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Council votes to continue school plans

By Quinn Suomala
Staff Writer

HOLYOKE – The city council passed a unanimous vote at their meeting on June 6 to appropriate \$85,504,592 toward paying costs for the construction of the new Peck Middle School.

During the meeting, Holyoke citizens showed up during the public comment section in overwhelming support for this project.

“This school is more than a benefit to our city, this school is an open door for the future of Holyoke,” Jessica Perella said.

The city counselors also agreed that this new middle school would be key for the city.

“This is something not just for the school children, it’s for the city. It’s really important

See PLANS, page 9



Photo left, Marissa Chiapperino from Holyoke Medical Center helps guide people to healthy eating. Photo right, Gina Romero sells kokedama, or “moss ball” pots for plants.



Photos by Quinn Suomala

New farmers market comes to HMC

Holyoke Medical Center (HMC) is excited to announce the opening of a new Farmers’ Market at the hospital. The HMC Farmer’s Market will be open every Wednesday from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. beginning June 14, 2023 through October 25, 2023.

Located in the hospital’s Parking Lot D, the HMC

Farmer’s Market is conveniently close to the front entrance of the hospital, with valet parking available. Holyoke residents are encouraged to utilize the hospital’s free transportation shuttles. The transportation schedule is available at www.holyokehealth.com/ride.

“The hospital’s Community Health Needs

Assessment has identified access to healthy food as an area of concern for many people in our community,” says HMC Director of Community Benefits, Lisa Wray-Schechterle. “Holyoke Medical Center is proud to provide a convenient location and transportation, while also collaboratively partnering

with others to make this new market a success.” The HMC Farmer’s Market is a collaboration with the Holyoke Farmers’ Market, the Holyoke Chamber of Commerce, Let’s Move Holyoke, and many local businesses. Some of the vendors participating this season will include Agudelo

See MARKET, page 12

City to host second annual Pride Fest

By Quinn Suomala
Staff Writer

HOLYOKE – The city will hold its second annual Pride Fest from 12 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Saturday, June 17 at Veterans Park. It is free for all to attend.

This event highlights the LGBTQIA+ community members in Holyoke and gives them a chance to celebrate and share their identities.

“My whole idea about Pride Fest is education,” Juan Anderson-Burgos, Ward 6 City Councilor and legislative aide to State Rep. Patricia Duffy, D-Holyoke, said. “Having fun with the LGBTQIA+ –which I obviously identify as, as I am in the gay community. But at the same time educating those who might think of us differently, inviting them to our circle, inviting them to watch, to see

that we are not the threat.”

At the festival there will be a wide variety of booths, arts and crafts, a photo booth, candle making and food. The food and drink vendors include Journey’s Lemonade, El Paraiso Colombiano and Crave. Booths include Holler and Howl, Art by Leslie Grace, Descant Music and Art Studio, and Paper City Art Kids.

Attendees can also look forward to performances by Jessica Wild, a contestant on season two and eight of RuPaul’s Drag Race, and Mary Lambert, a Grammy nominated singer and MTV VMA winner.

This event began last year in Holyoke, started by Anderson-Burgos and councilor Jose Maldonado Velez

“Growing up there was nothing really celebrated in the LGBTQIA+ community,” Anderson-Burgos said. “So, as an elected official, last year, another openly gay elected official Jose Maldonado Velez said ‘let’s talk about pride,’ and at that point, it had some to our attention that North Hampden,



Holyoke’s Pride Fest is set for Saturday at 12 noon.

See PRIDE, page 9

MIRROR, MIRROR



A blue heron stoically searches for a snack while staring at its reflection at Ashley Reservoir.

Turley photo by Kara Walsh-Vey



Tykes Tuesday will be held Tuesday mornings from July 11 through Aug. 22. at the Holyoke Mall. Submitted Photo

Tykes Tuesdays Back this Summer at Holyoke Mall

HOLYOKE – Tykes Tuesday is back for its fourth year of summertime fun at Holyoke Mall Tuesday mornings from July 11 through Aug. 22.

Tykes Tuesday, sponsored by Rock 102, features seven weeks of free family activities and exclusive discounts on Tuesdays starting at 11 a.m. on the lower

level in Macy's Court.

The summer series includes STEM activities, a petting zoo, free admission to Altitude Trampoline Park, and more. The kids' program is free, open to the public, and is best suited for children ages 12 and under. To pre-register go to Holyokemall.com.

Annual Relay for Life benefit to be held on Saturday

NORTHAMPTON – On June 17, starting at 2 p.m., The Relay for Life of Hampshire County will be hosting a Survivor and Caregiver Celebration.

The event will be located at the Smith Vocational and Agricultural High School Athletic Field. There will be food available in the cafeteria. This is a free event. To attend pre-register a Survivor or a Caregiver at our event website, www.relayforlife.org/hampshirecountyma.

The Annual Relay for Life was started in 1997 and has raised a combined total of over \$5 million for the

American Cancer Society, providing research, assistance programs, and 24/7 hotline for cancer information.

The goal for 2023 is to have 500 participants take part on 40 plus teams, and once again raise more than \$50,000. Organizers are also looking for sponsors and volunteers to assist with everything from setup to wrap up. Event Leadership also has some roles available for those that wish to share their leadership skills.

For more information, to volunteer, or register, contact Tom McCusker at (413)-313-2525 or visit www.relayforlife.org/hampshirecountyma.

Legislation announced on advancing LGBTQIA+ rights

WASHINGTON – As LGBTQIA+ communities across the world gather to celebrate Pride Month, Sen. Edward J. Markey, Jeanne Shaheen and Jeff Merkley and Rep. Dina Titus reintroduced the Greater Leadership Overseas for the Benefit of Equality Act, legislation outlining a comprehensive vision for the United States to uphold and defend international LGBTQIA+ rights.

The GLOBE Act would ensure equality and justice are critical components of U.S. foreign policy, reaffirm that the United States will not tolerate any discrimination, hatred, and violence against LGBTQIA+ persons around the world, and develop assistance and immigration programs for LGBTQIA+ individuals abroad.

The legislation would also make permanent the office of the Special Envoy for the Human Rights of LGBTQIA+ Persons, which President Joe Biden established, as well as

ensure that future administrations continue to uphold LGBTQIA+ rights on the world stage by directing the State Department to document and respond to bias-motivated violence against LGBTQIA+ people abroad.

The bill will implement a comprehensive strategy to prevent and respond to criminalization, discrimination, and violence against LGBTQIA+ people. The GLOBE Act also calls on the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development to establish a permanent Senior LGBTQIA+ Coordinator responsible for coordinating across the agency with respect to inclusive development programming.

“As LGBTQIA+ people face rising discrimination here at home, we must use Pride Month as an opportunity to affirm our commitment to freedom and equality - regardless of gender or sexual orientation - for every person, from Utah to Uganda,” said Markey.

Medical wigs bill to be covered under Medicare re-introduced

WASHINGTON – Rep. James P. McGovern and Rep. Ayanna Pressley alongside Sen. Richard Blumenthal announced that they are reintroducing the Wigs as Durable Medical Equipment Act. This legislation would help individuals affected by Alopecia and patients with cancer who are undergoing chemotherapy.

Many private insurance plans cover wigs for those undergoing treatments that cause hair loss or who are affected by alopecia areata. This bill would allow cranial prosthetics (wigs) to be covered under the Medicare program.

For both McGovern and Pressley, the issue is deeply personal. In 2019, Rep. Pressley revealed in a video that she had been diagnosed with Alopecia Universalis, an auto-immune disease which attacks the hair follicles. Since

then, Pressley has championed policies in Congress that support and express solidarity with the nearly 7 million Americans living with alopecia. In a 2021 interview with Vanity Fair, McGovern revealed that his thinking on this issue has been impacted by a cancer diagnosis in his own family.

With no known cause or cure, Alopecia Areata is an autoimmune skin disease affecting approximately 6.9 million Americans. The disease disproportionately affects children and Black Americans, particularly Black women. Many individuals affected by Alopecia Areata utilize wigs as there are currently few effective treatment options. Unfortunately, these prosthetics can come with a significant out-of-pocket cost from \$100 to several thousand dollars for individuals with low or fixed incomes.

Dual Language Program is accepting lottery applications

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Public Schools' dual language program is right for all students, including students who are English dominant, Spanish dominant, already bilingual, not exposed to either language, on an IEP, or not on an IEP. Families who are considering enrolling their children in the program are encouraged to apply as soon as possible for the admissions lottery. (Note: If your child is already enrolled in the

Dual Language program or if you previously applied for this year's lotteries, you do not need to fill out another application.)

Key dates:

Rolling admission opens on July 22 and is open to all students across the district, including those who have been placed on a wait list from Rounds 1 or 2.

HPS strives to accept an equal

balance of students who are Spanish-dominant speakers, English-dominant speakers, and bilingual speakers, based on the following requirements:

- Students entering preschool must be 4 years old on or before Sept. 1, 2023.
- All students applying for grades 2 and up will need to be evaluated to determine their verbal, written, and reading level in Spanish. Those students

must meet the Spanish language criteria for the grade they are applying to in order to be accepted into that grade.

