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April 4, 2025 ■ FREE

www.sun.turley.com

Council still hampered by rules on decorum

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

HOLYOKE – Since most recent “class” of the City Council took office in January 2024, there has been much fighting and bickering among the various councilors.

There has been constant division on various issues, and controversies ranging from choosing Tessa Murphy-Romboletti as the council president, to arguing over simple procedural aspects of meetings.

Eventually, the council would pass a rule for its body concerning proper decorum amongst the legislative body of the city.

But still, fighting persist, even to a point where a council meeting was abruptly ended after only two items were taken up.

Now, the Charter and Rules Committee, a sub-committee of the council, has been saddled with several orders proposing rule changes as well as querying how issues among councilors deal with.

Among the orders, Councilors Kevin Jourdain and Ward 5 Councilor Linda Vacon have proposed an order to amend their rule 6E, adding “that no member of the City Council shall make references to or about another member but in respect-

See COUNCIL, page 10

Committee announces award winners

By Gregory A. Scibelli
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HOLYOKE – The St. Patrick’s Day Parade always brings out the creative not only in Holyokers, but in the many communities that send representatives to participate in the parade.

Whether it is decorating vehicles are building floats for the Colleenes and their courts, all are vying for the parade end awards, which were announced last week.

According to an announcement from the parade committee, there was a huge turnout for the March 23 parade.

Last Sunday, the streets of Holyoke came alive again as a b o u t

See
AWARDS,
page 6



Above, the Holyoke Caldeonian Pipe Band were among the awardees at this year’s parade. Below, United Horizons won the Open Theme for their float.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com



SPRING FEVER



Members of the Holyoke High School track and field teams work out in practices last week. The Knights were scheduled for their first meet against Westfield this week, and next face Pope Francis on Tuesday, April 15. Holyoke also has Unified Track at the school.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

More volunteers needed to adopt road islands

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

HOLYOKE – There have been several initiatives on the part of Mayor Joshua Garcia’s office imposed to eliminate dirty streets and other forms of blights throughout the city.

Now, the city is in need of help from residents to participate in the “Adopt-An-Island” program.

According to an announcement from the mayor’s office made on Monday afternoon, the program has actually existed for decades through previous mayors.

The announcement states there are 25 people returning to the program, but more people are needed to the various median islands in the city clean, free of overgrowth and trash and debris.

The program welcomes residents and local businesses to voluntarily take over empty lots or “islands” in high traffic areas of the city and beautify them by planting flowers, cleaning, and doing landscape work on them.

The mayor’s office needs new volunteers to take on an island so we can continue this long-standing tradition and keep our city beautiful. If you are interested, contact Nilka Ortiz by email (ortizn@holyo.ke.org) or phone (413-561-1600). The mayor’s office

needs to confirm participants by April 28.

The program has three rules for participants to follow:

1. The city supplies the standard sign for the sponsor, putting your name or business on display. The city also supplies the wood mulch which is expected to arrive around late April.

2. Sponsors’ responsibilities are to provide live plant materials (no artificial flowers), “TLC” – weeding, deadheading, fertilizer, and watering. Spring and fall clean-up.

3. Participants with shrubs and ornamental grasses maximum allowed height is 36”.

The mayor’s office established the “Flex Squad” in 2022. The Flex Squad is made up of a group of city officials from multiple departments whose purpose is to uphold ordinances prohibiting litter, illegal dumping, graffiti, and other noncompliance issues that exacerbate blight.

The squad is coming up on three years of effective enforcement in the city.

The Squad is made up of city personnel drawn from the Board of Health, Fire Department, Police Department, and Department of Public Works. The size of the Squad varies, but the usual number of participants is 12.

‘Prison Reimagined’ comes to Wistariahurst

HOLYOKE – Wistariahurst welcomes an exhibit of artwork and writing by incarcerated artists critiquing the US Justice System. Prison Reimagined features a series of portraits of U.S. presidents and writing pieces that touch on people’s experiences within the prison system.

The project was organized by Curator and Artistic Director, Cadell “Monty” Kivett from inside a cor-

rectional facility in North Carolina. About the project’s inception, Cadell states, “...I had an improbable idea: Let’s have incarcerated artists draw portraits of our presidents, then invite those subjects to see what we had drawn. This, I knew, if staged in proper context would make for powerful commentary on mass incarceration and criminal punishment in America.” Since the project’s inception in 2021, Prison Reimagined

has grown to an exhibition featuring 23 written and 23 visual works. As the project expanded, Project Manager Janie Ritter and Outreach Coordinator Haley Bryant joined the team, helping push it forward.

The exhibition has traveled to several locations, and Wistariahurst is proud to be the next venue to showcase Prison Reimagined. The exhibit will be on view in Wistariahurst’s Great Hall,

expanding the area of the museum where art installations are shown, and serving as the first installation visitors will see when they enter. An opening reception will be held Tuesday, April 15 from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. The opening reception is free and open to the public, and online registration is encouraged. Additional events relative to the exhibit are to be announced. Come and engage with this powerful, unique exhibit of artwork.

Tax overrides analyzed in library presentation

HOLYOKE – Join the Holyoke Public Library on April 14 at 5 p.m. as UMass professor Kathryn McDermott and Willow Kwak explore the 1991 tax override votes, part of a tumultuous period in Holyoke politics which is ree and open to the public.

McDermott and Kwak conclude that the repeated, unsuccessful efforts to pass

a Proposition 2 ½ override for the schools were a turning point in the relationship between Holyoke and the state, which eventually led to more state funds for Holyoke and other cities, but also to school receivership.

This is the first time McDermott has presented her research to a Holyoke audience.

UCCH offering chance to ‘connect’ at concert

HOLYOKE – We all need connection. The United Congregational Church of Holyoke is inviting the public to join us as we host the Westfield State University Chorale for a free of charge concert on Saturday, April 12 at 7 p.m.

The concert is called “Connections”, a choral experience exploring the bonds of human experience. The performance features music by Ola Gjello, Zanaida Robles, Josquin Despres, Emma Lou Diemer, William

Dawson and Margrit Kits. The WSU Chorale is directed by Scott Bailey.

UCCH of Holyoke is an Open and Affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ. We welcome all individuals, regardless of where they are on their journey. If you’d like to learn more about UCCH, please visit our website at www.uccholyoke.org, find us on Facebook or Instagram, or call our office at 413-532-1483 Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Spaghetti and meatballs offered as community meal

HOLYOKE – It’s a new month, which means it’s almost time for United Congregational Church of Holyoke’s Community Meal.



April’s meal will feature spaghetti, meatballs, sausage, salad and rolls and will be served on April 11 at 5 p.m. Dinner will be followed by a family movie at 6 p.m.

The Community Meal is hosted on the second Friday evening of each month at the church at 300 Appleton Street. All Are Welcome to attend, and the meal is completely free of charge. The menu changes monthly; past meals have featured lasagna, Thanksgiving dinner, breakfast for dinner, steak sand-

wiches, and more. Parents must accompany their children.

The United Congregational Church of Holyoke is an Open and Affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ. We welcome all individuals, regardless of where they are on their journey. If you’d like to learn more about UCCH, please visit our website at www.uccholyoke.org, find us on Facebook or Instagram, or call our office at 413-532-1483 Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Holyoke Community College enrolling students for free clean energy jobs training program

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Community College is now enrolling students for a free, four-week program to train workers for jobs in the clean energy sector.

The Green Construction, Electricity and Clean Energy Systems program runs from July 7 through August 1, Mondays through Fridays, 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Classes meet both at Dean Technical High School and at Holyoke Community College.

