

## 'Connect' with the CT River at Heritage State Park

By Quinn Suomala  
Staff Writer

Heritage State Park is working in conjunction with the Fishway Guides to put on a collaborative program titled "Connecting with the Connecticut River."

This program is open and free to anyone in the public who is interested in signing up.

"It's all about celebrating the river, what goes on in the river, appreciating it for the power that it provides Holyoke and appreciating it for the fish that live in the river," Visitor Services Supervisor Nancy Condon said. "It's all about connecting with the river in so many ways."

The program offers tours to groups of any size and age, and individuals are also welcome to come and stop by.

There are a variety of activities that visitors can take part in during their tour, as the program

See RIVER, page 12

## Dean Tech holds student-led car show

By Quinn Suomala  
Staff Writer

HOLYOKE – Dean Tech hosted their second annual car show on Saturday May, 18. Students and community

members were welcomed to bring in their cars to display for the show. Anyone entering a car was charged a \$10 entry fee.

"A lot of the car clubs from the community show up

as well as random people from the community," Auto Collision Instructor Michael Vera said.

Students from the auto collision class and from diesel technology judged the different cars.

"Our students have a lot of hands on the show," Vera said.

"It was a lot of student-led work," Student Government Member Leysco Rodriguez said.

Some of the students worked to judge the assembled cars, based on looks, how well it works, the car quality, wheel condition and creative the look of the car was.

At the end of the judging, cars were awarded a variety of trophies, including best in show, best honda, best female ride and best euro.

See CAR SHOW, page 6



Above, many different, interesting cars were displayed at the Dean Tech car show. Right, a Volkswagen car club came to support the Dean Tech car show. Below, winners of the different contests at the car show were awarded trophies.



Turley photos by Quinn Suomala

## City prepares for end to receivership

By Quinn Suomala  
Staff Writer

HOLYOKE – At their meeting on May 13, the school committee discussed the rules, protocols, and operational goals and policies of the committee.

Due to being in receivership, the committee has not voted on set policies in many years, so now they are faced with the task of putting in writing what they would like their policies to be.

"We need to adopt new rules and protocols for the organizational purposes of the school committee," Brunelle said.

The committee had a packet from the Massachusetts Association of School Committees that gave them some examples of policies and protocols other committees had adopted.

"We need to take some

time to go through these and adopt rules for our governance," Vice Chair Erin Brunelle said.

Committee Member Mildred Lefebvre suggested that they approach this in a retreat. She wanted to ensure that there was enough time to thoroughly address the topic.

"This is the operational duties of the school committee and we want to make sure that we put in anything and everything that we do and what we are going to do," she said.

Additionally, Lefebvre did not want discussion of this matter to take away from other duties of the school committee.

"I think it's really important that a retreat be scheduled because to sit here during a regular school committee to address search one and make sure that we're addressing everything and making recom-

mendations to change it could be very time consuming," she said. "When right now what we need to be focusing on at our school committee meetings is our students and their educational achievement."

One of the priorities Lefebvre highlighted was ensuring that the positions and duties of vice chair and chair were clear, as currently there is no written policy for how the school committee handles those positions.

While they have set a precedent where the vice chair is the one who organizes and runs meetings, that is not officially written into policy.

Following this, Committee Member Ellie Wilson brought forward concerns about covering all the policies in Section B for school committee governance even in just one retreat, as there are over 30.

In the local control sub-committee meeting, Wilson had requested that the state fund a complete policy review for the school committee.

See SCHOOL, page 12

## Early literacy program splits committee

By Quinn Suomala  
Staff Writer

HOLYOKE – The school committee received a presentation on the district's work on early literacy at their meeting on May 13.

Superintendent/Receiver Anthony Soto was proud of the efforts the district has made toward improving early literacy, and he emphasized the importance of having that foundation.

"It's so important that we build that foundation, that kids get to read by the time they're in third grade," Soto said. "Everything else is going to be very, very hard to accomplish if we don't get this right, so I'm really, really happy that we named this as part of our strategic plan."

Over the past few years, Holyoke Public Schools have made improvements thanks to their work on early literacy.

All kindergarten through second grade teachers, read-

ing interventionists and school administrators have completed year two of HILL.

Additionally there was a 22% increase in district-wide students at or above benchmark, increasing from 19% at the beginning of this year to 41% at the middle of this year.

There was also a decrease from 40% of students district-wide in urgent intervention at the beginning of this year to 22% in the middle of the year.

Soto feels that this is evidence that the professional development the schools are doing is working to help teaching improve district-wide.

Associate Director of Early Literacy Caitlyn Rosazza and Executive Director of Academics Rebecca Thompson then went through how they hope to continue working to improve early literacy in the district.

They mentioned three

See LITERACY, page 11

# School Committee vice chair resigns

HOLYOKE – “This year has been particularly challenging for my family,” said Erin Brunelle, vice chair of the Holyoke School Committee, as she submitted her resignation on May 15 to the School Committee. Her resignation was effective immediately.

Mayor Garcia expressed his gratitude and appreciation for Brunelle’s 10 years of service on the School Committee.

“I respect her decision to prioritize her family. She has been a dedicated, diligent, effective, committee member and we are sorry to see her leave,” Garcia said.

School Committee member Mildred Lefebvre was appointed interim vice chair of the Holyoke School Committee on Monday, May 20, following a unanimous vote of the nine School Committee members pres-

ent for the special meeting. Ward 4 Representative Dr. Gloria Caballero-Roca was not in attendance.

According to the Holyoke City Charter, the vacancy Brunelle’s departure creates will be filled by an appointment made jointly by the School Committee, City Council, and the Mayor. The individual appointed will serve out the remainder of Brunelle’s 4-year term as an at-large member of the committee. When that term is up, the at-large seat will be filled by the voters at a regular election.

Brunelle was re-elected to the School Committee last November.

Garcia said, “This is a crucial interval in the city’s history. We’re in the midst of working with the state to emerge from receivership. We need focused, conscientious individuals on our School committee.”

The City of Holyoke invites interested residents to apply for interim appointment to the At-large School Committee seat to complete Brunelle’s term. Those interested are asked to send their letters of interest, accompanied by a resume to:

City of Holyoke Personnel Office  
20 Korean Veterans Plaza  
Holyoke, MA 01040

Letters of interest and resumes can also be submitted by email to [personnel@holyoke.org](mailto:personnel@holyoke.org).

Applications will be accepted up until June 18, although candidates are encouraged to submit their interest sooner than the deadline. Candidates will be interviewed at the June 18 joint meeting of the Holyoke School Committee, City Council, and Mayor. The successful applicant will complete Brunelle’s term, which expires in 2027.



Marangelly Vargas-Gonzalez received an award from Holyoke Community College. Submitted Photo

## HCC celebrates outstanding achievements

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Community College is proud to recognize the students who earned honors and awards for their outstanding achievements during the 2023-2024 academic year. Awardees were honored Wednesday, May 15, during a ceremony in the Leslie Phillips Theater.

Below is a list of HCC honorees and award recipients for the 2023-2024 academic year from Holyoke. Some students received multiple awards.

A full list of students along with their specific honors and awards can be found at [hcc.edu/awards2024](http://hcc.edu/awards2024)

HCC Honors & Awards for 2023-2024: Maya Baksh, Shae Blaisdell, Max Bruel (two awards), Chris De la Torre Santoyo, William Diaz, Jose Perez, Erykka Rocha, Carineh Santana, Musa Simon, Collin Stasinos, Patrick Sweeney (three awards), Marangelly Vargas-Gonzalez and Aidan Whitley.

## Holyoke Community recognizes faculty and staff

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Community College Anthropology Professor Vanessa Martínez of Holyoke is the recipient of the inaugural Dr. Christina Royal Equity and Action Award, named in honor of HCC’s former president.

The award was created by the HCC Board of Trustees to recognize a full-time member of the faculty or staff who, “through their efforts on and off campus, supports a culture of transformational justice, works to remove barriers for historically marginalized groups, improves cultural competency through dialogue and education, exhibits leadership and best practices for social equity, or makes the larger community a more just and equitable place to live.”

As HCC’s fourth president, Royal broke many barriers as the first woman, first bi-racial, and first queer person to hold that position. She retired in July 2023.

The award was presented to Martínez by Royal’s successor, President George Timmons, during the annual faculty and staff awards ceremony May 15.

Her colleagues refer to Professor Martínez as an “equity pioneer at HCC,” Timmons said, “sharing knowledge and working hard to open doors to traditionally underrepresented students.”