For the 2023-24 school year, E.N. White School will offer dual language for grades PreK-5, while Kelly School will provide dual language for grades PreK - 3. Sullivan Middle School will continue to host the middle school pathway, and Holyoke High School North will host the high school pathway.

Register for the 35th Annual Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk

BOSTON – Registration is now open for the 2023 Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk presented by Hyundai. Scheduled for Sunday, October 1, funds raised from the Walk support all forms of adult and pediatric patient care and cancer research at one of the nation's premier cancer centers, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

The Jimmy Fund Walk is the only organized walk permitted on the famed Boston Marathon course, and participants have the flexibility to choose from four distance options:

5K walk, 10K walk, Half Marathon walk, or Marathon Walk. All registered walkers will receive a bib, medal, and a

Jimmy Fund Walk T-shirt.

Register as an individual walker, team member, or start a team.

To register for the Walk) or to support a walker, visit www.JimmyFundWalk.org or call (866) 531-9255. Registrants can enter the promo code NEWS for \$5 off the registration fee.

Whatever route walkers choose, participants will be treated to 10 refueling stations as well as poster-sized photographs of patients displayed at each mile and half-mile marker as inspiration.

All four routes of the Jimmy Fund Walk will culminate at the Jimmy Fund

Walk Finish Line. Due to construction in Copley Square, the Jimmy Fund Walk Finish Line location has been moved to the Fenway neighborhood for 2023. The finish line will include a celebration complete with food, music, and a speaking program.

If walkers wish to participate a bit closer to home, the Jimmy Fund Walk has flexible opportunities. Participants can also join the event virtually by walking their way from wherever they are most comfortable-in their neighborhood, on a favorite hiking trail, or on a treadmill at home. Virtual programming and supporting materials will be available.

The 2023 Walk will be held during the Jimmy Fund's 75th anniversary year and will aim to raise \$9 million in the effort to prevent, treat, and defy cancer. The Jimmy Fund Walk has raised more than \$167 million for Dana-Farber Cancer in its 34-year history, raising a record-breaking more than \$8.8 million in 2022.

Funds raised from the Walk support all forms of adult and pediatric patient care and cancer research at Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. The Boston Athletic Association has supported the Jimmy Fund Walk since 1989, and Hyundai has been the presenting sponsor for more than 20 years.

New England Mosaic July 6 at Crestview Country Club

AGAWAM – The Agawam Community Artists and Artisans invite the community to the unveiling of the New England Mosaic on July 6, from 5-7 p.m. at Crestview Country Club, 281 Shoemaker Lane.

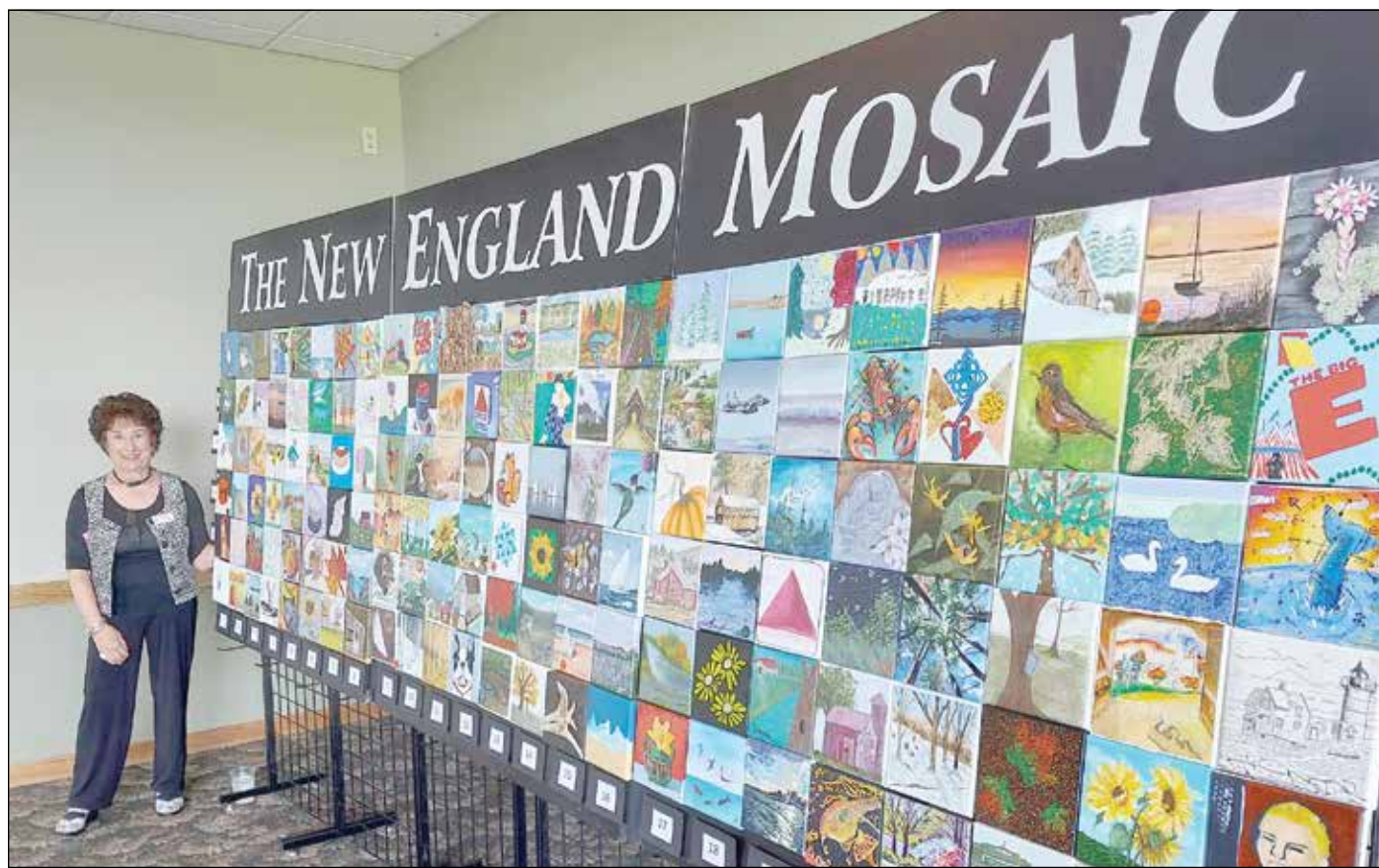
The New England Mosaic is a 24-foot fine art wall made up of 240 individual canvas tiles that captures the beauty and diversity of New England life. The tiles range from fine art paintings to fabric art to metal art to multimedia expressions of the artist's love of New England.

Free canvases were supplied to community members by ACAA and Scantic River Artisans through a grant from the Agawam Cultural Council and the Massachusetts Cultural Council. Local libraries in Agawam, Southwick, West Springfield, Springfield, and Westfield distributed them to the community to create original art.

Returned canvas tiles now comprise the New England Mosaic wall of art. Together community artists have created this diverse and unique piece of composite art every bit as beautiful as New England.

Following the Crestview event, the mosaic will be on display at the West Springfield Public Library featuring a reception for artists on July 19 at 6 p.m. The mosaic will also be displayed at the Agawam Public Library on July 24.

The mosaic will finish being displayed at the Pioneer Valley Art Festival, ACAA's fourth annual arts and fine crafts festival, Aug. 26 - 27, at the Polish



Ceil Rossi, Agawam Community Artists and Artisans President proudly unveiled the 2022 New England Mosaic in Aug. of 2022 at Crestview Country Club.

Submitted Photo

American Club in Agawam.

Individual canvas tiles will be sold at the unveiling and at the Pioneer Valley Art

Festival with net proceeds going to fund local art scholarships. Community members throughout the Pioneer Valley, both

professional artists and amateurs, have donated their time and talent to create this art wall.

Rep. Richard Neal highlights passage of the PACT Act

SPRINGFIELD – Rep. Richard E. Neal joined U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs officials, local veterans' service officers, and members of the western Massachusetts veteran community to highlight the PACT Act that was signed into law by President Joseph Biden on Aug. 10, 2022.

The PACT Act marks the largest expansion of veteran health care and benefits in generations, extending health coverage to more than 5 million veterans exposed to harmful chemicals from burn pits, Agent Orange, and other toxic sources. In addition, the PACT Act adds more than twenty new conditions presumed to be service-connected due to various in-service toxic exposures and requires the VA to provide a toxic exposure screening to every Veteran enrolled in VA health care. The PACT Act also provides resources to the VA to help improve research, staff education, and treatment related to toxic exposures.

"When our service members return home, many of them are confronted with a new set of challenges stemming

from a service-connected disability or disease. For those struggling with complications resulting from toxic exposure, it has been difficult to treat not only due to the lack of coverage, but because unlike a physical disability, it is not something others can see. Now, with the PACT Act, we have finally delivered the care and treatment that these men and women deserve," said Neal.

