

the HOLYOKE Sun

Serving the city since 1995

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

July 4, 2025 ■ FREE

www.sun.turley.com

School Committee amends future public discussions

By Amanda Munson
amunson@turley.com

HOLYOKE – On June 23, the proposed update to the future agendas boiled up discussions regarding the order of items and the items discussed during public comment. Stated on the ongoing business and policy second and final reading section, the Superintendent conferring with the School Committee Chairperson will arrange the order of items on meeting agendas so that the committee can accomplish

its business as expeditiously as possible. Individuals who request specific items to be included on the committee's agenda should mail a written request 15 days in advance of a committee date to the Superintendent of Schools, 57 Suffolk Street, Holyoke.

At Large Representative Mildred Lefebvre during discussion, referring to the point that persons in the audience should address specific agenda items, continued. "So, on this one we're looking at the part where it says that the HPS makes available a public

discussion period for persons in the audience to address the committee on specific agenda items. To my understanding, we cannot restrict people from what they are going to speak upon."

Agreeing with Lefebvre was Ward 5 Representative John G. Whelihan, "I think there's been court cases that have determined that. I'm not sure, we can ask people to stick to the topics on the agenda, but I don't think we can force them. I don't have anything like that in front of me, maybe some more

research is needed on that. I know the proposal is 15 minutes for public comment, is everyone happy with that time frame? Did we want to extend that to a half an hour? I know some towns have up to an hour. I know we went over 15 minutes at our last meeting, if they do and go over, then the chair must ask the committee to extend that."

Lefebvre responded saying this topic wasn't on this policy in regard to Whelihan, and recommended having the specific item part removed, replacing it with

persons in the audience to address the committee.

Ward 6 Representative William R. Collamore discussed the voted and approved amendment to the future public discussions, "Correct me if I am wrong, but anyone who gets up to that microphone to speak can only speak what is on the agenda. They can't speak on paving a street on Holyoke, they can't speak on the city hall being repaired or something like that. They can only speak about what is on the agenda."

Whelihan responded, "I think the law that I read is that the public can talk about any issue under our authority. Something within the school district. Anything under our authority."

To clarify, for future public comments at the Holyoke school committee meetings, persons can speak on only topics related to the school system in the city. Persons in public comment will not be limited to what is on the agenda but need to be focused on school related issues and topics.

Summer Eats program kicks off

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

HOLYOKE – On Monday afternoon, the Holyoke Public Schools, like many city school districts in the state, kicked off a summer eating program aimed at assisting low-income students with food during the day now that school is out for the summer.

The Holyoke Public Schools, which regained local control this week, celebrated the start of its summer program with an event at Heritage Park.

"During the event, kids and teens received free lunch served by Holyoke Public Schools," a press release from the schools stated. "Families could enjoy free merry-go-round rides, pool pass giveaways, and connect with local community vendors and partners. It's a fun-filled day for families to kick off the summer with food, activities, and community spirit"

Summer Eats assists families by providing free meals to children and teens

See EATS, page 5

Library celebrates summer reading

By Quinn Suomala
Staff Writer

HOLYOKE – Kids and families got to play games and enjoy ice cream at the Holyoke Public Library summer reading kick-off.

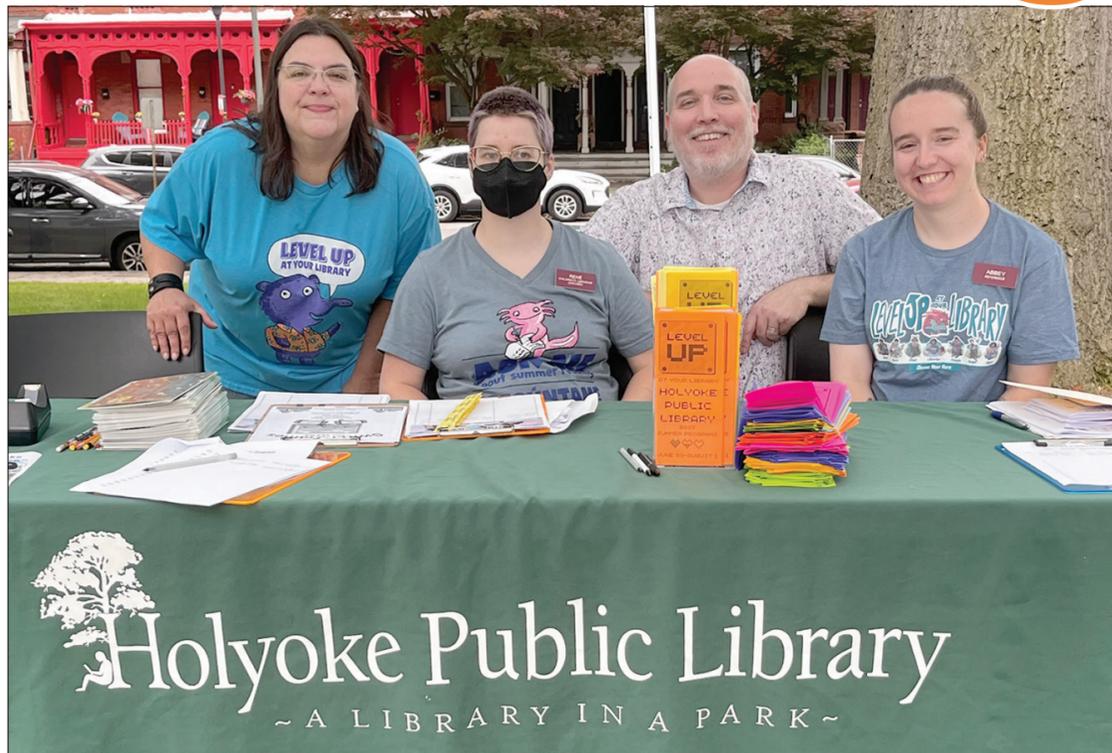
The day was filled with fun, including face painting and balloons as well as free ice cream for anyone who signed up for the summer reading program.

The library encouraged as many people as possible to come in and sign-up for the summer reading program so they could enjoy earning prizes for reading.

The goal of summer reading is to help encourage kids to keep reading in the summer so they don't lose the skills they learn at school.