Martínez is chair of the college’s Community Based Learning Program and former chair of the HCC Honors Program. Born in San Sebastian, Puerto Rico, she holds a bachelor’s degree from Columbus State University, a master’s degree from Georgia State



HCC Anthropology Professor Vanessa Martínez accepting the inaugural Dr. Christina Royal Equity and Action Award from HCC President George Timmons. Submitted Photo

University, and a Ph.D. from the University of Massachusetts.

In 2020, she received the Elaine Marieb Award for Teaching Excellence, HCC’s highest faculty honor. In 2022, she received the Thomas Ehrlich Civically Engaged Faculty Award from Campus Compact, a national coalition of colleges and universities committed to the public purposes of higher education. She is also a past recipient of the “Latino Teaching Excellence Award” from then Governor Deval Patrick (2011), and a leadership fellowship from the American Anthropological Association (2015).

Off campus, Martínez is the founder of the Springfield-based Women of

Color Equity Initiative, a nonprofit that aims to increase access and resources that enhance the health and well-being of women of color. She has been teaching at HCC since 2006.

“This award is not mine alone,” Martínez said. “I work in community, and collaboration is how we thrive. Receiving this award motivates me even more to continue my transformative justice and equity work.”

Martínez noted that during her interview for a teaching position at HCC 18 years ago, she told the vice president of academic affairs she was the “do good in the world type.” The VP replied, “So are we.”

“I knew then this was where I needed and wanted to be,” Martínez told the audience gathered for the awards ceremony in the Leslie Phillips Theater. “Because together we can make a significant impact on making this world a better place before we leave it.”

The college also presented the Elaine Marieb Faculty Chair for Teaching Excellence award to English Professor Fred Cooksey of Easthampton; the Idelia Smith Adjunct Faculty Award to Jessica Strano-Rex, clinical nursing instructor from Suffield, Conn.; the Outstanding Professional Staff Award to Mayra Diaz, senior executive assistant for student and academic affairs from Springfield; the Outstanding Classified Staff Award to Derek Swist, chemistry lab technician from Granby, Mass.; and the Outstanding Part-Time Staff Award to Susan Reade, literacy specialist and ESOL instructor from Northampton.

## Morales graduates from Stonehill

EASTON – Agustin Morales of Holyoke, MA, was among 625 students to process at Stonehill College’s 73rd Commencement on Sunday, May 19, 2024.

During the ceremony, Ed Cooley ‘94, head coach of the Georgetown University men’s basketball team, gave the keynote address. The speaker also received an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree alongside Br. Paul Bednarczyk, C.S.C. ‘80, superior general of the Congregation of Holy Cross, and Jean MacCormack, former chancellor of the University of Massachusetts Dartmouth and former president of the Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the United States Senate.



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## How to get a Certificate of Inspection

HOLYOKE – The City’s Building Department on Thursday, May 23, at 6 p.m. will give a presentation on the steps required to obtain a Certificate of Inspection. The presentation, a short tutorial followed by Q&A, will be held at Holyoke Media on Suffolk Street.

Though open to the public, the one-hour session is designed for owners, property managers, and landlords of all multi-unit buildings with 3 or more units.

For more information please call Holyoke Building Department, 413-322-5600.

## Build a fairy house at the library

HOLYOKE – Join storyteller, Maryjo Maichack at the Holyoke Public Library for fairy tales and fairy houses, on Monday, June 17, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Maichack will be telling fairy tales at patrons make their own fairy house.

Maichack will bring supplies, but participants should feel free to bring any supplies for the fairy houses. Space is limited, please call 413-420-8101 to reserve your seat.

## Girls Inc. celebrate Women in Trades Day

HOLYOKE – Girls Inc. of the Valley is thrilled to announce their new event, Women in Trades Day, a meet and greet with professionals from diverse careers to help expose youth to different career opportunities that they may not be familiar with. The event will be on Friday, May 31, from 3:30 to 5:30 p.m. at the Girls Inc. headquarters, 480 Hampden St.

Girls Inc. of the Valley’s after-school program youth will have the opportunity during this event to visit different trade stations and learn how they can join each particular field.

The Holyoke Fire Department, Sherwood Auto

Performance, and LiftTruck Parts & Service, Inc. will be joining the event, along with a variety of other professionals in all different fields. This is a wonderful chance for kids to explore their interests, ask questions, and get inspired about their future.

“Women in Trades Day was created during the pandemic to introduce our youth to fields that are traditionally dominated by men. Now, we are able to offer this experience in-person, giving youth a chance to get hands-on experience and see themselves in positions they may never have thought of,” said Ana Gerena, Special Projects and Volunteerism manager at Girls Inc. “Providing girls and

trans youth opportunities like these are so important in expanding the workforce.”

Girls Inc. of the Valley encourages all girls to seize this opportunity for continuous learning, professional networking, and personal growth that’ll support their future successes. This fun and educational event will provide a positive outlet for youth to learn about a variety of careers directly from professionals within each field.

Media are invited to attend. If interested or have questions regarding this event, please contact Meghan Rothschild at (413) 218-4994 or meghan@chikmedia.us.

## Genealogy help available at HPL

HOLYOKE – The Holyoke History Room of the Holyoke Public Library is now hosting free Drop-in consultations with professional genealogists twice a month from 2 to 4 p.m. on second and fourth Wednesdays. Anyone with an interest in family history research is welcome to drop by to ask for guided help or share their progress.

Hillary Schau, certified professional genealogist, has more than 20 years of experience in the field and has particular expertise in helping people get organized. Iris Alicea Flores, also a certified professional genealogist, offers general help and brings with her an entire library of reference works on Caribbean and Central and South American genealogical

research. Iris is fully bilingual. Both genealogists, as well as History Room staff, can help visitors navigate online sources and explore the resources at the History Room. Extra computers will be available for patron use.

Hillary, who has been involved in the genealogy lab at the Chicopee Public Library for several years, is excited to be offering her services for free in Holyoke. Iris, who works remotely with clients far and near and is the author of the Descubre Tu Historia blog, is enjoying offering in-person help to local residents. Since winter, the program has attracted more than two dozen drop-in visitors and there is room for more. For more information, call the History Room at (413) 420-8107.

## City announces Memorial Day observance

HOLYOKE – The City of Holyoke’s Patriotic Events Committee will host a Memorial Day observance on Monday, May 27, at 10 a.m.

The observance will be held in the War Memorial Building, 310 Appleton St., from 8 to 10 a.m., before the formal ceremonies begin, American Legion Post 351 will host a breakfast at the post, 50 St. Kolbe Dr. After the ceremonies, Legion Post 325 at 22 Sycamore St., will host a lunch starting at noon.

## Nicole Blais, Head Start leader, re-elected to Board of Directors

SPRINGFIELD – Nicole Blais, Chief Executive Officer of Holyoke, Chicopee, Springfield Head Start, Inc. (HCS Head Start) was recently reelected to the Massachusetts Head Start Association (MHSA) Board of Directors and additionally will serve as Treasurer. MHSA serves as the voice of nearly 30 Head Start/Early Head Start’s across Massachusetts. The not-for-profit membership organization provides collaborative learning opportunities, leveraging partnerships, and advocating for Head Start programs.

Blais’ commitment to Head Start is unwavering, having spent most of her entire career with the organization. Beginning in 1996 as the Parent Education and Support Specialist for HCS Head Start she was responsible for ensuring that Head Start Performance Standards and other regulations related to parent involvement were upheld at all times. For a decade she developed and implemented various parent and family engagement programming such as Parenting in the 21st

Century, M.I.L.K.-men involved in the lives of kids-a male involvement initiative, Family Fun Nights and other parent driven activities, supervised a team, and began making a name for herself, speaking and presenting, throughout the Commonwealth as well as at National Head Start Association Conferences across the country.

In 2012 Blais transitioned to the position of Director of Community Engagement where she again spent almost another ten years supporting the work of HCS Head Start. In this role she identified, maintained, and grew collaborations with outside agencies and community initiatives, local media outlets, political and community leaders, and funders.

The next phase of Blais career came

when her mentor, Janis Santos, HCS Head Start’s longtime CEO, announced her retirement. Ms. Santos had advocated for and administered early childhood education and care for 48 years and Blais knew she had big shoes to fill, however she also knew she was ready to take everything she had learned and apply it to the next forty plus years of Head Start leadership. And thus, in 2021, amid the pandemic, she began her role as CEO of the organization.

When asked why she desired to lead HCS Head Start, Blais said, “I believe in the Head Start program. I now have the privilege of working with a team of passionate individuals who are dedicated to making a positive impact on the lives of children and their families and community as a whole. We share a common goal of creating a better future for those

in need, and it’s this shared purpose that makes this job incredible. Another aspect of my job that I find fulfilling is the chance to learn and grow. As a nonprofit leader, I’m constantly faced with new challenges and opportunities to expand my skills. But perhaps the biggest reason why I love leading this organization is the sense of community that comes with it. I’ve met so many incredible people through my work, and I feel incredibly lucky to be part of such a supportive and inspiring network.”