With more than 27,000 new hires in the first six months of the fiscal year, the highest hiring level in the history of the VA, coupled with additional funding and resources authorized by the PACT Act, veterans are promptly receiving treatment. As of May 21, nearly 600,000 PACT Act claims have been filed with the VA and more than 3.5 million veterans have received the VA's new toxic exposure screenings since President Biden signed the PACT Act into law.

Veterans can apply or learn more about the PACT Act by visiting VA.gov/PACT or by calling 1-800-MYVA411.

Vendors wanted for city's fireworks celebration

HOLYOKE – Holyoke's July 4th Fireworks Celebration will take place on Friday, June 30 with the rain date of Friday, July 7 on the beautiful grounds of Holyoke Community College, located on Homestead Avenue.

"First, I'd like to thank Holyoke Gas & Electric, Holyoke Community College, and the city's departments for continuing this tradition," Garcia said. "Not only do we have the fireworks in honor of our nation's history, but it also allows us to come together as a community and celebrate. As Mayor, it fills me with deep pride to see so many families and friends come out and enjoy a nice summer evening in Holyoke. We want this city to be welcoming and vibrant and the fireworks contribute to this."

"This is my second year attending the Holyoke Fireworks as Mayor, and my excitement only grows as I spend time engaging with the community and seeing the joy the fireworks bring to our residents and their families. I'd like to thank Holyoke Gas & Electric, Holyoke Community College, and our city departments for making sure that every year the families in Holyoke have a chance to spend a fun-filled evening with their loved ones and celebrate

Independence Day."

The City of Holyoke Fireworks are sponsored each year by Holyoke Gas & Electric and the event is hosted by Holyoke Community College. Mayor Garcia encourages everyone to come early to enjoy the music and food. There will also be many activities for children. The event begins at 6 p.m., with the fireworks display scheduled to start at dusk.

Vendors interested in taking part in the event should contact the Parks & Recreation Department to obtain a permit application at (413) 322-5620. No alcoholic beverages or bottles are allowed on the premises. Only vendors permitted in advance will be allowed on site.

For additional information contact the Mayor's office at (413) 322-5510.



Enrollment open for Extended School Year program for eligible students

HOLYOKE – Eligible students with IEPs in grades preK-12+ can now register for the 2023 Extended School Year (ESY) Program, which provides a range of special education learning opportunities.

If you are unsure if your child qualifies for ESY programming, you can check your child's current IEP or ask your child's special education teacher or building team leader. You may send an email to Enrollment for assistance with online registration. You may send an Email to Jill Hughes for more information about extended year services.

ESY programs will begin on July 10 and will end on August 3, 2023. All programs are scheduled to take place

in-person. HPS will follow all state and local guidelines for social distancing and/or other precautions that may be required over the summer.

Based on their IEPs, students may qualify for one of these programs:

- Early Childhood Integrated Program (Donahue): Ages 3-5
 - ABA Program (Donahue): PK-12
 - RISE/SHINE Program (Donahue): Rising K-12
 - Excelsior Program at Jericho: Rising 1-12
 - Therapeutic Intervention Program Lawrence: Rising K-8
 - Transitions Academy: Ages 18-22
- More information is available on the HPS website.

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EARLY DEADLINES

In observance of July 4th, there will be an **EARLY AD DEADLINE**

To advertise, place your ad no later than **NOON Thursday, June 29**

– Thank you!

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Poetry Corner

Happy Father's Day

By Thomas J. Kennedy

Happy holy Father's Day to all fathers.
 Be the best you can be.
 Remember the fun times . . .
 God loves to laugh too,
 As He is our Father,
 And waiting in love for you.
 Again, Happy Father's Day.

CHECK OUT ALL THE

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Guest Column

How will working affect my first year's benefits?



Dear Rusty:

I retired from working in January of this year and have since claimed Social Security. I didn't work at all in February or March, but I began a part time job in April. I'm very confused about how Social Security counts earnings for the first year. I don't know if I need to keep each month's earnings under \$1,770 or if they average it. Some of the literature I've found says each month must remain under \$1,770 or no benefit will be paid that month. Two people at the Social Security office told me that they'll just dock me \$1 for every \$2 I am over that, even in my first year. I also cannot find anything about when they count your income. Is it when it's earned or when it's paid? If I go over in a month because there are three pay periods, can they withhold the benefit for that month? I'm just so confused!

Signed: Part Time Worker

Dear Part Time Worker:

The Social Security earnings test during your first year collecting benefits before full

retirement age is, indeed, somewhat confusing. The reason is because there are two methods, which Social Security may use during your first calendar year collecting early benefits, and they will use the one which results in the least financial impact to you.

If you claim benefits mid-year before your full retirement age, for the remainder of that first year (starting in the month benefits begin and ending in December) you'll be subject to a monthly earnings limit (\$1,770 for 2023). If you exceed the monthly limit in any remaining month of that first calendar year, you won't be entitled to benefits for that month, so Social Security would (eventually) take back that month's benefit. That is, unless using the annual limit (\$21,240 for 2023) instead will result in a smaller penalty. If your total earnings for your first year collecting are over the annual limit (e.g., \$21,240 for 2023), the penalty would be \$1 for every \$2 over the annual limit and, if that is less than the penalty from using the monthly limit, they will assess the smaller penalty. In other words, Social Security will use the method, which is most beneficial to you when assessing a penalty for exceeding the earnings limit during your first calendar year collecting benefits. And just for clarity, the earnings limits are much higher and the penalty less during the year you attain Full Retirement Age.

Something else to be aware of: if you know in advance you will exceed the annual limit it would be best to inform Social Security in order to avoid an Overpayment Notice next year. If you don't, Social Security won't know about your 2023 earnings until you file your 2023 income taxes, so you'll get your 2023 monthly payments as usual. But when the IRS informs Social Security of your 2023 earnings later next year, Social Security will ask you to detail your monthly work earnings for 2023. If you have exceeded the limits, they will determine an overpayment amount and will ask you to either pay back what is owed in a lump sum or will withhold your benefits for enough months to recover what you owe for exceeding the 2023 earnings limit. Then, after you FRA, you'll get time credit for all months in which benefits were withheld, thus slightly increasing your monthly payment after your FRA.

Finally, it is when your income is earned that counts, not when it is paid. So, for example, if you worked in January 2023 and were paid for that work in February 2023, that is considered January income, which wouldn't count toward the February earnings limit.

This article is intended for information purposes only and does not represent

See SECURITY, page 5

Lots o' lettuce

I slid the whole tray into a clear plastic bag.

I left it in my laundry room in front of a window where it would get some afternoon sun and checked on it periodically, misting it a couple times a day. After about five days the seeds had sprouted.

It was a little challenging to keep them growing well indoors, but I did, and was able to move the tray outside on nice days where it could get some filtered sunlight.

On one such occasion I hit the end of the doorway with the tray, knocking a number of the cells loose! I re-filled the cells and transplanted what I could salvage and they adjusted fine.

About a month later, in early May, I planted the lettuce seedlings into the garden. Since I planned to grow the lettuce for leaves and not heads, I planted them fairly close to one another, just about six inches apart in a wide block about four feet long by two feet deep.

Every foot or so I interplanted a leek plant; leeks require a long growing season and will outlive the lettuce, but for now they make good companions.

I began harvesting the third week of May, and now, I can make a salad to feed an army. The bed is a beautiful blend of colors, textures and flavors.

Typically, I pick it right before I want to eat it, rinsing it in a sink of cool water before sending it through the salad spinner or blotting it dry with a paper towel.

Lettuce is undemanding in the garden as long as you provide it with rich soil and a

daily watering if nature does not provide. Some compost mixed into the top couple inches of soil will keep it well fed.

When temperatures rise, lettuce will bolt. Bolting simply means that the lettuce is going to seed. It will send up a main stalk that has little leaves on it, inevitably flowering at the end of the stalk.

The flowers are yellow, with seeds forming at the end of little pieces of fluff that help them to disperse in the breeze.

Sometimes lettuce will even self sow. I had a beauty come up in the middle of my mulched path this year and moved it to the wide bed.

To keep lettuce growing during the heat of summer gardeners get creative, often planting heat tolerant varieties and/or planting it in the shade of trellises of vines or under shade cloth.

I am planning on planting a succession crop soon so that I'll have replacement plants on standby to tuck into the bed that my garlic will be harvested from. My husband enjoys a big salad every night and this will surely help our grocery bill.

If you have never tried growing lettuce, I encourage you to give it a whirl!

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 with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

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A Quote

OF NOTE

"Beware the barrenness of a busy life."

Socrates



The weather has been nothing less than unpredictable these last few weeks. While there has been next to no rain at my locale, friends and family have talked about deluges and even quarter-sized hail blanketing their deck space. Temperatures for June seem bizarre, too.

If cold night temperatures weren't enough, a day of mercury bursting into the 80's will shock even well-watered plants. Before heat-lovers can adjust, it's back into the 50's and low 60's.

Strange indeed.

While it's too soon to say whether this year will be a bust or boom, I can say that my lettuce is doing wonderfully!

I started my lettuce indoors the first week of April, at the same time I sowed broccoli and kale seed. I saved little "plug" trays from a prior plant purchase and filled the tray with moist seed starting mix.

