on the grid, the Norwalk, Connecticut star was gobbling up positions like there was no tomorrow. But, somehow, he and

five-time Monadnock winner Justin Bonsignore couldn't get along.

When the potent pair tangled out of turn four to draw the event's third and final caution on lap 183, changes aplenty took place. Along with both Silk and Bonsignore now refiring deeper in the field, Big Money Matt now seemed almost mortal.

Restarting lap 191 in second, Emerling quickly had the lead and never looked back. Anthony Nocella got up for second with six to go, and Hirschman held on for third. Lutz and Woody Pitkat, from way back in row nine, rounded out the top five, with former Monadnock regular Matt Kimball coming home sixth.

Emerling's Sunday victory, coupled with earlier strong runs in both the Granite State Derby and Duel At The Dog events, earned him the \$3,000 winner's bonus atop the Whelen Granite State Short Track Cup series conceived for the series by JDV Productions.

CHILDRENS BOOK from page 1

one I did in that series is called 'The Little Engine That Killed' and it's set in Chicopee Falls in 1951."

Lynch stressed the importance of her latest release, especially the history focus.

"I think most people who are even a little familiar with the World War II era probably know that there was quite a lot of what we might today call "propaganda," in the sense of a lot of cheerleading and indoctrination about how evil the enemy was and how necessary it was for Americans to be patriotic and serve their country," Lynch said. "However, I think today many people may be unaware of how deep the sense of self-sacrifice was in children as well as adults in those days, and how kids and teens were called upon to be selfless and think of the greater good. Behind all the entertaining rip-roaring derring-do adventures in these stories, there is the lesson of self-sacrifice that is almost masochistic. It's quite eye-opening."

Also, the importance of supporting local authors, especially in Chicopee.

"It's always gratifying for communities to support their local authors these days, but there are few opportunities for authors to make their work known. Unfortunately, Chicopee no longer has any bookstores and that's a bit of a letdown for readers and writers alike. When it comes to books about local history, the local author is likely to be the best source of information and the one who takes the trouble to compile the history and present it to the public, particularly when it comes to self-publishing," Lynch said. "The large national publishers have smaller budgets these days, and they tend to publish and promote books that will sell on a national scale. Without the local author telling the local stories, the stories won't be told."

On what she will release next, Lynch said this.

"My next book will likely be the next one in my mysteries series. I hope to take the characters to New York City to get involved in the early days of live television – where a murder happens, of course," Lynch said. "After that, I'm hoping to dive back into a long-time project of mine – a book on Chicopee's preeminent sculptor and bronze castor, Melzar H. Mosman, his place in 19th-century art and local industry."

For aspiring authors, Lynch encouraged them to be curious.

"Don't be afraid to explore any topic that interests you, the journey is half the fun. Also, be prepared to wear many hats: researcher, writer, editor, publicist, bookkeeper, entrepreneur, even graphic artist. Today, a writer must have one foot in the creative world and one foot in the business world," Lynch said.

Lynch encourages the community to check out the book, adding how it

covers World War II from its early days to the end through the prism of children's popular wartime books, with color photos of the cover art and a timeline at the end showing the different books' place against the backdrop of world events.

"Despite the magnitude of the subject, there's actually quite a bit of humor thrown in, and I feel it's a fun book that will be an instructive look at the era for those who know nothing about it, and also be a fun nostalgic trip down memory lane for older folks who may have read some of these books when they were young," Lynch said.

To learn more and check out her books, visit JacquelineTLynch.com.

# Thunderbirds open up training camp

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds opened their 2024-25 training camp on Monday morning ahead of their trio of exhibition games on Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday.

The initial training camp roster can be seen below. Please note this list will change as the St. Louis Blues reduce their roster ahead of NHL opening night on Oct. 8.