During 80 hours of hands-on training, students will earn their OSHA 10 safety credentials while learning the basics of green construction, hand and power tool use, and electrical concepts and circuitry,

and learning how these skills are applied in solar photovoltaic installation and electrical vehicle charging stations.

Students who complete the program will be eligible for work in construction, can apply for a paid electrician apprenticeship program, or enroll in further training as a clean energy technician.

The program also covers energy efficient materials and design, measurements and diagrams, basic framing, wall installation and maintenance, foundation construction and pouring, workplace safety, and job readiness.

It is funded through a two-year, \$832,000 state grant HCC received in 2024

for climate-related workforce training initiatives. HCC’s partners in the grant include the Massachusetts Clean Energy Center, Springfield Works, Dean Technical High School, and the Coalition for an Equitable Economy,

To be eligible, students must be at least 18, authorized to work in the United States, have a high school diploma or equivalency, be able to start work after the training, and pass a background check.

For more information or to enroll, please go to: hcc.edu/cleanenergy or contact career counselor Mike Blasco at mblasco@hcc.edu / 413-552-2801.



HCC is looking for students for a free program teaching about the clean energy career sector.

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For each play the Valley Players produces, a local nonprofit organization whose mission aligns with import-

River Valley Counseling Center is a multi-service, community-based mental health agency serving the Pioneer Valley, offering a range of traditional and non-traditional outpatient services to adults and children at several locations in Holyoke, Chicopee, Easthampton, Springfield, and Westfield, MA.



Submitted phot

"We created a space for people to come together, not just for wine but for community," said Kersbergen.

Schools

- UMass Police

Department

- Valley Opportunity

Council

- Valley Spring

Behavioral Health

- Veritas Prep Charter

School

- Viability
- Westfield Bank

Interested employees should contact James Geraghty, Advertising Manager, at 617-840-2998 or jamesgeraghty@pyramid-mg.com.

sun, strange things start happening at Mr. Mushnik's (Eben Beudry) flower shop. Meanwhile, Audrey (Ashanty Provost) dreams of leaving Skid Row and her boyfriend, the sadistic dentist Orin Scrivello (Linken Geddis). As the mysterious plant "Audrey II" starts to grow, audience members should be prepared for the hijinks and horror that will ensue.

\$225 for non-residents. Please register at the Holyoke Parks and Recreation Department, 413-322-5620. Participants must register and be paid in full before attending the class. Limited space available.

Germination tests give way to garden experiments

Although the temperatures did not cooperate this past week, I have to say that spring vibes are all around me.

I saw my first blooming crocus, and even some early daffodils. The phoebe bird that makes a nest above our porch door is back, and hanging around, much to my husband's dismay!

My pepper plants are almost in need of transplanting from their seed pack, and the tomato seeds I planted last weekend sprouted in under a week. It is all so exciting! I don't think that I will ever not be amazed at the miracle of it all.

The other day I was going through my seed stash and I found two year old seeds of Loofah Gourd, Mini Popcorn, Mouse Melon and a variety of "climbing" Zucchini all of which I never planted. These purchases were "impulse buys" I guess you'd call it. I bought them but when it came time to actually plant them, I decided that my garden square footage was too precious to waste on frivolity.

But here we are and my frugal nature shines through once more. Since I bought them I might as well try and plant them; maybe one will end up being a new favorite.

But alas, does one risk planting two year old seed? What if the seeds don't ger-

minate? Partaking in germination testing gave me a chance to get my hands in the soil, (albeit indoors) and the outcome will help me determine how much I should "over-plant" or if that will even be necessary.

Wasting a few seeds now will save time later on.

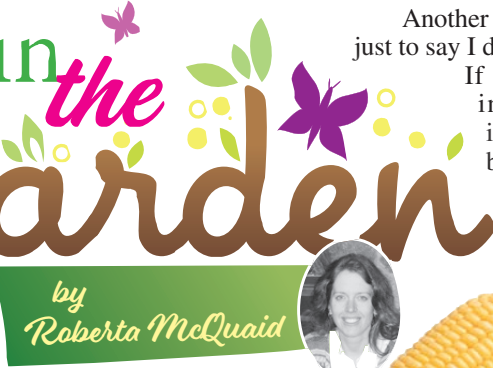
First up, the Loofah Gourd. I planted four seeds as a trial and three popped up! That means I will be adding this to my garden come springtime.

Grow it like you would any other gourd or squash. It loves fertile soil, heat and a strong support.

When loofahs were first popular, I was a young adult and still living at home. Growing them was a project for my parents and I.

Before the first frost we harvested the fat, wrinkly looking cucumbers and allowed them to dry before peeling off the rind. What was left was fibrous matter, looking already very much like a scrubby sponge. It was a fun experiment then and it will be reminiscent to repeat it.

Next comes the Mini Colored Popcorn. This was the first to sprout in my ger-



mination test pack with five of the six seeds popping up.

I have never had extra space to grow corn, but I thought it would be fun to try these for both decoration and food. I am going to start them ahead of time, indoors in six packs and plant them out around the three week mark.

They will be spaced about a foot apart in rows about two and a half feet apart. Corn likes fertile soil, so I will amend the soil well with aged compost.

This type of corn will dry right on the plant, until the husks are brown. Then the ears will be harvested, shucked and dried some more. I have seen people remove the kernels first by using a blunt instrument such as the back of a spoon to start the kernels moving, then it looks somewhat easy to get the rest to push off.

Another fun thing to try, just to say I did it.

If you are growing sweet corn in your garden be sure to time these apart from one another, so that cross pollination won't taint the taste of



your sweet corn.

I was really hoping that the climbing zucchini would sprout in my test pack. It took a bit, but they finally did and therefore they will be added to my garden this spring.

This variety, known as "Incredible Escalator" has a vertical habit. Funny enough, there are all sorts of videos online about training zukes to grow upright, but this variety seems particularly suited to upward mobility.

Zucchini are not true "twining" plants, however, so they will need to be tied to a strong trellis or stake to maintain their vertical nature. Because the plant is off the ground, there appears to be improved disease

resistance, too.

Stay tuned as to whether this zucchini lives up to the hype in terms of productivity and increased vigor.

Last on my list is Mouse Melon. I saw these for the very first time at the Hardwick Fair in 2022, hence my purchase. Also known as Mexican Sour Gherkin, these fruits grow to about the size of a grape, but taste somewhere between a cucumber and a watermelon, growing more sour as they mature.

The seeds were tiny, not what I expected at all and only half of what I planted came up, so I will definitely be sowing double the normal rate. The vine grows long – upwards of 10 feet, so be sure to trellis to make the best use of space.

I know little more than you do about this one, but I can't wait to try it out. Will it remain a curiosity or will Mouse Melon become a regular? Will any of these? We'll have to wait to find out!

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.

Can my wife and I get spouse benefits from each other?

Dear Rusty:

My wife and I are currently collecting Social Security.

We both started receiving SS at 62 years old. That said, we get by on a tight budget. A retired friend told us about an option which allows a spouse to collect half of the other spouse's SS monthly income. My question has two parts: Can we both collect on each other's SS? And Are there any pitfalls?

Signed:
Seeking an Increase

Dear Seeking:

Well, I'm afraid spousal benefits aren't quite that simple. One spouse may be eligible for additional benefits from the other, but only if that spouse's personal Social Security retirement

benefit at their Full Retirement Age is less than half (50%) of the other spouse's FRA entitlement. Note that for spouse benefits, FRA amounts are used regardless of when you actually claim benefits. Full retirement age for both you and your wife is 66, so that means that if you both claimed at 62 your FRA entitlements were higher about 25% more than you are both currently receiving.

