

Chicopee Register

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COMMUNITY



TURLEY PHOTO BY KRISTIN RIVERS

Sophia Diaz gives a thumbs up with Santa Claus.

Chicopee celebrates the Christmas season at tree lighting

By Kristin River
Editor
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CHICOPEE - Bitter cold temperatures didn't stop the community from coming to city hall on Dec. 6 for this year's Annual Tree Lighting.

As things kicked off at 4:30 p.m., attendees enjoyed free soup from ChicopeeFRESH, performances from Aleyana Ramos, students from DanceDynamics and greetings from Mrs. Claus. Then, at 5 p.m. Santa arrived in style with a special escort from the fire department via fire truck and Mayor John Vieau, greeting

the good boys and girls and their families.

Vieau declared it "a beautiful night in Chicopee as we kick off the holiday season with Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus," sharing this message with attendees.

"I just want to say this. I want to wish you all a Merry Christmas. We're all very thankful for what we have and I wish you all a very happy, healthy and prosperous New Year and I'm excited about the holiday season. I hope you all are," Vieau said. "If you're not in the holiday spirit, I hope today puts you in it."

After a countdown from 10, the tree and lights around city

hall were lit, also debuting a custom-made star topper from Facilities Department Technicians Aiden Thayer and George Mabb, adorned with LED lights and made from PVC pipe, measuring five feet tall.

Afterward, the fun moved indoors to City Hall Auditorium with families visiting Santa Claus, performances from Victoria Narvaez, students from Vibe Dance Center, the Victory's Chapel Choir and the Chicopee High School and Chicopee Comprehensive High School

See **CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING** page 7

COMMUNITY

Hundreds attend CPL's Annual Cocoa Carnival

By Amanda Munson
Correspondent

CHICOPEE - For over three years, the library has been holding their own activities to add to the festivities of the Cocoa Carnival, introducing new and returning patrons to everything the library has to offer.

The Cocoa Carnival at the library in the early afternoon had kid-friendly games and holiday crafts with snacks and hot cocoa on Dec. 6.

The winter celebration was held in the Bazan Community Room, welcoming all ages to the festivities before the tree lighting at City Hall.

Director Laura Bovee talked about the impact this event has on the library and the success of it this year.

"Anytime we get families, kids and adults into the library we just love to show off what we do here and let people browse the books. Show what we offer and that is definitely something we like to do at every event. At any event, including this one, we certainly have our regulars in the library that make sure to come to these events," Bovee said. "Then we have families who haven't been here in a while and were curious about what the event offered. A couple of days before the carnival, I went with the Assistant Director, Anne, to one of the third grade classrooms and talked about what we do as librarians. We had one kid who knew everything about the library and then others who have never been here. We were



PHOTO COURTESY OF ANNE GANCARZ

Inara Laplante shows off a festive Christmas tree headband as she enjoys this year's Cocoa Carnival on Dec. 6.

encouraging everyone to come and check the library out!"

With no registration required, families and friends were encouraged to come in when they were able to, opening the doors to curious on-lookers who wanted to learn more about what the library was offering. From fishing to bean bag toss, to enjoying a hot drink on a cold evening, attendees were happy enjoying the space with the community.

"We purposely always timed this event so it happens before the tree lighting. We know that the kids have school off that day, having the morning and afternoon free, it gives

See **COCOA CARNIVAL** page 8

COMMUNITY

Police technology upgrade appropriations for CPD approved

After City Council approval for review, FinCom approves too

By Kristin River
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CHICOPEE - Police technology upgrade appropriations for the police department were approved by the City Council for Finance Committee review on Dec. 3, followed by Finance Committee approval on Dec. 9. The mayor's orders were appropriations of \$447,461 to the Police Expense Account for Computer Software, \$43,250 to the Police Salary Account for an Information and Technology Systems Engineer, \$57,500 to the Police Salary Account for a Real-Time Investigative Crime Analyst Supervisor, \$35,000 to the Police Salary Account for a Real-Time Investigative Crime

Analyst and \$147,000 to the Police Expense Account for Computer Software.

All appropriations will come from available funds in the Stabilization Fund.

The Orders

As he introduced the orders on Dec. 3, Mayor John Vieau expressed excitement "about the future of the Chicopee PD."

"It's no secret that I've been saying that public safety is paramount to the success of this community and we want to make sure they have the right tools to not only protect themselves, but to protect everyone who lives here," Vieau said.

Vieau said the first order would include taser upgrades, body cameras, dash cameras, components of AI and virtual training.

Police Chief Patrick Major added the police department sought and also received "approximately \$300,000 worth of



PHOTO COURTESY OF THE MAYOR'S OFFICE AND THE PANDA DRONE

Chicopee is on pace to be the first city in the state to implement the FUSUS Real Time Crime Center.

grant funding to offset the cost of this program as well."

Councilor-at-Large Tim Wagner commended Vieau and Major for the presentation on the plans during an executive session with the City Council.

"I'd like the public to know that there's with all this AI innovation, they've assured me there would be appropriate civilian safeguards and human checks on all the technology that's being inputted into the department

here," Wagner said. "I think it's going to be a game-changer in terms of policing, not just in terms of Chicopee or the Commonwealth, but across the na-

See **FUSUS FUNDING** page 11

Pastel workshop with Pastelist Greg Maichack inspires new and seasoned artists

By Amanda Munson
Correspondent

CHICOPEE - Award-winning artist and twice Massachusetts Cultural Council Gold Star Award Program Nominee Gregory Maichack offered a fun in-person two-hour event with professional grade pastels and pencils on Dec. 10.

Throughout the program, Maichack guided attendees through the process of producing an original pastel of a stunning seascape, creating waves and motion in the ocean.

The pastel painting workshop was for all levels, with materials provided and guests are able to try out top of the line art tools for themselves and ask questions to Maichack for tips and tricks. While Maichack was conducting the pastel class, Senior Reference Librarian Carol Lynne Bagley, who has been at the library since 2001, talked about her involvement in planning this unique art program.

"Maichack does a ton of pastel classes with libraries and when we moved to this building, we had the space to do a class like this. Our old library didn't really have a space where you could do artwork very well," Bagley said. "Maichack does this because he loves working with people, like adults and teens. There are not a lot of people who are open to teaching to every skill level, to work with you through a piece of art and show you the skills."

When asked about why art is important, Bagley said this.

"Art is a way to express yourself, sometimes it's the way you are feeling or



TURLEY PHOTOS BY AMANDA MUNSON

Chicopee residents were returning guests to Maichack's pastel workshop, having attended a variety of classes. They were excited that this class was offered at CPL.

a way as an outlet, it's good to have things that take your mind away from everything else. Whether it's work or life in general. Art is a great outlet," Bagley said.

Reflecting on her time at the library, Bagley commented on her transitions through different positions.

"I have been here for a long time. My years here have been fabulous. I started at the circulation desk, transitioned into working in the Children's Department, and then going down to reference where I am now. I have gotten to see a lot of the different parts of the library," Bagley said.

When questioned why it's important

to have libraries continue to offer art programs like these, Bagley said this.

"It's because there are so many people who want to do things like this, but don't know where to go. There aren't a lot of places that offer a chance to work with an expert on something. He has really good supplies for people to test out and if you are interested in purchasing pastels, it's really nice to have some guidance on using those materials," Bagley said. "Being able to ask questions on how you use pastels and how it works. I just think there are so many people who want to try things out, but you can't buy every hobby. Here is a chance to try things out!"

Maichack's programs start with introducing the materials used, like the pastels and type of paper used, and reviewing and explaining why he prefers these art tools. Inspired by Homer's paintings "Summer Squall," and "West Point, Prout's Neck," the class revolves around the step-by-step process of producing a painting like the one used as an example.

With ample time and space to experiment with the materials, Maichack is available for questions and advice, taking the time to help everyone who attends one of his programs.

For upcoming events for Gregory



Award-winning artist and twice Massachusetts Cultural Council Gold Star Award Program Nominee Gregory Maichack instructs the class at the Pastel Painting Workshop.



The finished product and example of the pastel workshop by Gregory Maichack.

Maichack, visit GregoryMaichack.com.

As for upcoming library events, Jonathan Tetherly, author of "What's Going On In There? A Jail Chaplain's Story" and who worked as a Chaplain for Hampden County Jails for 30 years, will be speaking at the library on Jan. 14 at 7 p.m. The talk is free and open to the public.

The second upcoming event is Poetry and the Spoken Word. This begins at 7 p.m. on Feb. 11. Signups to read/share poetry begins at 6:30 p.m. This program is hosted by local poet Donald Fisher, with a featured poet.

To learn more, visit chicopeepubliclibrary.org.

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Alvanos & Associates participates in Ameriprise National Day of Service



SUBMITTED PHOTO

FEEDING HILLS - On Thursday, November 14, 2024 Alvanos & Associates participated in Ameriprise National Day of Service at the Western Mass Food bank in Chicopee. The Alvanos & Associates staff and their clients spent the afternoon sorting approx. 5,000 pounds of frozen meat for the local food banks. We enjoyed the opportunity to visit the new, state of the art, facility and appreciate the efforts of those who made the volunteering experience so enjoyable.

School Committee approves \$8.350 million for capital improvement priorities

By Kristin Rivers
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CHICOPEE - School Committee approved on Dec. 4 to approve \$8,350,000 in capital improvement priorities for varying schools in the district.

The seven items--recommended by the Finance and Budget Subcommittee--are Bowie Elementary School parking lot improvements and drainage, Szetela Early Childhood Center side parking lot improvements and drainage, a uni-vent upgrade at Belcher School, a gym/cafeteria air conditioning project for Barry Elementary School, Bowe Elementary School, Chicopee Academy, Fairview Elementary School, Lambert-Lavoie Elementary School, Stefanik Elementary School and Szetela Early Childhood Center, a gym floor replacement at Litwin Elementary School and playground replacements for Bowie Elementary School and Streiber Elementary School.

After Superintendent Dr. Marcus Ware presented the full list, Vice Chair and Ward 7 School Committee Representative Don Lamothe asked about reimbursement from the state.

"Have we looked into whether we can get reimbursement from the state at any percentage on these repairs?" Lamothe said.

Ware replied yes.

"We have looked into it. Right now,

the state is closed to all those repairs like when we did Dupont," Ware said. "So, when the state opens up again we can check then, but at this time we cannot."

Lamothe then asked this question.

"So, if we approve this tonight to go to the City Council and it opens up, can we, at that point still apply?" Lamothe said.

Ware clarified they could still apply.

"I don't know what the rules would be regarding if we can move forward with City Council and then getting reimbursed. I can ask that question," Ware said. "But I'm waiting for the state to open back up with that."

Mayor John Vieau then shared this point of information with the committee.

"It actually would go to the Mayor's Office when the mayor would then determine how we proceed from there," Vieau said.

School Committee At-Large Representative Mark McCarthy noted this for the uni-vent upgrades for Belcher and the gym/cafeteria air conditioning project for seven schools in the district, referencing a casual exchange he had with Ware earlier in the week.