Springfield Thunderbirds Initial Training Camp Roster (as of Sept. 30)

Forwards: #15 Dalibor Dvorsky, #20 Oliver Chau, #22 Dylan Peterson, #24 Tanner Dickinson, #28 Colin Theisen, #34 Sam Bitten, #37 Reece Newkirk, #38 Tarun Fizer, #41 Aleksanteri Kaskimaki, #43 Greg Meireles, #46 Anthony Callin, #63 Matthew Peca, #77 Drew Callin, #81 Marcus Sylvegard

Defensemen: #7 Leo Loof, #9 Michael Buchinger, #13 Jeremie Biakabutuka, #25 Gianni Fairbrother, #33 Anton Malmstrom, #44 Scott Harrington, #49 Sean Allen

Goaltenders: #31 Colten Ellis, #35 Cam Johnson, #40 Will Cranley

The Thunderbirds begin their exhibition slate on Wednesday, Oct. 2 when they host the Hartford Wolf Pack at 7:05 p.m. at the MassMutual Center. They will also play a pre-season tuneup on Friday at 7:05 p.m. on home ice against the Providence Bruins before traveling to Rhode Island for a rematch on Saturday at 7:05 p.m. at Amica Mutual Pavilion.

The regular season opens on Saturday, Oct. 12 against the Laval Rocket at 7:05 p.m. for Opening Night presented by MGM Springfield.



# MIAA looks to honor officials

The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association is looking to collectively recognize the efforts of our Game Officials. The fall National Officials Appreciation Week will be held Oct. 6 to 12. Once again, MIAA staff members will travel around the state to personally thank officials and support their efforts on the local level.

We hope that you will consider recognizing them in some manner.

The Winter Officials Appreciation Week will be Jan. 13-18, 2025 and the Spring Officials Appreciation Week will be April 6-12, 2025.

# CHICOPEE GIRLS from page 7

who was Chicopee's starting goalkeeper, netted her first varsity goal six minutes into the second half.

Lapierre was replaced in goal by Coira.

The two Chicopee goalies

didn't see very much action.

Goals by freshman Sydney Germain and Ribeiro, who also had a team-leading three assists, gave the Lady Pacers a commanding 9-0 advantage.

Seymour completed her hat-trick by firing a shot into the back

of the net during the 54th minute.

The Lady Pacers final two goals on the non-league home match were scored by freshman May Garnarcz and Gonzalez.

It was the only meeting of the regular season between the two squads.

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## UNDER NEW OWNERSHIP LOCAL FAMILY BUSINESS

919 Meadow St., Chicopee  
200 St. James Ave., Chicopee  
410 Cooley St., Springfield

**NOTICE**

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



# House of Koolada's holds grand opening, ribbon-cutting in Chicopee

By Amanda Munson  
Correspondent

CHICOPEE - House of Koolada's, a business promoting health and wellness, offering daily freshness, health centered service, sustainable practices and convenience with online ordering celebrated their opening with a ribbon-cutting on Oct. 1.

The juice bar has a full menu of choices with cold pressed juices, ginger shots, smoothies, green smoothies, a small menu of food items and kooladas.

Located on 738 Chicopee St., Mike Perez, owner of Koolada's, was accompanied by family and friends eager for the official grand opening of his new business.

Beginning with opening remarks at the ribbon cutting, Mayor John Vieau talked about the excitement for a juice bar in Chicopee and the fresh options in the Willimansett area.

"I want to thank Mike for investing in Willimansett. There are some really special people here like the Chamber of Commerce represented by Melissa Breor, State Representative Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee), representatives from Senator Gomez's office, Bridget and Amari, along with the C3 police officers. I want today to be memorable, I grew up in Willimansett my whole life and I want to see more businesses investing in this area. We want to wish you many years of success and prosperity, to you and your family. We are here to support a business that offers healthy drinks," Vieau said.

Arriaga expressed her excitement for the grand opening.