Blais, like many involved with Head Start, are quick to share that what they love most about the program is the holistic approach to early learning, that they are not only focused on teaching academic skills but also on developing the whole child. Another highly valued aspect of the Head Start program is the emphasis on family engagement, recognizing parents are a child’s first and most important teacher. Each member of the team provides opportunities for

parents to be involved in their child’s education, including parent-teacher conferences, workshops, and volunteering opportunities.

“I intend to utilize my position on the MHSA Board to demonstrate my unwavering commitment to advocating for Head Start and promoting its benefits to the community,” shares Blais. “I am grateful for this opportunity to serve and look forward to making a meaningful contribution to the work of the

Massachusetts Head Start Association.”

Blais is a lifelong resident of Springfield, Massachusetts where she lives with her husband, Jeffrey, and her son, Nathan. She is proud to additionally serve the community as a Springfield Chamber Ambassador and Holyoke Rotary Club member. Blais attended the Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts (MCLA) and did her graduate studies in Nonprofit Management & Philanthropy at Bay Path University.

*“But perhaps the biggest reason why I love leading this organization is the sense of community that comes with it.”*

- Nicole Blais



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## Medicare increase results in loss of Social Security benefits



Dear Rusty

My wife and I have taken a Social Security "Cut," no 3.2% raise for us, due to something called Income Related Monthly Adjustment Amount, based on our income.

We actually took, together, a \$400 a month cut. As far as I can tell from what they told me, we are means tested and were too successful, so our Medicare premiums were much higher, which resulted in our reduced Social Security for 2024. Have you sorted this out? And, if so, can I appeal this disgusting situation?

Signed: Baffled Senior

Dear Baffled

We're very familiar with the Income Related Monthly Adjustment Amount, not so affectionately called "IRMAA." IRMAA catches many Social Security beneficiaries by surprise, not only higher earners such as you, but also those who make large withdrawals from a tax-deferred account, who sell property, or who have any other kind of sudden large bump in their taxable income. Essentially, if your income is over certain thresholds for your IRS filing status, you pay a higher IRMAA premium for your Medicare Part B (coverage for outpatient services) and your Part D (prescription drug coverage). And since your Medicare premium is auto-

matically deducted from your Social Security payment, your net monthly Social Security payment goes down.

Any COLA added to your Social Security benefit is often consumed by an IRMAA increase to your Medicare premiums. And, to further complicate matters, your Medicare premium for the current year is determined by your income from two years prior, which means your 2024 Medicare premiums were determined by your 2022 income.

The IRMAA thresholds are different depending on your income tax filing status, but assuming you file your taxes as married/jointly, your combined 2022 income had to be more than \$206,000 to cause IRMAA to apply in 2024. With income between \$206,000 and \$258,000, each of your Part B premiums would be \$244.60 instead of the standard \$174.70 and your Part D premium, if you have Part D, would incur another \$12.90 on top of your regular Part D premium amount.

IRMAA premiums further increase on a sliding scale and those with income of \$750,000 or more would pay a maximum Medicare Part B premium of \$584/month and would incur another \$81 per month added to their normal Part D premium. Thus, as you have noted, Medicare premiums are, indeed, "means-tested."

Can you appeal "this disgusting situation?" Well, you can always appeal any Social Security determination, but appealing IRMAA will only be successful if you can prove that the income they used to determine your 2024 Medicare premium was incorrect or if you can convince them to use a more recent year with a lower income to calculate your Medicare premium. If you believe

you can be successful, you should call Social Security (1-800-772-1213) to formally appeal the IRMAA premium, or you can submit form SSA-44 to appeal based on a "life-changing event."

I know that understanding how IRMAA works won't soften your dismay, but I can only explain the rules and how they work. Your 3.2% COLA increase for 2024 was used to offset some of the IRMAA Medicare premium increase caused by your higher income and it is IRMAA which caused your net Social Security payment to go down. FYI, your Medicare premiums are recalculated each year, so if your income goes down to below the IRMAA threshold for your tax filing status, then your Medicare premium will revert to the standard amount for each year.

I hope this clarifies why your Social Security payments went down and why you didn't see your COLA increase, but the AMAC Foundation is always available to answer any questions you may have about Social Security.

*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](http://amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at [ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org](mailto:ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org). Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.*

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## Three of the eight areas of incompleteness



There is a lot going on in my yard. That is a true statement. Every fall I say I am going to be smarter about what I take on and then spring hits and I am obsessed with gardening. It is all I think about, and it has been this way since I was a teenager.

I guess I could get myself into worse trouble.

Presently I am adding to the front border, redefining a perennial garden, making a permanent spot for dahlias, and waking up the raised beds and vegetable garden. Read on for a taste of what I've been up to.

I'd been on the hunt for a Pink Flowering Dogwood; and this year, because I wanted one, I seemingly saw them everywhere. What a year for the dogwoods!

My husband determined that said tree would be my Mother's Day gift if only we could find one. I made the acquisition early

last week and had it planted in the front border within hours.

Cornus 'Rutger's Stellar' is a hardy, disease and borer resistant hybrid, with gorgeous pink bracts.

To plant the tree, I dug a hole bigger than the rootball and amended with nearby soil mixed with moist peat moss. I planted it at the same depth it was in its pot and I'll be careful not to let mulch build up around the trunk.

Now, what can I add to the part sun understory? Astilbe? Japanese painted fern? Hostas? Hmm. Much to think about in terms of texture and color.

I have lots of perennial gardens here and there. There is a big one in my front yard, left from the original blueprint of the previous owner.

For some reason it was made deep, very deep. Half of this bed is backed by a stone retaining wall, the other half by a white picket fence. I'd like to narrow it up a bit, only keeping a couple of specimen plants and some edgers on the side with the picket fence.

I have one gorgeous Peony plant seems incredibly happy there. It is staked in an extra large tomato cage and for the most part it's doing the trick to hold up what appears to be dozens of potential heavy blossoms.

To use the cage I had to put it in place when the plant was emerging from the soil – to do so now would be disastrous!

If you need to stake your peony and haven't yet, try this method. Insert bamboo or wooden stakes into the ground on the outer edge of the plant to three-quarters of its height. Run two rows of twine or jute at one third and two thirds up the stakes, respectively.

Simply start by tying a knot on one stake, wrapping around the next and tightening as you go. If green bamboo and jute are used the staking will hardly be visible, especially if you don't tighten so much that it looks unnatural.

The search goes on for exactly what plants will finish up that half of the bed.

Dahlias will make their home in the other half. My collection is still fairly small – I think I have seven varieties, but I can feel the fever building.

They are just such an amazing group of plants in so many gorgeous color variations and sizes. From teenie pom-poms to "dinner plate" and every size in between, I am in awe. It's exciting to finally have an area devoted entirely to my collection and I can't wait to get them in the ground.

Plant dahlias in full sun, in fertile soil amended sparingly with compost and organic fertilizers. Most tubers are planted about 3 inches deep and 1 to 3 feet away from one another, depending on plant size.

Providing enough air circulation between plants will help keep diseases at bay.

Most gardeners install a stake at planting time and attach the dahlia to it as it grows, beginning when it is a foot tall. Subsequent ties are made every 18 inches or so depending on variety.

Without the use of stakes, large flowers will likely topple in the wind and rain, sometimes taking a good portion of the plant with it.