"I think it's important that--especially for items three and four on this list--that if we approve these that we, also, put forward the sort of imperative notion of being hasty with getting the equipment before there are any changes in the broader economic situation that may cause slowdowns in supply chain

or increased costs for these," McCarthy said. "Because I'm afraid that if we're not acquiring some of these materials and, particularly, the air conditioning and machinery in advance, it's very likely that a lot of this is coming across borders and with the likelihood of tariffs coming in--starting in late January--I think that these numbers might not be the same."

McCarthy added this.

"So, I just want to go on the record and say that if it does carry, I think that we need to look into how quickly and expeditiously we can arrange for purchase of the actual components that are involved. If there's an ability for us to store those things," McCarthy said.

After Ware said he agreed with McCarthy, Ward 4 School Committee Representative Sandra Peret brought up the presentation from Director of Maintenance Scott Chapdelaine at the Facility Subcommittee meeting.

Chapdelaine later presented the report to the full committee during the Nov. 20 School Committee meeting,

"(He) gave us a very detailed report on why these upgrades are needed and considering the age of our buildings, we need to invest in them for the continued safe buildings for our students," Peret said. "So, it's something that we actually need to support."

The motion was carried unanimously and will go to the City Council for approval next.

Kwanzaa Celebration at RiverMills Center

CHICOPEE - The Council on Aging will offer a Kwanzaa Celebration on Wednesday, Dec. 18 at 1:30 p.m. at Chicopee Council on Aging's RiverMills Center, 5 West Main St.

Kwanzaa Collective President Ayanna Crawford and her team are excited to present and teach African Dancing and Drumming to our seniors. There will also be stories and a historical poem about the history of Kwanzaa. You must register in advance.

Violin Concert at RiverMills Center

CHICOPEE - The Council on Aging a Violin Concert on Friday, December 20th at 1:30 p.m. at Chicopee Council on Aging's RiverMills Center, 5 West Main St.

Cynthia LaBarre will be at RiverMills Center for a Holiday Violin Concert with some of your favorite holiday songs. Although this is a free program, please register at RiverMills Center or by calling 534-3698.

City of Chicopee Bond update

CHICOPEE - Marie T. Laflamme, Treasurer, announced that the City received competitive bids from bond underwriters on Thursday, December 5, 2024, for a \$29,080,000, 25-year general obligation state-qualified bond issue. Roosevelt & Cross, Inc. was the winning bidder with an average interest rate of 3.485%. The City received a total of eight bids on the bonds. The majority of bond proceeds will be used to fund the former central library roof repairs and city hall renovations. Additionally, bond proceeds will refinance the City's bonds originally issued on November 26, 2013.

Marie Laflamme, City Treasurer, stated, "I am pleased to announce to the taxpayers, that once again through re-funding, we will generate total net savings of \$458,731 over the remaining life of the bonds. "This is a substantial savings due to the efforts of our Financial

Team." stated Mayor John Vieau.

Prior to the sale, S&P Global Ratings affirmed the City's 'AA-' bond rating, citing Chicopee's stable local economy, consistently positive operating results, and conservative budgeting practices as positive credit factors. Furthermore, S&P Global Ratings assigned a 'AA+' enhanced rating to the bonds, as debt service is secured by the State Qualified Bond Act local state aid intercept program.

Mayor John Vieau remarked, "I commend Treasurer Laflamme for using the State Qualified Bond Act to improve our bond offering and obtaining a savings for our taxpayers." He added, "The strong budgetary performance, our budgetary flexibility, and strong liquidity, along with the benefits of the State Qualified Bond Act, attracted competitive bidding and reduced interest expense."

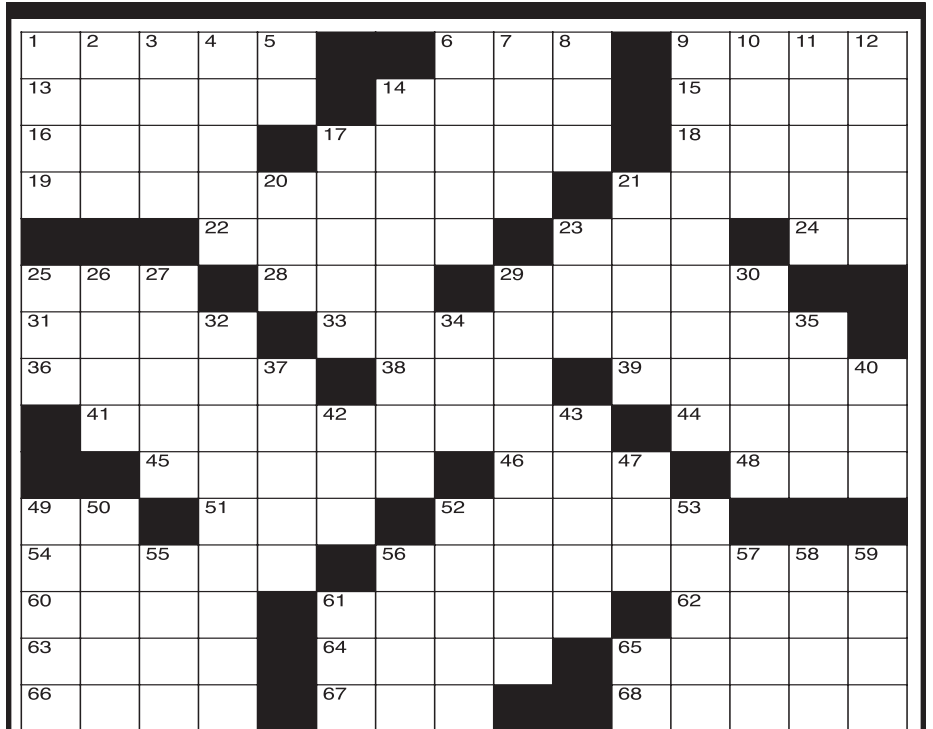
Update on Shawinigan Drive Crash

CHICOPEE - The police department shared an update on Dec. 8 on a car crash that took place on Shawinigan Drive:

"On Friday December 6, at approximately 4 p.m. WESTCOMM Regional Dispatch received a 911 call reporting a head on motor vehicle crash on Shawinigan Dr. As Officers arrived on scene they observed a male party with what appeared to be serious injuries, he was removed from the vehicle and life saving measures began on scene. This party was transported to the hospital where

he later died as a result of the injuries. He was identified as a 28-year-old male from Springfield.

The operator of the other vehicle involved was also transported to the hospital and is currently stable but remains in the ICU. We offer our condolences to the friends and family of the victim. This crash remains under investigation by the Chicopee Police Department Crash Reconstruction Team and the Hampden County District Attorney's Office.



CLUES ACROSS

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Thou __ do it | 39. Vehicle type | Rodgers target | Apple |
| 6. Sino-Soviet block (abbr.) | 41. Disorders | 2. Wings | 30. Mountain range |
| 9. Brainstem part | 44. One point east of southeast | 3. Overly studious person | 32. Violate the sanctity of something |
| 13. Town in New York state | 45. Indian soldier | 4. They protect your valuables | 34. Supervises flying |
| 14. Little (Spanish) | 46. Tree type | 5. The Volunteer State | 35. Talks |
| 15. Continent | 48. Midway between south and southeast | 6. Non-hydraulic cement | 37. Persian male given name |
| 16. Retch | 49. It cools your home | 7. Horse mackerel | 40. Born of |
| 17. Short-billed rails | 51. Corn comes on it | 8. Jackson and Diddley are two | 42. Forcibly take one's possessions |
| 18. Small period of time (abbr.) | 52. Ship's deck | 9. Splendid displays | 43. Discounts |
| 19. Confused | 54. A way to bake | 10. Mountain in NE Greece | 47. Knockouts |
| 21. A team needs one | 56. Improvised | 11. A daughter or your brother or sister | 49. Posh Colorado destination |
| 22. Woman in ancient times | 60. Butterfly genus | 12. German surname | 50. Form of therapy |
| 23. Republican Party | 61. Baseball fields have them | 14. Having more than one husband at a time | 52. British rock band |
| 24. Spanish be | 62. Designated space | 17. Romanian city | 53. Type of virus (abbr.) |
| 25. "The Godfather" character Johnny | 63. Discharge | 20. Energy | 55. The U. of Miami mascot is one |
| 28. Not around | 64. Two of something | 21. Makes less hot | 56. Volcanic crater |
| 29. City in Zambia | 65. Once more | 23. Gas diffusion electrode | 57. Middle Eastern nation |
| 31. A type of beginning | 66. Part of your face | 25. Former CIA | 58. Sinn __, Irish organization |
| 33. Numb | 67. Tax collector | 26. Set an example for others | 59. Ethiopian lake |
| 36. Gurus | 68. Cassia tree | 27. Support of a particular person | 61. Bits per inch (abbr.) |
| 38. Small, gray-headed | | 29. One from the Big | 65. Equally |

CLUES DOWN

1. One-time Aaron

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GUEST COLUMN



Kissing balls for a new porch

It's really funny that sometimes I have to consult my own columns to remember how to do something.

You see, now that the front porch is done, there is a new area to decorate, an area well-suited for kissing balls! My daughter and I were at the local garden center and there were so many beauties for sale.



Of course it would break my budget to buy one to go in the middle of each pair of columns, so it looks like I'll be making them myself.

The first thing you will need is a styrofoam ball. One that is six inches in diameter would make a good size kissing ball.

Then gather a coat hanger and some wire cutters. Snip away the hook and straighten out the rest. Insert it through the middle of the ball and bend one end as a hanger.

About 18 inches will be showing; it will look better if you choose a gold colored hanger. If not, you can always cover it later.

Getting the piece of wire into the dead center can be difficult, so use a long wooden pick to pre-make the hole. After that insertion will be easy.

Having a selection of greens on hand will make a pretty kissing ball. Scavenge the landscape for holly, yew, white pine, juniper and the like. Now it is time to insert clumps of greenery into the ball.

Styrofoam is very durable – great for holding all of these stems, but much more difficult to work with than floral foam. For that reason, all but the most rigid stems need to be put on wooden picks before they can be stuck into the ball.

Make small bunches of greenery about four inches long, holding their stems next to the pick and wrapping the attached wire to it. One by one insert these bunches into the styrofoam.

It is best to work randomly around the ball – setting the dimensions if you will, rather than starting in one place and working out. Being that it is round, it will be hard to put it down while working on it.

After a while you'll get into the swing of things by wiring a few bunches of greens, putting them in, wiring a few more and so forth. Finally, give it a good look. Is it a nice, round shape? Is there any foam showing? Where could it use a few berries?

Rose hips or winterberry, or even artificial berries will surely brighten it up, as will strands of ribbon wired to a wooden pick and inserted into the bottom. Wired ribbon is a good choice since it has a little shape; less droopy so to speak.

It will be surprising just how much greenery it takes to make a kissing ball. When I am making wreaths or decorations of any sort I always continue harvesting even after I think I have enough, just as a bit of insurance. It's always better to have extra than have to stop everything and go picking again.