"It is great to see you and your family at this grand opening. First off, I want to thank you for being in Chicopee. I grew up in Chicopee and this is home, seeing healthier alternatives is definitely needed.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY AMANDA MUNSON

From the left, Lamari Jackson, legislative director for State Sen. Adam Gomez (D-Springfield), Bridget Healy, district aide for State Sen. John Velis (D-Westfield), State Rep. Shirley Arriaga (D-Chicopee) of Chicopee, Mayor John Vieau, Michael Perez, owner of House of Koolada's with family waits for the ribbon to be cut to officially open the business.

We need to be healthier, to know that our kids and families have healthier choices to not only live longer, but healthier. This goes a long way. I can't wait to see you again," Arriaga said.

Ending the ribbon-cutting ceremony was an official citation from the Massachusetts State Senate, given by Bridget Healy from State Sen. John Velis's office (D-Westfield).

Lana Kudo, wife of Mike Perez, talked proudly about her husband's business and what he has accomplished, including the importance of the day and significance, what she has seen as a wife of a business partner in Chicopee, all while homeschooling their children.

"Mike has been working on this project for a very long time. We have officially opened the business and given an award from different representatives of the city. Leading up to today, there was a lot of intense research of the types of products and ingredients that would be added to the drinks. It is all natural, cold pressed, no artificial preservatives or sweeteners. I am super proud of him. I got really emotional today and I can't believe this is all happening. We both wished his Mom was here to support. Our children Zyana Perez and Jayda Perez were here with us today," Kudo said.

Kudo added what she wants people to know about House of Koolada's.

"I want people to know this is an inclusive business, we want happy customers. Customer satisfaction is our top priority, letting us know how we can do better to improve is beneficial. This is a family environment, our kids are

here all the time. Everybody is welcome, stop in and have a drink, maybe something to eat later on. More food items are going to be added soon. The pina koolada is Mike's own rendition and recipe, it has the island flavors and it has all the best ingredients," Kudo said.

Kudo encourages everyone to stop by. "The colder seasons are approaching, people who take preventative measures already, try us out and have a ginger shot. Adding a healthy drink will only benefit you," Kudo said.

Found on the corner of Whitman St.

and Chicopee St., the juice bar also offers ample seating, street parking and friendly customer service.

House of Koolada's promotes healthier options for everyone in the community, leaving customers with their motto of, "Love thy self, health is one's true wealth, replenish the soul, letting the preservatives go..."

House of Koolada's is open Monday through Saturday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. and closed on Sundays. To learn more, check out their Instagram page or call 413-315-8888.



Mayor John Vieau shakes hands with Michael Perez, owner of House of Koolada's, after cutting the ribbon to celebrate the grand opening of House of Koolada's on Oct. 1.

## BACKYARD from page 4

peckers come for them as well  
**Wild turkeys**

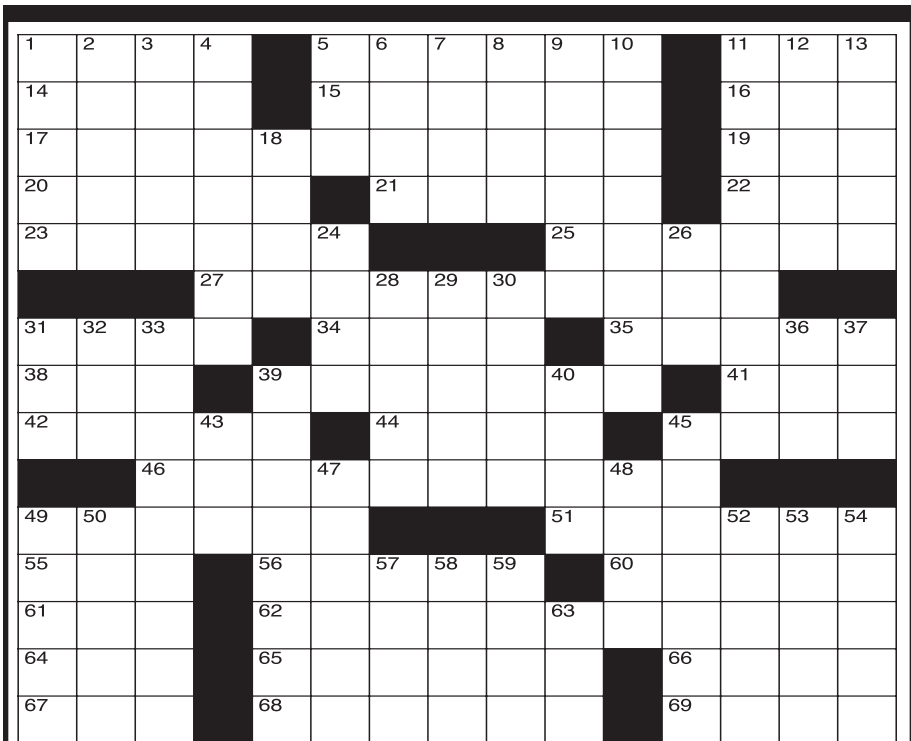
I see wild turkeys almost daily when I travel around town. It is either a group of hens with almost grown poults or a smaller group of Tom turkeys.