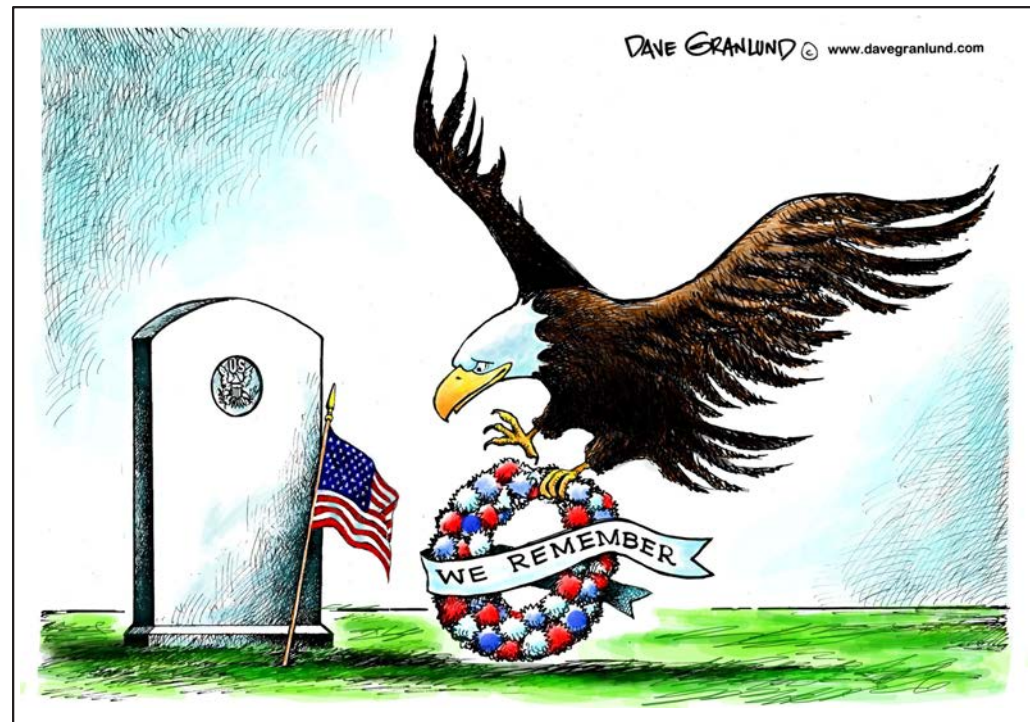
Pinching dahlias is another good practice. When the plant has three sets of leaves gently remove its growth tip. This will encourage more branching and inevitably more flowers.

Once blooming starts it is important to cut away spent blooms on a regular basis; tubers will grow stronger because of it. Dahlias thrive on sufficient moisture, especially since they are shallow rooted.

Furnish them with one inch per week during active growth.

Well, there is more incomplete, but you

See GARDEN, page 5



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## Letters to the Editor Policy

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](mailto:thesun@turley.com). Mailed letters can be sent to *The Sun*, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.



## City announces July 4th fireworks

**HOLYOKE** – The City of Holyoke will be hosting the annual 4th of July fireworks on Friday, June 28 (with a rain-date of June 30). The event will take place on the grounds of Holyoke Community College, at 303 Homestead Ave.

Vendors interested in taking part in the event should contact the Parks and Recreation Department before June 16, for a permit application at 413-322-5620.

Everyone is encouraged to come early to enjoy the music and food from a variety of vendors as well as many children's activities. The event begins at 6 p.m. with the fireworks display scheduled to start at dusk. For any questions, please call the Mayor's Office at 413-561-1600.

# Asparagus festival takes place June 1

**HADLEY** – With less than a month to go, the spirit (or, perhaps, "spearit") of asparagus will once again be the focal point of the 10th Annual New England Public Media (NEPM) Asparagus Festival. Known as "the asparagus capital of the world," western Massachusetts is still home to hundreds of working farms, and many locally-owned restaurants and breweries. Now in its tenth year, the NEPM Asparagus Festival returns to the Hadley Town Common on Saturday, June 1 from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. to celebrate the area's local businesses and organizations and spotlight our agricultural heritage.

Each year, the NEPM Asparagus Festival brings people together in celebration of our region's diversity, beauty, and bounty. The event brings over 7,500 people to the



Hadley Town Common to enjoy the best of western Mass. flavors, agriculture, music, and, of course, Hadley grass. The festival is free and open to all with a suggested donation of \$5 per person or \$20 per family at the gates. Proceeds from the NEPM Asparagus Festival support public media in western Mass.

This year the Farmers & Makers Market will be open for the full day (10 a.m. to 7 p.m.) so attendees can have more opportunities to explore and connect with more than 100 local vendors and artisans featuring crafts, cultural items, nonprofit initiatives, agricultural products, and more. In addition, the festival will offer a wide selection of food trucks serving up delicious food from asparagus fries to asparagus

flavored ice cream. The Provisions Beers & Spears tent will feature local craft breweries including Building 8 Brewery, Abandoned Building Brewery and more.

Musical guests taking the Fabulous 413 Stage throughout the day include singer-songwriter duo Lexi Weege & JJ Slater, world music ensemble TapRoots, New Orleans native Glen David Andrews, and young Berkshire-based blues favorite The Diego Mongue Band.. Plus, there's no shortage of children's fun, including a chance to meet PBS Kids characters Curious George and Malik from "Work It Out Wombats," and a live science quiz from the Tumble Podcast! Families can find out how fast they can pick asparagus with the Asparagus Valley Pick game or join Wild Garden of Childhood Nursery for arts and crafts.

Sure to be a fun time for the entire family, this is an unmissable opportunity to enjoy one of the first festivals of the season, highlight this remarkable vegetable, and gather in a community celebration of all western Mass. has to offer.

## Library offers free pastel painting workshop with Gregory Maichack

**HOLYOKE** – On Wednesday, May 29, from 6 to 8 p.m., join Gregory Maichack for pastel painting workshop at The Holyoke Public Library. Participants

will learn how to paint with pastels with this hands-on workshop. Everything will be provided, including professional grade pastels, paper and pencils. This workshop

is for beginners to advanced artists. The workshop will be held in the community room. Register to save a space in the workshop. To register please call 413-420-8101.

### GARDEN, from page 4

get the gist of my adventures. Chances are you have your own as well. Enjoy now; they'll be time to sit later.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at

the University of Massachusetts. For 31 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to [pouimette@turley.com](mailto:pouimette@turley.com) with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

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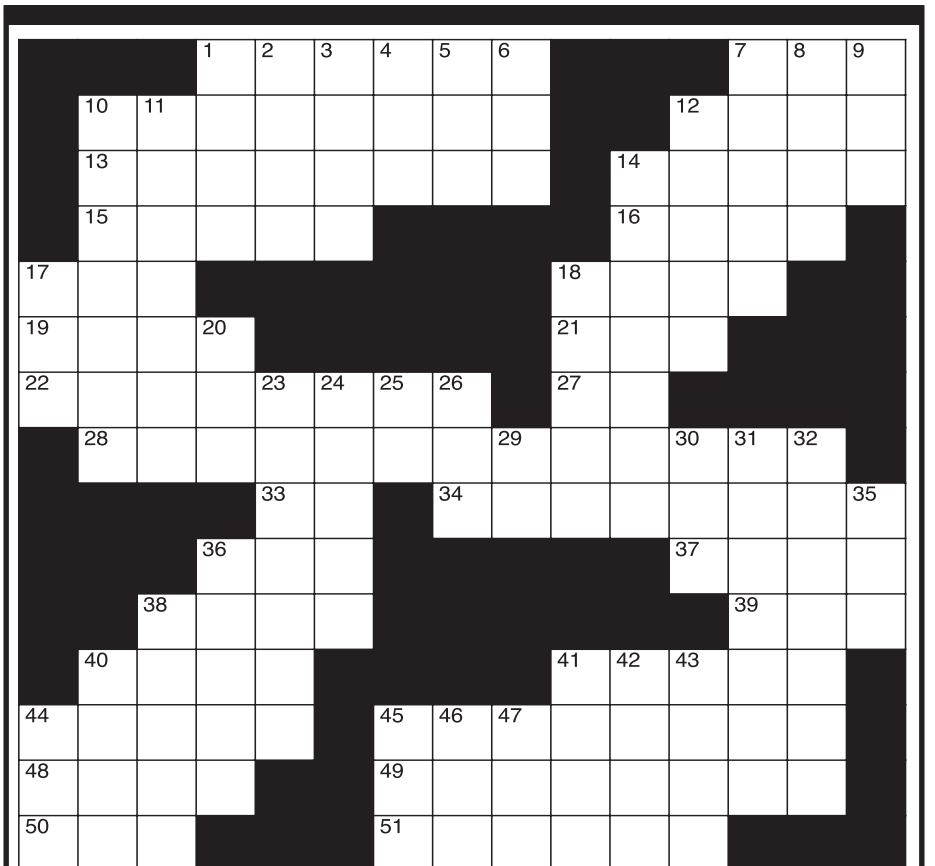
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 Groom's Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Groom's Town Residence: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Wedding Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Wedding Location: \_\_\_\_\_

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Be sure to include a high resolution, clear photograph for printing.