Since you applied for benefits some time ago at about the same age, one way to estimate if one of you may be entitled to an additional amount as a spouse is to evaluate your current monthly amounts. If either of you

SOCIAL SECURITY

Matters

By Russell Gloor

are getting a benefit which is less than half of the other's amount, it's possible that the one with the lower benefit may be entitled to more as a spouse. And note, only one spouse is eligible for benefits; you cannot both get spouse benefits from each other.

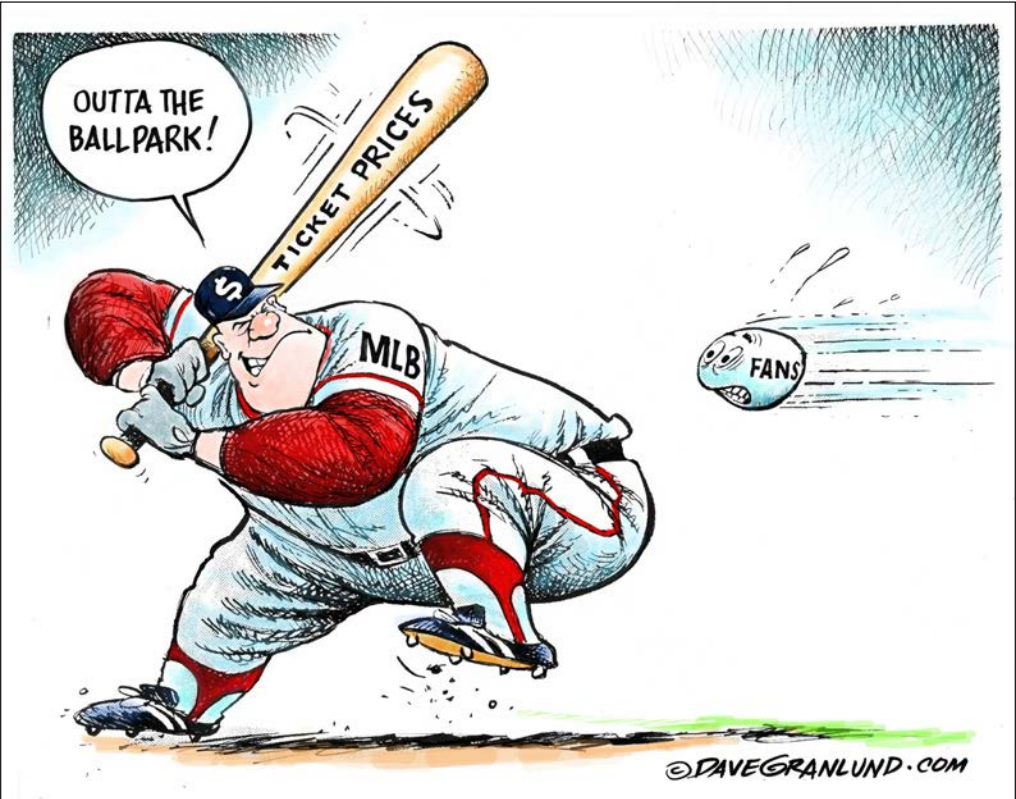
Another way to explore this is for the spouse with the lowest monthly Social Security benefit to contact Social Security at 1-800-772-1213 to ask if spouse benefits are available.

Noting that contacting SS these days can be a time-consuming process. Another way is for you to provide us (the AMAC Foundation's SS Advisory Service) with both of your current monthly SS benefit amounts before any deductions and the exact ages when each of you claimed. Using that information, we can do the math to see if either of you might be entitled to more as a spouse.

But, in the end, only the spouse with the lower benefit may be eligible and then, only if their FRA entitlement (not their actual current amount) is less than

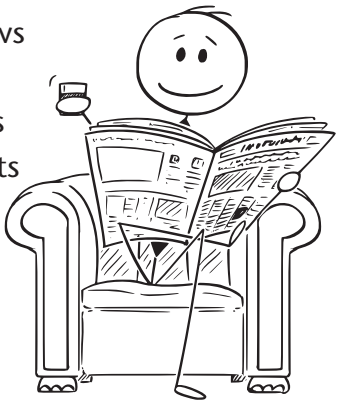
50% of the other spouse's FRA entitlement.

The Association Mature Citizens Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. This article is intended for information purposes and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the Association Mature Citizens Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association To submit a question, visit amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory or email us at ssadviser@amacfoundation.org. Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.



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The Holyoke Sun welcomes election letters to the editor

The Holyoke Sun welcomes readers to participate in this year's election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to The Holyoke Sun, care of Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 or emailed to thesun@turley.com. Please include a daytime telephone number for verification purposes (it will not be printed). Letters must be received by noon Monday to be considered for that Friday's

newspaper. No attack letters will be printed. No letters written by candidates supporting their own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper, or if the letters become repetitive, the newspaper reserves the right to print a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election.

For more information, call 413-283-8393.

Campaign news

As part of its election coverage, the newspa-

per plans to print stories about contested races for Congress, state Senate, state House, district attorney and Governor's Council during the weeks leading up to the election, as well as a question-and-answer voters guide. In order to ensure fairness to all candidates, no political press releases will be printed, nor will reporters cover political rallies or fundraisers.

Candidates who wish to further publicize their candidacy, beliefs and events may contact advertising, 413-283-8393 about paid advertising in The Holyoke Sun.

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The Holyoke Sun is published every Friday by Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069. Telephone (413) 283-8393, Fax (413) 289-1977.



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Letters to the Editor have a maximum of 350 words. We require writers to include their name, address and phone number in order for our office to authenticate authorship prior to publication. Addresses and phone numbers are not published.

Unsigned or anonymous letters will NOT be published.

We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions. Libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks or defamation of character are not allowed.

Deadline for submissions is Wednesday at noon. Please email (preferred) letters to thesun@turley.com. Mailed letters can be sent to The Sun, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

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Eversource distributing free trees for Arbor Day

SPRINGFIELD – As part of its ongoing commitment to sustainability and environmental stewardship, Eversource is once again partnering with the Arbor Day Foundation to distribute more than 1,000 free trees to customers in select communities across its three-state service territory through the non-profit’s innovative Energy-Saving Trees program, including hundreds in Massachusetts. This year, customers in Springfield and Waltham will be eligible to reserve a complimentary tree on a first-come, first-serve basis and take advantage of the many benefits they provide.

Through this initiative, customers will have access to an interactive platform that allows them to view their property and find the best location to plant their tree to conserve energy, as well as calculate estimated environmental benefits and annual cost savings. Eligible customers can reserve one free tree per household through the online portal that launched this week. The pro-



gram will continue until all trees are reserved, and distribution events are planned in each community for early May.

“Following the successful rollout of the Energy-Saving Trees program last year, we’re excited to extend this initiative to additional communities in

Massachusetts so that more customers can learn the importance of planting the right tree in the right place,” said Eversource Manager of Vegetation Management Christopher Gonzalez. “Not only can properly placed trees help customers save energy, they also provide positive environmental ben-

efits for entire communities from improved air quality to reduced stormwater runoff and supporting biodiversity and pollinators. We’re grateful to collaborate with the Arbor Day Foundation on this unique program that aligns with our mission of being responsible environmental stewards across the

communities we serve while ensuring the delivery of safe, reliable electricity for our customers.”

“Parks, Buildings, and Recreation Management Director Tom Ashe, and City Forester Alex Sherman and I are thrilled to be part of this partnership to expand the greening of our Springfield,” said Springfield Mayor Domenic J. Sarno. “I am very proud of our city’s commitment to tree planting, conservation, and environmental stewardship. Not only do additional tree plantings bring vibrancy and enhance our neighborhoods and quality of life, increasing our treescape is essential for air quality and climate resilience. We are a proud ‘Tree City USA’ for nearly forty years now and deeply appreciate the partnership between Eversource and the Arbor Day Foundation to distribute more trees throughout Springfield. I also want to acknowledge and thank our dedicated Forestry Division for maintaining these vital resources for our city.”