The Brimfield resident saw a hen with four half grown poults while driving away from his house

He believes this is the group that was seen in the yard some time ago when the

poults were about half the size they were when I saw them on the road. He said in the email, "Just after seeing these turkeys another hen flew across the road in front of my car."

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.



### CLUES ACROSS

1. Separate with an instrument
5. State clearly
11. One-time MLB speedster Gordon
14. Broad in scope
15. Lacking social polish
16. Amount of time
17. Frame
19. Automobile
20. Caps
21. High school dances
22. Utilize
23. Checked
25. One-sided
27. Having an extreme greed for wealth
31. Potted plants
34. We all have one
35. Lake north of the Kalahari
38. Unidentified flying object
39. Aging persons
41. Small amount
42. Mother of Perseus
44. Ornamental waist box
45. Officials
46. Uncertain
49. A cotton fabric with a satiny finish
51. Extensive, treeless plains
55. Your consciousness of your own identity
56. Consumer advocate Ralph
60. Notable Spanish sports club
61. Body part
62. One's responsiveness
64. Woman (French)
65. Ready and willing to be taught
66. Muslim ruler title
67. Unhappy
68. Gradually disappeared
69. Able to think clearly

### CLUES DOWN

1. Brushed
2. Water sprite
3. Ones to look up to
4. Monetary units
5. We all have one
6. Marine invertebrate
7. One who institutes a legal proceeding
8. Outer
9. Parallelograms
10. Uncomfortable feelings
11. Cross to form an X
12. Remove
13. Some pages are dog-\_\_
18. Capital of Ukraine
24. A citizen of Denmark
26. Eighth month (abbr.)
28. Hindu queens
29. Acids structurally related to amino acids
30. Rider of Rohan in Tolkien
31. Wet dirt
32. Russian city
33. Observed
36. Irrate
37. Travelers need them
39. Musical composition
40. Auction
43. Form of "to be"
45. Women
47. Inspire with love
48. Think Japanese ankle sock
49. Appears
50. Old World lizard
52. The lead dancer: \_\_ ballerina
53. Protein involved in motion
54. Rosalind Franklin biographer
57. Popular 1920s style art \_\_
58. \_\_ Blyton, children's author
59. Abnormal breathing
63. A place to rest

# Kaevon Brimfield and Gilfrey Gregory found guilty of murder in 2019 homicide of Charles White

SPRINGFIELD - Kaevon Brimfield, 31, and Gilfrey Gregory, 32, both of Springfield have been found guilty of murder by a Hampden County Superior Court Jury for the 2019 homicide of Charles White.

On Sunday, June 9, 2019 members of the Chicopee Police Department responded to 2 Springfield Street for a report of shots fired. When officers arrived they discovered Mr. White to be deceased and appeared to have been shot multiple times.