One little factoid for cruise ship trivia: "Kissing bunches" in Old England were comprised of two intersecting circles of greens that were often decorated with fruit

GUEST COLUMN

Rockefeller Center's Christmas tree helps Habitat for Humanity

By Brandice J. O'Brien
Marketing and Communications Manager, Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity

WEST SPRINGFIELD -The season of giving is here and in true community spirit, many will say no one does Christmastime quite like New York City or Habitat for Humanity. Each year, a Norway Spruce is donated, decorated, and displayed outside of Rockefeller Center in Manhattan. After the tree is taken down in the New Year, the trunk is milled into lumber and donated to Habitat for Humanity International (HFHI) where it will be used for a future build.

The partnership between Real Estate Company Tishman Speyer, which owns and operates Rockefeller Center, and HFHI formed the partnership in 2007. The collaboration inspired "The Carpenter's Gift," by David Rubel, a children's book that follows the journey of a young boy who wished for a decent home and how it comes true in an unexpected way. Books are available for \$10 each at Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity (GSHFH) by calling (413) 739-5503.

"The heartwarming tale told in 'The Carpenter's Gift' brings together – through beautiful illustrations and a moving, multi-generational story – two great traditions: the Rockefeller Center tree and the neighbor-helping-neighbor program of Habitat for Humanity," said President James "Jimmy" Carter in a previous interview. "The tree annually brightens the Christmas season for millions who see it. Habitat houses brighten the lives of families all over the world – for those who live in them and those who build them."

Since 2007, trees have been harvested from and used in Mid-Atlantic and New England states, with the exception of the first tree. That spruce came from Connecticut, and its lumber was used in Mississippi.

This year's Norway Spruce is 74 feet tall, 43 feet wide, and comes from West Stockbridge. The tree is topped with more than 50,000 multi-colored lights and 5 miles of wire wrapped around it. A three-dimensional star, designed by architect Daniel Libeskind in 2018, is perched on top. The star weighs approximately 900 pounds, has 70 spikes, and is covered in 3 million crystals.

"That's so cool," said Trina Winans, Greater Springfield Habitat volunteer and supporter. "I never knew that."



2024 Rockefeller Xmas tree in WStockbridge

GSHFH intern Nate Shlosser agreed. "That is a very kind and generous thing," he said. "I'm very thankful for it because it means another family will have the wood needed for a home."

The tree was found by Rockefeller Center head gardener Erik Pauze in July 2020 as he searched for future New York City Christmas trees. When he found the West Stockbridge Norway Spruce, he knocked on the property owner's door. Earl Albert answered and agreed to donate the tree in memory of his late wife Leslie, who died just days before Erik's visit.

"I consider it probably one of the greatest honors of my life," Earl said in an interview with NBC. Earl said he and Leslie planted the tree as newlyweds in 1967.

The tree was cut down Nov. 7 and arrived Rockefeller Center on Nov. 9.

The 2024 Rockefeller Center Christmas tree is lit daily from 5am to midnight until mid-January 2025 when it's turned off at 10 p.m. There are a few exceptions. On Christmas Day, the tree is lit for 24 hours. On New Year's Eve, it is lighted from 5 a.m. to 9 p.m.



as well as figures of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. The "kissing" aspect came from the sprig of mistletoe that hung on the very bottom of the sphere – evoking the same response it does when hung by itself today.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the

Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 33 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

WE CARE ABOUT YOUR NEWS!

The *Chicopee Register* welcomes submissions of news in or related to Chicopee and its residents. Our "People News," is filled with submitted engagement announcements, wedding announcements, birth announcements, your new baby or news about your 25th or 50th anniversary celebrations. Please e-mail correspondence along with a photo to chicopeeregister@turley.com or send it to: Chicopee Register, c/o Turley Publications, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

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Chicopee Chamber of Commerce announces 2025 Shining Stars recipients

CHICOPEE - The Chicopee Chamber of Commerce is proud to announce the recipients of its 2025 Shining Stars, recognizing individuals whose exceptional contributions strengthen and inspire our community.

This year's honorees are AJ Crane as Citizen of the Year; Ashley Battle as Volunteer of the Year; the Springfield Thunderbirds as Business of the Year; and Health New England as Nonprofit of the Year.

Citizen of the Year: AJ Crane

AJ Crane exemplifies what it means to be a leader in Chicopee. A lifelong resident, AJ returned home after college to join the family business, A. Crane Construction, where he now serves as its innovative leader. Under his direction, the company has evolved into a full-service, multi-state commercial construction firm and developer. Among his recent contributions is the construction of the Chicopee Boys & Girls Club's new Teen Center, Haven, a vital addition to the community. In addition to his professional accomplishments, AJ dedicates his time and expertise to multiple organizations. He serves as Chair of the Board of Directors

for both the Westmass Area Development Corporation and the Chicopee Chamber of Commerce, a Corporator for Monson Savings Bank, and is a board member of the Home Builders and Remodelers Association of Western Massachusetts.

Volunteer of the Year: Ashley Battle

Since opening Beauty Battles Lounge in 2018, Ashley Battle has become an indispensable member of the Chicopee Chamber of Commerce. A member of the Board of Directors since 2021, Ashley has played a pivotal role in fostering community engagement, particularly through her leadership as Chair of the Thriller 5K committee. Under Ashley's guidance, the Thriller 5K has grown into a hallmark event for Chicopee, with the 2024 turnout being the largest to date. Her tireless dedication and vision have helped build connections and enthusiasm within the community, making her a cornerstone of the Chamber's success.

Business of the Year: Springfield Thunderbirds

Since reintroducing hockey to the region in 2016, the Thunderbirds have been a driving force in the region, creating a positive impact both on and off the ice—

and their contributions to Chicopee have been particularly noteworthy. Chicopee is one of the top five communities supporting the Thunderbirds through ticket sales, and the team has reciprocated that enthusiasm by becoming an integral part of the city's community fabric. Through their Thunderbirds Foundation, the organization donated over \$128,000 to charitable causes last season, while players and mascot Boomer made more than 300 community visits, many of them in Chicopee.

Nonprofit of the Year: Health New England

As a nonprofit health plan since 2012, Health New England has demonstrated an unwavering commitment to the community, reinvesting nearly \$500,000 annually into programs and initiatives that benefit local residents. From partnerships with social service agencies and food pantries to supporting wellness programs, schools, and senior centers, Health New England is a vital partner in advancing health and quality of life in the region. The Chicopee Chamber introduced Shining Stars in 1985 when Ernest Laflamme Jr. was recognized as the

first Citizen of the Year. Since then, the Chamber has paid tribute to an extraordinary Citizen, Business (since 1989), Volunteer (since 1993), and Nonprofit (since 2014) at its annual Shining Stars event. Recipients are selected by a Nominating Committee chaired by Ernest Laflamme, Jr. and comprised of Carol Campbell of Chicopee Industrial Contractors, Theodore Hebert of Teddy Bear Pools, City Treasurer Marie Laflamme, Michael Siddall of Siddall & Siddall, P.C., and Jeffrey Sattler of Liberty Bank. The Chicopee Chamber believes it is important to honor the people and the organizations who provide vital services to our community.

The 40th Annual Shining Stars Gala takes place Friday, February 28, 2025 from 6 to 10:30 p.m. at the Castle of Knights on Memorial Drive. The Chamber invites its membership and the public to come celebrate this year's Shining Stars and their impact in the community. Tickets are \$75/person and are on sale starting December 5. To purchase tickets or inquire about sponsorships, visit www.chicopeechamber.org or call the office at 413-594-2101.

Chicopee Public Library hosts events for Kids and Families

CHICOPEE - Each month the Chicopee Public Library hosts a variety of free programs for children and families. The Youth Services Department seeks to provide opportunities for entertainment and enrichment that promote literacy and explore creativity. Here is the slate of events for December 2024.

On Tuesdays, Dec. 17 at 10:30 a.m. in the community room, the library will have a Little Kid Dance Party geared for kids 5 and under and their caregivers. Older kids are welcome, as well. There will be songs, dancing and big movement!

Saturday Playgroup will be held at 1 p.m., on Saturdays, Dec. 14, 21, 28. Come play at the library! The playspace will be open for families with kids of all ages to meet up and play.

Read to a Dog on Wednesday, Dec. 18 at 4 p.m. Meet Lina, a 2-year-old chocolate lab trained as a pediatric therapy dog. She will be here to listen to kids practice reading. Therapy dogs are good listeners with calm energy and

can help kids who struggle with reading aloud. For ages five and up. Space is limited, contact the Children's Room to Sign up.

The library will host a Meet-up for Homeschooling Families on Thursday, Dec. 19 at 11 a.m. Homeschooling families can meet each other and hang out. Chicopee's point person for AHM (Advocates for Home Education in MA) will be there. Library staff will provide an activity.

The library will also offer some programs for teens this December. All teen programs are for middle and high school students.

Teen Throwback Thursday will be on Thursday, Dec. 19 at 2:30 p.m. Teens are invited for an afternoon full of "kid" programming that is just for teens! Enjoy playtime with foam blocks, an exciting craft, and even the big parachute!

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

Alden Credit Union honored at Harmony House

CHICOPEE - Harmony House of Western Massachusetts recently honored Alden Credit Union, headquartered in Chicopee, with a plaque at the home dedicating the foyer to the bank. Harmony House is a local, non-profit organization whose mission is to provide a loving home offering compassionate care for people who are on hospice and in need of care. When the founder of Harmony House, the late Ruth Willemain, sought local funding to enable her to begin the project of bringing a much-needed local home and aid to the public, Alden Credit Union stepped forward as the financial institution willing to help her and the community. After many years of planning, Harmony House is open and accepting hospice patients and providing a warm and compassionate home to those in need. Harmony House invites others in the community to join in supporting its mission and help make a positive impact in the lives of those facing terminal illness. There are many ways to help the organization.



SUBMITTED PHOTO

Pictured are Gina Mazza, President of the Board of Directors of Harmony House, Adam Corcoran, President of Alden Credit Union, and Amy Corcoran, Board Member of Harmony House.

We encourage people to visit the website at <https://www.harmonyhousewma.org> to learn how to become involved. Whether it's a few hours a week or a few hours a month, Harmony House is a welcoming place for people looking to help people.

If interested in learning more or becoming a volunteer, please complete the online volunteer application form at www.harmonyhousewma.org/volunteer-1 or email us at harmonyhousewma@gmail.com.

Granby Road crash update

CHICOPEE - The police department shared an update to a crash on Granby Road that took place on Nov. 23.

"The preliminary investigation shows that the party who was struck by the motor vehicle was a 72-year-old male. It appears as though he had just finished shopping at the Dollar Tree on Granby Rd and was walking back to his residence located at 1246 Granby Rd.

As the individual was crossing the street he was struck by a motor vehicle traveling west on Granby Rd. The operator of the vehicle quickly stopped, called 911 and began to render aid to the pedestrian. The operator remained on scene and is cooperating with the investigation. The pedestrian was transported to the hospital and remained in the ICU

where he was being treated for his injuries. We are saddened to say that we received word on Sunday, Dec. 8, that the victim died as a result of the injuries he sustained on Nov. 23.

We offer our deepest condolences to his family and friends.