### CLUES ACROSS

1. Lunatic
7. Doctor of Education
10. Able to make amends
12. Tight-knit group
13. Gland
14. Intestinal pouches
15. Fungal spores
16. Erstwhile
17. Engine additive
18. Nasal mucus
19. Fit a horse with footwear
21. Consumed
22. Settle
27. Larry and Curly's pal
28. Basketball's GOAT
33. Exclamation of surprise

### CLUES DOWN

34. Made tight
36. Before
37. Actor Nicolas
38. Not hot
39. Talk
40. Pledge
41. Abandon a mission
44. Trims by cutting
45. Aspects of one's character
48. Boxing GOAT's former surname
49. Holy places
50. Body art (slang)
51. Attributes
1. How one feels
2. American Nat'l Standards Institute
3. Information
4. Licensed for

5. Keyboard key
6. Born of
7. Choose to represent
8. Small European freshwater fish
9. Everyone has their own
10. Line from the center of a polygon
11. Lebanese city
12. Type of watercraft
14. A way to twist
17. Soviet Socialist Republic
18. Greek island
20. Medical practitioner
23. \_\_\_ DeGaulle, French President
24. Partner to "oohed"

25. Atomic #52
26. Santa's helper
29. Rapper \_\_\_ Rule
30. Month
31. Word formed by rearranging letters
32. Nullifies
35. Young woman ready to enter society
36. Unemployment
38. Weight unit
40. Formal party
41. Computer language
42. Residue formula in math
43. Duty or responsibility
44. Part of (abbr.)
45. Time zone
46. Body part
47. Nucleic acid

CROSSWORD ANSWER on page 3



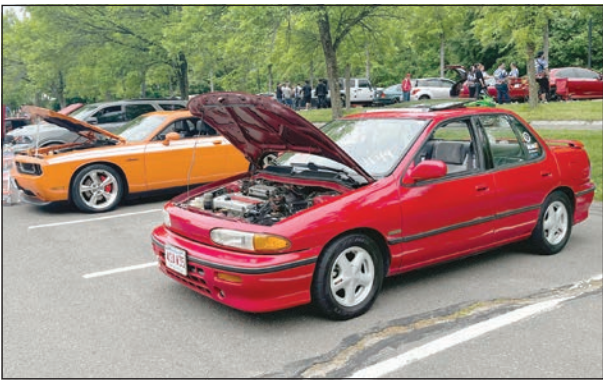
Curbside Craves came to Dean Tech's car show. Turley photos by Quinn Suomala



Over 90 cars came out to support the Dean Tech car show.



Dean Tech hosted a car show that any in the community were welcome to come out and support.



There were several different kinds of cars that were displayed at the Dean Tech car show.



Holyoke High School Field Hockey held a bake sale at the Dean Tech car show, with students Grace Phillips, Sage Vermes, Marialis Camacho and Bryn Sullivan running the stand.



One Stop Kitchen Food Truck was at the Dean Tech car show.



Many people were rather creative when it came to decorating their cars for the Dean Tech car show.



Several cars came decked out with large speakers to compete in who had the loudest speaker at the show.

## CAR SHOW, from page 1

Cars also competed in two competitions: the limbo and the two-step.

The limbo worked to see what car is the lowest in the show, and the two-step worked to see which car can rev their engine the loudest.

"Everyone looks forward to the two-step contest," Vera said. "Everybody surrounds that and gets excited for it."

Winners for each contest were presented with a trophy made by the advanced manufacturing teacher at Dean Tech.

Also present at the event were a variety of food trucks. This included Curbside Craves and One Stop Kitchen.

"The food trucks paid for a spot and that money goes toward the students," Vera said.

All of the funds raised throughout the event will be split to fund the different classes at Dean Tech for their senior events, including prom, graduation and senior trips.

Vera hoped to raise \$1,000 for the students throughout the day of the show.

"If we can break \$1,000 I'll be happy," he said. "Last year we were around that, so if we can make over \$1,000 I think we'll be good."

They were quite successful in this endeavor, with over 90 cars entering the contest.

"It feels good to have them here," Senior and Student Judge Robert Rosario said. "We're all here because we love cars and it's good to have a community that all enjoys the same topic."

The show first started last year thanks to a partnership the school had with the Make a Wish Foundation.

This year they have been working to plan the show since September, with the help of students in the auto collision course as well as many of the staff at Dean Tech.

"We've been planning it since September, just trying to execute everything as well as we can," Vera said.

Vera and the others involved look forward to continuing this tradition into the future.

"I think every year it will get better," Vera said. "It's a great way to bring the community together and to help students and their goals for their senior years."

Already this year Vera reported that he saw improvements to the show, including the addition of more food trucks and added entertainment for the kids at the show, such as balloons.

Vera is glad that Dean Tech is putting on this car show as a fundraiser, he feels it is a good opportunity to bring many groups from the community together.

"I come from being in car clubs and doing car shows and a lot of big car show events, so bringing the idea to the school and having our students judge it, especially the auto collision and diesel technology students, helps a lot," Vera said.

Vera also felt that the car community is a large, supportive community that would be able to greatly benefit the students.

"It's a big community, they help each other out, they do a lot of fundraisers, so why not bring it to our school and try to make it a tradition?" he said.

Vera hopes to hold another car show to celebrate the return to school, potentially on July 20.

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# SPORTS

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## Unified track in action

HOLYOKE – Last week, Holyoke’s Unified track team hosted a multi-team meet at Holyoke High School. The Knights have been a big support of the Unified track program and have had it for several years now.



Logan Turgeon makes his way down the track.



Armando Zambrana throws the shot put.



Amaya Chanon participates in the long jump during a meet held last week.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

## New England Mutiny have solid opening win over Maine

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW – Hope Santaniello was an All-American during her out-

standing varsity soccer career at Agawam High School. She has been a key member of the New England Mutiny, who play their home matches at Lusitano Stadium in Ludlow, since 2019.

The Mutiny lost to the Lancaster Inferno FC, 2-1, in the UWS East Conference finals in Santaniello’s first season. They’ve also qualified for the playoffs in each of the past two

seasons, but they still haven’t reached the top of the mountain.

With several key returning players and a couple of talented newcomers, the Mutiny are hoping to win a national championship title for the first time since 2000.

The Mutiny kicked off the 2024 campaign with an impressive 3-1 home win versus the Maine Footy, last Saturday afternoon.

“I feel like everyone is on the same page coming into this season,” said Santaniello, who scored a second half goal. “We’ve only had a couple of practices, but all the players have been so encouraging and so positive. We played very well in today’s game. I love playing for this team and I also love the atmosphere here. I’m hoping to win a championship title with this team, so we still have some unfinished business.”

Federico Molinari celebrated his first victory as the Mutiny head coach. He took over the coaching reins from Mauricio “Toto” Coimbra.

“It feels very good to win my first game as the women’s soccer coach,” said Molinari,

who also coaches the Western Mass. Pioneers. “I thought we played very well in today’s game.”

A year ago, the Mutiny finished the regular season in sixth place in the East Division standings with a 4-2-2 mark. They lost to the Lancaster Inferno FC, 4-3, again in the first round of the playoffs.

Santaniello, who’s a forward, began her collegiate soccer career at the University of Rhode Island before transferring to UMass Lowell a year ago.

“I have one more year remaining at UMass- Lowell. Then I’m hoping to play for a professional soccer team,” Santaniello said. “Playing at UMass-Lowell was an adjustment for me at first, but I really like playing there now. It’s a great group of girls and coaches. I really love it there.”

It took the Mutiny less than five minutes to score their first goal of the season.

The goal was scored by midfielder Avery Klingensmith, who graduated from Belchertown High School.

See MUTINY, page 8



Avery Klingensmith dribbles for the Mutiny. Turley photos by David Henry



Alexis Legowski follows through on a pass.



Maddie Fried hustles past midfielder.

# New exhibit to open May 31 at HoopHall

SPRINGFIELD – The grand opening of The Vault: Boston Celtics Unlocked, the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame’s newest and most innovative exhibit, will be on Friday, May 31, the Hall of Fame announced Friday.

Visitors will step into an immersive bank vault for a one-of-a-kind journey through the history of the NBA’s most storied franchise. Current and former Celtics legends will be the guides for a unique celebration of Celtic Pride, from Walter Brown to Jaylen Brown, through artifacts such as authentic game-worn jerseys, championship rings, the original ’81 NBA championship trophy, long-lost footage and much more. Celtics legend and Class of 2021 Hall of Fame enshrinee Paul Pierce will cut the rib-

bon to let the first visitors into the Vault.

The Vault has been made possible through the generosity of MassMutual.

“The Boston Celtics name is known around the world, and we are excited to give basketball fans of all ages this state-of-the-art exhibit featuring the most sought-after Celtic memorabilia,” said John L. Doleva, President and CEO of the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame. “We are thank-



ful to MassMutual for their dedication to the city of Springfield and their support of this historic expansion, which promotes our mission of preserving and honoring basketball’s history.”

Visitors will be able to enjoy this exclusive display of Celtics memorabilia for a limited period of time. Tickets for the museum can be purchased online at etix.com or at the door.