Lettuce seed needs light to germinate, so I pushed two or three seeds per cell into the soil to make contact but not so far as to have them get covered up. To keep the soil surface moist,

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. Mailed letters can be sent to The Sun, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.



Massachusetts Audubon Society reported the sightings of a least bittern at Richmond marsh in Berkshire Count, one at Great Pond in Hatfield in Hampshire County, two at High Head in Truro and one at Bell's Neck in Harwich, both on Cape Cod.

The least bittern is the smallest of the herons at only 13 inches tall. The male has a black crown and back and the female has a rich brown crown and back. Its chest is white with brown streaking. In flight, the buffy, inner wing patches are visible.

Least bitterns fly weakly with quick wingbeats. They inhabit marshes with dense vegetation. Least bitterns stalk through reeds in a crouched posture or stand in place. They eat small fish, frogs, insects, small mammals and sometimes bird eggs and chicks.

They nest in a small platform of sticks lined with live or dead vegetation placed in cattails, bulrushes or bushes above the water. The female lays two



Least bittern

to seven pale blue or greenish, white eggs. In courtship, males make cooing sounds. The male also makes a guttural "uh-uh-uh-oo-oo-ooah" while the female makes ticking sounds. Both give a "tut-tut" sound.

The least bittern is a secretive bird. It will run through reeds in water and flutter briefly above the reeds. It has the same alarm posture as American bitterns of pointing its head skyward.

Other Audubon sightings

Other sightings included common ringed plover in Fairhaven; four sandhill cranes in Worthington and three in Plymouth County and four in Ashfield in Franklin County; worm eating warblers in North Brookfield; an Acadian flycatcher at gate 8 at Quabbin Reservoir in Pelham and two



Common Ringed Plover

in Granville and an out of place pileated woodpecker in Provincetown on Cape Cod.

Other sightings included a gray-cheeked thrush in Northampton, a blue grosbeak at the Honey Pot in Hadley, a hooded warbler at the Grace Robson Wildlife Sanctuary in Westfield and a northern goshawk at gate 43 of the Quabbin Reservoir in Hardwick.

Turtle

Although a turtle is not a bird, I did see one before Memorial Day laying eggs in the small cemetery on Lincoln Road. I was planting flowers on my late husband's parents and grandparents graves. After planting the flowers, I walked by a smooth shelled turtle about seven to eight inches in size laying eggs. Water is nearby as there is a bea-



Acadian Flycatcher

ver pond across the street and another located behind the cemetery.

Several days later while driving past the cemetery, I saw two turtles, at different times, crossing the road in the general area of the cemetery. One was a large snapping turtle and the other much smaller, most likely a spotted turtle.

Other wildlife

An Oakham resident said she saw a large coyote and also heard of someone seeing one at Crocker Nye Spring in town.

People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by calling me at 413-967-3505, leaving a message at extension 100, emailing mybackyard88@aol.com or edowner@turley.com or mailing to Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.

SECURITY, from page 4

legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the Association Mature American Citizens Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association. NSSA and the AMAC

Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. To submit a question, visit amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org.

Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

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Share Your Joy!



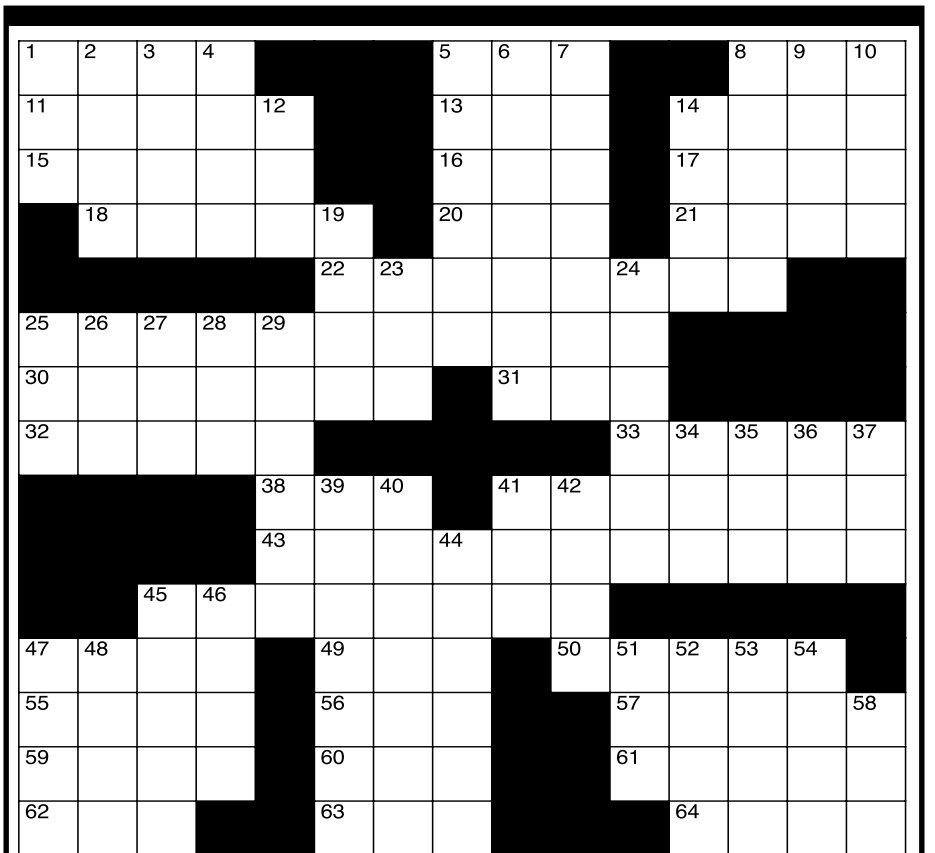
Your wedding or engagement announcement will be included in our Bridal Guide, out August 2023 for FREE!

Be sure to include the following with photograph:

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 Groom's Name: _____
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CLUES ACROSS

- 1. In a place to sleep
- 5. Chemical compound (abbr.)
- 8. A way to fish
- 11. Classic Linklater film "___ and Confused"
- 13. Legume
- 14. Indonesian island
- 15. Smooth, creamy substance
- 16. Arctic
- 17. Wood sorrels
- 18. Defied
- 20. Cattle
- 21. Tableland
- 22. Honorably retired and retaining one's title
- 25. Repossession
- 30. Danced
- 31. Adult males
- 32. A type of section
- 33. Type of Japanese animation
- 38. Satisfaction
- 41. Fit
- 43. "Ain't No Sunshine" singer
- 45. Failure
- 47. Israeli city
- 49. French river
- 50. Cavalry-sword
- 55. Nocturnal S. American rodent
- 56. Liquefied natural gas
- 57. Afflicted
- 59. Electronic counter-countermeasures
- 60. Popular HBO fantasy series (abbr.)
- 61. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
- 62. Large body of water
- 63. ___kosh, near Lake Winnebago
- 64. Impudence
- 3. Rockers Better Than ___
- 4. Bambi is one
- 5. Highest parts of something
- 6. Correct behavior
- 7. Batty
- 8. Cyprinid fishes
- 9. Expression of sorrow or pity
- 10. Site of the famous Leaning Tower
- 12. American rocker Snider
- 14. W. African language
- 19. Symbol to mark for removal
- 23. ___ Squad
- 24. Resident
- 25. Federal savings bank
- 26. Paddle
- 27. Returned material authorization (abbr.)
- 28. One point south of due east
- 29. Winter melon
- 34. Last or greatest in an indefinitely large series
- 35. Anger
- 36. Central European river
- 37. First responders
- 39. Spanish noble
- 40. Persons with absence of skin pigment
- 41. Defunct airline
- 42. Small island (British)
- 44. The extent of something from beginning to end
- 45. Capital of Bangladesh
- 46. Dutch cheese
- 47. Imitates
- 48. A contest of speed
- 51. Swiss river
- 52. Prejudice
- 53. Actor Idris
- 54. UNLV's are Runnin'
- 58. Criticize

CROSSWORD ANSWER on page 11



Henry Zucco of Holyoke accepts congratulation from President Christina Royal at HCC's annual Honors & Awards night in May 2023. Submitted Photos

HCC's announces Dean's List

HOLYOKE – Each semester Holyoke Community College recognizes superior scholarship through the Dean's List. A student is placed on the Dean's List if their G.P.A. is 3.2 or higher. The students listed below have earned Dean's List honors for the Spring 2023 semester.