We would like to remind everyone of the importance of motor vehicle and pedestrian safety. As a pedestrian walking at night please consider wearing reflective clothing, use a flashlight or some kind of illuminating device. Be mindful that just because you see a motor vehicle that does not mean that the operator sees you. As the operator of a motor vehicle please be aware of your surroundings, watch for pedestrians and obey the speed limit. Distracted driving continues to be an area of concern in the city."

PLEASE REMEMBER TO RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

Elms College to begin LPN - BSN Nursing Program

CHICOPEE - Elms College is excited to announce its new LPN-to-BSN Nursing Program, which is designed as a continuing education program for those who are currently licensed practical nurses. Beginning in Fall 2025, this program will offer a pathway for LPNs to achieve their Bachelor of Science in Nursing.

This unique program will be designed to meet the needs of a working student with flexibility and support at the forefront. College of Our Lady of the Elms will offer this program in a hybrid format. Students can complete the program in 24-27 months.

Dr. Julie Beck, Dean of the School of Nursing, states: "This innovative nursing program is structured to meet the needs of the working adult nurse. By offering an opportunity for LPNs to

further their educational pursuits, Elms College School of Nursing hopes to further career advancement and opportunities for all nurses in our community."

The Elms College School of Nursing has educated nurses in Western Massachusetts for over 40 years. The LPN-to-BSN Nursing Program will open new opportunities for working nurses as more healthcare organizations require staff to be educated at the BSN level. The supportive environment and hybrid program will allow working nurses to continue their education in a program that will enable them to focus on their careers, families, and other responsibilities.

Prospective students, parents, mentors, and all others are welcome to learn more about Elms College at www.elms.edu

CHS College & Career Center hosts Networking Forward Fair



PHOTOS AND CAPTION KARA BLANCHARD

CHICOPEE - Chicopee High School's College & Career Center hosted its Networking Forward: Jobs, Careers, Volunteering, Resources, Military & College Event on November 26, 2024, providing juniors and seniors with opportunities to practice networking and explore resources and opportunities. Students connected with organizations offering employment opportunities, college planning guidance, military pathways, internships, volunteering, financial aid information, and financial literacy resources. Featured in photos are representatives from Alianza, the MA Trial Court - Probation Department, Career Interns, and the Chicopee Police Department. Special thanks to all the community organizations and school staff that supported our students through this event!



CPD remembers Ret. Capt. Gary Godin

CHICOPEE – The police department honored Retired Captain Gary Godin in a Facebook post on Dec. 5:

“We are deeply saddened to announce the passing of Retired Captain Gary Godin. Capt. Godin joined the Chicopee Police Department in 1978, and was assigned to the patrol division.

In 1985 Godin was promoted to Sergeant and then to Lieutenant in 1992. In 1997 he was promoted to Captain and eventually took over the responsibilities of running the Detective Bureau until he retired in 2009.”

Godin’s funeral was held on Monday, Dec. 9, at Corridan Funeral Home followed by a burial service at 11:30 a.m. at Agawam Veterans Cemetery.

“We offer our condolences to the Godin family and thank Captain Godin for his service to the Chicopee Police Department and the City of Chicopee,” they said.



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHICOPEE POLICE DEPARTMENT

Events & announcements schedule

Harmony House Needs Volunteers

CHICOPEE - The doors have opened at Harmony House of Western Massachusetts and potential volunteers are invited to explore the opportunity to help others in our communities.

Harmony House of Western Massachusetts is a social model home for hospice care located in Chicopee. After closing our original home in 2019 and purchasing a house in the Aldenville section of Chicopee for renovation, the organization is actively serving our residents with the help of volunteers and staff members.

Harmony House is currently in need of caregivers and people who would enjoy the opportunity to support our residents. Whether it’s a few hours a week or a few hours a month, Harmony House is a welcoming place for people looking to help people.

Harmony House is a local, non-profit organization whose mission is to provide a loving home offering compassionate care for people who are on hospice and are in need of care.

If interested in learning more or becoming a volunteer, please complete

the online volunteer application form at www.harmonyhousewma.org/volunteer-1 or email us at harmonyhousewma@gmail.com.

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.

Early Deadlines

for all LEGAL NOTICES...

All Papers Will Deadline Thursday, Dec. 19 at Noon for Publication Dec. 23-27

Happy Holidays!

Happy New Year!

All Papers Will Deadline Friday, Dec. 27 at Noon for Publication Dec. 30-Jan. 3

Wings of Song to present ‘Peace and Joy’ on Dec. 14 and 15

STURBRIDGE – Wings of Song, a 45-voice community chorus, will perform “Peace and Joy” on Saturday, Dec. 14, at 7:30 p.m. at St. Anne’s Church, 16 Church St., Fiskdale and Sunday, Dec. 15 at 3 p.m. at Evangelical Covenant Church, 24 Child Hill Road, Woodstock, Connecticut.

“Peace and Joy” features pieces from the familiar Handel’s Hallelujah Chorus to the original 1818 version of Silent Night that few will know. Composers as modern as Arvo Pärt, 1990 and Marc-Antoine Charpentier, about 1690.

As Director Nym Cooke said, “This

music plunges deep and soars high! This will be a very special concert. I think – on the one hand, meditative, centering, and relaxing; on the other hand, uplifting, inspiring, and energizing. Just the right medicine for these times.”

There is no admission charged for the concerts. A freewill offering will be collected at intermission. Both venues are handicapped accessible and complimentary refreshments will be provided by the chorus members after the concerts.

Concertgoers are encouraged to arrive early to be sure of seating.



As attendees headed inside to get warm, others took a moment to take photos and check out the Christmas tree after it was lit during this year's tree lighting.

CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING from page 1
bands, along with free popcorn, hot cocoa, cookies and donuts.

The Grinch also crashed the festivities when he nearly stole Mrs. Claus's cookie basket, until the police department's C3 Unit stepped in. He was not charged and later defeated by Santa in an arm-wrestling match to the delight of attendees.

This year's sponsors were Cebula Alarm Works, Chicopee Electric Light, Florence Bank, MAC Massachusetts, Jim-Buddys, Dunkin', Crossroads Fiber, Holyoke Medical Center, the Chicopee Moose Lodge 1849/Chapter 1489, Polish National Credit Union, PeoplesBank, Walmart, Westfield Bank, Republic Services, Metro Cars, J. Polep Distribution Services and The Home Depot.

Outside city hall, Mrs. Claus couldn't have been happier to be kicking off Christmas in Chicopee.

"It's been an amazing journey. It's been amazing to be in this city of Chicopee learning and meeting new folks. The kids were amazing, the energy, the spirit of the city," she said.

Mrs. Claus encouraged everyone to spread joy and love.

"To spread the joy, the love, the happiness, be together as a family, be united and above all, keep the holiday spirit going and teaching our kids growing up that we are one family and that we can celebrate and keep community and love always," she said.

Narvaez, who sang "O Holy Night," shared it was her second year taking part in the tree lighting.

"I think it's just a fun time for everyone because they get to spend time with people and snacks and take pictures and enjoy the music," Narvaez said. "It's a fun

time!"
Narvaez enjoys singing to the community, especially Christmas music,

"I like to see everyone smile when they hear me and enjoy it," Narvaez said. "It's just a nice experience to see everyone smile and be happy and feel the joy at Christmastime."

Noah Trainor and Geoffrey Gleason, NHS members at Comp, handed out cookies made by the high school's Culinary Club to attendees and helped direct people inside.

"It's awesome because we're helping out the less fortunate too with all the food. Tonight's nice and warm in here, beautiful lights outside. It's fantastic, I love it!" Trainor said.

"It's just a nice event. Everyone can come in and have fun and just enjoy everyone's company and just have a good time all together," Gleason said.

Trainor and Gleason encouraged the community to attend next year and bring family and friends.

"Everyone should definitely try in the future to come out here because it's nice. Everyone's in a good mood. There's this free stuff," Trainor said. "Definitely try to get out here one of these years."

"You see all your friends when you come out and you get to hang out. I haven't seen a lot of friends in a while, so it's a nice meetup spot for you to have. You just get to meet up with people you haven't seen in a while, just get food, music, have a nice fun time," Gleason said.

Narvaez thanked everyone for coming out for the event.

"I want to thank everyone for coming and I hope that they can come next year and I think that they'll really enjoy it," Narvaez said.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY KRISTIN RIVERS

Students from Vibe Dance Center show off a festive dance inside City Hall Audit



A group photo of The Grinch, Santa Claus and Mrs. Claus smiling and waving at the Chicopee Tree Lighting event on Dec. 6.



Members of the Chicopee Comprehensive High School National Honor Society pose for a fun group photo with cookies made by the high school's Culinary Club.



City Council President/Councilor-at-Large Frank Laflamme, Ward 6 City Councilor Samuel Shumsky and City Council Vice President/Councilor-at-Large Robert Zygarowski pose for a group photo with holiday-themed donuts from Dunkin'. The free donuts were given out by the councilors to attendees.



Chicopee Colleen Court members Giannalee Beach, Lilian Young and Madelyn Rice were in charge of handing out Christmas goodies to the children after they got to visit Santa Claus.



IN THE CITY



Allisyn Lopes with mom Kayla move cotton balls with straws.



A close-up shot of the delicious hot cocoa attendees enjoyed during the Cocoa Carnival.

COCOA CARNIVAL from page 1

families something to do which is wonderful. It's just a nice and casual event, people can come whenever they can get here, play some games and have some hot cocoa. Just enjoy some time at the library," Bovee said. "The nice thing about having this before the tree lighting is that, if families want to, they can park their car and walk down to city hall. Having the ability to walk down and enjoy the festivities there. A nice tie-in to everything that is going on that day."

Bovee shared more about the activities.

"Most of the activities happened in the community room and the kids room, like the station to write letters to Santa, because we knew that city hall had a mailbox for kids to deposit letters into. We had heard about the mailbox only a few days before the tree lighting and thought it was a nice opportunity for families," Bovee said.

Being at the library for 14 years—with three of those years as a director—Bovee spoke about her favorite part of her job and her observations throughout the years.

"It's the fact that you never know who is going to walk through that door on any given day. Or what their questions or needs that day are, that is part of the challenge. Constantly asking myself 'How can I help this person?'. It's a very rewarding thing to do," Bovee said.

For next year's Cocoa Carnival, Bovee said minimal changes will be made due to the success of the program this year.



PHOTOS COURTESY OF ANNE GANCARZ

Addilyn and Ayden Moore go ice fishing for prizes during the Chicopee Public Library's Cocoa Carnival in the Bazan Community Room.

"We seem to have hit upon a nice mixture of things, the games change every year, but the setup is really nice. Nobody is missing anything coming an hour later into it, which is a great way to set it up. The format of

having games they can play, snacks and hot cocoa and small activities throughout are what families can expect next year," Bovee said.

For upcoming events, visit chicopeepubliclibrary.org.

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Turley Publications would like to help you show off the newest member of your family this Christmas, FOR FREE!