"When kids read over the summer they retain more of their reading and math skills and studies in general shows that they are better prepared when school starts up in the fall," Children's Librarian Nathan Hayes said.

Adults were also encouraged to participate in summer reading. Not only as it can be a good model for kids to see their adults reading, but so adults can get to



(Left to right) Teen Library Robin Sinihao, Children's Librarian Rene Pellissier, Children's Librarian Nathan Hayes and Reference Librarian Abbey Buedinger had fun at the summer reading kick-off.

Turley photos by Quinn Suomala

partake in the fun.

"We want to make it for adults too and get them involved in their libraries and make it fun," Reference

Librarian Abbey Buedinger said. "They can still be like a kid and earn prizes."

For kids they can sign-up to receive a reading log

that they can then use to keep track of the time they spend reading each week. For each 30 minutes they spend reading they get to add

a sticker to the log.

Once a week they can bring in a completed log to

See READING, page 6

Holyoke Rows announces free youth kayaking



HOLYOKE – Holyoke Rows is pleased to announce another great lineup of free summer programming to help our community get out and explore on the Connecticut River. From free all ages kayaking days to a free learn to row week for Holyoke, Chicopee and Springfield middle and high school students, there are endless options to enjoy the outdoors from our boathouse at Holyoke Rows, 25 Jones Ferry Rd, in Holyoke.

Holyoke Rows is pleased to announce Free Summer Nights for Youth and Families that will take place Mondays/Wednesdays July 7 to Aug. 20 5:30 to 8 p.m. Children, youth, and families are invited to come down to the boathouse for free kayaking, fishing, and more. No registration needed, all equipment & instruction provided. Enjoy the outdoors from our boathouse at Holyoke Rows, 25 Jones Ferry Rd, in Holyoke. This program is offered as part of the Massachusetts DCR Summer Nights grant program.

Multiple game events offered at library

HOLYOKE – In July, the Holyoke Public Library will be holding multiple game events for adults and children.

On Monday, July 7 from 1 to 3 p.m. in the community room, there will be yard games.

On July 24, there will be an event featuring tabletop games in the first floor board room from 3 to 5:30 p.m.

And then on July 29 from 2 to 5 p.m., Nintendo Switch games will be available to play in the community room.

For more info, contact Abbey at 413-420-8101 or email abuedinger@holyokelibrary.org

MiraVista cautions during periods of intense heat

HOLYOKE – As temperatures continue to rise across the region, MiraVista Behavioral Health Center is reminding community residents who may be taking medication to support their mental health to be extra cautious in summer heat.

According to MiraVista Behavioral Health Center Medical Director, Dr. Kenneth Richmond, “Increased temperatures can affect the impact of medications. It is important for any-

one on medications, including those which may be prescribed for a mental health condition, to talk with their health care provider about how extreme temperatures and exposure to sun may change how they feel, cause certain side effects and what they can do during periods of increasingly hot weather to be safe.”

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), more than 1,200 people in the United

States die from extreme heat every year, with individuals who take medications that affect thermoregulation among those at higher risk.

Dr. Richmond added, “Many people don’t realize that the medications they take to support their mental health may also impact how their body manages heat. Be informed, take precautions, and know the warning signs of heat-related stress such as dizziness, confusion, excessive sweating, blurry vision

or skin rashes.”

The CDC has made an Extreme Heat guide available to visitors on its website with tips on staying cool, staying hydrated, identifying individual risk factors and knowing the symptoms associated with overheating and when to seek medical care. Their guide can be found at [\[dex.html\]\(https://www.cdc.gov/heat-health/about/index.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fextreme-heat%2Fabout%2Fin-dex.html\) or on the MiraVista website at \[www.miravistabhccare.com\]\(http://www.miravistabhccare.com\).](https://www.cdc.gov/heat-health/about/index.html?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fextreme-heat%2Fabout%2Fin-</p>
</div>
<div data-bbox=)

MiraVista Behavioral Health Center opened in April of 2021 on the grounds of the former Providence Behavioral Health Hospital in Holyoke, Mass. MiraVista offers psychiatric care

services for both adults and adolescents, as well as an array of recovery rehabilitation programs including outpatient services such as substance use individ-

ual and group counseling, an Intensive Outpatient Program (IOP), court-ordered services, and outpatient Medication Supported Recovery and Massachusetts Impaired Driving programs.

MiraVista cares for thousands of individuals from across New England. MiraVista’s purpose is to provide effective, inspiring care for those challenged by mental health and substance use so they are empowered to lead fulfilling lives.

Holyoke Medical Center offers cancer support group

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Medical Center will host an ongoing Cancer Support Group for community members and/or caregivers dealing with cancer. The group will meet in the Fran Como Conference Room of Holyoke Medical Center, 575 Beech Street, Holyoke, from 4:30 to 6 p.m. on the follow-

ing dates: July 10, Aug. 14, Sept. 11, Oct. 9, and Nov. 13.

Holyoke Medical Center will provide a safe place for active and surviving cancer patients, families, and caregivers to share thoughts and feelings with others dealing with similar concerns and emotions.

“Support groups are

a safe place to talk about emotions and difficult subjects. Our group members have developed a community through shared experiences and feelings, and create a welcoming space for others to feel heard, understood, supported, cared for, and accepted,” said James Haskins, MSW, LICSW, ACSW, HMC Oncology Social Worker.

The Holyoke Medical Center Cancer Support Group offers a light meal, along with education, activities, as well as facilitation of discussion around a variety of topics. Open feedback from support group members is encouraged, and a survey is provided at every group meeting to enhance future meetings.

Participants are asked to please register in advance to ensure enough food and materials are available for all. Please RSVP by calling (413) 534-2520.



Veterans Services to host graves restoration event

HOLYOKE – The Veterans Services is honored to host a Graves Restoration Event on Saturday, July 12 at the Elmwood Cemetery located at 2190 Northampton Street. The event will begin

at 10 am. Rain Date will be on July 19. This event is to restore and preserve our deceased veterans markers so that they are kept in a presentable form for posterity. Tools and supplies will be provided. There are no

hazardous chemicals (to humans, animals or environment) used in the process of restoration. If you have any questions, please contact Wayne Klinge at klingew@holyoke.org or 413-322-5630. All are welcome.