Holyoke:

Dayshel Erika Allen, Hannah Rose Angelini, Samantha Bozena Antil, Kelsie Anne Bacon, Falecia Marie Bagg, Fatima Bergman, Jacob Michael Bissonnette, Shae B. Blaisdell, Adrianna Ann Bowden, Cali Brennan, Maximilian Alexander Bruel, Katherine Mariel Cabrera Veloz, Mary-Cruz Candanedo, Jacob Thomas Carbin-O'Brien, Ileana Marie Casillas, Luis Humberto Centeno, Lakeysa Tali Chavez, Xavier Azinwi Cheneba, Tomas J. Colon, Glorisel

Cordero, Chad Andrew Correia, Imanol Cruz, Hayley Marie Cunningham, Shalimar De Jesus, Brian Diaz, Nashia Douglas, Madissyn Rose Dowland, Margaret Eileen Farrell, Diana Noraida Figueroa, Emily Lydia Johnson, Kristen E. Koszewski, Jordan Martha Larkin, Aida Angelica Lema Portes, Daley S. Levesque, Rudelki Lopez-Ozuna, Raymond Ariel Lozada, Jay Shyloh Luna, Destiny Marie Martinez, Charmain F. Maximo, Jamie M. Michalski, Alejandra Lee Morales, Dylan Jakob Pitzer, Frances R. Powers, Nicolas Ramos, Jakob Benjamin Rist, Ana Paola Rivera-Cruz, Melissa Rodriguez, Frankie Sanchez Jr., Dustin Stasinis, Collin Stasinis, Izaac Lee Stevenson, Gavin Michael Sullivan, Jasmarie Toledo, Marangelly Vargas-Gonzalez, Christine Winberg, Henry Zucco.

Hibernians award 2023 Maurice A. Donahue Memorial scholarships

HOLYOKE – The Ancient Order of Hibernians and the Ladies Order of Hibernians of Hampden/Hampshire Counties have chosen three area students to receive the Maurice A. Donahue Memorial Scholarship for 2023.

The students selected are Gavin Sullivan of Holyoke who will attend UMass Amherst; Patrick Sweeney of Holyoke plans to attend Holyoke Community College, and Caroline Taylor of Southampton who plans to attend Stonehill College.

Hibernian Scholarship Chairman Paul O. Mengel recently released a statement on the students chosen:

"Maurice A. Donahue would be so proud of these students because they exemplify the values that were so important to him: scholarship, community service, and an appreciation of their Irish heritage."

All three recipients have been involved in community service: Gavin Sullivan-volunteers for Special Olympics; Patrick Sweeney-volunteers at the Take

and Eat Program at Our Lady of the Cross in Holyoke, and Caroline Taylor participates at Our Lady of the Valley Church in Easthampton in the weekend meal program and Rise against Hunger event at EHS. Caroline admirably states: "It is my desire to end hunger in the community."

Funds for the scholarships were raised at the Hibernian Annual Irish Night at the Log Cabin in Holyoke by a team of Hibernians led by AOH President Joe O'Connor and his wife Mary; and a team headed by LAOH President Paula Paoli

which designed an Irish Quilt which was raffled off.

The scholarships will be presented at the Hibernian Annual Summer Picnic at Hamel's Pavilion on Sunday, Aug. 27 from 1 to 4 p.m. For tickets call John Gaughan at 860-904-3056 or Fran Hennessey at 413-785-5687 or for more information on the picnic go to the Hibernian Website at aoh-holyoke.com. The public is invited to attend as the Hibernians are also celebrating Holyoke's 150th Anniversary of Incorporation as a city.

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Anna Evans named to Siena College Dean's List

HOLYOKE – Anna Evans has been named to the Siena College Dean's List for the Spring 2023 semester. Evans is from Holyoke. To be named to the Dean's List, a student's grade point average for the semester must be between 3.5 and 3.89. Founded in 1937, Siena College is a private, Catholic Franciscan, residential, liberal arts college with a student body of about 3,000.

Daniel Cavanaugh named to UA Dean's List

HOLYOKE – Daniel Cavanaugh was named to The University of Alabama Dean's List for fall semester 2022.

A total of 12,791 students enrolled during Fall Semester 2022 at The University of Alabama were named to the dean's list with an academic record of 3.5 (or above) or the president's list with an academic record of 4.0.

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SPORTS

Valley Blue Sox open regular season

HOLYOKE – The Blue Sox dropped their final game of their four game homestand, losing to the Martha’s Vineyard Sharks by a score of 11-4 on Sunday afternoon. The Blue Sox tallied three hits on the day, and all their runs came in the third inning. The team fell to 2-3 on the season.

The Sharks scored 11 runs off of nine hits, with Clemson’s Nathan Hall going 3-5 on the day with two triples. The Blue Sox allowed nine stolen bases and seven advancements on wild pitches or passed balls, and will hope to limit the traffic as they head on the road for their next game.

In one of the most peculiar innings of play so far this season, the Blue Sox were able to score four runs while not tallying a hit the entire inning. The runs all came from walks and hit batters, allowing four runners to score thanks to the Blue Sox excellent plate discipline. Martha’s Vineyard walked eight batters today and hit two.

Matt Bergevin was able to pro-

duce quality at-bats in each of his plate appearances today, going 1-3 with two walks. With strong plate discipline Bergevin worked three consecutive at-bats to a full count.

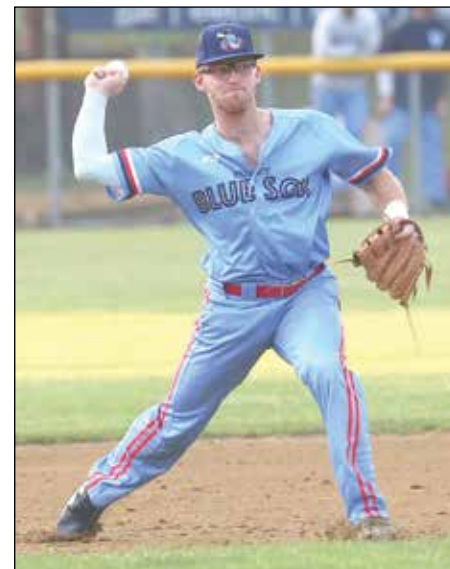
EJ Kreutzmann stayed hot at the plate, going 1-5 with an RBI.

The Blue Sox opened the regular season on the road, then had four-games from Thursday to Sunday.



Matthew Bergevin slides safely into second.

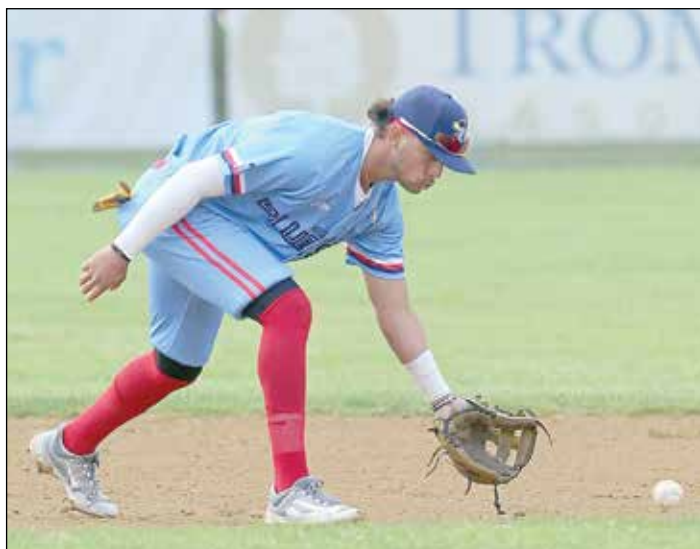
Photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com



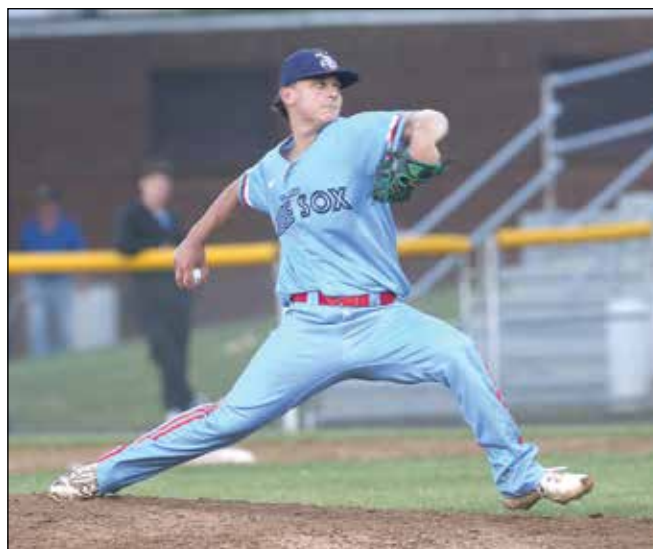
Eliot Dix makes a play.



Miachel Zarrillo fires to first.



Matthew Garcia ranges to pick up the grounder.



Nick Callano winds and fires.

Knights grateful for tournament experience

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

HOLLISTON – The members of the 2023 Holyoke High School varsity softball team accomplished something this spring that hasn’t happened in more than 15 years.



After failing to qualify for the Western Mass. Class A tournament, the Purple Knights were one of the 40 teams that clinched a berth in the Division 2 state tournament.

The Purple Knights, who entered the state tournament as the 38th-seed, saw their outstanding season come to an end following an 18-0 loss to the 27th-seeded Holliston Panthers in a preliminary round game played at Damigella Field in Holliston, last Friday afternoon. The contest was halted after 4 ½ innings due to the MIAA’s 12-run mercy rule.