# Bonsignore grabs third-place finish

RIVERHEAD, N.Y. – Justin Bonsignore continued his streak of top-six finishes to open the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour season on Sunday afternoon at Riverhead Raceway. Bonsignore brought the No. 51 Phoenix Communications machine home in third in the Miller Lite 200 presents Wayne Anderson. The New York native posted his 24th top-five finish in 28 career Whelen Modified Tour starts at Riverhead.

Bonsignore started fifth on Sunday, one day after a heavy mist in the air postponed the Miller Lite 200 Salutes Wayne Anderson. He would fall just outside the top-five early, but then charge back inside and remain there for the duration of the race. He was up to second at one point, but Austin Beers slid by late, eventually finishing second to winner Ron Silk.

“We were a little off today but all in all, a good day for our Phoenix Communications team,” Bonsignore said. “We will get back to work on continuing to work on our cars and be ready for Seekonk in a few weeks.”

Justin Bonsignore will return to the track at Seekonk Speedway for the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour Seekonk 150 on Saturday, June 1.

Read The Holyoke Sun online at [www.sun.turley.com](http://www.sun.turley.com)

# Registration open to take part in Bay State Games

WOBURN – Registration for the 42nd annual Bay State Summer Games is now open. The 2024 Summer Games will include thirty sports with competitions from May 11 – July 27 at venues throughout eastern and central Massachusetts including Game On in Fitchburg, Boston Sports Institute in Wellesley, Union Point Sports Complex in Weymouth, and North Star Ice Sports in Westborough. Bay State Games participants range in age from 5 to over age 75 and represent more than 300 Massachusetts communities as well as surrounding New England States in some sports. From grassroots participants to accomplished amateur athletes, the Bay State Games provide opportunities for the athlete in all of us.

Seven high school showcase sports

will take place for a variety of sports, including baseball, basketball, field hockey, ice hockey, soccer, softball, and volleyball. Athletes currently in grade 8-11 who live or go to school in Massachusetts are eligible to attend regional tryouts during the month of June. These tryouts will determine teams representing the various regions of the Commonwealth that will compete against each other in July. Check each sport page for specific eligibility requirements.

The Summer Games include a wide variety of individual sports including swimming, track & field, figure skating, pickleball, wrestling, weightlifting, badminton, and more. These sports are open to a wide range of ages and skill levels from youth participants to masters-aged athletes. Adaptive sport divisions in

archery, swimming, and track & field are offered, as well. Bay State Games also organizes tournaments for pre-existing teams in rugby, and 6v6 field hockey.

Returning in 2024, Table Tennis will take place on June 1 at PingPod in Boston after a 5-year hiatus from the Summer Games sport lineup. New venues include Babson College, which will host the Girls Basketball Showcase, and NorthStar Ice Sports, which will host Figure Skating and the Girls Ice Hockey Showcase. Game On in Fitchburg will serve as a hub venue for eight sports. Bay State Games expects 1,500 athletes and their families to attend competitions at Game On during the second week of July.

For questions, email [info@baystategames.org](mailto:info@baystategames.org) or call 781-932-6555.

## MUTINY, from page 7

After receiving a pass in the third minute, Klingensmith fired a shot from the top of the box into the right corner of the net past Maine Footy goalie Sally Rainey for an unassisted goal.

“I’ve been practicing that shot and it felt very good,” Klingensmith said. “We do have a bunch of talented players up top, and I never expected to score the first goal of the season. We’re hoping to go all the way this year.”

Klingensmith is beginning her third season playing for the Mutiny. She’ll also be a junior on the women’s soccer team at American University in Washington D.C., in the fall.

The other Mutiny players, who are from the communities served by the

Turley Publications newspapers, are Alexis Legowski (McDuffie School/South Hadley), Aida Name (Belchertown High School/Chicopee), Maddie Theriault (Palmer), and Kendall Bodak (Monson).

“I grew up playing soccer with a couple of the local players on the FC stars,” Santaniello said. “I’m hoping a few of the current talented high school soccer players from Western Mass. join the Mutiny in the future.”

Laura Gouvin, who’s from Monson, was one of the Mutiny key players during the past couple of years. Gouvin won’t be returning this year because she has transferred from Boston College to the University of Colorado.

The Mutiny had several other very good scoring chances during the first 45 minutes of the opening half, but they still had a 1-0 lead at the break.

During the 57th minute, Santaniello received a pass from Chioma Okafor, who’s one of the newcomers, before putting a shot into the back of the net making the score 2-0.

Okafor, who’s a forward from Blantyre, Malawi, led the UConn women’s soccer team with six goals and she also had three assists as a sophomore last season.

“I met her for the first time a couple of days ago, but we already have a good connection,” Santaniello said. “She’s a very good player and it was a lot of fun playing with her for the first time in today’s game. She isn’t a selfish soccer player. She’s always looking for the open player. She made a great pass to me before I scored my goal.”

The visitors from Portland Maine ended the shutout hopes of Mutiny goalie

Katrina Chorzepa three minutes later following a corner kick goal.

Megan Scholten booted the ball from the left corner, and it sailed into the far corner of the net cutting the Footy deficit in half.

“We dominated the game from start to finish,” Santaniello added. “I thought their corner kick goal was lucky. The score doesn’t really show how well we played in today’s game.”

The Mutiny’s third and final goal was scored by forward Cat Barry, who plays college soccer at the University of South Carolina Gamecocks with five minutes remaining in regulation.

The Mutiny, who’ll be playing five of their eight regular season matches at the friendly confines of Lusitano Stadium, are scheduled to host Sporting CT at 7pm on Friday night.



Hope Santaniello hustles up the field.



Laci Lewis makes a throw-in.



Cat Barry tries to outrun an opponent.

Turley photos by David Henry [www.sweetdogphotos.com](http://www.sweetdogphotos.com).



**City of Holyoke  
PUBLIC HEARING  
NOTICE**

The Holyoke Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, June 18, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.**, in the City Hall Annex, Room 403, Holyoke MA to hear the petition of Tony Taylor, who is requesting an appeal from the zoning officer determination letter dated 04/02/2024, from Section 2.0 refuse transfer station, at property 618 South Summer St (027-01-006).

A complete copy of the application may be seen in the Office of Planning & Economic Development, 20 Korean Veterans Plaza, Rm 401, 8:30-4:30, M-F.

Applicant:  
Tony Taylor  
Board of Appeals:  
Josh Knox  
05/24, 05/31/2024

**Commonwealth of  
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The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Hampden Probate and  
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Docket No. HD24P1103EA**

**Estate of:  
Joanne Boucher  
Also known as:  
Joanne Moody  
Date of Death: 01/16/2024  
CITATION ON PETITION  
FOR FORMAL  
ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by Sara Spooner of Auburn, 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: **Sara Spooner of Auburn, 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 06/17/2024. 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: May 20, 2024  
**Rosemary A Saccomani**,  
Register of Probate  
05/24/2024

**City of Holyoke  
Notice of Public Hearing**

The Holyoke License Board will be holding a Public Hearing on **Wednesday, June 5, 2024, at 5:15 pm.** You can join via Zoom.com; ID 853 1505 2277; CALL IN: \*67 646 558 8656 or in person at **Holyoke Media 1 Court Plaza**, regarding the application for a **Transfer of an on premises Wine & Malt Beverage License for D-Hotel & Suites Inc. DBA D-Hotel & Suites at 1 Country Club Road** pursuant to M.G.L. Ch.138.

Applicant:  
Michael Corduff  
& Frank DiMarinis  
License Board:  
Anthony Luciano,  
Chairman  
05/24, 05/31/2024

**City of Holyoke  
Notice of Public Hearing**

The Holyoke License Board will be holding a Public Hearing on **Wednesday, June 5, 2024, at 5:15 pm.** You can join via Zoom.com; ID 853 1505 2277; CALL IN: \*67 646 558 8656 or in person at **Holyoke Media 1 Court Plaza**, regarding the application for a **Transfer of an on premises All Alcohol License for Delaney Restaurant Inc. DBA Delaney House at 1 Country Club Road** pursuant to M.G.L. Ch.138.

Applicant:  
Michael Corduff  
& Frank DiMarinis  
License Board:  
Anthony Luciano,  
Chairman  
05/24, 05/31/2024

**LEGAL NOTICE  
CITY OF HOLYOKE  
GAS & ELECTRIC  
DEPARTMENT  
SALE OF SURPLUS  
ELECTRICAL  
EQUIPMENT**

Sealed bids for the sale of the above will be received by Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept. until **2:30 p.m., June 19, 2024**, at the office of the Manager, 99 Suffolk St., Holyoke, MA 01040, at which time bids will be publicly opened and read.

Additional information may be obtained from:

Chi Wong  
Holyoke Gas and Electric Dept.  
99 Suffolk St.  
Holyoke, MA 01040  
(413) 536-9308

The right is hereby reserved to reject any or all proposals, or to accept any proposal that in the opinion of the Manager may be in the best interest of the City of Holyoke.