“We’re proud to con-

tinue our partnership with Eversource to distribute trees in a variety of cities and neighborhoods, which underscores the company’s dedication to sustainability and being a driver of positive change in communities across New England,” said Dan Lambe, chief executive of the Arbor Day Foundation. “The trees provided through this program can help improve local air quality while also providing critical energy savings, and we’re thankful to partner with a company that steps up to help create healthier and more resilient communities for the residents they serve.”

Eversource works year-round to advance educational partnerships with arborists, municipalities, students and the public about planting the right tree in the right place. For more information about the energy company’s nationally recognized sustainability efforts, please visit Eversource.com. For registration and portal assistance, please contact the Arbor Day Foundation by calling 1-855-234-3801.

Wistariahurst Museum hosting ‘sensory-friendly’ Easter Egg Hunt

HOLYOKE – Wistariahurst Museum is egg-static to bring back our Sensory-Friendly Egg Hunt for a second year. This festive egg hunt focuses on gentle exploration and enjoyment. Designed for families with sensory sensitivities, this egg-ceptional event is tailored so every bunny feels comfortable and welcome. This year’s egg hunt will take place indoors throughout the halls of Wistariahurst. Weather permitting, outdoor games and activities will add some eggstra fun to the event. Each child can gather six eggs and choose prizes ranging from candy to fidget toys. Hop to it and register for one of the available time slots.

Registration is available on Wistariahurst’s Eventbrite page.

Museum Director Megan Seiler hatched the idea for Wistariahurst’s Sensory Friendly Egg Hunt in 2024. “We saw an opportunity for the museum to offer this city tradition to kids who may not thrive at the large-scale egg hunt downtown. We wanted to be a space that could offer more inclusion for this fun event,” Seiler noted. Wistariahurst is egg-cited to bring this event back for April of this year after the success of last year’s egg hunt.

Families can sign up for timed entry to ensure smooth check-in between

11 a.m. and 1 p.m. on Sunday, April 13. Families are welcome to enjoy the egg hunt any time during their timeslots, and each time slot will be limited to 10 families. The egg hunt will continue until 1:30 p.m., allowing children to explore at their own pace and enjoy a stress-free experience! Families are welcome to explore the gardens and enjoy outdoor games, weather permitting, during the event. Outside of this event, we have open hours on Mondays from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. and Tuesdays from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m., and our gardens are open every day from dawn until dusk. We hope to see all of our peeps at this egg-stra special event.

Tourism Committee accepting applications

HOLYOKE – The City of Holyoke’s Tourism Advisory Committee (TAC), under the direction of the City’s Office of Planning and Economic Development in collaboration with the Local Cultural Council, has available funds designated from the Mass Gaming Mitigation Funds to support events related to tourism in the City of Holyoke.

The Tourism Advisory

Committee (TAC) supports projects that demonstrate a clear public benefit to Holyoke. These funds can be used for event costs including talent booking, space rental, event level sponsorship and general costs associated with event planning. Funding will be made available to the widest range of community tourism needs possible. Up to \$2,000 per event can be

requested through the application.

Requests will be considered for events between June 2025 and July 2026.

Visit the Tourism Advisory Committee (TAC) page on holyoke.org for a link to the application form and guidelines.

Applications will open April 2 and close on May 2. Awards to be announced by the end June 2025.

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10				
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56		57				58				59				
60					61	62				63				
			64							65				

CLUES ACROSS

1. Narrow piece of wood

5. African desert

11. Waxy covering on birds’ beaks

12. Sour

16. Infrequent

17. Former AL MVP Vaughn

18. Policemen wear one

19. Out of the question

24. Used to chop

25. Symptoms

26. Not moving

27. Folk singer DiFranco

28. Comedian Armisen

29. Quantitative fact

30. Incline from vertical

31. Scottish musician

33. Rooney and Kate are two

34. Positioned

38. A very short time

39. Tropical American shrubs

40. Yemen capital

43. Spanish municipality

44. Medical professionals

45. Fibrous material

49. Confined condition (abbr.)

50. Without covering

51. “Mad Men” honcho Don

53. Hockey position

54. Taste property

56. Fertile spots in a desert

58. They precede C

59. “Requiem for a Dream” actor Jared

60. Try a criminal case

63. Liberal rights organization

64. Spoke

65. Insect repellent

CLUES DOWN

1. Unshaven facial hair

2. More thin

3. Show up

4. Seethed

5. Ancient Greek city

6. Poisonous plant

7. Hello

8. College sports official

9. Monetary unit of Russia

10. Wings

13. Take too much of a substance

14. A citizen of Uganda

15. Most appealing

20. Atomic #18

21. Global investment bank (abbr.)

22. Jewish calendar month

23. Popular sandwich

27. Swiss river

29. Incorrect letters

30. Popular entree

31. Foot (Latin)

32. A driver’s license is one form

33. Extinct flightless bird

34. Appetizer

35. After battles

36. It neutralizes alkalis

37. Beverage container

38. Partner to “Pa”

40. Gray American rail

41. Salt of acetic acid

42. Canadian province

44. Dish made with lentils

45. Narrative poem of popular origin

46. For each one

47. Come to terms

48. Test

50. More dishonorable

51. Unit of loudness

52. The Ocean State

54. Monetary unit in Mexico

55. Lying down

57. Thus

61. Where LA is located

62. Western State

CROSSWORD ANSWER on page 8

Blessed Sacrament Parish
Rev. Duy Le
frduyle@blessedsacramentholyoke.org
1945 Northampton St., Holyoke
PARISH RECTORY: 413-532-0713
OFFICE HOURS:
Monday - Thursday 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Friday 8:30 a.m. - 2 p.m.
WEEKEND MASSES:
Saturday 4 p.m.
Sunday 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m.
DAILY MASS AND ROSARY
Monday - Friday: ROSARY 6:15 a.m.
Monday - Friday: MASS 6:45 a.m.
Legal Holidays: ROSARY 7:30 a.m.
Legal Holidays: MASS 8 a.m.
ROSARY AND MEDITATION
Monday Evening: 6 p.m.
www.blessedsacramentholyoke.org
FaceBook: @bspholyokema

First Baptist Church
Pastor Theresa Temple
1976 Northampton St., Holyoke
(413) 533-7728
firstbaptistchurchholyokeye@comcast.net
Facebook: First Baptist Church of Holyoke, MA
HOURS: Sunday worship service (winter hours) at 10:30 a.m. (summer hours) at 10 a.m.
Wednesday Bible Studies, one at 11 a.m. and one at 5:30 p.m.

Our Lady of the Cross Catholic Parish
Pastor: Fr. Albert Scherer, OFM Conv.
Email: pastor@ourladyofthecross.com
Holy Cross Ave., Holyoke
Parish Offices are located at: 15 Maple Street, Holyoke (413) 532-5661
parish@ourladyofthecross.com
OFFICE HOURS:
Monday - Friday 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
WEEKEND MASSES:
Saturday 4 p.m.
Sunday 7:30 a.m., 9 a.m. (Polish), and 10:30 a.m.
DAILY MASS:
Monday - Saturday 8:30 a.m.
Legal Holidays Mass 9 a.m.
Reconciliation (Confession) Monday - Saturday 8 a.m.
Saturday 3:15pm
Anytime by Appointment
DEVOTIONS
Monday - Saturday
Divine Mercy Chapel - 7:50 a.m.
ROSARY 8:05 a.m.
www.ourladyofthecross.com

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Your Community Church

St. Peter's Lutheran Church
Rev. Debora Stein
34 Jarvis Ave., Holyoke
Office: (413) 536-3369
Office: stpetersholyokeye@gmail.com
Pastor: revdebma@gmail.com
Website: www.stpetersholyokeye.org
Social media: facebook.com/stpetersholyokeye
OFFICE HOURS:
Monday - Wednesday 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Thursday 2 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. (Call first)
WORSHIP:
Sundays at 9:30 a.m. (also on Facebook Live) & Thursdays at 7 p.m.
Other: Prayers with Pastor - Wednesdays at 10:30 a.m. - on Facebook Live.