Hampden District Attorney Anthony Gulluni stated "This was a cruel and senseless murder of a completely innocent victim, whose family will be forever left incomplete. I hope and pray that this verdict and those

who worked so hard for it gives Mr. White's family some solace and sense of justice. I thank the detectives from the Chicopee Police Department and my office's Massachusetts State Police Detective Unit for their hard work and thorough investigation leading to the arrests and convictions of these defendants. In particular, Chief Trial Counsel and Assistant District Attorney Max Bennett did outstanding work, and fought for years to get this case to trial and convict two of the men responsible for this heinous crime. Max spent many long nights preparing for this case and fought for Charles and the White family, with whom he's grown very close. I also thank his second chair, Assis-

tant District Attorney Elizabeth Vasiliades, appellate counsel, Assistant District Attorney Michael Locke, and Victim Witness Advocate Lauren Counter.

At the onset of the investigation Investigators quickly determined the identities of the suspects. Extensive efforts were made to locate and arrest Kaevon Brimfield who prior to his arrest was added to the Massachusetts State Police Most Wanted List before his apprehension in June of 2019 in New York City. Gilfrey Gregory fled in a rental car and headed west to Arizona. Before reaching his destination detectives contacted the New Mexico Highway Patrol who then conducted a motor vehicle stop on the afternoon of June 13,

2019. During the stop he was placed under arrest and transported to the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Department and eventually extradited back to Massachusetts.

A third defendant Namel Clark, 31, of Springfield, who is also charged with murder, was taken into custody in June 2019 at his home without incident. His case is pending in Hampden County Superior Court. He is currently held without the right to bail and is next scheduled court appearance is on October 4, 2024.

Assistant District Attorney Max Bennett represented the Commonwealth in this case.

## Saturday Playgroup with Learn in Motion

CHICOPEE - Learn in Motion provides exciting games and movement activities. Kids two to eight and their caregivers are invited to get active, be social, practice teamwork and have fun!

Saturdays at 1 p.m.  
Oct. 5 - Nov. 9  
Chicopee Public Library Community Room

All are welcome!  
This program is supported by Headstart's Fatherhood Initiative, so dads, grandfathers and male caregivers are encouraged to come!

## 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. HD23P2598EA  
Estate of:  
Premier Chance Hackett  
Also known as:  
Omar Sharif Hackett  
Date of Death: 06/11/2023  
CITATION ON PETITION FOR SALE OF REAL ESTATE BY A PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE**

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for Sale of Real Estate has been filed by: **Vicky Lynn Parker-Hackett of Waldorf, MD** requesting that the court authorize the Personal Representative to sell the decedent's real estate at a private sale.

**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 10/30/2024.**

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.  
WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M. Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.  
Date: September 23, 2024  
**Rosemary A. Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
10/04/2024

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Hampden, Division  
Docket No. HD24D1015DR  
SUMMONS BY PUBLICATION AND MAILING  
Bernice Rosaline Hafsaoui  
Plaintiff(s)  
v.  
Imed Hafsaoui  
Defendant(s)**

To the above-named Defendant:  
A complaint has been presented to this Court by **Bernice Hafsaoui**, plaintiff, on Complaint for Annulment.

You are required to serve upon **Bernice Hafsaoui**, plaintiff, whose address is **215 Chicopee St., Chicopee, MA 01013** your answer on or before **December 23, 2024**. If you fail to do so, the court will proceed to the hearing and adjudication of this action. You are also required to file a copy of your answer in the office of the Register of this Court at Springfield.

WITNESS, **Barbara M. Hyland**, Esquire, First Justice of said Court at Springfield, this Seventeenth day of September 2024.

**Rosemary A. Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
10/04/2024

### 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 **October 30th, 2024** at Interstate Towing, Inc. the following Motor Vehicles will be sold at private sale to satisfy our garage keeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles.