CPA Committee announces application cycle for FY2026

HOLYOKE – The City of Holyoke Community Preservation Act Committee is pleased to announce the opening of their FY26 grant cycle. Potential applicants are invited to submit eligibility application forms by Aug. 15.

Created by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts in 2000 and adopted by the City of Holyoke in 2016, the purpose of the CPA is to sup-

port Historic Preservation, Recreation, Open Space and Community Housing within Holyoke. The Holyoke CPA has funded a variety of popular projects throughout the City including the Miracle League Playground, restoration of Lady Liberty at Veterans Park, the ongoing upgrades to Scotts Tower and surrounding park and many others.

Since adoption, the

Holyoke CPC has disbursed over \$4.5 million dollars to preserve Holyoke’s character and improve quality of life for its residents. Please visit our website at www.holyokeCPAC.org for more information.

Potential applicants are encouraged to contact CPAC Administrator Naomi Klayman at klaymann@holyoke.org with questions and for support in the application process.

Are you having difficulty communicating with your partner, struggling with boundaries, and healthy relationships?

We invite you to join us Friday afternoons from 1-2:30 pm to explore these topics and more.

This group will be held in zoom, is educational, confidential, and free.

Please contact **Pat James 413-726-8661**.

Learn about volunteering at Harmony House

CHICOPEE – Harmony House of Western Massachusetts is a social model home for hospice care located in Chicopee. The beautiful new facility reopened in the spring of 2024 and has been a safe and loving home for people with limited support who cannot live on their own. Potential volunteers are invited to explore the opportuni-

ty to help care for individuals who are in the final stage of their lives. Harmony House is currently in need of caregivers and support people. Whether it’s a few hours a week or a few hours a month, Harmony House is a welcoming place for people looking to help people.

A Meet-and-Greet event is scheduled for Tuesday,

July 29, at 6 p.m. at the South Hadley Library, 2 Canal Street, South Hadley, in their Common Room. Please come and meet members of the Board of Directors and current volunteers to learn more and have your questions answered by those who are directly involved in resident care.

Harmony House is a local, non-profit organization

whose mission is to provide a loving home offering compassionate care for people who are on hospice and are in need of care. If interested in learning more or becoming a volunteer, please complete the online volunteer application form at www.harmonyhouse-wma.org/volunteer-1 or email us at admin@harmonyhouse-wma.org.

12 Load Super Load Washers & Dryers Available

Extended 1.50 per lb. Summer Special til August Starting July 4th First 50 Wash, Dry, Fold Customer Will Receive a **FREE LAUNDRY BAG**

Whiting Farms Laundromat
Brand New, State-of-the-art Equipment!
Holyoke Shopping Center (old K-Mart plaza)
Also, on the PVRTA Bus route!
2259 Northampton St., Holyoke, MA 01040
413-370-0096

BlazeXpress
WE DELIVER HAPPINESS!

Your 4th of July Just Got Easier!

Skip the hassle and enjoy the holiday from home. BlazeXpress offers FREE, discreet, same-day delivery of safe, legal cannabis straight to your door. No crowds, no worries—just pure convenience.

Get \$10 OFF your 1st order!
Use Promo Code: **NEWS1**

Visit BlazeXpress.com or Call (413) 412-8525

NOTICE

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

LOWER PRICES TO BOOST YOUR BUDGET! **INFLATION PRICE BUSTERS** **PRICES IN RED ARE AT OR BELOW LAST YEAR'S PRICES!**

USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN ASSORTED PORK LOIN CHOPS \$1.88 lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF RIBEYE \$11.79 WHOLE OR HALF	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF SHOULDER LONDON BROIL \$5.55 lb
USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS PORK SIRLOIN CUTLETS.. \$2.49 lb	CUT FREE	USDA INSP. FRESH CHICKEN WINGS 10 LB BAG \$1.85 lb
USDA INSP. FROZEN PORK SHOULDER PICNIC. \$1.39 lb	USDA INSP. FRESH KABOBS W/VEGGIES BEEF CHICKEN \$7.99 \$6.99 lb	USDA INSP. FRESH CHICKEN DRUMSTICKS 10 LB BAG. 77¢ lb
USDA INSP. TURKEY BREST..... \$4.99 lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN SARA LEE CLASSIC POUND CAKE 16 OZ \$3.49 ea	USDA INSP. IQF FROZEN COOKED SHRIMP 31/40 CT 1 LB. BAG \$5.99 ea
USDA INSP. SWISS CHEESE..... \$4.77 lb	USDA INSP. FRESH DAILY 80% LEAN GROUND BEEF \$3.99 7 LB BAG	
USDA INSP. BEEF BACK RIBS..... \$2.99 lb		
USDA INSP. STOREMADE TERIYAKI MARINATED BEEF BLADE STEAKS..... \$6.99 lb		
USDA INSP. STOREMADE LEMON PEPPER MARINATED BONELESS CHICKEN BREST..... \$3.99 lb		

90 Meat Outlet 90 Avocado St. Springfield 413-737-1288 www.90meat.com

HOURS: Mon. - Wed. 8-4 Thurs. 8-6 • Fri. 8-6 • Sat. 8-3

SALE DATES: 7/3/25-7/19/25

BUY DIRECT FOR SAVINGS • SELECTION • SERVICE

We reserve the right to limit quantities.

Adventure tours of Warren Share the Adventure with us!

2026 Norwegian Cruise Line Bermuda and Nova Scotia – Call Today

July 12.....Escape to Rockport\$110
July 26.....Perkins Cove for a Day.....\$110
Oct. 4.....Stockbridge – Rockwell Museum.....\$120
Oct. 18.....Turkey Train.....\$175
May 2026.....8-Day Bermuda & Halifax Cruis.....from \$1699

Share the Adventure with us soon!
For further information call Randall at (413) 436-5357 or email adventuretours@att.net or go to www.adventuretoursofwarren.com

It's 'Dino Week' at Wistariahurst Museum

HOLYOKE – You've heard of the Asparagus Trail and the Appalachian Trail but what about the Dino Trail? Piti Theatre, Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association, the Beneski Museum of Natural History, Springfield Museums, Wistariahurst Museum, Great Falls Discovery Center, Jurassic Roadshow, the Rock, Fossil and Dinosaur Shop and The Trustees of Dino Footprints in Holyoke have joined forces to create the Connecticut River Valley's own Dino Trail with its own Dino Trail Week. Events are planned

up and down the Valley from July 5 - 13 as these seasoned organizations offer a series of family-friendly events to engage all ages with our region's unique dino, deep time and local histories. All events are free (Springfield Museums with museum admission). More at dino-trail.org.