Please mark sealed envelopes **"Bid for Sale of Surplus Electrical Equipment"** and address them to:

**James M. Lavelle, Manager**  
Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept.  
99 Suffolk St.  
Holyoke, MA 01040  
05/24/2024

**CITY OF HOLYOKE  
PURCHASING  
DEPARTMENT  
INVITATION FOR BIDS  
2024-42DPW  
Electrical Repair Services -  
Holyoke MA  
SEALED BIDS ARE DUE**

**BY 2:00 PM ON 6/19/2024.  
EMAIL SUBMISSIONS  
WILL NOT BE  
ACCEPTED**

The City of Holyoke requests Bids for Electrical Repair Services as required to maintain municipal buildings and school buildings, including all materials and labor necessary to complete the work.

Documents will be available from the City of Holyoke's Purchasing Office, 536 Dwight Street, Room 3, Holyoke, MA 01040 beginning at 10:00 AM on Tuesday, May 21, 2024. Bid documents may be requested via email to [sweeneye@holyoke.org](mailto:sweeneye@holyoke.org) or in person at the City of Holyoke's Purchasing Office. **The deadline to submit bid proposals is June 19, 2024, by 2:00PM**, at which time all bids received will be publicly opened in compliance with M.G.L. Chapter 149, Sections 44A-44J and the City of Holyoke's Ordinances. No electronic Submissions will be accepted.  
05/24/2024

**Holyoke Public Schools**

The Holyoke Public Schools will be holding a public hearing on the Fiscal 2025 School Department Budget on **June 10, 2024 at 6:00 p.m.** in the Fifield Room at Dean Technical School. Public comment can be submitted via email to Shaena Gubala at [sgubala@hps.holyoke.ma.us](mailto:sgubala@hps.holyoke.ma.us) no later than 3:00 p.m on, Monday, June 10, 2024. A copy of the budget is available for inspection at the Holyoke Public Schools Business Office beginning on Thursday, June 6, 2024 at 8:00 a.m.

**Escuelas Públicas de Holyoke**

Las Escuelas Públicas de Holyoke llevarán a cabo una audiencia pública sobre el Presupuesto del Departamento Escolar para el año Fiscal 2025 el **10 de junio de 2024 a las 6:00 p.m.** en la Sala Fifield de la Escuela Superior Técnica Dean. Los comentarios del público pueden enviarse por correo electrónico a Shaena Gubala a la dirección [sgubala@hps.holyoke.ma.us](mailto:sgubala@hps.holyoke.ma.us) el lunes 10 de junio de 2024 a las 3:00 p.m. a más tardar. Habrá una copia del presupuesto disponible para revisión en la Oficina de Administración Financiera de las Escuelas Públicas de Holyoke a partir del jueves 6 de junio de 2024 a las 8:00 a.m.  
05/24/2024

**City of Holyoke  
Notice of Public Hearing**

The Holyoke License Board will be holding a **Public Hearing on Wednesday, June 5, 2024, at 5:15 pm.** You can join via Zoom.com; ID 853 1505 2277; CALL IN: \*67 646 558 8656 or in person at **Holyoke Media 1 Court Plaza**, regarding the application for a **"New All Alcohol Seasonal On-premise License" for Jibaritos Sports Club LLC, 252 Maple St., Holyoke** pursuant to M.G.L. Ch.138.

Applicant:  
Monica Velez  
License Board:  
Anthony Luciano,  
Chairman  
05/24, 05/31/2024

**City of Holyoke  
Notice of Public Hearing**

The Holyoke License Board will be holding a Public Hearing on

**Wednesday, June 5, 2024, at 5:15 pm.** You can join via Zoom.com; ID 853 1505 2277; CALL IN: \*67 646 558 8656 or in person at **Holyoke Media 1 Court Plaza**, regarding the application for a **Transfer of an on premises All Alcohol License for The Log Cabin Banquet & Meeting Inc. DBA The Log Cabin at 500 Easthampton Road** pursuant to M.G.L. Ch.138.

Applicant:  
Michael Corduff  
& Frank DiMarinis  
License Board:  
Anthony Luciano,  
Chairman  
05/24, 05/31/2024

**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. HD24C0138CA**

**In the matter of:  
Griselis Lopez  
CITATION ON PETITION  
TO CHANGE NAME**

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

**Griselis Lopez  
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 06/11/2024.**

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: May 14, 2024  
**Rosemary A Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
05/24/2024

**LEGAL NOTICE  
CITY OF HOLYOKE  
GAS & ELECTRIC  
DEPARTMENT  
POWER PIPING  
SYSTEMS & HVAC  
MAINTENANCE,  
INSTALLATIONS &  
REPAIRS  
ANNUAL CONTRACT**

Sealed bids for the above contract will be received by Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept. until **2:00 P.M., June 19, 2024**, at the Office of the Manager, 99 Suffolk St., Holyoke, MA 01040, at which time proposals will be publicly opened and read.

**Bid Deposit:**

A Bid Deposit of \$15,000 must accompany all bids and may be in the form of a certified, treasurer's, or cashier's check payable to HG&E from a responsible bank or trust company; cash; or a bid bond from a licensed surety payable to HG&E.

**Prevailing Wage Rates:**  
Rates, which are to apply to the work, are set by the Mass. Dept. of Labor & Industries.

**DCAMM:**  
A Certificate of Eligibility in the Mechanical Systems and Plumbing categories from the Mass. Division of Capital Asset Management & Maintenance, as well as an Update Statement is required. Plumbing and Gas Fitter Contractors must be licensed by the Mass. Board of State Examiners of Plumbers & Gas Fitters.

Additional information may be obtained from:

Chi Wong  
Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept.  
99 Suffolk St.  
Holyoke, MA 01040  
[cwong@hged.com](mailto:cwong@hged.com)  
(413) 335-0148

The right is hereby reserved to reject any or all proposals or to accept any proposals that in the opinion of the Manager may be in the best interest of the City of Holyoke.

Please mark sealed envelopes **"Bid for Power Piping Systems & HVAC Maintenance, Installations & Repairs Annual Contract"** and address them to:

**James M. Lavelle, Manager**  
Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept.  
99 Suffolk St.  
Holyoke, MA 01040  
05/24/2024

**Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Hampden Probate and  
Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
Docket No. HD24P1026GD**

**In the matter of:  
Madeline Rivera  
Of: Holyoke, MA  
RESPONDENT  
Alleged Incapacitated  
Person  
CITATION GIVING  
NOTICE OF PETITION  
FOR APPOINTMENT OF  
GUARDIAN FOR  
INCAPACITATED  
PERSON PURSUANT TO  
G.L. c. 190B, §5-304**

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **MA Dept. Of Mental Health of Northampton, MA** in the above captioned matter alleging that **Madeline Rivera** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that **Robin Therrien of Holyoke, MA** (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.

**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 **06/07/2024.** 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: May 10, 2024  
**Rosemary A. Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
05/24/2024

**CITY OF HOLYOKE  
PURCHASING  
DEPARTMENT  
INVITATION FOR BIDS  
2024-52DPW  
Roofing Repair Services -  
Holyoke MA  
SEALED BIDS ARE DUE  
BY 2:00 PM ON 6/20/2024.  
EMAIL SUBMISSIONS  
WILL NOT BE  
ACCEPTED**

The City of Holyoke requests Bids for Roofing Repair Services as required to maintain municipal buildings, school buildings, and the central warehouse located at 728 Main Street, including all materials and labor necessary to complete the work.

Documents will be available from the City of Holyoke's Purchasing Office, 536 Dwight Street, Room 3, Holyoke, MA 01040 beginning at 10:00 AM on Wednesday, May 22, 2024. Bid documents may be requested via email to [sweeneye@holyoke.org](mailto:sweeneye@holyoke.org) or in person at the City of Holyoke's Purchasing Office. **The deadline to submit bid proposals is June 20, 2024, by 2:00PM**, at which time all bids received will be publicly opened in compliance with M.G.L. Chapter 149, Sections 44A-44J and the City of Holyoke's Ordinances. No electronic Submissions will be accepted.  
05/24/2024

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## TAG SALE

**44 HILLTOP TERRACE, LUDLOW. May 24-25-26, 9am-3pm.** Lots of good stuff, fishing gear, RC cars, art, electronics, Copper Chef, grill, cabachon stones, DVD's, furniture, clothes, tools, and top box.

**ESTATE SALE, SUNDAY, MAY 26 AND MONDAY, MAY 27, 9am-2pm.** Household items, garage items, tools. **37 Dale Street, South Hadley.**

**MULTI-FAMILY TAG SALE - Moody Street, Ludlow: 9am-3pm, 5/25 and 5/26.** Clothing, furniture, household items, small appliances, sporting goods.