2002 Chevrolet Silverado 2500  
VIN: 1GCHK23G92F152313  
Henry Quenneville Ii  
265 Union St,  
Westfield, MA, 01085

2015 Tao Tao CY50-A  
VIN: L9NPEACT0F1000385  
Luis Vazquez  
568 Armory St, #1  
Springfield, MA 01104

2003 Honda Accord  
VIN: JHMCM566X3C059729  
Tania Cruz- Montanez  
7 Beverly St,  
Springfield, MA 01109

2016 Hyundai Elantra  
VIN: 5NPDH4AE3GH770489  
Edmarie Ramos Gonzalez  
70 Broadway St Apt 94  
Chicopee, MA 01020

2007 Hyundai Santa Fe  
VIN: 5NMSH73E57H033975  
Ronald Hill  
48 George St,  
West Springfield, MA 01089

2011 Kia Soul  
VIN: KNDJT2A21B7288595  
William Howard  
125 King Phillip Dr  
North Kingstown, RI, 02852

1998 Honda Accord  
VIN: 1HGCG6675WA265453

Bradley James Morin  
329 Pearl St  
South Hadley, MA 01075

2022 Chevrolet Malibu  
VIN: 1G1ZG5ST3NF214629  
Patrick Napoli  
24 Dwight St,  
Agawam, MA 01001

2006 BMW 330XI  
VIN: WBAVD33566KV61364  
Edwin J Vera  
5 Temple St, Apt 603  
Springfield, MA 01105

2007 Subaru Forester  
VIN: JF1SG67697H716012  
Marc Ducey  
22 Pleasant View Rd,  
Wilbraham, MA 01095

Moped (Red)  
VIN: RFLDU051408A017031  
Alexander Cortes  
141 North St #109  
Pittsfield, MA 01201

2011 Subaru Outback  
VIN: 4S4BRBCC0B3311800  
Robert H Irwin Motors Inc  
59 Bisson Ave,  
Laconia, NH, 03246

2006 Acura TL  
VIN: 19UUA66236A059378  
Patricia Carroll  
108 Copeland St  
Brockton, MA, 02301

2013 Hyundai Sonata  
VIN: 5NPEB4AC6DH682228  
Dwayne Cook  
100 Norway St, Apt 307  
Boston, MA 02115

2019 Kia Soul  
VIN: KNDJP3A59K7006482  
Jacqueline Barbara Carr  
3560 Cheryl Dr  
Fairfield, OH, 45014

2012 Toyota Tundra  
VIN: TFDY5F14CX212578  
Jesse Maughan  
2 Mount Vernon St #2  
Somerville, MA, 02145

2011 Jeep Grand Cherokee  
VIN: 1J4RR4GG6BC510727  
Matthew Oneiglia  
66 Riggs Ave  
W Hartford, CT, 06107

2004 Honda Civic  
VIN: 2HGES26784H556320  
Atef Wahba  
18 Coolidge St  
Auburn, MA 01501

2003 Saturn Ion  
VIN: 1G8AJ52F43Z144922  
Felipe Vaca  
49 Gilmore St  
Lowell, MA, 01854

2012 Ford Expedition  
VIN: 1FMJU1J58CEF67200  
Commonwealth of Massachusetts  
1 Ashburton Pl Ste 1608  
Boston, MA 02108

2007 Subaru Outback  
VIN: 4S4BP61C176319930  
Margaret Jean Maclay  
137 N Main St, Apt 1  
Florence, MA 01062

2016 Freightliner Cascadia 125  
VIN: 1FUJGLD52GLHA7835  
Liftgate Interstate Trucking Llc  
141 Quinapoxet Ln  
Worcester, MA 01606

2010 Honda CRV  
VIN: 5J6RE4H36AL057117  
Alisha Rivera  
533 E State St,  
Granby, MA 01033

2008 Honda CR-V  
VIN: 3CZRE38368G709767  
Robert Austin Lingerfeldt  
117 Rocky Hill Road  
Hadley, MA 01035

Pods Storage Box  
Box # 674B8  
Pods Moving & Storage  
28 Tyburski Rd  
Ludlow, MA, 01056