St. Paul's Episcopal Church
The Rev. Canon Joel Martinez
485 Appleton St., Holyoke
413-532-5060
Office@StPaulsholyokeye.org
StPaulsholyokeye.org
Instagram: stpaulsepiscopalchurch_holyokeye
OFFICE HOURS:
Tuesday – Friday 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.
Days and Hours of Services:
Sunday: 8 a.m.
Sunday: 10 a.m.
Sunday: 5 p.m. (Spanish)

Culinary Arts program hosting open house, tasting event

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Community College will host an open house and free community tasting event on Wednesday, April 9, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the HCC MGM Culinary Arts Institute, 164 Race St.

Visitors will be able tour the state-of-the-art kitchens at the college's culinary arts facility, sample dishes prepared by culinary arts students and faculty, learn about the college's culinary arts certificate and associate degree programs, noncredit job training and personal enrichment classes, and

play Food Bash Bingo for a chance to win prizes.

“We will have food in every kitchen, showcasing the work of our talented students and instructors,” said Stacy Graves, the culinary arts institute coordinator. “Various HCC programs and community partners will have informational tables in the dining room so the public can learn about their programs.”

Visitor will have the opportunity to talk to representatives from HCC programs and offices, including Admissions, the Marieb Adult Learner Success

Center, HCC Foundation, Alumni Relations, Thrive Center and Food Pantry, El Centro, ALANA Men in Motion, and Jumpstart, as well as personnel from area community groups, including Tech Foundry/Tech Hub, United Way, Alzheimer’s Organization, and Holyoke Medical Center.

The HCC Culinary Arts Truck – a.k.a. The CAT – will also be parked outside the building for visitors to explore, and the HCC Culinary Arts Club will be selling homemade ice cream as a club fundraiser.

Staff from the HCC Admissions office will be on hand to discuss enrollment options, including MassEducate, the state program for free community college.

In 2021, HCC placed 50th among the Best Culinary Schools in America, a list that also includes such esteemed schools as the Culinary Institute of America. HCC’s culinary program ranked third in New England after Johnson & Wales in Providence, R.I. and Southern Maine Community College in Portland. Best

Choice Schools cited HCC for the quality of its one-year certificate and two-year associate of arts in science degree programs in culinary arts, as well as its 20,000 square-foot culinary arts facility, which opened in downtown Holyoke in 2018.

The HCC MGM Culinary Arts Institute is equipped with four modern kitchens, a bakery, hotel lab, and student-run dining room.

For more information about HCC’s Culinary Arts program, please visit hcc.edu/culinary or send an email to CAI@hcc.edu.

Dominoes club held at HPL

HOLYOKE – Love the strategic game of dominoes? Come play it at the Holyoke Public Library from 5 to 7 p.m. every Monday starting Monday, March 10. The weekly games will be held in the first-floor board room. For more information, call Abbey at 413-420-8101 or email abuedinger@holyo-kelibrary.org. The event is geared toward adults.

Fun games at library

HOLYOKE – The Holyoke Public Library will host a miniature golf and game event on Saturday, April 12 from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. There will be human foosball and other outdoor games, prizes at a lucky ticket auction, miniature golf taking place on every floor of the library, and much more. There is no cost for the event and all are welcome to attend.

Applications now open for Carlos Vega Fund for Social Justice grants

HOLYOKE – The year marks the 14th for The Carlos Vega Fund for Social Justice mini grants.

Local non-profits and individuals are invited to apply for funding between March 10 and the April 18 deadline, by completing the application form available at www.carlosvegafund.org. All applicants must have either 501(c)(3) status or be fiscally sponsored by a 501(c)(3) organization.

For more than 40 years, Carlos Vega fought for social justice in the Greater Holyoke area. In 2010, a small group

of family and friends started the Fund to support the kind of social justice initiatives that were important to Carlos.

Carlos Vega Fund for Social Justice provides grants amounting up to \$2,000 to be used for a specific, one-time program or project that focuses on the fundamental primary causes of injustice, fosters change, and promotes self-help and empowerment.

The purpose of the grants is to support the efforts of those who are addressing issues of poverty and oppression, and involve people who

are socially and economically marginalized in the Greater Holyoke area.

Previous mini grants have supported a variety of other organizations including: Girls Inc. of the Valley, Granby Public Schools, The Gray House, Holyoke Public Schools, Holyoke Safe Neighborhood Initiative, Holyoke Senior Center and Western Mass Elder Care, Home City Development, OneHolyoke CDC, The Performance Project, Lorraine’s Kitchen in Chicopee, Treehouse, Seeds of

a Father, The Care Center, and Wistariahurst Museum.

The Carlos Vega Fund for Social Justice is administered through the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts and is overseen by an advisory committee. Since 2012, the Fund has awarded more than \$71,000 to more than 50 organizations in the greater Holyoke area.

In addition to our spring grant cycle, the Carlos Vega Fund advisory board is announcing a new track of funding to support local organizations with our Event

Sponsorship request for up to \$500. The request form is available on the Carlos Vega Fund website, carlosvegafund.org.

Fall of 2025, we will be honoring our 11th Carlos Vega Social Justice Award recipient who will be announced later this year.

For further information and/or to obtain an application, please visit the Carlos Vega Fund for Social Justice website at <http://www.carlosvegafund.org/> or contact Aaron Vega at carlosvegafund.413@gmail.com.



Jericho's "There is No Place Like Jericho" took second place in the open theme.



South Hadley's Vietnam themed float took first prize in the Patriotic Theme. *Turley photos by David Henry*

AWARDS, from page 1

350,000 spectators gathered to enjoy a vibrant and festive parade filled with Irish spirit, dazzling floats, and energetic marching bands.

The committee announced the following award winners:

The highlight of the parade was the incredible display of themed floats, each competing for top honors. This year's Grand Prize went to the Springfield Elks #61 for their 50 Years of Jaws theme. The Best Colleen Float was given to the West Springfield "Conlin Bower," which wowed spectators with its giant leprechaun and a rainbow wrapping around the Colleens. First Prize in the Irish Theme went to Chicopee for their "Irish Fourniture" Colleen float. Second Prize in the Irish Theme was presented to Agawam for their "Rocking with the Colleen" float and Third Prize to Westfield for "Mike's Wish" Colleen float.

South Hadley won First Prize in the Patriotic Theme for "Service, Remembering Sacrifice," a stunning display honoring military service. First Prize in the Open Theme went to United Horizons "Friend for Down Syndrome", followed by Jericho's "There is No Place Like Jericho" Wizard of Oz theme. Third Place in the Open Theme went to Holyoke High School South's Dean Tech Campus for "Dean Tech CTE," representing the various programs at the school. Completing the list of award winners is the Ancient Order of the Hibernian's "St. Brigid's Float," taking home First Prize in the Religious Theme, a stunning display of Irish heritage.

Marching bands from across the Northeast delivered show-stopping performances, filling the streets with music and excitement. Taking home the Most Outstanding Unit in the Line of March was the Tian Guo band. Worcester Kiltie won Best Pipe Band, and McGann



St. Peter's Drum Corp took Best Flag Corps.



The Worcester Kiltie won Best Pipe Band at the parade this year.

marching band won Best Brass Band.