## WANTED

**OLD CARPENTER TOOLS** wanted. Planes, chisels, axes, etc. Vintage hunting, camping, cast iron cookware, advertising, motorcycles, clothing. Call Ken **(413)433-2195.**

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## WANTED

### WANTED TO BUY

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## SERVICES



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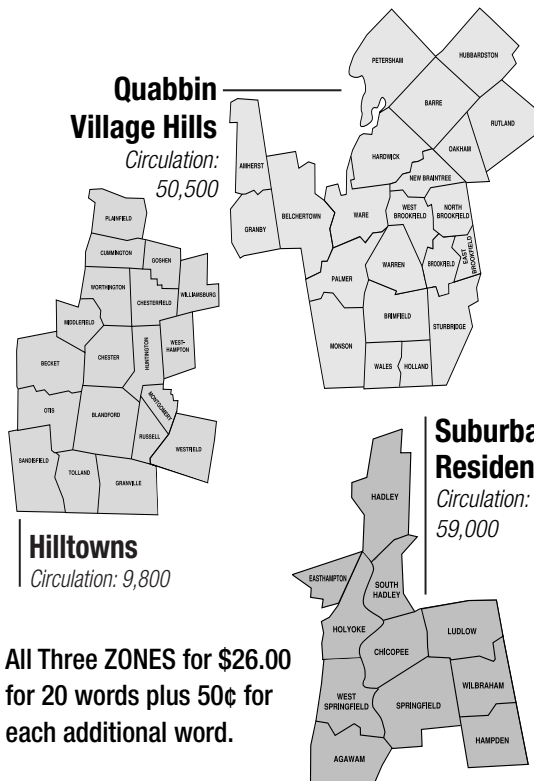
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9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
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21 Base Price \$26.50	22 Base Price \$27.00	23 Base Price \$27.50	24 Base Price \$28.00
25 Base Price \$28.50	26 Base Price \$29.00	27 Base Price \$29.50	28 Base Price \$30.00
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

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Weeks: \_\_\_\_\_ X per week rate = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Credit Card:  MasterCard  VISA  Discover  Cash  Check# \_\_\_\_\_  
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**LITERACY**, from page 1

strands of focus in early literacy: ensuring students have access to high quality curriculum, giving instructional learning to staff, coupled with coaching and support, and using data systems to monitor student improvement.

The school has worked using the HILL for Literacy structure in order to provide teachers with instructional learning and coaching support.

Teachers engage in the HILL learning modules, they then implement the HILL routines in the schools and there is a HILL coach and an expert teacher that provide coaching around HILL routines.

"Teachers receive the new learning, they get support from their internal coach with planning for implementation...and then they actually receive coaching from the external HILL coach and their internal expert teacher," Rosazza said. "That dual coaching method has helped our teachers to be really successful."

On top of the work with HILL, the district also has a district literacy leadership team and a dual language curriculum committee.

Both of these groups came together to suggest ways the district could continue to improve early literacy. They suggested that the district adopt the Into Reading/Arriba la Lectura curriculum by Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.

This curriculum would replace the precious ELA and dual language curriculum. It is meant to include all of the needed components for early literacy instruction in English and Spanish.

"This is exciting in that it will give us alignment in our three to five programming so that K-5 will have the same curriculum," Thompson said.

This will also allow teachers to have a more condensed curriculum so they can pull from one resource rather than multiple.

"This will help to streamline and make it easier for planning," Thompson said. "It will also make it easier for new educators in the district."

Additionally, this curriculum is on the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's list of high-quality curricula.

Thompson and Rosazza were both excited about the potential of this curriculum.

"We're excited about this, our principles and expert teachers are excited about this and our teachers that were on the committee have really started digging in and some are even starting to pilot it," Thompson said.

Many of the school committee members were excited about the potential of this new curriculum, although some felt that they wanted to research it further before they could support it.

Student Representative Evan Kennedy brought forward some of his concerns about the curriculum. He felt that it may be restrictive to teachers and, if it was similar to the curriculum at the high school, would not benefit all students.

"If the format of this curriculum is anything like what we have in the high schools, I do not believe this curriculum is going to be efficient in teaching our students," he said. "I have been one of those students who have been very against the curriculum that is in our high schools right now because I just don't feel as though I am being benefited from learning it...in fact I even believe it is doing damage to our students and our staff."

The committee voted 4-3 to adopt the proposed early literacy curriculum. Committee Members Erin Brunelle, Rosalee Tensley Williams, Ellie Wilson and Gustavo Romero voted in favor, Members Mildred Lefebvre, John Whelihan and William Collamore voted against.

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Parents, Grandparents & Friends  
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**SPECIAL \$55**

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**CARLY SMITH**

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*Love Mom, Dad, John and Chloe*

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## In The News

### RIVER, from page 1

itself is highly customizable.

"It's a little bit about the history of Holyoke and how the river built it and it's about the problems that the dam has made and solved for species living in the river," Condon said.

There is a menu of activities that a Fishway Guide and Condon choose from for the program depending on the age and size of the group interested in the program.

This menu of activities includes: a visit to the first level of the canal, practice being a fish counter, interacting with museum exhibits and more.

"We can have them power some turbine models to see how falling water can be converted into mechanical energy," Condon said.

There is also a table with coloring pages of different fish that kids can fill out and then cut out and put on the river mural at the visitor's center.

The hope is that through these activities people will learn more about the river and its inhabitants and come to appreciate all that they offer for Holyoke.

"One of our missions is to engage people in understanding and appreciating the history and the environment," Condon

said. "We want to help them be aware of who Holyoke as a city is, where we have come from and where we are now."

This year the Robert Barrett Fishway is closed to the public, so the Fishway Guides wanted to ensure the public still had an opportunity to learn about the canals and the Holyoke dam.

They felt that teaming up with the Visitor's Center at Heritage State Park would be a great way to continue to bring the public into it.

"They decided to come and have a fish exhibit and a fishy program here at the visitors center," Condon said.

Condon encourages anyone interested in the program to come and check it out.

"It's important that residents and visitors are aware of our past, present and future," she said. "People always walk with the wonderful feeling of learning something else and having a lot of fun."

Already the program has been offered throughout the months of April and May. The remaining tour dates are on May 24, 25, 29 and 31 and June 1, 5, 7, 8, 12 and 15.

To learn more about the program, go to <https://www.exploreholyokey.com/event/connecting-with-the-connecticut-river-canals-power-fish-and-you/2024-05-15/>.

## Annual Spring Craft/Vendor Fair to benefit Relay for Life on June 8

BELCHERTOWN – There will be over 95 crafters and vendors at the Quaboag Relay for Life's 3rd Annual Spring Craft/Vendor Fair to be held on Saturday, June 8 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. on the Common, Routes 9 and 202.

There will be face painting all day, balloon sculpting by Ed Popielarczyk from 12:30-2:30 p.m., food, music and raffles.

All proceeds from the fair will benefit the American Cancer Society, Relay for Life.

### SCHOOL, from page 1

"I did share that there was a cost that the district could not cover based on our tight budget this year," Wilson said. "We did ask the state to support that cost and they said they would probably be able to with a grant."

Therefore, Wilson suggested that the policy discussion take place with a vendor leading them through the process.

Based on this, Brunelle suggested that the committee focus on procedural practices in the retreat, and leave the committee governance policies for a different time.

"I think it's the procedural practices that we need to probably have a retreat for and work on in the near immediate future while we're engaging the vendor and looking at the overall district policies and going over all of section B," Brunelle said.

Committee Member Doctor Gloria Caballero-Roca made a motion to have a retreat to discuss the operational policies and procedures of a committee meeting.

Lefebvre then mentioned that there may be policies already in place within Section B that cover the opera-

tion of a committee meeting.

"You might have to look at the other sections of B that fall into your operational procedures so that way if we can bang at least those out, versus coming up with an operation and then find out there is a policy as well, might as well do all of that in one," she said. "Let's pick the most important things that really define what we currently do."

Wilson preferred to focus on just the procedure, as she did not want to review Section B only to have to do so again in a robust review.

The committee voted 4-3, with two abstentions, to have a retreat to discuss just the procedural process of the committee.

Caballero-Roca, Wilson, Committee Member John Whelihan and Mayor Joshua Garcia all voted in favor of this retreat. Committee Members Rosalee Tensley Williams and Gustavo Romero abstained.

There is no set time for the retreat, and the committee may wait until they contact their vendor to clarify the remaining questions regarding whether or not they should focus on just operational policies or bring in Section B.



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