July 5: Dinosaur Day with Paleontologist Barbie & Ken at Pocumtuck Valley Memorial Association, Deerfield - Local History Roadshow's real fossils, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

July 9: Dino Day at the Beneski Museum of Natural History with Scavenger Hunts, Guided Tours and Piti's Story Wizards improv performance, Amherst (Dino-Theme for Dino Trail Week at 2:30 p.m.), 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

July 9: Piti Theatre's Dino-Themed Story Wizards performance at the Greenfield Public Library, 6 p.m.

July 10: Dino Day @ Springfield Museums: Hands on activities & preview the New Dino Exhibit, 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.

July 11: Kidleidoscope Story Hour: Dinosaurs and Talk by Dr. Paul Olsen at the Great Falls Discovery Center, Turners Falls: Learn more about giant creatures from the past that roamed the Connecticut River Valley. The program includes a story, activities, and crafts for ages 3 - 6 from 10:30 - 11:30 a.m. and then Dr. Olsen will offer "Climate Cycles & Volcanic Singularities During the Dawn of the Age of Dinosaurs", 7 to 8:30 p.m.

July 12: Great Greenfield DinoFest on the Lawn in front of Second

Congregational Church, 10 a.m. to 12 noon - interactive exhibits, live music, games and a Dino Wizards Story from Piti Theatre.

July 12: Art Naturally: Gel Printing Trace Fossils @ Great Falls Discovery Center, 2 to 3:30 p.m.: Create an art piece inspired by the valley's fossilized dinosaur footprints using paint, paper and gel, with instruction and techniques - for adults, teens and children ages 6 and up.

July 13: Dino Family Fun Day at the Wistariahurst Museum, Holyoke, 12 to 3 p.m.: Outdoor and sensory

friendly dino-themed activities for the whole family. Learn about the dinosaur tracks leading up to the museum, see the official Massachusetts state Dinosaur and Dinosaur Holyokensis, and dance with a dino.

Bonus event: July 20: Dinosaurs in the Driveway at the Wistariahurst Museum, Holyoke, 1 to 2 p.m. - Local history and dino expert Sarah Doyle, director of the pop-up Dino exhibit Jurassic Roadshow, dives into the history and science of Wistariahurst's dino footprints leading to the museum.

Commerce to hold reunion

SPRINGFIELD – The High School of Commerce Class of 75 is holding their 50th class reunion.

It will take place at the Storowton Tavern, West Springfield, MA, on Saturday August 30, 2025 at 6 p.m.

Contact Janet at jan0826@comcast.net to learn more.

Tourism committee seeking new members

HOLYOKE – The City of Holyoke is currently seeking enthusiastic and experienced individuals to join its Tourism Advisory Committee (TAC). If you're a hotelier, restaurant owner, or someone with a strong background in the tourism or hospitality industry — we want to hear from you. Priority will be given to candidates with experience in these areas. We are also looking for a youth member who is under 21 years of age, a Holyoke resident and interested in promot-

ing the positive things happening in Holyoke.

The TAC is a dynamic group made up of tourism experts and community representatives, including voices from iconic local institutions like the Wistariahurst Museum and the International Volleyball Hall of Fame. Together, the committee advises the city on all things tourism — from strategy and events to funding and promotion.

This is your chance to get involved, make a real impact,

and yes — help give away money! The TAC helps allocate funding for local events and community projects that make Holyoke a vibrant and welcoming place to visit.

For 2025 TAC utilized funds to support 11 events including;

- Holyoke Pride Festival on June 11
- The Great Holyoke Brink Race on October 11
- Holyoke Paper Fest on June 7
- Paper City Oaks Semi Pro indoor Lacrosse at

Fitzpatrick's Arena - Summer 2025

- Holyoke Historical Society Garden Tour July 12
- LOCULUS

Presents The Fourth Annual SIDEWAYS DOOR: A Festival of Ecstasies & Escape Routes September 19 to 21

- Imagined Worlds Mural Project with the Holyoke Children's Museum
- Lemonade & Laughter at the Merry Go Round - fall 2025
- Holyoke Canals and its

Mills - fall 2025

• BBJ Spring Spectacular Showing: A free night of musical theater - fall 2025

More information on all these events can be found at ExploreHolyoke.com

To learn more about TAC, visit <https://www.holyoke.org/departments/tourism-advisory-committee/>. If you are interested in joining TAC please send cover letter and resume to vegaa@holyoke.org at the Office of Planning and Economic Development

Tykes Tuesday back this summer at the mall

HOLYOKE – Summer is just around the corner and that means Tykes Tuesday is back for free family fun at Holyoke Mall Tuesday mornings from July 8 through Aug. 19.

Tykes Tuesday, sponsored by The Care Center, 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 kids' program is free, open to the public, and is best suited for children ages 12 and under. This year's activities include live animal ambassadors, a

magic show, free trampoline park admission, and more.

Tykes Tuesday Schedule:

- **July 8:** Wildlife on Wheels with Forest Park Zoo
- **July 15:** Adventures at Altitude Trampoline Park (Limited Availability, Registration Full)
- **July 22:** Celebrate Christmas in July with Mrs. Claus, Face Painting and More
- **July 29:** Magic Show with Ed Popielarczyk
- **August 5:** Meet and Greet with the Holyoke Fire Department and

Belchertown PD Dog Training Academy with Face Painting and Balloon Art

• **August 12:** Superhero Forces with Mad Science

Families are encouraged to pre-register at www.holyokemall.com/tykes-tuesday-2025/. Plus, families who come to all 7 weeks of Tykes Tuesday will be entered to win a Grand Raffle Prize of a Back-to-School gift pack. Those interested can get a loyalty punch card at the Holyoke Mall registration table on July 8.

COLLEGE NOTES

Colleges announce Dean's Lists

Anna Evans named to Siena College's Dean's List

LOUDONVILLE, NY – Anna Evans has been named to the Siena College Dean's List for the Spring 2025 semester. Anna is from Holyoke, MA.

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.