“All of the girls have worked tremendously hard this year,” said Holyoke varsity softball coach Yaixsa Vargas, who played softball at Springfield College. “It was extra special playing in the state tournament for the first time, especially after just missing out on the Western Mass. tournament.”

Holyoke ended their season with an 11-10 overall record.

“The players bonded very quickly

at the beginning of the regular season,” Vargas added. “Everyone made a key contribution to our success. We had a great season, and I just told my players to keep their heads up.”

In the middle of May, Holyoke defeated Southwick 12-10 on the road.

“The win at Southwick was a big one for us,” Vargas said. “It was a very close game, but we managed to win it in the final inning. We also beat Belchertown twice, who’s one of our biggest rivals. I’m hoping to play a couple more games against quality opponents next year.”

The two Holyoke seniors, who played in their final high school softball game in the state tournament, are Jaycalee Santos, who started at shortstop, and Isabella Murphy, who started at first base.

Santos and senior Jenialis Camacho, who didn’t play in last Friday’s game against Holliston because of an injury, are the Purple Knights co-captains.

“Our three seniors have been play-

ing for the varsity softball team since they were sophomores,” Vargas said. “I’m very glad that they made the post-season tournament for the first time. We’re really going to miss them a lot next year.”

Junior centerfielder Jayshalle Santos, who’s Jaycalee’s cousin, had Holyoke’s only base hit against the Panthers with two outs in the top of the third inning.

Sophomore right fielder Alexis Letellier drew a leadoff walk in that frame. After the next two batters struck out, Santos hit a hard ground ball single past the third baseman into left field. Jaycalee Santos followed with another walk loading the bases.

Holliston senior righthander Emma Wood managed to get out of that jam without allowing any runs. She retired sophomore catcher Janiya Lagoy on a comebacker for the final out.

Wood, who finished the game with 11 strikeouts, retired the final six bat-

See KNIGHTS, page 8

Rollins takes win in Late Model race at Monadnock

WINCHESTER, N.H. – Veteran wheelsman Geoff Rollins rocketed to victory Saturday at Monadnock Speedway, gobbling up the competition as he won the first round of the 2023 Teddy Bear Pools NHSTRA Late Model Triple Crown series at the storied high-banked speedplant.

The Bay State hot shoe was one of four drivers scoring his first win of the year Saturday on the high banks. Nate Wenzel, NHSTRA Modifieds, Louie Maher, Mini Stocks, and Michael Yeaton, Six Shooters, each earned his first victory lap of the summer, while Pure Stocker Chris Davis and Young Gun Adrian Smith both won for the second time.

Starting up front in the 50-lap main event after dominating his heat race, Rollins never looked back en route to running away with the \$1,000 top prize. Strongman Chris Buffone stayed with him the first ten laps but when Buffone suddenly dropped out on lap 11, it was all Rollins. Behind him, though, the competition was fierce for spots two through five.

With only one caution, on lap 47, slowing the rapid-fire event, gains were hard to come by as the sizzling field blasted through the fog. Kenny Thompson claimed the deuce at Buffone's demise, but had Tim Wenzel glued to his bumper.

Matt Sonnhalter, charging from row four, took second on lap 35, but Wenzel stayed just inches behind. With three to go, Rollins lost his half-lap lead, while the two top contenders set up for a furious finish. Sonnhalter's last-lap backchute dive netted him second, with Wenzel, Thompson, and Hillary Renaud rounding out the potent top five.

Sophomore speedster Nate Wenzel led all the way in the NHSTRA Modified



Geoff Rollins got a victory at Monadnock Speedway last Saturday evening.

SUBMITTED PHOTO

40-lapper, keeping defending track champ Tyler Leary in his shadow to score his first victory of the summer. Brian Chapin edged Aaron Fellows for third, while JT Cloutier, spun on lap five, stormed back through the field to come home fifth.

The crowd held its breath in this one, as the red waved on lap five when Kimmy Rivet's open-wheeler took a wild ride in turn two, landing on top of the backstretch wall. Something appeared to have broken in Cole Littlewood's car, sending him into Rivet and then into the wall, but both drivers fortunately walked away from the carnage.

Louie Maher made the move of the night on lap three of the Mini Stock feature to take the lead from Skyler Shippee and then hold strong to score his first win of the season in the caution-free 25-lapper. Shippee finished at his bumper, with Kevin Clayton strong in third.

Chris Davis held second-generation pilot Nolan McClay in his shadow for all 25 laps to win his second Pure Stock feature in a row. Reigning Claremont champ Chris Chambers was third, taking the checkers just ahead of Kodi Sabins and CJ Johnson.

Week one winner Steve Miller and son Steve Jr. brought the Six Shooters to the green but, if this one was supposed to be a Marvelous Millers show, Michael Yeaton hadn't read the script. Yeaton took over on lap three and never looked back. Miller Jr. was strong in second, with Renegade Robert Shaw coming home third.

Markus O'Neil led the first eight laps of the Young Guns feature before giving way to event winner Adrian Smith. Owen Zilinski got up for second on lap 11 but couldn't reel in the speedy Smith, while O'Neil stayed strong to earn the third podium spot.

After a weekend off, Monadnock Speedway will return to action on Saturday, June 24, when it hosts the 50-lap Pure Stock Shoot Out. The NHSTRA Modifieds, Pro 4 Modifieds, Mini Stocks, and Young Guns, along with the NELCAR Legends and Bandaleros, will all be in action too.

Monadnock Speedway June 10 Unofficial Top Tens:

TEDDY BEAR POOLS TRIPLE CROWN LATE MODEL 50: Geoff Rollins, Matt Sonnhalter, Tim Wenzel, Rupert Thompson, Hillary Renaud, JD Stockwell, Erik Smith, Isabella Minchella, Gordon Farnum, Chris Castor.

NHSTRA MODIFIED: Nate Wenzel, Tyler Leary, Brian Chapin, Aaron Fellows, JT Cloutier, Cory Plummer, Joel Belanger, Eric Leclair, Adam LaPoint, Kevin Pittsinger.

MINI STOCK: Louie Maher, Skyler Shippee, Kevin Clayton, Cam Sontag, Erin Aiken, Jon Fultz, Chris Sontag, Robert Williams, Jake Puchalski, Pat Houle.

PURE STOCK: Chris Davis, Nolan McClay, Chris Chambers, Kodi Sabins, CJ Johnson, Colton Martin, Jimmy Zellman, Andrea St. Amour, Colton Hull, Ricky Melcher.

SIX SHOOTER: Mike Yeaton, Steve Miller Jr., Robert Shaw, Steve Miller Sr., Andrew Scott, Ethan Meyeette, Mike Comtois, Zach Zilinski, Jacob Scott, Russell Mason.

YOUNG GUN: Adrian Smith, Owen Zilinski, Markus O'Neil, Madison Cousino, Addison Brooks, Cambri Hubbard, Kailyn Hubbard, Sofia Rego, Jordan Higbee.

Registration open for 2023 Summer Bay State Games

WOBURN – Registration for the 41st annual Bay State Summer Games is now open. The 2023 Summer Games will include thirty sports with competitions from June 3 to July 29 at venues throughout eastern and central Massachusetts including Game On in Fitchburg, Boston Sports Institute in Wellesley, Union Point Sports Complex in Weymouth, and New England Sports Center in Marlborough. 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.

Eight high school showcase sports will take place for a variety of sports, including baseball, basketball, field hockey, ice hockey, lacrosse, 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, archery, judo, 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 girls lacrosse, rugby, and 6v6 field hockey.

The 2023 Summer Games will feature Game On in Fitchburg as the host venue for 8 sports. Bay State Games expects 1,500 athletes and their families to attend competitions at Game On during the second week of July. "We are excited to expand the roster of sports being held at Game On this year," said Kevin Cummings, Executive Director of the Bay State Games. "This state-of-the-art facility allows us to enhance the athlete and spectator experience and provide a true Olympic-style multi-sport atmosphere for our participants."

An additional feature in 2023 is that in over a dozen sports, athletes who win a gold, silver, or bronze medal at the 2023 Bay State Games will qualify to participate in the 2024 State Games of America in San Diego, California. The State Games of America feature more than 8,000 athletes from over 30 different state games programs nationwide. To see the list of qualifying sports, please visit www.stategamesofamerica.com.

In addition to sports programming, Bay State Games offer college scholarships, a sportsmanship initiative, college internship opportunities, and a High School Ambassador program.

For more information on all sports in the 2023 Summer Games, links to online registration, and information on other programs, go to www.baystategames.org.

For questions, email info@baystategames.org or call 781-932-6555.

Tigers out to first place start

CHICOPEE – Last year, the Chicopee Falls Tigers made their triumphant return to the Tri-County Baseball League.

The Tigers, which took a few years off after many years competing in the league, had a successful return season before falling in the playoffs.

Now, the Tigers are a new staple in a league that has actually seen the number of teams dwindle all the way down to six.

Chicopee is out to a 5-2 mark, giving the Tigers 10 points under the standings system used in the league. The Tigers had more games than some of the other teams to start the season as PeoplesBank and St. Joe's got off to slower starts with their schedules.