The Best String Band award went to the ever-popular Mummers group, the Aqua String Band. Best Band Captain went to the Holyoke Caledonians and Westfield High School and brought home the trophy for Best High School Marching Band.

The Connecticut Hurricanes won Best Drum & Bugle Corps, with St. Peter's Drum Corp. taking home Best Flag Corps. The Best Drumline went to Brooklyn United, and South Hadley High School celebrated winning Best Major/Majorette. Finally, Westfield High School marching band won the People's Choice Award.

The St. Patrick's Committee of Holyoke and all regional Committees would like to extend its heartfelt thanks to all sponsors, volunteers, and attendees who contributed to making this year's St. Patrick's Day Parade and Road Race weekend one to remember.



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Easter Bunny is hopping into Holyoke Mall

HOLYOKE – Spring is on its way and Holyoke Mall is egg-cited to kick off the season with visits and photos from the Easter Bunny once again this year. Mr. Cottontail arrives at Holyoke Mall on Friday, March 28. Reservations are now open so reserve your time slot at www.wherisbunny.com. Guests who pre-book will receive a reservation gift.

The Easter Bunny can be found in his spring garden in Honor Court, on the lower level near Hobby Lobby, for greetings and pictures. The

Bunny's Gazebo will be open:

- Monday to Friday: 2 to 7 p.m., extends to 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. on April 7
- Saturday: 10 a.m. to 9 p.m.
- Sunday: 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Children of all ages love visiting the Easter Bunny, so get dressed in your Easter best and bring the whole family to capture that perfect moment! Photo packages and pricing can be found here.

The Easter Bunny will also have 2 special events this season:

- Bunny Cares Sensory Friendly Event: Sunday, April 6: 9 to 10:30 a.m.
- Pet Photo Night: Monday, April 7 and Tuesday, April 8, 4 to 7 p.m.

To celebrate the start of spring, we will also be joined by Ed Popielarczyk for his Spring Spectacular Magic Show on Saturday, March 29. The fun-filled show will take place from 11 a.m. to 12 noon on the Lower Level, Macy's Court. This event is free, open to the public, and is best suited for children ages 12 and under.

SPORTS

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Softball wants back in tourney

HOLYOKE – Two years removed from its first-ever state tournament appearance, Holyoke softball is hoping to get back to the postseason. The Knights were 5-15 last season and this year, look to get off to a quick start. The Knights were scheduled to open the season earlier this week at Southwick. Coming up, the Knights face Ware for their first home game, then host Smith Academy on Monday, April 7 at 4 p.m.



Members of the softball team gather to receive instructions from the coaching staff.



The teams gets stretched out at practice last week.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Baseball team hopes for rebound

HOLYOKE – After a very tough season in 2024, the Holyoke High School baseball team is hoping for a better year this year.

The Knights went just 3-15 last year. The Knights were scheduled to open the season earlier this

week against East Longmeadow, and next face Northampton on the road on Monday, April 7 at 4:45 p.m.



The Knights do drills in the infield.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com



The Knights take infield practice.



The Knights opened the season earlier this week against East Longmeadow.



Members of the baseball team play catch at practice last Wednesday.

Tough start for boys volleyball



The boys volleyball team practices in preparation for the regular season.



Michael Melendez goes low for a bump.

HOLYOKE – The Holyoke High School boys volleyball team got out to a tough start as they were edged in two straight matches to start the year.

They lost 3-2 against Southwick last Friday, then fell 3-2 on Tuesday, April 1 against SICS.

The Knights look for their first win of the season on April 7 against East Longmeadow at 6 p.m.



Torres Gedeon tries to get the quick tip over the net.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Worcester Railers fall to Trois-Rivières Lions in Saturday's road match

TROIS-RIVIÈRES, QC – The Worcester Railers HC (32-29-2-4 70pts) lost to the Trois-Rivières Lions (43-14-6-2, 94pts), on Sunday afternoon by a final score of 5-2 in front of a crowd of 2,346 at the Colisée Videotron. The Railers are back on the ice next at the Cool Insuring Arena against the Adirondack Thunder on Friday, April 4 at 7 p.m.

Just 24 seconds into the

game Anthony Callin (1-0-1) found the back of the net for the Railers quickest goal of the season making it a 1-0 game. Tyler Kobryn (1-0-1) got the action going in the second period with a goal making it 2-0 Railers. Trois-Rivières had a quick start of their own in the third period scoring back to back goals tying the game up 2-2 early. Then the Lions completely broke it open by scoring 3

more goals within 3 minutes of each other making it a 5-2 for Trois-Rivières.

The Railers got straight to work just 24 seconds into the start of the game. Anthony Callin (21st) ripped one into the net over the shoulder of Luke Cavallin in net for Trois-



Rivières off of assists from Anthony Repaci and Mason Klee. Callin's goal gave the Railers a 1-0 lead and was the only goal in the first period. Worcester's Michael Bullion had 5 saves on 5 shots while Trois-Rivière's Luke Cavallin had 7 saves on 8 shots.

The Railers doubled

their lead in the second period with a goal from Tyler Kobryn (10th) 6:01 into the second period making the score 2-0 Worcester. Kobryn deflected a shot from Cam McDonald at the point for his eighth as a Railer. The Railers had 11 shots on net while the Lions had 5.

Trois-Rivières started the third period off hot with back-to-back goals just over 2 minutes into the third per-

od. Anthony Beauregard (25th) and Morgan Adams-Moisán (21st) tied the game up for the Lions 2-2. Trois-Rivières continued to take control of the game by scoring three more goals making it a 5-2 game. Tyler Hylland (14th), Andrew Coxhead (4th) and Morgan Adams-Moisán (22nd) were the three goal scorers for Trois-Rivières as the game ended in a 5-2 final.

Public Notices

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD25C0029CA
In the matter of:
Daniel Barnes
CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Daniel Barnes of Holyoke, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

Daniel Morbyrne
IMPORTANT NOTICE
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Hampden Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 04/23/2025.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

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

Date: March 26, 2025
Rosemary A Saccomani
Register of Probate
04/04/2025

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. HD25C0095CA
In the matter of:
Karina Esther Benitez
CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Karina Esther Benitez of Holyoke, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

Karina Marylyn Romero
IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Hampden Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 04/28/2025.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

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

Date: March 31, 2025
Rosemary A Saccomani
Register of Probate
04/04/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No. HD20P0912GD
In the interests of:
Gloria M Cotto of Holyoke, MA
RESPONDENT
Incapacitated Person/
Protected Person
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION TO EXPAND THE POWERS OF A GUARDIAN

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Alison M. Bartlett-O'Donald of Holyoke, MA in the above captioned matter requesting that the court:

Expand the powers of a Guardian of the Respondent.