Mail to:
Turley Publications
24 Water Street
Palmer, MA 01069
Attn: Jamie Joslyn
Include a self addressed/ stamped envelope if you would like the picture returned or email photo to: jamie@turley.com with subject line: **BABY'S FIRST.**
This offer is available to all babies born in 2024. Pictures will be published the week of December 23-27, 2024.

Scarlett Legasey
January 25, 2024
Parents: Thomas & Jessica Legasey, Rutland
Grandparents: Donald & MaryAnn Dunbar, Ware
Thomas & Sharon Legasey, Spencer

Baby's Name: _____

Birthdate: _____

Parents' Names: _____

Parents' Town of Residence: _____

Grandparents' Names & Town of Residence: _____

Telephone #: (not to be printed - for office use only) _____

Please check the newspaper you would like your announcement to appear.

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| <input type="checkbox"/> Agawam Advertiser | <input type="checkbox"/> Quaboag Current |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Barre Gazette | <input type="checkbox"/> The Register |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Chicopee Register | <input type="checkbox"/> Sentinel |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Country Journal | <input type="checkbox"/> Town Reminder |
| <input type="checkbox"/> The Holyoke Sun | <input type="checkbox"/> Ware River News |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Journal Register | <input type="checkbox"/> The Wilbraham-Hampden Times |

Deadline for photos and forms is Monday, December 16, 2024



Kristen Coehlo, family and community engagement facilitator, and Becky Dee, family and community engagement liaison at Chicopee Comp and Lambert-Lavoie Elementary School, served cookies to attendees.



Elijah Collins and Bernadette Collins drinking cocoa during the Cocoa Carnival had a great time at the event!

Sports

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Comp preparing for UMass tilt

CHICOPEE – Earlier this week, Chicopee Comprehensive High School girls basketball continued preparations for the upcoming regular season. The Colts will be heading to the University of Massachusetts to face rival Chicopee High School this weekend in the Pioneer Valley Kick-Off event. The girls game will take place at 4:20 p.m. on Sunday, Dec. 15. Prior to that, the Colts open the regular season at Longmeadow on Friday, Dec. 13 at 7 p.m. Their home opener is against SICS on Friday, Dec. 20.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY WWW.SWEETDOGPHOTOS.COM
Katie Gilhooly dribbles into the paint.



Sheyenne Santiago sends a pass to her left.



Olivia Cruz dribbles up the court.



Ariana Chagnon readies for a shot.



Taryn Carriveau goes for the layup.



TURLEY PHOTOS BY GREGORY A. SCIBELLI

Chicopee's co-op faced Minnechaug in scrimmage action last Friday.

Hockey co-op looks for better season



For the second straight year, Chicopee will co-op with four other schools.

CHICOPEE – Last year, Chicopee's co-op ice hockey team had a tough first season together. The Pacers won just one game with five schools combining to form one team. This year, starting with Saint Paul this Saturday afternoon, the Pacers hope to start a winning campaign. The Pacers then travel to Amherst on Dec. 19. The co-op consists of players from Chicopee, Chicopee Comprehensive, South Hadley, Granby, and the Pioneer Valley Chinese Immersion School. Their home games are played at Fitzpatrick Rink.



Their season opener is against Eastern Mass. opponent Saint Paul.



Their first league game is against Amherst-Pathfinder co-op next week.

Lawsuits lead to more compliance of scheduling rule

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

PALMER – If you go on the Arbiter Live website to look at your favorite team's schedule, you will notice the end of every season has anywhere from one to three "filler dates."

These filler dates were the subject of lawsuits filed by Minnechaug and Monson High

Schools after their failure to comply with the rule resulted in forfeits being assigned to Monson, Minnechaug, and Pathfinder for either Western Mass. or nonplayoff games played following the end of the regular seasons.

The forfeits were meaningful in terms of determining the schools' power ranking for the state tournament. Minnechaug

and Monson were successful in securing a court injunction and did not take the forfeits. Pathfinder did not attempt to use legal means to reverse the forfeits, and the boys soccer team made the Western Mass. finals, which means they won two games after the regular season that were changed to losses for

See **SCHEDULING** page 9

SPORTS

Chicopee 2024-2025 winter varsity schedule

BOYS BASKETBALL

| | | | |
|--------------------|------|------------------------|-----------|
| Thursday, Dec. 12 | Home | Central | 7 p.m. |
| Sunday, Dec. 15 | Away | Chicopee Comprehensive | 6:10 p.m. |
| Tuesday, Dec. 17 | Home | Sci-Tech | 7 p.m. |
| Friday, Dec. 20 | Away | Northampton | 7 p.m. |
| Monday, Dec. 23 | Away | Holyoke | 6:30 p.m. |
| Friday, Dec. 27 | Home | Putnam | 7 p.m. |
| Friday, Jan. 3 | Home | SICS | 7 p.m. |
| Monday, Jan. 6 | Away | Amherst | 7 p.m. |
| Friday, Jan. 10 | Home | Longmeadow | 7 p.m. |
| Monday, Jan. 13 | Away | Belchertown | 7 p.m. |
| Friday, Jan. 17 | Away | Agawam | 7 p.m. |
| Tuesday, Jan. 21 | Away | SICS | 6:30 p.m. |
| Friday, Jan. 24 | Home | Amherst | 7 p.m. |
| Sunday, Jan. 26 | Home | Chicopee Comprehensive | 1 p.m. |
| Tuesday, Jan. 28 | Away | Longmeadow | 7 p.m. |
| Tuesday, Feb. 4 | Home | Pope Francis | 7 p.m. |
| Monday, Feb. 10 | Away | Mahar | 7 p.m. |
| Wednesday, Feb. 12 | Away | Pope Francis | 7 p.m. |

GIRLS BASKETBALL

| | | | |
|-------------------|------|------------------------|-----------|
| Thursday, Dec. 12 | Away | Holyoke | 7 p.m. |
| Sunday, Dec. 15 | Away | Chicopee Comprehensive | 4:20 p.m. |
| Friday, Dec. 20 | Home | Northampton | 7 p.m. |
| Friday, Dec. 27 | Away | Framingham | 6 p.m. |
| Saturday, Dec. 28 | Away | TBD | TBD |
| Monday, Dec. 30 | Home | Pittsfield | 6 p.m. |
| Thursday, Jan. 2 | Home | Longmeadow | 7 p.m. |
| Tuesday, Jan. 7 | Away | East Longmeadow | 7 p.m. |
| Thursday, Jan. 9 | Away | Westfield | 7 p.m. |
| Monday, Jan. 13 | Away | Minnechaug | 6:30 p.m. |
| Thursday, Jan. 16 | Away | Pittsfield | 6 p.m. |
| Monday, Jan. 20 | Home | Chicopee Comprehensive | 7 p.m. |
| Thursday, Jan. 23 | Home | East Longmeadow | 7 p.m. |
| Monday, Jan. 27 | Home | Westfield | 7 p.m. |
| Thursday, Jan. 30 | Home | Minnechaug | 7 p.m. |
| Saturday, Feb. 1 | Away | Pope Francis | 1:30 p.m. |
| Thursday, Feb. 6 | Away | Central | 7 p.m. |
| Monday, Feb. 10 | Home | Wahconah | 7 p.m. |

ICE HOCKEY (co-op)

| | | | |
|-------------------|------|------------|--------|
| Saturday, Dec. 14 | Away | Saint Paul | 5 p.m. |
|-------------------|------|------------|--------|

| | | | |
|--------------------|------|---------------------|-----------|
| Thursday, Dec. 19 | Home | Amherst | 8 p.m. |
| Saturday, Dec. 21 | Away | Peabody | 4 p.m. |
| Thursday, Dec. 26 | Away | Southwick | 1 p.m. |
| Monday, Dec. 30 | Away | Agawam | 3 p.m. |
| Saturday, Jan. 4 | Home | Oakmont | 1 p.m. |
| Wednesday, Jan. 8 | Home | Taconic | 7:30 p.m. |
| Saturday, Jan. 11 | Away | Easthampton | 2 p.m. |
| Monday, Jan. 13 | Home | Taconic | 7 p.m. |
| Wednesday, Jan. 15 | Away | Agawam | 7 p.m. |
| Saturday, Jan. 18 | Away | Montachusett | 5 p.m. |
| Monday, Jan. 20 | Home | Southwick | 3 p.m. |
| Friday, Jan. 24 | Away | Easthampton | 3 p.m. |
| Wednesday, Jan. 29 | Home | McCann Tech | 7 p.m. |
| Saturday, Feb. 1 | Home | East Boston | 2 p.m. |
| Wednesday, Feb. 5 | Home | Amherst | 4 p.m. |
| Saturday, Feb. 8 | Home | East Boston | 3:50 p.m. |
| Tuesday, Feb. 11 | Away | McCann Tech | 7 p.m. |
| Saturday, Feb. 15 | Away | Assabet Valley Tech | 5 p.m. |

SWIMMING

| | | | |
|--------------------|------|------------------------|-----------|
| Friday, Dec. 13 | Home | Hampden Charter | 4 p.m. |
| Monday, Dec. 16 | Home | Turners Falls | 4 p.m. |
| Wednesday, Dec. 18 | Away | Monson | 4 p.m. |
| Friday, Jan. 3 | Home | Northampton | 4 p.m. |
| Tuesday, Jan. 7 | Away | Ludlow | 4 p.m. |
| Friday, Jan. 10 | Away | Northampton | 5:30 p.m. |
| Tuesday, Jan. 14 | Home | Central | 4 p.m. |
| Friday, Jan. 17 | Home | Holyoke | 4:30 p.m. |
| Tuesday, Jan. 21 | Away | Turners Falls | 4 p.m. |
| Friday, Jan. 24 | Away | Renaissance | 4 p.m. |
| Monday, Jan. 27 | Home | Monson | 4 p.m. |
| Wednesday, Jan. 29 | Home | Hampden Charter | 4 p.m. |
| Friday, Jan. 31 | Away | Chicopee Comprehensive | 4 p.m. |

WRESTLING (Co-op with Chicopee Comprehensive)

| | | | |
|--------------------|------|------------------|---------|
| Wednesday, Dec. 18 | Home | Putnam | 7 p.m. |
| Saturday, Dec. 21 | Away | Duggan | 10 a.m. |
| Saturday, Jan. 4 | Away | Longmeadow Duals | 10 a.m. |
| Wednesday, Jan. 8 | Home | Tri-County | 7 p.m. |
| Saturday, Jan. 11 | Away | Quabbin Duals | 10 a.m. |
| Wednesday, Jan. 22 | Away | Minnechaug | 7 p.m. |
| Wednesday, Feb. 12 | Home | East Longmeadow | 7 p.m. |