Despite the great mark to start the year, three more teams are nipping at

their heels, with PeoplesBank, St. Joe's, and DiFranco Realty all with three wins and six months in second place.

The Bankers are the reigning, defending playoff champions for the past eight seasons. They are 3-1 to start.

The success of the top four teams has come mostly at the expense of 413ATC and the Longmeadow Cardinals, which are 1-3 and 1-7, respectively to start the season.

Coming up on Tuesday, June 20 is a big matchup between PeoplesBank and the Tigers where first place could be on the line. The action begins at Mackenzie Stadium in Holyoke at 7 p.m.

The Bankers won the first matchup between the two teams on Tuesday, June 13 at Szot Park, beating the Tigers 4-2.

SOFTBALL, from page 7

ters that she faced without very much trouble.

"We couldn't do very much offensively in today's game," Vargas said. "During the regular season, we did hit the ball well in some games and not so much in others. That's something we're going to work on next year."

The Purple Knights scored ten or more runs in the eleven games that they won. They only scored five or more runs just one time in their losses.

Holyoke sophomore righthander Kylie Blaha didn't receive very much help from her defense. The Panthers had a 9-0 lead after two innings. All of the runs were unearned and all of them were scored with two outs.

"It was a rough day for Kylie," Vargas said. "It was the first time that we played in a tournament game, and everyone was a little bit nervous."

"It was the first time that we played in a tournament game, and everyone was a little bit nervous."

- HHS varsity softball coach Yaixsa Vargas

Holliston scored seven more runs in the third and added two more runs in their final at-bats.

The other members of the Holyoke varsity softball team are junior Giselle Piedra, junior

Sabrina Grondin, sophomore Leyska Rodriguez-Melendez, sophomore Arieliz Resto, sophomore Tryanna Ayala, sophomore Marialis Camacho, freshman Kiara Perez, and freshman Jessayra Maldonado.

The returning Holyoke varsity softball players will be looking to qualify for both the Western Mass. and state tournaments next year.

Find us online: www.sports.turley.com

Western Mass. Pioneers get another draw

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW – The last two Western Mass. Pioneers home matches have ended in draws. It's something that hasn't taken place at historic Lusitano Stadium since 2018.

Four days after playing a scoreless draw against Black Rock FC, the Pioneers had to settle for a 1-1 home tie versus the Boston Bolts, last Wednesday night.

"Another tie really doesn't help us very much," said Pioneers head coach Federico Molinari. "We've been having trouble putting the ball into the net during the past couple of games."

At the beginning of the 2018 regular season, the Pioneers posted back-to-back 1-1 home draws against the Boston Bolts and the GPS Portland Phoenix.

The Pioneers also played a road tie against the Seacoast United Phantoms and a home tie against the Westchester Flames in back-to-back matches at the end of the 2018 regular season.

The good news is the Pioneers haven't lost a regular season match at Lusitano Stadium since June 22, 2018, when they suffered a 2-1 setback to Black Rock FC.

The Western Mass. squad had a 3-0-3 overall record after their first six matches of this season. Their other tie came in the first meeting of the regular season with the Phantoms, which took place away from the friendly confines of Lusitano Stadium on May 25.

The Pioneers posted a 3-0 road victory over the Bolts in the season opener on May 16.

Western Mass. was trailing 1-0 at halftime of last Wednesday's home contest.

The Bolts (0-3-3) took a 1-0 lead following a header by Harry Sankey, which was assisted by Tanner Barry, during the 21st minute.

The home team, who played much better during the second half, had several very good chances to put the ball into the net past Bolts goalie Nikola Antich.

Alec Hughes, Jared Smith, Lucio Berron, and Khalid Rose had shots on goals for the home team.

Augustine Boadi, who's a first-year member of the Western Mass. Pioneers squad, finally got the job done during the 84th minute.

Boadi, who'll be entering his sophomore season as a member of the Boston College men's soccer team in the fall, received a pass from Hughes before firing a shot off the post into the right cor-



Lucio Berron dribbles up the field.
Photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

ner of the net for the game tying the goal. "It was the third goal that I've scored as a member of the Western Mass. Pioneers," said Boadi, who was born in Accra, Ghana. "I scored my first goal of the season in a home match against Pathfinder. The second one came at Boston City, which was a 10-1 win. Another tie wasn't the result that we really wanted in tonight's match, but it's one of those games we need to learn from."

Boadi also does a very good job in the classroom at Boston College. He was recently selected to the ACC All-Academic Team.

Prior to playing soccer for Boston College, Boadi attended Northfield Mount Hermon where he was named as the Massachusetts Gatorade Player of the Year as a senior.

Frankie D'Agostino, who's a former Pioneers player and is currently the associate head coach of the B.C. men's soccer team, recommended Boadi to Molinari.

"Frankie played a key role in getting me to play for the Pioneers this year," Boadi said. "Vermont and the Bolts also wanted me for them. Frankie told me about this team and stadium, so I decided to come here. It has been a lot of fun so far. This is a very special place and I'm hoping to come back here next year."

D'Agostino, who grew up in Longmeadow, had the chance to watch Boadi play a soccer match at Lusitano Stadium for the first time last Wednesday night.

It looked like the Pioneers would take a 2-1 lead with a stoppage time goal, but the referee never called it a goal.

"From my point of view, I thought the shot by Andrew Serafino did go into the net," Boadi said. "It was either a goal



Tomas Duben socks a corner kick away.



Connor Hicks makes a throw-in.

or we should've been given a penalty kick because of a hand ball."

Molinari gave his thoughts about the no goal call.

"All of the players told me it was a goal," he said. "If it was a goal, it's disappointing that the referee didn't allow it, but there isn't anything we can do about it now. We now must win the rest of our games if we want the chance to make the playoffs."



Augustine Boadi dribbles toward the goal.



Lawrence Goddard gets the header in traffic.

Nicholas Oberrauch, who's the Pioneers captain, didn't play in the Pioneers home match against the Bolts because of an injury.

After playing a couple of road matches, the Pioneers will be returning home to battle rival Seacoast United at 7 p.m. on June 23.

PLANS, from page 1

for our city," Councilor Peter Tallman said. "This is going to improve what this city looks like and how we care for the education of our students, for what the students are going to learn in."

Despite this strong agreement, there were a few concerns raised about this upcoming project. One such concern came from Thomas Smith, who wanted clarification about the plans showing potential encroachment into Crosier Field.

"The current plans show project encroachment into Crosier Field," Smith said. "I got that plan and within a minute I saw encroachment, because that's what I was looking for, encroachment. The plans may have been changed in the last day or two, but up until then the plan shows encroachment. The school building committee didn't pick up on that? The city council? Nobody picked up on that? The city solicitor, from what I hear, claims that encroachment is an error, well what does the architect say, what do the engi-

neers say?"

Thankfully, this concern was quickly smoothed over. Chris LeBlanc and Frank Tedesco from the Mount Vernon Group Architects (the architect group working with Holyoke on this project) explained that the initial plans showed an error with a ramp replacing an old staircase crossing into this field. They assured all attending that the field would not be touched during this project.

Overall, all attending were thrilled to finally be moving forward with this project, especially after the initial delay of the project in 2019. In the 2019 vote on the plans to build two middle schools, 65% of residents voted no, mainly due to the financial concerns of the project. The council is glad that this new project will not be nearly as costly as the initial proposal.

"To those 65% of the citizens who said 'no, time out, back to the drawing board, you need to do this a better way,' congratulations, you've gotten there," Councilor Kevin Jourdain said.

This new plan for the school prom-

ises to be fiscally responsible. All those involved in the project have worked hard to ensure that this project will not go into debt override.

"It really is an economical plan that has saved the city a lot of money and I think, by doing this, we're looking to the future and how we're going to have to handle the budget in the coming years," Tallman said.

The total cost of the middle school project is estimated at \$85,504,592. The MSBA is expected to cover about 45 to 48% of that, according to Finance Committee Chair Joseph McGiverin.

The city council's approval on this project was a crucial step forward. Next, the MSBA will make their vote on whether to approve or disprove their portion of the funding. This vote is expected to take place June 21.

The council awaits the MSBA's vote but, in the meantime, took the time to applaud this key step forward in this project.

"We are investing in the future and that is something to be proud of," said Council President Todd McGee.

PRIDE, from page 1

what we consider our sister city, had canceled their Pride for one or two years straight, so there was nowhere to really celebrate at the magnitude of what North Hampden provided to the LGBTQIA+ community. There wasn't anything like that and so Councilor Maldonado Velez and I sent out and he knew I knew a lot of people in the community, so I brought people on board."

With a lot of hard work, and only two months of preparation time, they managed to pull together a wonderful celebration last year. Now they are looking forward to only growing the celebration more.

"Last year's Pride Fest was so successful that we decided to stick with it," Anderson-Burgos said. "So, our plans are to make this grow, to make this grow where they can hear us in every corner of the world. We want it to be big, and we have the space for it, and we have the people and the dedication behind it."