2018 Nissan Maxima  
VIN: 1N4AA6AP3JC366346  
Anthony Reynoso  
369 Lawrence St Fl 1  
Lawrence, Ma 01841

2017 Volkswagen Beetle  
VIN: 3VW517AT7HM808551  
Larry Loew  
348 Belmont St Apt 2  
Watertown, MA, 02472

2010 Audi A5  
VIN: WAUCKAFR0AA018686  
Aman Chaudhry  
11 Overlook Dr,  
Warren, NJ, 07059

09/27, 10/04, 10/11/2024

**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 October 25, 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.

2023 Belmont Dump Trailer  
VIN: 50PAD1425PL006608  
Oussama Awkal  
4 Tall Timber Drive  
Wilbraham, MA 01095

10/04, 10/11, 10/18/2024

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
The Trial Court  
HAMPDEN, Division  
Docket No. HD23P0582EA**

To all persons interested in the estate of Donald Edward Pelletier, of Chicopee, in said County,

A petition has been presented to said court for license to sell at private sale - public auction certain real estate of said Donald Edward Pelletier for his maintenance.

If you desire to object thereto you or your attorney should file a written appearance in said Court at 50 State Street, Springfield, MA before 10:00 in the forenoon on the **30th day of October 2024**, the return day of this citation.

Witness **BARBARA M. HYLAND**, Esquire, First Judge of said Court, this 23rd day of September 2024.

**Rosemary A. Saccomani**,  
Register  
10/04/2024

**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 October 18th, 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.

2015 GMC Yukon Denali  
VIN: 1GKS2CKJ6GR415098  
Carvan Inc  
300 E Rio Salado Pkwy  
Tempe, AZ, 85281

10/04, 10/11, 10/18/2024

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

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

visit [www.publicnotices.turley.com](http://www.publicnotices.turley.com)

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P	I	L	E	I	P	R	O	M	S	U	S	E	
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**THE TOWN OF PALMER DPW** is seeking contractors for snow removal for the upcoming winter season. If interested, contracts are available on the town website or at the DPW office. Completed contracts with a copy of the necessary insurance forms can be delivered to the DPW office located at 1015 Bridge St. Palmer. Rates have been increased for fiscal year 2025. Please call our office at **(413) 283-2615, M-F, 7a-330p,** with any questions.

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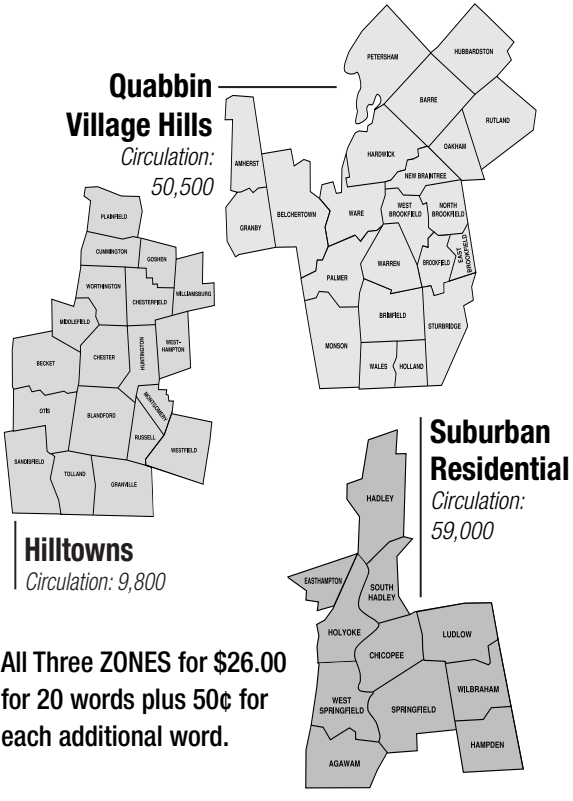
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# Tibetan monks visit Elms for mandala sand painting

By Amanda Munson  
Correspondent

CHICOPEE - The mystical arts of Tibet, a mandala sand painting by the monks of Drepung Loseling Monastery began on Sept. 30 at Elms College, an artistic tradition with colored sand laid in place to form the image of a mandala.