Chicopee Comprehensive 2024-2025 winter varsity schedule

BOYS BASKETBALL

| | | | |
|-------------------|------|------------------|-----------|
| Thursday, Dec. 12 | Away | Pittsfield | 7 p.m. |
| Sunday, Dec. 15 | Home | Chicopee | 6:10 p.m. |
| Monday, Dec. 16 | Away | West Springfield | 7 p.m. |
| Thursday, Dec. 19 | Home | Wahconah | 7 p.m. |
| Monday, Dec. 23 | Home | Agawam | 7 p.m. |
| Friday, Dec. 27 | Away | Taconic | 7 p.m. |
| Monday, Dec. 30 | Away | Northampton | 6:30 p.m. |
| Monday, Jan. 6 | Away | East Longmeadow | 7 p.m. |
| Friday, Jan. 10 | Home | Westfield | 7 p.m. |
| Tuesday, Jan. 14 | Away | Minnechaug | 6:30 p.m. |
| Friday, Jan. 17 | Home | Commerce | 7 p.m. |
| Friday, Jan. 24 | Home | East Longmeadow | 7 p.m. |
| Sunday, Jan. 26 | Away | Chicopee | 1 p.m. |
| Tuesday, Jan. 28 | Away | Westfield | 7 p.m. |
| Friday, Jan. 31 | Home | Minnechaug | 7 p.m. |
| Tuesday, Feb. 4 | Away | Commerce | 7 p.m. |
| Friday, Feb. 7 | Away | Holyoke | 7 p.m. |
| Monday, Feb. 10 | Home | Putnam | 7 p.m. |

GIRLS BASKETBALL

| | | | |
|--------------------|------|------------------|-----------|
| Friday, Dec. 13 | Away | Longmeadow | 7 p.m. |
| Sunday, Dec. 15 | Home | Chicopee | 4:20 p.m. |
| Tuesday, Dec. 17 | Away | West Springfield | 7 p.m. |
| Friday, Dec. 20 | Home | SICS | 7 p.m. |
| Monday, Dec. 30 | Home | Westfield | 7 p.m. |
| Friday, Jan. 3 | Home | South Hadley | 7 p.m. |
| Tuesday, Jan. 7 | Away | Pittsfield | 7 p.m. |
| Thursday, Jan. 9 | Home | Minnechaug | 7 p.m. |
| Monday, Jan. 13 | Away | East Longmeadow | 7 p.m. |
| Wednesday, Jan. 15 | Away | Monson | 7 p.m. |
| Thursday, Jan. 16 | Away | Westfield | 7 p.m. |
| Monday, Jan. 20 | Away | Chicopee | 7 p.m. |
| Thursday, Jan. 23 | Home | Pittsfield | 7 p.m. |
| Monday, Jan. 27 | Away | Minnechaug | 6:30 p.m. |
| Thursday, Jan. 30 | Home | East Longmeadow | 7 p.m. |
| Wednesday, Feb. 5 | Home | Pope Francis | 7 p.m. |
| Friday, Feb. 7 | Home | Belchertown | 7 p.m. |
| Monday, Feb. 10 | Away | Brattleboro, VT | 6:30 p.m. |

ICE HOCKEY (co-op)

| | | | |
|--------------------|------|---------------------|-----------|
| Saturday, Dec. 14 | Away | Saint Paul | 5 p.m. |
| Thursday, Dec. 19 | Home | Amherst | 8 p.m. |
| Saturday, Dec. 21 | Home | Peabody | 4 p.m. |
| Thursday, Dec. 26 | Away | Southwick | 1 p.m. |
| Monday, Dec. 30 | Away | Agawam | 3 p.m. |
| Saturday, Jan. 4 | Home | Oakmont | 1 p.m. |
| Wednesday, Jan. 8 | Home | Taconic | 7:30 p.m. |
| Saturday, Jan. 11 | Away | Easthampton | 2 p.m. |
| Monday, Jan. 13 | Home | Taconic | 7 p.m. |
| Wednesday, Jan. 15 | Away | Agawam | 7 p.m. |
| Saturday, Jan. 18 | Away | Montachusett | 5 p.m. |
| Monday, Jan. 20 | Home | Southwick | 3 p.m. |
| Friday, Jan. 24 | Away | Easthampton | 3 p.m. |
| Wednesday, Jan. 29 | Home | McCann Tech | 7 p.m. |
| Saturday, Feb. 1 | Home | East Boston | 2 p.m. |
| Wednesday, Feb. 5 | Home | Amherst | 4 p.m. |
| Saturday, Feb. 8 | Home | East Boston | 3:50 p.m. |
| Tuesday, Feb. 11 | Away | McCann Tech | 7 p.m. |
| Saturday, Feb. 15 | Away | Assabet Valley Tech | 5 p.m. |

SWIMMING

| | | | |
|---------------------------------|------|------------------|-----------|
| Thursday, Dec. 12 | Home | Ludlow | 3:30 p.m. |
| Monday, Dec. 16 | Away | Palmer | 4 p.m. |
| Wednesday, Dec. 18 | Home | Easthampton | 4 p.m. |
| Friday, Jan. 3 | Away | Central | 4 p.m. |
| Friday, Jan. 10 | Home | Longmeadow | 4 p.m. |
| Tuesday, Jan. 14 | Home | Minnechaug | 5:15 p.m. |
| Tuesday, Jan. 21 | Home | Westfield | 4 p.m. |
| Friday, Jan. 24 | Away | Agawam | 4 p.m. |
| Monday, Jan. 27 | Home | East Longmeadow | 4 p.m. |
| Wednesday, Jan. 29 | Away | Belchertown | 4 p.m. |
| Friday, Jan. 31 | Home | Chicopee | 4 p.m. |
| Wrestling (Co-op with Chicopee) | | | |
| Wednesday, Dec. 18 | Home | Putnam | 7 p.m. |
| Saturday, Dec. 21 | Away | Duggan | 10 a.m. |
| Saturday, Jan. 4 | Away | Longmeadow Duals | 10 a.m. |
| Wednesday, Jan. 8 | Home | Tri-County | 7 p.m. |
| Saturday, Jan. 11 | Away | Quabbin Duals | 10 a.m. |
| Wednesday, Jan. 22 | Away | Minnechaug | 7 p.m. |
| Wednesday, Feb. 12 | Home | East Longmeadow | 7 p.m. |

T-Birds stay on track with big OT win

SPRINGFIELD — The Springfield Thunderbirds (12-9-1-0) clawed back from 1-0 down after 40 minutes and emerged with a 2-1 overtime victory over the Rockford IceHogs (8-10-3-0) before a sold-out crowd of 6,793 on Saturday night at the MassMutual Center.

After the two clubs exchanged chances in the opening five minutes, the opening period brought very little in the way of offense against Springfield netminder Vadim Zherenko or Rockford goalie Mitchell Weeks.

The T-Birds were uncharacteristically sloppy in the defensive zone, and a pivotal turnover at 2:59 of the second period resulted in Rockford's opening goal as Cole Guttman picked off a loose puck in the middle of the zone and slipped a five-hole shot through Zherenko to make it 1-0 IceHogs. It marked the first time in eight games that the T-Birds allowed the first goal of a game.

Offense did not come easily for Springfield, as the home team was out-shot 16-6 in the middle period. Zherenko was at his best, making a pair of other breakaway saves on Guttman among his 24 denials through 40 minutes of play.

Zherenko rose up to make a game-changing stop in the opening seconds of the third, as he stretched out with the left leg to stonewall Samuel Savoie on a breakaway bid to keep the score at 1-0.

Less than three minutes later, Tyler Tucker continued his torrid goal-scoring weekend, flipping a point

shot over Weeks on the glove side, bringing about a Teddy Bear storm and equalizing the game, 1-1.

It appeared as if the Thunderbirds had taken the lead just a few moments later when a Michael Buchinger shot bounded high in the air and into the blue paint. Matthew Peca jabbed the loose puck across the goal line, seemingly making it a 2-1 Springfield lead. Despite being called a goal on the ice, the officials gathered and ultimately waved off the tally, and the 1-1 tie carried to the end of regulation.

The T-Birds rewarded their netminder in the extra session at 3:42 with their 19-year-old phenom stepping into the spotlight. After Aleksanteri Kaskimaki fed the puck through neutral ice to Dalibor Dvorsky, a 2-on-1 developed with Tucker joining the rush. Dvorsky patiently curled the puck to the middle of the ice around a sprawled defender before launching a perfect shot glove-side on Weeks to give Springfield its second overtime win in as many nights.

The rookie's team-leading 10th goal of the season also went down as his first overtime game-winner as a pro. Springfield has now won four straight games and is 8-1-1 in its last ten games, springboarding the team into third place in the Atlantic Division standings.

The T-Birds next embark on one of their longest road trips of the season, beginning with a Saturday contest in Wilkes-Barre against the Penguins on Dec. 14 at 6:05 p.m. at Mohegan Sun Arena at Casey Plaza.



SCHEDULING from page 1

their MIAA ranking.

More than a dozen other schools including Northampton also were affected by the issue. Many other schools that did not have playoff teams, found themselves unaffected by the issue. But now, nearly every school as of this week had placed filler games at the end of their regular season.

Agawam High School Athletic Director Karen Gomez said filler dates were also placed on many wrestling schedules to comply with the MIAA's rules on determining how many playable dates a team is having.

Though it is not strictly enforced as of yet, more enforcement of posting varsity rosters on the Arbiter site could be down the line.

"Rosters are supposed to be posted and updated," Gomez said. "They are used to determine rosters when it

comes to the playoffs as well."

Gomez says she has to back on the site and make sure rosters are updated for the playoffs to ensure JV players added to rosters for tournament are included.

When looking at an individual team's schedules, most teams play 16 to 18 regular season contests. The filler dates are then replaced by Western Mass. playoff games or "nonplayoff" games. Some of those nonplayoff games are needed, however. A team that finishes the regular season with a 7-9 record can get into the state tournament with a .500 record. The nonplayoff games played by that team then mean something as they can use them to finish season 9-9 and qualify.

The Arbiter website is exclusively used now for schedules, rosters, and score postings. The results are used by the MIAA to quantify Power Rankings for tournament seeds.

Holyoke Community College fall 2024 graduates

HOLYOKE: Holyoke Community College is proud to recognize the following students who will complete their requirements for graduation at the end of the fall 2024 semester. These members of the Class of 2025 were recognized at HCC's second Fall Graduate Reception on Monday, Dec. 2, in the college's Leslie Phillips Theater and will also be invited to participate in HCC's 78th Commencement exercises at the MassMutual Center in Springfield, Mass., on May 31, 2025.

The following students from Chicopee were recognized: Heidi Christine Bas-

com, Alicia Rose Beaton, Sydney Linda Blanchette, Sarah Jamie Buckley, Leah Valerie Cheney, Kostiantyn Chernytskyi, Deborah Rose Cruz, Mackenzie Rose Durand, Jaal Darayus Gardin, Victoria Margarite Guilmette, Nicholas M. Hamel, Kyren Harris, Arrianna Marsh, Liangelis Kayliana Morales, Kendra Ann Paquette, Tanner William Parrow, David Christopher Perez, Renee Pierre, Jenna Marie Adelina Rinvil, Yesenia Roman, Amelia Wiktorina Sadowski, Hailey P. Stepno, Cameisha Fallon Taylor-Smith, Tameka Shanygne Torres and Glorymar Vallenganes.

FUSUS FUNDING from page 1

tion. So, thank you all for your hard work on this."

After Councilor-at-Large Jerry Roy asked for a brief overview of the software, Major elaborated on it being multi-faceted.