Denucce-Simms named to Salve Regina's Dean's List

NEWPORT, RI – Jade Denucce-Simms of Holyoke was named to the Dean's List during the spring 2025 academic semester at Salve Regina University. To qualify for the Dean's List, students must earn a semester grade point average of 3.6 for full-time students completing at least 12 graded credits, or a semester grade point average of 3.8 for part-time students completing at least six credits.



Send Us Your Photos!
TheSun@turley.com

Therapy dog to visit library

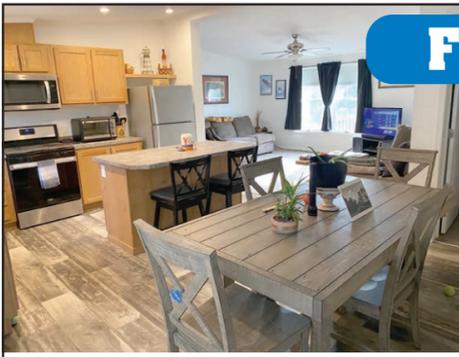
HOLYOKE – Holyoke Public Library will host a visit from Maki the Therapy Dog. He will appear on June 9, 16, 23, July 7, 14, 21, and 28, Aug. 18 and 25 from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. on the fourth floor.

Call to make a reservation for a 15-minute time slot.

FIVE ISLANDS

Georgetown, Maine
2 Bedrooms, 2 Bathroom
Washer/Dryer, Fully Equipped

- Walk to Five Islands Wharf and Ledgewood Preserve Beach
- Close to Reid State Park




\$1200/week
207-607-9333



ASK ABOUT CATERING •

Comfort Food & Ice Cream

Come In!

BREAKFAST - LUNCH - DINNERS

Soups • Salads • Burgers • Dogs • Desserts
Sandwiches • Breakfast All Day • Dinners

Call Ahead 413-300-9883

Order online: www.choochoos-ma.com

ENJOY OUR PICNIC TABLES

USE DOORDASH

2 Bowser St., Holyoke
at the Historic Richardson Station
• 7AM-7PM DAILY •

GRANBY PRESERVATION SOCIETY

Tag Sale

JULY 11th & 12th

RAIN OR SHINE 8 AM - 3 PM

250 STATE STREET, GRANBY

For more information contact us at:
fundraising@granbypreservationsociety.org

Raffle & Food Concessions

ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE RESTORATION OF KELLOGG HALL WINDOWS

Donovan's Irish Pub

Live Music Every Weekend!

Friday, July 4th

The Healys

3-6pm

CLOSING at 8pm



Saturday, July 5th

Jim McArdle & Jerry Murphy



Friday, July 11th

Blaney Brothers



Saturday, July 12th

Dee Reilly



Sunday, July 13th

Frank Serafino



80 Jarvis Avenue, Holyoke

413-543-0791 • donovanspub.com

Sun. 12pm - 8pm; Mon.-Thurs. 11:30am-9:30pm; Fri. & Sat. 11:30am - 11:30pm

Guest Column



When will funds stolen from Social Security be replaced?

Dear Rusty:

When will the funds stolen from the SS Fund be replaced?

They used Social Security when the government ran out of money and used it for illegals. I think the funds should be replaced except for legitimate payments to Social Security recipients. This money was never meant to be used by the federal government to pay their bills.

to all SS recipients, who have earned them. There were about \$2.8 trillion in SS reserves as of the end of 2023, but that balance is steadily decreasing due to being redeemed to pay full benefits. As of the last report by the Trustees of Social Security, the reserves will be depleted in about 2033, unless Congress passes reform legislation to restore SS to full solvency.

Signed:
Concerned Senior

Dear Concerned Senior:

I must tell you that no funds have ever been "stolen" from the Social Security Administration despite the persistent myth. All money received by SS from payroll taxes, interest on investments and income tax on SS benefits is – and always has been – immediately converted to special issue government bonds (investments), which are held in the Social Security Trust Funds and which pay interest at the current federal bond rate.

Those bond investments held in reserve have been and are used only to pay benefits to those who have earned them by contributing to Social Security via payroll taxes for at least 10 years (40 quarters). Only U.S. citizens and legal residents can get Social Security benefits. Illegal aliens cannot receive Social Security benefits.

For information, repayment of the special issue bonds held in SS reserves occurs every day, because incoming revenue has been insufficient to pay all Social Security benefit costs for several years now, which means that the bonds must be redeemed regularly so that full benefits can be paid

FYI, the Association of Mature American Citizens is working hard to prevent depletion of the Trust Fund, suggesting to Congress a way to reform the program so future generations can fully benefit from it, with AMAC's Social Security Guarantee proposal. AMAC is constantly working to prevent depletion of the SS Trust Funds, which would result in an across the board cut in everyone's benefit by about 23%. AMAC works every day in Washington D.C. to ensure Social Security is here for many generations.

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



Osprey

Guest Column

in my BACKYARD

By Ellenor Downer

Last week on a trip to Rhode Island with my brother and cousin, we saw two osprey when we stopped by Point Judith Lighthouse.

We watched them as they flew over the ocean and hovered as they looked for fish. One got ready to dive as it tucked in its wings, but then stopped and flew to another spot to hover.

The osprey, also known as the fish hawk, eats a diet of live fish, has the ability to hover and dives into the water to catch them. They are often seen soaring over shorelines.

Ospreys are brown birds with a white head and a brown stripe through its eye. Underparts are grayish. They are over 24 inches long and have a wingspan of 71 inches.

es. They are the only raptor whose outer toe is reversible, allowing it to grasp its prey with two toes in front and two behind.

Ospreys are very successful in catching fish. According to a study at least one out of every four dives results in catching fish. The average time ospreys spend hunting before making a catch was about 12 minutes.

Ospreys often build large stick nests on manmade structures such as telephone poles, channel markers, and nest platforms designed for their use. Their eggs do not hatch all at once with the first chick emerging about five days before the last one. The oldest chick dominates the younger ones. When food is scarce, the younger chicks may starve to death.

A Brimfield resident, who likes to visit inland ponds, often watches osprey nesting. Ospreys migrate and this resident reports their return in the spring. An osprey, equipped with a tracking device, flew 2,700 miles from Martha's Vineyard, Massachusetts to French Guiana South America during 13 days in 2008.