The opening ceremony was held in the Alumnae Library on the lower level, with students, faculty and guests peering over the three-level staircases of the library to peek at the creation on the platform.

Opening remarks began with the Director of Campus Ministry, Eileen Kirk.

“On behalf of the office of Student Engagement and Leadership and Office of Campus Ministry, we welcome all to the opening ceremony of the sand mandala creation by the Tibetan monks of Drepung Loseling Monastery of Atlanta, Georgia. The sacred art of mandala creation is a tradition that dates back 2,500 years. First welcomed to Elms in 2017, we welcome the monks for their week-long residency as they create the mandala for the Elms college community,” Kirk said.

Each monk during the sand mandala creation holds a traditional metal funnel called a chakpur, allowing the sand to fall onto the platform, marked and measured carefully for perfect symmetry.

“Mandalas are found in many forms, but always have a circle, a central point, and a form of symmetry. A mandala is a visual prayer and a symbolic universe, it is believed that each grain of sand is charged with the blessing of the ritual process. Much spiritual energy is believed to be invoked while constructing the sand mandala. We invite all members of the Elms College



Located on the lower level of the library, an array of goods were offered to guests of the ceremony like books, notebooks, jewelry, and much more.



Taken on the stairwell, onlookers were on all levels of the library, peacefully watching the preparations take place for the sand mandala.

community and all those in the surrounding community, to brace the concept of compassion for all, to enter the meditative space here, and reflect how each of us is called to compassion in our everyday living. We are honored and blessed to share this space with them this week,” Kirk said.

A monk from the Drepung Loseling Monastery shared a few words with the audience.

“We are honored to be here and share our culture and spiritual art form with you. The mandala represents wellness and compassion. We believe that every individual has the potential to transform their own mind. It is our hope that our creation of the mandala will contribute to the healing of this area and inhabitants. We are confident this is the perfect place to create the mandala. Thank you for coming,” he said.

In a conversation with Eileen Kirk, sitting on the main floor of the library and surrounded by curious students looking over the banister, Kirk talked more on why her and Claire Wright, director of Student Engagement and Leadership at Elms, wanted to bring them back to campus.

“This week-long residency is co-sponsored by the offices of Student Engagement and Leadership and Campus Ministry. Our two offices have been working on promoting and getting this residency to Elms since last spring. Claire Wright and I saw them at Springfield College and we came out determined to bring it back to Elms. In 2017 when the Tibetan monks were here, it was such a powerful week for the college community,” Kirk said.

When asked what’s one thing she wants students to take away from this experience, Kirk



The closing ceremony will occur on Oct. 4 at 12:30 p.m. with the sand mandala destroyed shortly after completion, a metaphor for the impermanence of life.

commented on the overall feeling when exposed to a tradition like this.

“Tranquility, peace, and equanimity. To bring a sense of

compassion to all living beings. Our first-year seminar theme is care for God’s creation, we want to make sure to infuse that into events and activities we do this

year. Since it’s the beginning of the semester, we thought it was a good time to do this and have it be in the library. People can come and go as they please while not disturbing the creation of the mandala. This sand mandala is their form of prayer, believing that it will bless anyone who comes and beyond,” Kirk commented.

At the end of the week, the mandala will be destroyed shortly after completion on Oct. 4, with small portions of the sand given out to guests.

To learn more about the Drepung Loseling Monastery, visit the website [drepung.org](http://drepung.org).

To shop Tibetan Traditions online, visit [tibetantraditions.com](http://tibetantraditions.com).



The monks have created mandala sand paintings in more than 100 museums, art centers, and colleges and universities in the United States and Europe, returning to Elms College 7 years later.

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