"It's a closed-system AI software, so it'll only use what we put into it and it's, also, going to be able to allow the officers and the body cameras to have an instant translator feature on the body cameras, which comes in handy. Sometimes we're out in the field and we're dealing with somebody who doesn't have English as a primary language. So, they'll be able to have instant translation through that," Major said. "It's also going to expedite report writing, which again, is a benefit for us to be able to get an officer back onto the street doing their job instead of being tied up for an inordinate amount of time writing reports. Those are some of the basics of the AI software."

Ward 9 Councilor Mary Beth Costello brought up how she had constituents ask about body cameras.

"So, this is wonderful news to them because they wanted to move our police department into the world of technology and you have done that," Costello said.

For the crime analyst roles, Vieau explained civilians will be trained and work at the center.

"Five, six and seven are the employees and, again, these are going to be civilian positions. Like I said, they're going to be skilled, confidential positions and, also, the fourth one will be also paid for by the Hampden County Sheriff. So, we're going to have four positions that are going to be working in the Real Time Crime Center and the graciousness of the sheriff, he's going to be paying for one of those positions," Vieau said.

Major said for the engineer, it's due "to the vast amount of technology that we've implemented over the last few years to include what we're asking for here tonight."

"I've been fortunate enough to have some incredible officers within my department that are very tech-savvy. But, the purpose of asking for the new civilian personnel is to be able to remove them somewhat from what they're currently doing and getting them back to

more police work," Major said.

When Ward 8 Councilor Gary Labrie asked if the position being paid for by the sheriff would be paid every year, it was confirmed yes by Vieau and Major.

"He will be an employee of the Sheriff's Office assigned to us in that capacity," Major said.

Vieau added they are approximately half-year salaries.

"That's what you're seeing in the budget to get us to the budget," Vieau said. "I'm only asking you for half to get us from January to June."

Vieau added the Real-Time Crime Analyst Supervisor would be "making sure everyone's doing what they're supposed to be doing" and the other position would be two of them, one from the sheriff's office and the other from the city.

The last order--the \$147,000 appropriation--would support the extra AI for report writing, manuals online and the instant translator.

When Roy asked what the difference was between this and the other order, Major said this.

"This is the software that I was speaking about before the AI software. Question number four, we currently use a vendor that provides tasers for us and the FUSUS software that we're currently using," Major said. "So, as we're expanding with the bodycams and the cruiser cams and the software involved with that, we're restructuring the current contract that we have and that's in line with the second order--mayor's order four--was for."

Major expressed his thanks to the council.

"I just appreciate everybody's consideration and especially coming to the executive committee so we can show what we're trying to bring forward for our community," Major said.

Vieau clarified the center would be a real-time information center as opposed to a real-time crime center.

"We're really focused on the positive impact of how this is really going to impact our community, so we're going to call it a Real-Time Information Center," Vieau said. "I think that's much more appropriate than calling it a crime center."



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The Arbors Gives Back raises \$12,500 for Alzheimer's Association



SUBMITTED PHOTOS JULIE DUDLEY

CHICOPEE – The Arbors Gives Back raised \$12,500 to be donated to the Alzheimer's Association. "We feel so humbled we are able to help our local seniors and support the cause," Julie Dudley, regional social engagement director and reflections memory care director at The Arbors, said. The money was raised by having an event on Sept. 7 at the Castle of Knights on Memorial drive in Chicopee, The event was called I WANNA ROCK for Alzheimer's Featuring 80s tribute band Aquanett! "Fun was had by all and with everyone wearing 80s attire, it was a ROCKIN good time!!" Dudley said.



CPD receives Thanksgiving Dinner surprise from local students



PHOTO COURTESY OF CHICOPEE POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHICOPEE – The police department received a surprise Thanksgiving dinner from students at the Hampden Charter School of Science. The students also surprised the fire department with a Thanksgiving dinner too.

CPD receives special delivery



PHOTOS AND CAPTION COURTESY OF CHICOPEE POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHICOPEE – On Nov. 19, the police department received a delivery of 30 buckets filled with various items for those in need. They have jackets, gloves, snacks and personal hygiene supplies inside. The police department would like to thank the following organizations for making these items available to us and our community: Home Depot, The Elisha Project, Ocean State Job Lot, The Patriots Foundation, Massachusetts Military Support Foundation and USA Veterans & Military Support Foundation.



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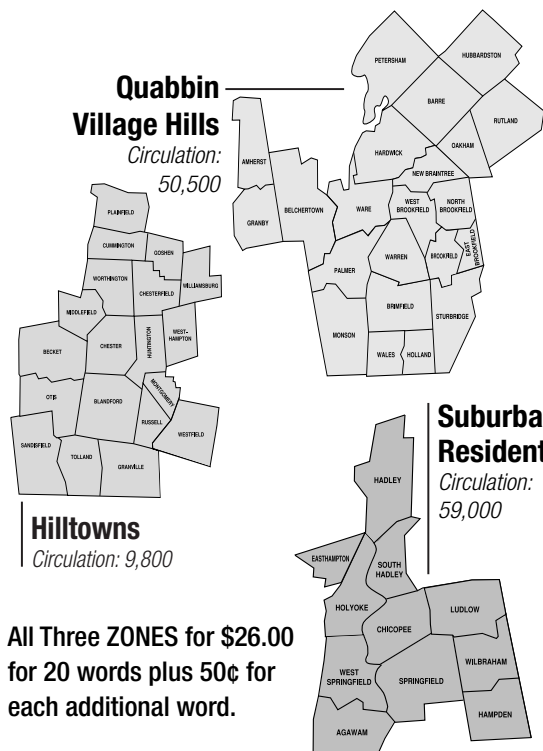
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Estate of:

Dorothy L Davignon
Date of Death: 04/10/2021
CITATION ON PETITION
FOR FORMAL
ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment** has been filed by **Kathryn L Pabon of Chicopee, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Kathryn L Pabon of Chicopee, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **With Personal 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 12/27/2024. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

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

Date: November 29, 2024

Rosemary A Saccomani,
Register of Probate
12/13/2024

SALE OF MOTOR VEHICLES
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Notice is hereby given by Interstate Towing, Inc. pursuant to the provisions of G.L. c. 255, section 39A, that on December 13, 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.

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2005 Nissan Armada Se/Le
VIN: 5N1AA08B35N714217
Melissa Blue
217 Francis Ave, Apt 1A
Pittsfield, MA, 01201

2003 Honda Odyssey Exl
VIN: 5FNRL18903B095379
Leonardo Marcos De Souza
241 Littleton Rd, Apt 202
Chelmsford, MA, 01824

2009 Ford Fusion Se
VIN: 3FAHP07109R219380
John Martocchio
81 Mountain Rd,
East Hartland, CT, 06027

2003 Mitsubishi Eclipse
Spyder Gt
VIN: 4A3AE55H73E097364
Doris Champagne
64A Parsons St
Easthampton, MA, 01027

2010 Toyota Camry LE/Xle/
SE
VIN: 4T1BK3EK8AU106619
Rusvell Reyes
11 Phoenix St,
Springfield, MA, 01104

2024 HMDE Utility Trailer
VIN: MATR1779720928
Maralaisy Gil
92 Johnson St Apt 1
Springfield, MA, 01108

2008 Saturn Vue Xc
VIN: 3GSCL33P78S639225
David Goda
94 Dubis St
Indian Orchard, MA, 01151

2007 Jeep Grand Cherokee
Lar/Col/Fe
VIN: 1J8HR48P87C638712
Imani Cain
81 Ellington St Apt 2
Boston, Ma, 02121

2006 Ford Escape XLT
VIN: 1FMYU93156KD49941
Tracy Burgess
57 Maple Ave, Apt 1C
Willimantic, CT, 06226

2012 Kia Rio EX/SX
VIN: KNADN4A30C6075640
Jamie Violano
83 W Pond Rd,
North Branford, CT, 06471

2012 Nissan Rogue S/sv
VIN: JN8AS5MV2CW702134
Marcus Kinchen
15 Girard Ave, Apt106
Springfield, MA 01109

11/29, 12/06, 12/13/2024

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 January 3, 2025 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.

2011 Chevrolet Silverado
1500
VIN: 1GCRKPEA2BZ262077
Joseph Hodgdon
185 Artist Falls Rd,
North Conway, NH, 03860

2015 Hyundai Accent GLS
VIN: KMHCT4AE5FU875870
William Gilmore
28 Maple St, Apt 1
Westfield, Ma, 01085

2007 Freightliner
Conventional
VIN: 1FUJA6CK57LY27205
Lulus Trucking LLC
1077 North Ave, STE 1184
Elizabeth, NJ, 07201

2006 Wabash National Corp
VIN: IJJV532W46L024973
Lulus Trucking LLC
1049 Sumiit Ave, Apt 1
Bronx, Ny, 10452

2004 Honda Accord Ex
VIN: 1HGCM56894A175215
Kiara Falcon Melendez
185 College St, Fl 1st
Springfield, MA, 01109

2005 Toyota Sequoia Sr5
VIN: 5TDBT44A25S241668
Marc Louis Razza
71 Toms Pond Lane,
Warner, NH, 03278

2010 Mazda CX-9
VIN: JM3TB3MV8A0233017
Samuel Opoku
3 Jim St,
Enfield, CT, 06082

12/13, 12/20, 12/27/2024

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 December 20, 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.

2011 Mitsubishi Lancer Es/
Es Sport
VIN: JA32U2FU7BU004253
Keila Garcia
258 Jasper St.
Springfield, MA 01109

2012 BMW 528xi
VIN: WBAXH5C51CDW10284
John Pangelinan
99 Woodland Dr., Apt. C
Uncasville, CT 06382

2015 Buick Enclave
VIN: 5GAKVBKD8FJ360501
David Long
54 Lyman St., Apt 2
South Hadley, MA 01075

2018 Jeep Grand Cherokee
Limited
VIN: 1C4RJFBG9JC107906
Michael Mercadante
87 South Ave.
Longmeadow, MA 01106

2005 Honda Accord Ex
1HGCM558X5A109582
Maria Colon
491 Bridge Rd., Apt. 1102
Florence, MA 01062

2015 Nissan Rogue S/SL/SV
VIN: KNMAT2MT8FP553667
Bijoy Marina
901 Better Days Pl
Valrico, FL 33594

2012 Honda Fit
VIN: JHMGE8H34CS003634
Jorge Cruz
155 W MainSt.
Plainville, CT 06062

2005 Hyundai Tucson Gls/Lx
VIN: KM8JN12D15U210985
Daquan Jackson
6025 North Hills Dr., Apt. G
Raleigh, NC 27609

12/06, 12/13, 12/20/2024

Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family
Court
Hampden Probate and
Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD24P2501PO
LaFleur Family
Realty Trust
In the matter of:
Petition for Appointment of
Successor Trustee
TRUST CITATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition has been filed by: **Thomas A LaFleur of Palmer, MA** requesting to Appoint **Thomas A. LeFleur** as Successor Trustee as the named successor trustee is deceased, all as more fully set forth in said petition.