The petition asks the court to make a determination that the powers of the Guardian and/or Conservator should be expanded, modified, or limited since

the time of the appointment. The original petition is on file with the court.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of 04/22/2025. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

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

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

Date: March 21, 2025
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
04/04/2025

COMMUNITY OUTREACH MEETING
Diabloman LLC a proposed cannabis microbusiness, is having a community outreach meeting at 273 Sargeant St. Holyoke, its proposed location, at 5:15pm on April 21, 2025. There will be an opportunity for the public to ask questions or email: diablomanprerolls@gmail.com
04/04/2025

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. HD25P0591EA
Estate of:
Evelyn Margaret Gorman
Date of Death: 12/14/2023
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Renee C Dewhurst on behalf of Society of the Daughters of the Heart of Mary of Holyoke, 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: Renee C Dewhurst on behalf of Society of the Daughters of the Heart of Mary of Holyoke, 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 04/18/2025. 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: March 21, 2025
Rosemary A Saccomani,
04/04/2024

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. HD25P0607EA
Estate of:
Mildred M. Kot
Also known as:
Mildred M Dodge
Date of Death: 01/28/2025
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Day Brook Village Nursing of Holyoke, 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: Jonathan J. Davey, Esq. of Quincy, 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 04/22/2025. 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: March 24, 2025
Rosemary A Saccomani,
Register of Probate
04/04/2025

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. HD25P0644EA
Estate of:
Andrew M Laduzinski
Date of Death: 08/31/2020
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 Catherine G Lewis of Springfield, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: Catherine G Lewis of Springfield, MA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 04/24/2025. 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: March 27, 2025
Rosemary A Saccomani,
Register of Probate
04/04/2025

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. HD25C0086CA
In the matter of:
Maegan Elizabeth Law
CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Maegan Elizabeth Law of Holyoke, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

Carson Shana Law
IMPORTANT NOTICE

Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Hampden Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 04/21/2025.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

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

Date: March 24 2025
Rosemary A Saccomani
Register of Probate
04/04/2025

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. HD25C0028CA
In the matter of:
Ellen Morf
CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME
A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Ellen Morf of Holyoke, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

Ellen Morbyrne
IMPORTANT NOTICE
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: Hampden Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 04/23/2025.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance if you object to this proceeding.

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

Date: March 26, 2025
Rosemary A Saccomani
Register of Probate
04/04/2025

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. HD25P0648EA
Estate of:
Jose Samuel Borges Rodriguez
Date of Death: 09/05/2013
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 Jose Samuel Borges, Jr. of Holyoke, MA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

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 04/25/2025. 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: March 28, 2025
Rosemary A Saccomani,
Register of Probate
04/04/2025

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. HD25A0031AD
In the matter of:
Nahiara Aimar Acosta Rosario
CITATION
G.L. c. 210, §6

TO:
Nashali Acosta
any unnamed or unknown parent and persons interested in a petition for the adoption of said child and to the Department of Children and Families of said Commonwealth.

A petition has been presented to said court by:

Glorimar Rosario Torres of Holyoke, MA

Yancy Ruiz of Holyoke, MA requesting for leave to adopt said child and that the name of the child be changed to

If you object to this adoption you are entitled to the appointment of an attorney if you are an indigent person.

An indigent person is defined by SJC Rule 3.10. The definition includes but is not limited to persons receiving TAFDC, EACDC, poverty related veteran's benefits, Medicaid, and SSI. The Court will determine if you are indigent. Contact an Assistant Judicial Case Manager or Adoption Clerk of the Court on or before the date listed below to obtain the necessary forms.

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT Springfield ON OR BEFORE TEN O'CLOCK IN THE MORNING (10:00 AM) ON: 05/02/2025.

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

Date: March 21, 2025
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
04/04, 04/11, 04/18/2025

NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION
Swinging Bridges
Auction Company Lic #2755
A Public Auction will be held 04/19/2025. Unclaimed items to be sold at 9:00 a.m. Pawn Depot Inc., 448 Appleton St., Holyoke, MA 01040. 20% buyers fee, 6.25% MA Sales Tax.
04/04, 04/11/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
Docket No. HD25P0507EA
Estate of:
Louise H. Whitelock
Also Known As:
Louise Whitelock
Date of Death:
January 30, 2025
INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of

Petitioner Donna Abad of Chicopee MA

Petitioner David Whitelock of Southwick, MA

a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Donna Abad of Chicopee MA

David Whitelock of Southwick, MA

has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
04/04/2025

The Holyoke Sun
OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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

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MISCELLANEOUS

CANAMS 1973 MX1, 125, complete minus frame. Unused factored created engine 175cc. 1975 TNT 250 frame/parts, \$2000. 1947 Crosby Coupe frame off restoration, \$7500. 1999 Mom's Buick Presidential Custom Century, 54,000 miles, one owner, registered, garaged, all scheduled maintenance records, \$5500. Late 50's Toro Reel lawnmower, beautiful restored \$100. Two sheets, 4'x8' 1/2 inch new 3m plexiglas \$100. 165 milk crates, colonial thru 1920 bottle cache. Historic colonial hand-tooled redstones: Benches, Wells, Ballard's, Yankee Cobbles, Darby Marble, Italian Travertine, much more. **413-262-4775**.

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CANAMS 1973 MX1, 125, complete minus frame. Unused factored created engine 175cc. 1975 TNT 250 frame/parts, \$2000. 1947 Crosby Coupe frame off restoration, \$7500. 1999 Mom's Buick Presidential Custom Century, 54,000 miles, one owner, registered, garaged, all scheduled maintenance records, \$5500. **413-262-4775.**

HELP WANTED

Light Equipment Operator / Laborer

The Granby Highway Department has a 40 hour per week position available for a Light Equipment Operator/Laborer. This position requires the ability to operate various types of machinery, hand tools and equipment (examples include lawnmowers, plows, sanders, asphalt paving equipment). The position is Grade 3 classification. Steps within this grade range from \$18.72- \$24.42 per hour. A valid Massachusetts class A or B CDL driver's license is required. Special consideration will be given to candidates who possess the higher license class, or additional licenses and or relevant construction experience that would be determined to be beneficial to the operations of the Highway Department. Please contact the Highway Superintendent at **413-467-7575** at the **Highway Garage (15 Crescent St, Granby MA 01033)** for further information, a copy of the job description and /or an application for employment. Applications will be accepted through May 1, 2025.

The Town of Huntington is seeking a full-time Chief of Police. \$75,000 - \$90,000 yearly salary based on qualifications. Application and complete job description are available online at **www.huntingtonma.us** or by emailing **admin@huntingtonma.us**. Deadline to apply is 4/28/2025. Town of Huntington is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

TOWN OF WILBRAHAM

Human Resources Coordinator

The Town of Wilbraham is looking for an HR Coordinator to join our team. For application and more info, visit **www.wilbraham-ma.gov**. Application deadline 4/11/2025

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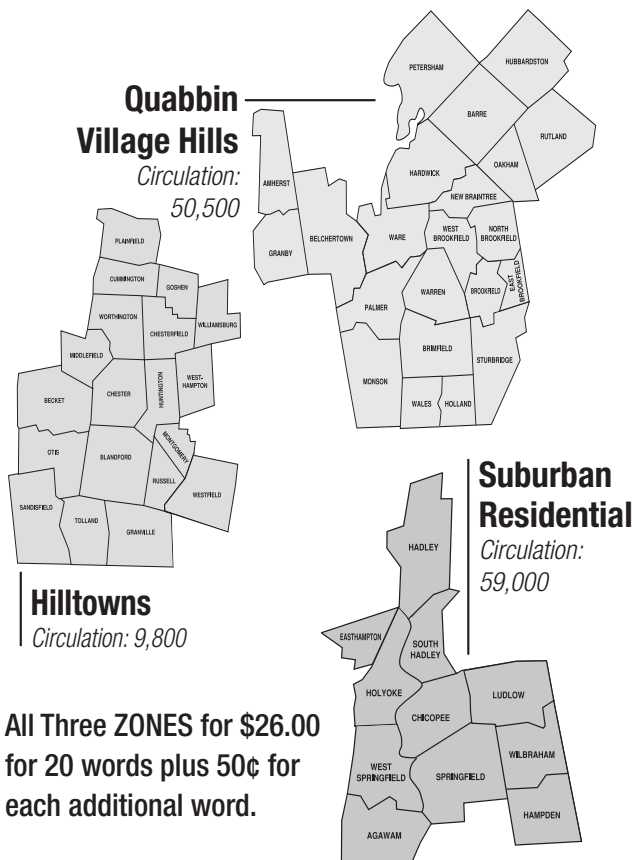
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DEADLINES: **FRIDAY AT NOON**

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1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	Base Price \$26.50	22	Base Price \$27.00
23	Base Price \$27.50	24	Base Price \$28.00
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27	Base Price \$29.50	28	Base Price \$30.00
29	Base Price \$30.50	30	Base Price \$31.00
31	Base Price \$31.50	32	Base Price \$32.00
33	Base Price \$32.50	34	Base Price \$33.00
35	Base Price \$33.50	36	Base Price \$34.00
37	Base Price \$34.50	38	Base Price \$35.00
39	Base Price \$35.50	40	Base Price \$36.00

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BBB advises to watch out for scams related to the SAT and ACT tests

For parents of high school students, SAT and ACT scores are a huge deal. With college admissions and scholarships on the line, paying for tutors and test prep materials may be worth the price. But watch out for con artists eager to take advantage of this. Scammers – with access to kids’ names and school information – are tricking parents into paying for bogus SAT and ACT prep materials.