Other seashore birds

In addition, to the osprey we saw cormorants, seagulls, bank swallows, grackles and even a redwing blackbird whose epaulets were bright red. There were new benches installed along the cliff bank. When we stopped there last year, the benches were in poor condition.

See BIRDS page 5

What are biennials exactly?

Right now, many of our favorite "cottage-garden" flowers are beginning to put on a summer show.

Most of these fall into the category of plants known as biennials. From the towering pastel spikes of the beloved hollyhock, to the tattered, clove-scented sweet William and the mysterious and dangerous foxglove, each share the same life cycle.

Unfortunately, however, here is where lots of gardeners get confused. So then, what exactly are biennials? Do they bloom every other year or just during the second growing season? Is a "short-lived perennial" the same as a biennial?

Let's take a closer look. Merriam-Webster defines biennial as "continuing or lasting for two years; specifically: growing vegetatively during the first year and fruiting and dying during the second." In other words, if you started a hollyhock plant from seed in the spring expect it to put on a lot of green growth this season.



by Roberta McQuaid

germinate in an inappropriate spot and likewise need to be moved. You can try to manipulate the outcome of your "volunteers" somewhat.

For notorious self-sowing biennials like rampion, rose campion, and foxglove, deadhead all but a few seed pods. You will reduce the population and there won't be as many to thin out.

You can also watch the seed pods carefully, and when they are ripe sprinkle them where you want them to come up- this works especially well for hollyhock and sweet William – both of which I'd call reluctant self-sowers. Work I know, but still far easier than setting up the grow lights and heat cables and starting your seedlings indoors!

Remember to give your little volunteers lots of TLC in the way of food (a top dressing of compost and a sprinkling of organic fertilizer) and water (a drink during droughty periods) if you want them to compare to their parents.

See GARDEN, page 5

Find it!
in the
CLASSIFIEDS!

413.283.8393 • classifieds@turley.com
24 Water St., Palmer • 80 Main St., Ware

The Holyoke Sun welcomes election letters to the editor

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

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

For more information, call 413-283-8393.

Campaign news

As part of its election coverage, the newspa-

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

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

the HOLYOKE Sun
TEAM

EDITOR/SPORTS
Greg Scibelli
thesun@turley.com

ADVERTISING SALES
Wendy Delcamp
wdelcamp@turley.com

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

@ The Holyoke Sun

WEB
www.sun.turley.com

PATRICK H. TURLEY
CEO

KEITH TURLEY
President

Turley Publications, Inc.
www.turley.com

Turley Publications, Inc. cannot assume liability for the loss of photographs or other materials submitted for publication. Materials will not be returned except upon specific request when submitted.

\$12.50 Each

Digital Photos
TURLEY PUBLICATIONS, INC.
Purchase a photo that recently ran in one of our publications. Go to newspapers.turley.com/photo-request

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.

3 EASY WAYS TO REACH US

PHONE
413.283.8393
Fax: 413.283.7017
Subscriptions: 413.283.8393

EMAIL
Advertising Sales
Wendy Delcamp
wdelcamp@turley.com

Editor
Gregory Scibelli
thesun@turley.com

WEB
www.sun.turley.com
@ The Holyoke Sun

The Holyoke Sun is published by Turley Publications, Inc. • www.turley.com

Lots of celebration for HCS Head Start team members

SPRINGFIELD – Holyoke, Chicopee, Springfield Head Start (HCS Head Start) has been providing high-quality early childhood education services for children and families in cities and towns located in Western Massachusetts since 1965. This single purpose organization is committed to providing qualifying families with a source of support for a brighter future including educating children, supporting families, and building healthy communities.

2025 Janis Santos Scholarship Recipient

Three years ago the organization announced the formation of the Janis Santos Scholarship. This recognition, created by Janis Santos, former CEO of HCS Head Start

and resident of Ludlow, Mass., was done to help address the shortage of early childhood teachers. Knowing the importance of supporting this profession, Ms. Santos established this scholarship to support current HCS staff, parents, and all Head Start alumni, who are pursuing a degree in early education and care but may be encountering financial hardship.

Ms. Santos, along with Nicole Blais, HCS Head Start's current Chief Executive Officer, were pleased to award the 2025 honor to Barbara Torres Marzan. Torres Marzan, from Chicopee, MA has been with HCS Head Start for close to 4 years and currently is an Infant/Toddler teacher. At the recent announcement of this

honor, she was overwhelmed with joy and gratitude as she was presented with the \$2,000 scholarship to continue her studies at Springfield Technical Community College.

Previous honorees include Mayra Felix who recently completed her bachelor's degree at Springfield College and Notavious Andino-Galarza-Perez who is currently studying at Columbia University.

Exciting Staff Announcements:

• After a remarkable 29 years of dedication to Head Start, Rosa Caraballo retired on May 1st. As a teacher at many of the HCS Head Start centers over the years, Caraballo chose to go back to school and shift her career to

the family services area of the organization. One thing that remained the same, no matter the department, was her passion and tenacity in serving each and every one of the Head Start children and families. Caraballo lives in Springfield, MA and is looking forward to traveling with her newly found free time.

• This July Carol Horan, current Site Director for the Lincoln Grove Center in Chicopee, will retire after 24 years with the organization. Throughout her career at HCS Head Start, Horan has supervised and managed various sites and has fostered support for numerous educators and families, building deep and meaningful relationships within the community. Known for her willingness to help, she

often assists at family engagement events, comes in early to help open sites and cover in classrooms as needed, and even rides the bus with children and staff during field trips! Her career has been dedicated to supporting the teachers, families, and Head Start mission and she will be missed deeply. Horan calls Windsor, CT her home and once officially retired, cannot wait to spend time traveling and in her garden.

• Yaritza Santos was promoted to the role of Comptroller. Santos began her HCS Head Start career in 2016 as an administrative assistant and the following year was promoted to HR Assistant, followed by another promotion in 2018 to HR Generalist and served as

the Interim HR Coordinator during COVID. Following COVID, Santos transitioned to the Fiscal team with her primary responsibilities centering around payroll. She resides in Holyoke, MA and holds an MBA from University of Phoenix.