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD17P1984EA
Estate of:
Alice C. Callahan
Date of Death: 04/27/2017
CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT**

A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by Edward J. Callahan of Easthampton, MA requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account, the allowance of a proposed distribution and other such relief as may be 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 07/21/2023.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M. Hyland, First Justice of this Court.
Date: June 12, 2023

Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
06/16/2023

**City of Holyoke
Office of Purchasing
536 Dwight Street,
Room 3
Holyoke, MA 01040
RFQ- 2023-44PED
Request for Qualification
Comprehensive
Plan Consultant**

The City of Holyoke is seeking proposals from qualified firms to provide professional consulting services for the creation of a new updated Comprehensive Plan.

The firm selected for this project will have a demonstrated ability to execute this type of project and provide the City with the technical assistance required to make informed choices in developing and implementing the plan. Documents are available starting June 12, 2023 at 10am. They can be requested in person or electronically

from morrowj@holyoke.org
All RFQ's must be received by **June 27, 2023 at 1PM**. The City reserves the right to reject any and all Bids. No electronic submissions will be accepted.
06/16/2023

**CITY OF HOLYOKE, MA
INVITATION TO BID
BID#2023-43SD
EXTERIOR SITE WORK
AND AMENITIES FOR (3)
SCHOOLS
SEALED BIDS ARE
DUE BY
1:00PM 6/28/2023, EST.
EMAIL SUBMISSIONS
WILL NOT BE
ACCEPTED**

The City of Holyoke invites written proposals from qualified individuals or firms for the Holyoke Public Schools for: Exterior Site work, demolition, grading, concrete forming and placement, and site amenities for three schools in Holyoke. Work is to include, but not limited to, entry ways, exterior pads, canopies, vestibules, courtyards and ADA Access in accordance with contract documents and specifications prepared by the City of Holyoke.

Bidding procedures shall be in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 149, Sections 44A-44J and minimum wage rates as required by M.G.L. Chapter 149, Section 26-27H, inclusive as amended. It shall be the responsibility of each supplier to assure compliance with any OSHA, EPA, COR1, DEP, and/or FEDERAL, STATE of MASSACHUSETTS rules, regulations or other requirements, as each may apply. In accordance with Section 44D of Chapter 149 of the General Laws of Massachusetts as amended, the prospective General Bidders must submit with their Bid, a certificate of eligibility issued by the Division of Capital Asset Management (DCAMM), showing that the Bidder has been approved to bid on projects of the size and nature as advertised herein.

Prospective General Bidders must also submit an updated statement summarizing their record for the period between the latest DCAMM certificate and the date of the Bid submittal. The DCAMM certificate of eligibility to be submitted by the General Bidder shall be for the category of GENERAL BUILDING CONSTRUCTION.

Sealed bids for this project shall be received by the City of Holyoke from responsible, responsive & qualified bidders submitted on forms furnished by the City and clearly identified on the outside of the bid with the name

and address of the bidder, and the name and Bid Number of the project, and submitted to:
City of Holyoke Purchasing
536 Dwight Street
Holyoke, MA 01040
Bids will be received until **1:00 PM ON 6/28/2023 EST**. A mandatory Pre Bid Walkthrough will be held on 6/20/2023 at 1PM Starting at Sullivan School 400 Jarvis Ave. Holyoke, MA 01040.
The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids.
06/16/2023

Notice of Public Hearing
The Ordinance Committee of the Holyoke City Council will hold a public hearing on **Tuesday, June 27, 2023 at 6:30pm** to hear a special permit application of Red Barn Growers LLC to operate a Marijuana Manufacturing Establishment at 1 Cabot Street Units 5 and 6 (048-01-010). Hearing will take place at Holyoke City Hall 536 Dwight St and can be accessed remotely via www.zoom.us Meeting ID 831 7743 6694 Meeting Passcode 289877 or by call in at 1-646-558-8656 with same Meeting ID and Passcode. Written public comment can be submitted to publiccomment@holyoke.org. For more information on this hearing or for an electronic copy of the application please contact City Council Admin Asst Jeffery Anderson-Burgos at Anderson-BurgosJ@holyoke.org or by phone 413-322-5525.

Ordinance Chair
Linda Vacon
06/09, 06/16/2023

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD22P1539EA
Estate of:
Patricia A Riel
Date of Death: 05/09/2014
CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT**

A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by Vickie Lynn Riel of Holyoke, MA requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account and other such relief as may be 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 07/10/2023.
This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M. Hyland, First Justice of this Court.
Date: June 06, 2023

Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
06/16/2023

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
HAMPDEN, Division
Docket No. HD23P1080PM**

To all persons interested in the estate of ANNIRENE YANNI otherwise ANNIERENE O. YANNI, of Wallingford, in the State of Connecticut.

A petition has been presented to said Court by Celeste Yanni, Conservator of said Respondent, appointed by the State of Connecticut in the Wallingford Probate Court, New Haven County, for license to sell at private sale certain real estate of said Respondent situated in Holyoke, MA.

If you desire to object thereto, you or your attorney should file a written appearance in said Court at **Springfield** before ten o'clock in the forenoon on the **fourteenth day of July 2023**, the return date of this citation.

Witness, BARBARA M. HYLAND, Esquire, First Justice of said court, this twenty-fourth day of May 2023.

Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register
06/02, 06/09, 06/16/2023

**City of Holyoke
Department of
Public Works
PUBLIC HEARING
NOTICE**

The Holyoke Stormwater Authority will hold a Public Hearing on **Monday, June 26, 2023 at 5:30 p.m.** to hear, pursuant to Section 38.0 of the Holyoke Ordinance, an application for a Stormwater Permit by Salmar Realty, LLC c/o Mr. Peter Martins, to construct of a coffee shop/drive-thru restaurant and associated site improvements located at a Portion of 209 South Street, known as parcel 080-00-039.

The hearing will be held in person. Meeting location will be posted on the City's meeting website in advance

of the meeting at: <https://www.holyoke.org/departments/public-meetings/>
A copy of the application and site plan may be obtained electronically by sending an email to the Holyoke City Engineer at bakerk@holyoke.org or by appointment requested through this same email address.

STORMWATER
AUTHORITY:
Mary Monahan,
Chairman
06/16/2023

**LEGAL NOTICE
CITY OF HOLYOKE
GAS & ELECTRIC
DEPARTMENT
30 WATER ST.
(RIVERSIDE 8)
Roof Replacement**

Sealed bids for furnishing the above will be received by Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept. until **2:00 p.m. July 5, 2023** at the Office of the Manager, 99 Suffolk St., Holyoke, MA 01040, at which time the bids will be publicly opened and read.

Bid Deposit:
A Bid Deposit in the amount of 5% of total bid value 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.

Additional information may be obtained from:

Chi Wong
Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept.
99 Suffolk St.
Holyoke, MA 01040
(413) 536-9308
cwong@hged.com

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

Please mark sealed envelopes "**30 Water St. (Riverside 8) Roof Replacement**" and address them to:
James M. Lavelle, Manager
Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept.
99 Suffolk St.
Holyoke, MA 01040
06/16/2023

The 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 \$120, 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.

EARLY DEADLINES
In observance of July 4th, the Classifieds have an **EARLY AD DEADLINE**. To advertise, place your ad no later than **NOON Thursday, June 29**
Thank you!
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www.turley.com

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PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

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

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

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

MARKET, from page 1

Farms, Atlas Farm, Brown Cow Farm, From the Roots to the Table, Gifted Peace, Living Sowful, Woodnote Coffee, and more. EBT/SNAP and HIP benefits are accepted. A list of participating vendors will regularly be updated at www.holyokehealth.com/market.

The HMC Farmer's Market is still accepting new vendor applications at <https://forms.gle/LxrsCzeaS9y3ympT9>. There is no vendor cost associated with the HMC Farmers' Market. Vendor questions can be directed to holyokefarmers-market@gmail.com.

About Holyoke Medical Center:

Holyoke Medical Center (HMC) is a 219-bed independent community hospital with over 1,600 employees serving individuals and families throughout the cities and towns of the Pioneer Valley. The medical staff includes more than 330 physicians and consulting staff. Holyoke Medical Center is a nationally-accredited

hospital and is the first and only hospital in Western Massachusetts to obtain the prestigious accomplishment of becoming certified in the ISO 9001:2015 Quality Management System. HMC received the Top Hospital Award in 2020, 2016, and 2014 from the Leapfrog Group for excellence in quality of care and patient safety. This full-service hospital provides a complete line of inpatient and outpatient medical and surgical services, including an award-winning Stroke Service annually recognized nationally and in Massachusetts, receiving the 2022 Get With The Guidelines-Stroke Gold Plus with Target: Stroke Honor Roll Elite Plus and Target Type 2 Diabetes Honor Roll Award from the American Heart Association. Holyoke Medical Center is a member of Valley Health Systems in Holyoke which also includes the affiliates Holyoke Medical Group, Holyoke Visiting Nurse Association & Hospice Life Care, and River Valley Counseling Center. To learn more, visit www.holyokehealth.com. ###



Market manager Alexis Diaz introduces people to the market.

Photos by Quinn Suomala

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COMPLETE CONSTRUCTION SERVICES
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