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 01/10/2025.

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 date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

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

Date: December 05, 2024

Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
12/13/2024

Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and
Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No. HD24P2553GD
In the interests of
Jayla Aaliya Malone
of Chicopee, MA
Minor
NOTICE AND ORDER:
Petition for Appointment
of Guardian of a Minor
NOTICE TO ALL

INTERESTED PARTIES

1. Hearing Date/Time:
A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on **12/09/2024** by **Jeannine Monteiro** of Boynton Beach, FL will be held **01/09/2025 03:00 PM Guardianship of Minor Hearing**. Located: **Located Judge Wyner Virtual Session: Go to Zoom.us or call 646-828-7666, ID #1600320747.**

2. Response to Petition:
You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to:

File the original with the Court; and

Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing.

3. Counsel for the Minor: The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor.

4. Counsel for Parents: If you are a parent of the minor child who is the subject of this proceeding you have a right to be represented by an attorney. If you want an attorney and cannot afford to pay for one and if you give proof that you are indigent, an attorney will be assigned to you. Your request for an attorney should be made immediately by filling out the Application of Appointment of Counsel form. Submit the application form in person or by mail at the court location where your case is going to be heard.

5. Presence of the Minor at Hearing: A minor over age 14 has the right to be present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor's best interests.

Date: December 9, 2024
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
12/13/2024

Commonwealth of
Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and
Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD24P1694EA
Estate of:
Rita Thumm
Date of Death: 05/08/2017
CITATION ON PETITION
FOR FORMAL

CITY OF CHICOPEE ELECTRIC LIGHT LEGAL NOTICE

Chicopee Electric Light is updating its rate tariffs effective January 1, 2025. The changes in the rates will more accurately represent CEL's increasing costs to provide distribution, transmission and generation services to its customers while ensuring the necessary resources to provide reliable, high quality service. For updates, please refer to the rate section on Chicopee Electric Lights website at celd.com/electric-service-rates.

Tariffs being modified are listed with their updated M.D.P.U numbers as follows:

- M.D.P.U. No. 135 – Industrial Service
- M.D.P.U. No. 136 – Large General Service
- M.D.P.U. No. 137 – Large General Service – Off Peak Heating and Water Heating Service
- M.D.P.U. No. 138 – Small General Service
- M.D.P.U. No. 139 – Small General Service – Off Peak Heating and Water Heating Service
- M.D.P.U. No. 140 – Security & Contract Lighting
- M.D.P.U. No. 141 – Battery Energy Storage System (BESS)

Filed – December 13, 2024
Effective Billing – January 1, 2025

City of Chicopee Municipal Lighting Plant
725 Front Street
Chicopee, Massachusetts 01020
(413) 598-8311
<http://www.celd.com>
12/13/2024

ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Late and Limited Formal Testacy and/or Appointment** has been filed by **Katherine Hall of Chicopee, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

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

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 01/03/2025. 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: December 05, 2024

Rosemary A Saccomani,
Register of Probate
12/13/2024

PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

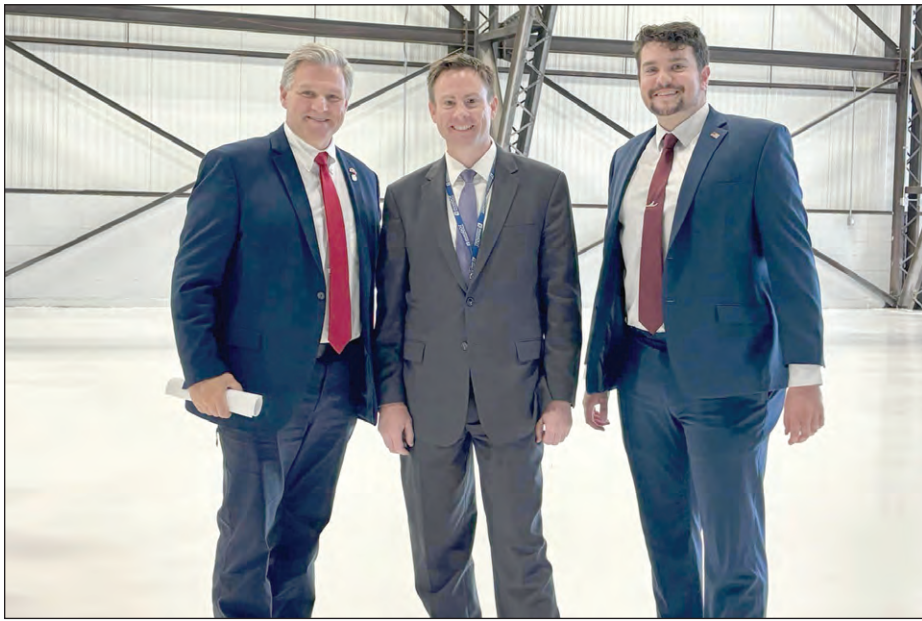
- 1 Email all notices to notices@turley.com
- 2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

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

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

Westover Airport celebrates 50 Years



PHOTOS AND CAPTION COURTESY OF CITY OF CHICOPEE MAYOR'S OFFICE

CHICOPEE - This year marks the 50th anniversary of Westover Airport, a cornerstone of our community and a vital part of our nation's defense. For half a century, Westover has been home to dedicated men and women who have committed their lives to service and protecting our country. We honor the legacy of all who have served here and the values instilled in the next generation of servicemen and women. From its origins to today, Westover continues to stand as a proud beacon of strength and community spirit. Here's to 50 years of excellence—and many more to come!



Our Father's House cooks meals for CPD



CHICOPEE – Our Father's House Ministry visited the police department on Dec. 7 and cooked meals for the officers on shift. The police department thanked them on Facebook, saying, "We greatly appreciate your support."



PHOTOS AND CAPTION COURTESY OF CHICOPEE POLICE DEPARTMENT



CPD hosts Stuff a Cruiser



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CHICOPEE POLICE DEPARTMENT

CHICOPEE – The police department hosted their annual Stuff a Cruiser event outside Walmart on Nov. 30 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Many in the community stopped by to drop off new, unwrapped toys, with the police department expressing their thanks on their Facebook page for the support.



EARLY DEADLINE For All Advertising & CLASSIFIEDS

All Papers Will Deadline Thursday, Dec. 19 at Noon for Publication Dec. 23 - 27

All Papers Will Deadline Friday, Dec. 27 at Noon for Publication Dec. 30 - Jan. 3



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Palmer, MA 01069
413-283-8393



St. Joan of Arc School NJHS presents sock donations to Lorraine's



SUBMITTED PHOTOS BY JANINE DUNLEA



CHICOPEE - The National Junior Honor Society (NJHS) of St. Joan of Arc School, accompanied by Principal McDonald, dropped off more than 400 pairs of donated socks to Lorraine's Soup Kitchen & Pantry on Wednesday, Nov. 20. The "Socktober" drive was the first major campaign of the 2024-25 year by NJHS, which will welcome new members during Catholic Schools Week. Returning members Andre (NJHS president), Katelyn, Emily, Matthew and Olivia brought the socks to Lorraine's on Pendexter Avenue in Chicopee, and the agency will distribute them to their area clients in need.

It was very interesting," Matthew said. "The people at Lorraine's explained the background of their agency and what they do. The work they do is really important."

The NJHS is next launching a canned food drive to benefit Lorraine's. This will take place in December.



CHS takes part in GEAR UP event



PHOTOS COURTESY OF CITY OF CHICOPEE MAYOR'S OFFICE

CHICOPEE - On Nov. 21, Chicopee High School hosted its GEAR UP event in the library, where local colleges and universities conducted onsite interviews and acceptances. It was an inspiring day filled with opportunity and excitement for the seniors!

A special thank you to Ms. Vecchiarelli, CHS Head Guidance Counselor, for organizing this impactful event. We were honored to have the Mayor join us and take the time to speak with a few of our talented seniors. Superintendent Dr. Ware was also in attendance, showing support for our students during this milestone achievement.

Our heartfelt appreciation goes out to the entire administration team for their hard work in making these events such a success. Events like these highlight the strength and dedication of our CHS community as we prepare students for bright futures ahead!



WE CARRY A WIDE VARIETY OF FROZEN TURKEYS, TURKEY BREAST, DUCKS, GEESE, CORNISH HENS AS WELL AS FRESH HAMS & RED MEAT ROAST FOR YOUR HOLIDAY NEEDS!

| | | |
|---|---|--|
| USDA INSP. FRESH PORK "CROWN" ROAST... \$3⁹⁹ lb | USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN RIB EYE for STANDING ROAST CUT FREE \$9⁸⁸ WHOLE or lb HALF | USDA INSP. FROZEN TURKEY BREAST \$1⁶⁹ lb |
| USDA INSP. FRESH HOLIDAY ROAST BONELESS PORK LOIN WITH HAM, CHEESE, PEPPERS, OLIVES, SPICES..... \$4⁴⁹ lb | USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF TENDERLOIN CUT FREE \$10⁸⁹ lb | USDA INSP. FROZEN CAPONS \$5⁹⁹ lb |
| USDA INSP. FROZEN PORK SHOULDER PICNIC . \$1³⁹ lb | USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF SIRLOIN SPOON ROAST \$5⁹⁹ lb | USDA INSP. FROZEN CORNISH GAME HEN \$2⁷⁹ lb |
| USDA INSP. STORE MADE ITALIAN SAUSAGE ALL VARIETIES \$2⁷⁹ lb | USDA INSP. FRESH AMERICAN LEG LAMB \$5⁹⁹ lb | HOLIDAY APPETIZERS |
| USDA INSP. KAYEM BUDDABALL SMOKED PIT HAM BONELESS WHOLE..... \$3⁶⁶ lb | FROZEN IMPORTED LEG LAMB RACKS \$14⁹⁹ lb | USDA INSP. FRESH CHICOPEE PROVISIONS BLUE SEAL KIELBASA \$4⁹⁹ lb |
| USDA INSP. HATFIELD OLD TIME SKINLESS SHANKLESS HARDWOOD SMOKED WHOLE HAM \$2⁸⁹ lb | USDA INSP. FROZEN COOK'S HAM PORTIONS BUTT & SHANK \$1⁴⁹ lb | USDA INSP. FROZEN CODINO'S MANICOTI w/ RICOTTA 40 OZ \$4⁹⁹ ea |
| USDA INSP. FROZEN BONELESS HAM DINNER AVERAGE 5 LB \$1⁹⁹ lb | | USDA INSP. FROZEN BACON WRAPPED SHRIMP 15 COUNT \$8⁹⁹ ea |
| | | USDA INSP. IQF FROZEN BOS'N CALAMARI 2 1/2 LB BAG \$9⁹⁹ ea |
| | | USDA INSP. IQF FROZEN COOKED SHRIMP 16/20 COUNT 2 LB BAG \$19⁹⁹ ea |

90 Meat Outlet
 90 Avocado St. Springfield
 413-737-1288
 www.90meat.com
 We reserve the right to limit quantities.

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OPEN 12/22 SUNDAY 8AM-1PM
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 Thurs. 8-6 • Fri. 8-6 • Sat. 8-3

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