• Mayra Felix, a Chicopee resident and Teacher Director (TD) at Head Start's Mason Square Center, won a Plate of Bounty Award. This national recognition is given to an individual who has made a significant contribution to children and families in her program of service. Felix began as a Head Start student herself and then in 1992 she began volunteering at HCS Head Start before receiving her first paid position later that year.

EATS, from page 1

to ensure they continue growing, learning, and thriving over summer break. Project Bread, the leading statewide food security organization, supports Summer Eats providers across MA. Participating meal providers, like Holyoke Public Schools,

operate and staff meal sites, often in conjunction with activities and educational programming. Kids and teens are required to eat onsite at most Summer Eats sites. All are welcome. No registration or ID is required. Another summer food resource is SUN Bucks (Summer EBT), which is a federal food bene-

fit providing additional funding for groceries for low-income families with school-aged children.

Sodexo, a food service company, runs the food services for the Holyoke Public Schools and are operating the summer program as well.

According to the schools, throughout the

school year, children in Massachusetts can rely on permanent, free school meals to help meet their daily nutrition needs. Summer Eats closes the gap when the school year ends, helping to ensure children and teens continue to grow, learn and thrive over summer break.

For more than 20

years, the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE) and statewide food security nonprofit Project Bread have partnered to support meal providers in offering Summer Eats meals to children in Massachusetts. Throughout the school year, the nonprofit and DESE also

partner to expand access to and participation in school meal programs. In 2024, more than 2.8 million meals were served across over 1,450 sites statewide through the Summer Eats program.

Anyone in need of the Summer Eats program can contact the Holyoke Public School for more help.

BIRDS, from page 4

Birds in Sutton

My brother lives in Sutton. He sets out grape jelly and a hummingbird feeder. The Baltimore orioles, catbirds, red bellied woodpeckers and even house finches come for the jelly. The ruby throated hummingbirds come for the sugar water.

Mass Audubon Society sightings

The Massachusetts Audubon Society reports several unusual bird sightings. They included swallow-tailed kites in Mashpee, a Mississippi kite in Harwich, a Franklin's gull and two royal terns in Provincetown, a continuing prothonotary warbler in Concord, a Wilson's phalarope at Belle Marsh Reservation in Boston and a

Brewster's warbler in Amherst.

Berkshire County sightings were a worm-eating warbler on Mt. Washington Road in Egremont, a least bittern in the Post Farm Marsh in Lenox, an Acadian flycatcher at the Jug End Reservation in Egremont and six red crossbills at the summit of Mt. Greylock in Adams.

In Franklin County, there were four sandhill cranes on Plainfield Road in Ashfield and two hooded warblers on Falls Road in Sunderland.

Hampshire County highlights were a Brewster's warbler on the Narwottuck Rail Trail in Amherst and a least bittern near Station Road on the Narwottuck Rail Trail also in Amherst, three purple martins and four blue grosbeaks in the Honey Pot on Moody Bridge Road

in Hadley and a common goldeneye on the Quabbin Reservoir off the Windsor Dam in Belchertown.

Hampden County notables were two upland sandpipers on the Perimeter Road in Ludlow and two blue grosbeaks at the Southwick Wildlife Management Area in Southwick. Worcester County had an Acadian flycatcher near the Uxbridge Rice City Pond in Uxbridge and five evening grosbeaks at a private residence in Royalston.

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.

GARDEN, from page 4

Speaking of parents, what happens when the older plant survives into year three? This happens to me periodically, especially with hollyhock, foxglove and sweet William. Certainly not every plant in the clump comes back, but perhaps one out of three do.

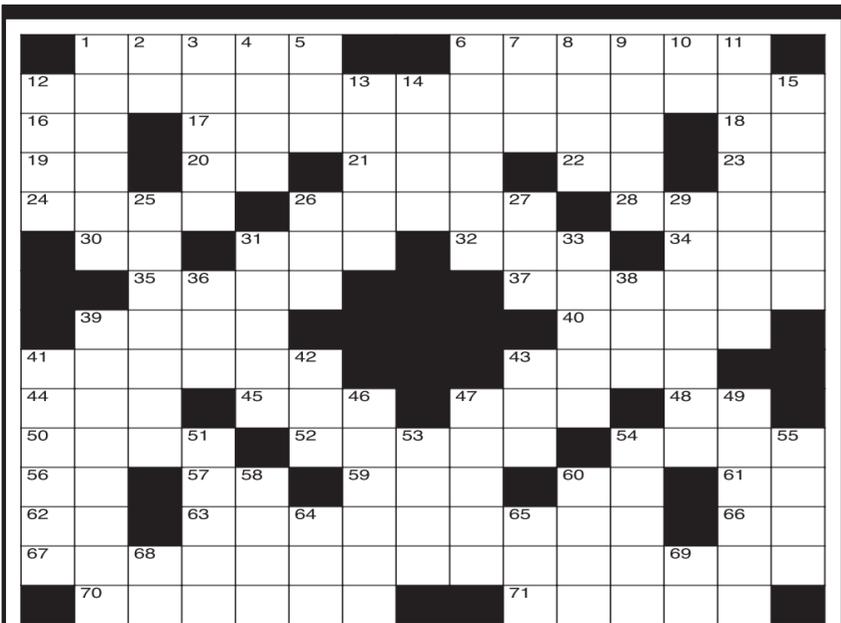
Sometimes they look okay, while other times the crown is woody or the

flowers aren't quite as tall. Oftentimes diseases can take their toll. Be your own judge here- if you want to gamble, leave the plants in place.

Presently I am doing just that with an amazing stand of hollyhocks that bloomed ever so beautifully near my lamppost last summer. So far, so good. But, to be on the safe side, I do have a couple of self sowers waiting in the wings for next year, since a third year of

blooming is highly unlikely.