How the scam works

You get an unsolicited call from a person claiming to be from the College Board, the company responsible for the PSAT, SAT, and AP tests, or another educational organization. The caller claims to be confirming your address, so they can send test prep materials, such as books, CDs, or videos, that your child requested at school. It seems so believable! Several people reported to BBB Scam Tracker that the caller even had their child’s name, phone number, address, school information, and/or the date and location of their child’s scheduled test. Of course, there’s a catch. The caller needs you to pay a deposit, sometimes several hundred dollars, for the materials. They claim it will be refunded when the materials are returned

after a set number of days. Unfortunately, if you provide your address and credit card details, the materials will never arrive, and your deposit will never be refunded. Scammers now have your credit card number and other personal information. One person shared this experience on BBB Scam Tracker, “A woman called, saying that she was from the SAT/ACT College Board. She asked to speak to the parent/guardian of my daughter, and used her name. She said my daughter had checked the box at her registration, to receive study materials to be sent to her. The materials included access to an online tutor, papers, and two usb drives. The drives would need to be returned within 30 days or we would be charged for them. She was so smooth, she obviously had my number and acted as though she had my address and email already. When I asked, she gave easy instructions for returning the drives. Then she needed financial information to hold the \$250, in case we didn’t return the drives on time. This is where I balked, more at the price than thinking it was a scam. Once I told her that we didn’t need any of the items that bad, she ended the conversation fairly quickly. It wasn’t until after I hung up that I realized she didn’t even



quote the correct date for an SAT exam and my daughter doesn’t remember checking any box for materials. It was then that I decided to look online to see if this was a scam. (Note: I was very distracted when I took this call and she sounded so legitimate, I nearly got scammed. Be wise whenever anyone asks for money!)” In another BBB Scam Tracker report, a consumer reported, “He called saying he was college prep for SAT and ACT. He said everything was free of charge and I just needed to put a card down so they have one in the books but when I gave her my card, it declined because I didn’t have enough cash on there, so he did not take any money due to insufficient funds, but I am

just reporting the scam.” In a different BBB Scam Tracker report, a consumer shared, “Caller, Carson, stated my son had requested SAT prep materials through College Board student services. He had my address, my son’s name, date and location of the SAT test my son is scheduled to take. Caller stated they needed parental permission prior to sending documents and that I needed to give him a credit card number for collateral. “We would be sent the college SAT prep materials; the materials would be free of charge for 30 days and we would need to return the materials in the envelope provided and my card wouldn’t be charged. The caller stated they send email reminders prior to the

return deadline and will send shipping confirmation once the material package is mailed out. My card was charged \$249.95 instantly.” Another consumer shared on BBB Scam Tracker, “I received a call from Brad [redacted] with College Prep Tutors. Stated that my daughter (knew her name) had requested ACT and SAT study prep materials. He said that they would be sent out via USPS and were free if returned within 30 days, but needed to charge my card to initiate the process, and that it would be refunded upon return of the USB materials. He sounded very legitimate and provided a confirmation number. I should have looked further before committing as this appears to be a scam.” This consumer reported losing \$250. **How to avoid test prep scams** • Always be wary of unsolicited callers. If someone calls out of the blue asking for payment, always research their organization before you share personal information or agree to receive services or products. Look up the business they claim to represent at BBB.org. Search the name along with the words “scam” or “complaint” to find out if others had negative experiences.

Check BBB Scam Tracker to see if anyone else has filed a report about the company. • Double check with your child. If scammers say they are calling because of a service your child requested, tell them you need to check with your child first and hang up. Make sure their claims are legitimate before you call back or accept a return call. Don’t send any money or make a payment if there is any doubt about the call. The same is true for emergency scams. • Understand the College Board’s practices. The College Board will never ask you for bank or credit card information over the phone or via email. If a caller suggests otherwise, hang up. Learn more about the College Board’s policies. • Don’t give your financial information to strangers. Never agree to pay a stranger for a purchase you did not initiate, with any form of payment. Do not provide details about your credit card, debit card, bank account number, prepaid cards, or digital wallet, such as Cash App or Venmo, and do not wire money. While some forms of payment, such as credit cards, may offer more protections and a chance for a refund, it is still dangerous to share your private financial information with an unfamiliar person.

COUNCIL, from page 1

ful terms whether inside or outside the City Council Chambers including on social media. That the City Council also taken into consideration this time how the City’s social media policy should help guide our final rule.” The new rules passed by the council already bar councilors from making disparaging comments about other councilors both on and off the council floor. There are questions over the ability to suppress free speech, but the order passed. Another order being considered for recommendation with Charter and Rules comes from Patti Devine. She asked the law department to issue an opinion on whether a city councilor can be censured for disrupting a meeting or sub-committee meeting. She asked the law department to check other communities with city councilors to see how the procedure to censure a councilor might work. Finally, she asked the law department to issue an opinion on whether or not there can be repercussion for an elected city councilor who may “Use their position to impede any government operation in carrying out their duties.” Devine also has proposed councilors be limited to just four minutes of speaking during a given debate. Council meetings have been

going excessive periods of time recently, and the council has been looking at various ways to speed up meeting so more can be accomplished. Separate of decorum discussions, Vacon has also made an order seeking a charter change eliminating the elected mayor form of government in favor of a city manager appointed by the City Council. Vacon created the order in December 2023, and it has been tabled for more than a year, last tabled on March 3. The Charter and Rules Committee will next meet on April 16 in a joint meeting with the Ordinance Committee. All the meetings are televised and made available on Holyoke Media.

Be a part of the New England Mosaic community art project

The New England Mosaic Project is an effort that gives members of the Western Massachusetts community an opportunity to be an artist and have their work displayed on a 16-foot Mosaic wall. Members of the public (high school-adult) can pick-up a free 6-by-6-inch canvas at a participating library or Senior Center, and either paint or create a 3D piece of art on it. The canvas you create will not only be part of a Mosaic on display, but will

also be part of a fundraising effort to provide scholarships for high school and college students pursuing art. Each canvas will be sold for \$25. You can pick up your free canvases at the following libraries: Agawam, West Springfield, Westfield, Southwick, East Forest Park, Chicopee, Longmeadow, and East Longmeadow. This year, the West Springfield Senior Center will be providing canvases as well. All Mosaic artists will

be invited to an unveiling for the Mosaic on Thursday, July 17, at the Agawam Municipal Golf Course. The Mosaic will also be displayed at the Pioneer Valley Art Festival, to be held on Saturday and Sunday, Aug 23-24 at the Agawam Polish American Club. Canvases can be purchased in both locations. If you are a high school or college student pursuing art, please visit www.agawamarts.com to download an application for ACAAScholarship.

Parents, Grandparents & Friends

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