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



CLUES ACROSS

1. Notes
6. Long-haired dog breed
12. ESPN's nickname
16. Spanish be
17. Disadvantage
18. Of I
19. Actor Pacino
20. On your way: ___ route
21. Fifth note of a major scale
22. Companies need it
23. News agency
24. Faces of an organization
26. Ponds
28. Samoa's capital
30. Partner to "Pa"
31. Adult male
32. Cool!
34. Used of a number or amount not specified
35. No No No
37. Hosts film festival
39. British place to house convicts

40. Made of fermented honey and water
41. Chief
43. College army
44. Thyroid-stimulating hormone
45. Consume
47. One point north of due east
48. For instance
50. Brews
52. Alaskan river
54. Not soft
56. Atomic #22
57. "The Golden State"
59. "The world's most famous arena"
60. Larry and Curly's pal
61. One billion gigabytes
62. Conducts inspections
63. Malaria mosquitoes
66. Unit to measure width
67. Features
70. Affairs
71. Letter of Semitic abjads

CLUES DOWN

1. Follower of Islam
2. Trauma center
3. French young women
4. Norse god
5. U.S. commercial flyer (abbr.)
6. Merchant
7. Peyton's younger brother
8. Jungle planet in "Star Wars" galaxy
9. Tree-dwelling animal of C. and S. America
10. "Pollack" actor Harris
11. Stuck around
12. Put on
13. Influential Norwegian playwright
14. Christian ___, designer
15. Fulfills a debt
25. Style
26. More (Spanish)
27. A baglike structure in a plant or animal
29. Remedy
31. Disturbance

33. "The Martian" actor Matt
36. Express delight
38. Brooklyn hoopster
39. 1900 lamp
41. Motionless
42. One's mother (Brit.)
43. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
46. Compels to act
47. Gardening tool
49. Ancient country
51. Frightening
53. Wimbledon champion Arthur
54. Popular plant
55. Database management system
58. Gasteyer and de Armas are two
60. Where soldiers eat
64. Tenth month (abbr.)
65. Illuminated
68. Atomic #18
69. Adults need one to travel

CROSSWORD ANSWER on page 10

CHURCH DIRECTORY



Blessed Sacrament Parish

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

First Baptist Church

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

Our Lady of the Cross Catholic Parish

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

St. Peter's Lutheran Church

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

St. Paul's Episcopal Church

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

Veterans Cemetery friends group holding golf tournament

AGAWAM – The Friends of the Massachusetts Veterans Memorial Cemetery at Agawam and the Friends of the Agawam Veterans Council proudly announce their First Annual Golf Tournament in support of Wreaths Across America, a national effort to honor and remember our fallen veterans during the holiday season.

This exciting event promises a day of camaraderie, remembrance, and community support. Golfers, sponsors, and community members are invited to participate and

help lay wreaths at the graves of veterans resting at the Agawam Veterans Memorial Cemetery this December.

Event Details: 18 Holes of Golf with a cart, lunch, dinner and a raffle entry.

Location: Agawam Municipal Golf Course
Date: Aug. 31
Time: 12 noon

Registration Options:
• Individual Golfer: \$125

• Team of Four: \$450
• Dinner Only: \$30
• Tee Sponsor: \$100 (Company or “In Memory of” dedication)

• Other Sponsorship Opportunities Available
Payments Accepted:
• Check (payable to FMVMCA, PO Box 03, Feeding Hills, MA 01030)
• Venmo
• Credit Card (by phone)

To Register or Sponsor: Contact Marline Claremont at 413-221-9548 or email wreathfriends@gmail.com.

Registration forms are available upon request.

Join us in honoring those who served with a round of golf, good food, and great company—all for a noble cause.

Chicopee Country Club to host AJGA tournament this week

CHICOPEE – The Chicopee Country Club is proud to announce the return of the F.M. Junior Championship presented by the John D. Mineck Foundation, an event on the American Junior Golf Association (AJGA) tour. The tournament will take place June 30 – July 4, marking the seventh consecutive year the Club has hosted this prestigious event.

Founded in 1978 by Mike Bentley, the AJGA provides a national platform for junior golfers to develop their skills, etiquette, pace of play, and course care. It also offers invaluable exposure to college coaches at an early

age. Alumni of the AJGA include golf legends such as Tiger Woods, Jordan Spieth, and Justin Thomas.

The John D. Mineck Foundation, established in 2007 to honor the late John Mineck—an entrepreneur, former caddie, and founder of the Boston Golf Club in Hingham, Massachusetts—shares a deep commitment to nurturing the game of golf and young players’ passion for it.

Tournament Schedule:

• Monday, June 30 – Qualifying Round: 6 to 10:40 a.m.
• Tuesday, July 1 – Practice Round: 7 to 11 a.m.
• Wednesday, July 2 –

Friday, July 4 – Tournament Rounds: 7 a.m. to 12:10 p.m.

Format: 54-hole stroke play, with a cut after 36 holes

Mike O’Neil, Director of Chicopee Country Club, expressed his enthusiasm:

“We are honored to host the American Junior Golf Association for the seventh consecutive year. Watching the incredible talent of these young players is truly inspiring—it’s something I look forward to every year.”

The tournament is free, and the public is welcome and encouraged to attend this exciting event and witness the next generation of golf talent in action.

READING, from page 1

receive a prize.

Teens can also use a reading log. For each hour they read or library program they attend they will get a raffle ticket which they can use to enter to win a variety of prizes (including games and gift cards).

Adults are also encouraged to join in on the summer reading fun. They can get a reading log, attend library events and partake in library bingo to get raffle tickets that they can use to try for different prizes.

During their summer reading program, the library also has a variety of events planned for people of all ages.

Kids are invited to the library for Science Heroes on Wednesday, July 9 at 1 p.m. where they can enjoy a hands-on show to get them excited about science.

“They will do a bunch of experiments, have audience participation, and they will

make things explode, so it is really fun,” Hayes said.

Teens can come in and enjoy cookie decorating on Thursday, July 10 at 2 p.m.

“The artist who leads it is actually a henna artist, so the decorating teaches the teens that kind of intricate artwork,” Sinihaio said.

Adults can also come in and enjoy a video game day on Tuesday, July 29 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. where they can play a variety of Nintendo games.

The library will also be doing a puzzle wall for July 7 through July 12. Anyone is welcome to come and enjoy this portable version of an escape room.

The library is excited to have people come in for these events and the many more they have planned throughout the summer.

To keep up to date on all of the fun programs at the library, go to their website at <https://www.holykellibrary.org/> or stop by in person to chat with a librarian.



Community members lined up at Holyoke Public Library to sign up for their summer reading program.

Turley photos by Quinn Suomala



Liz Hamel and Rey Figueroa from Holyoke Public Schools attended the Holyoke Public Library summer reading kick-off.



Kids, teens and adults were able to get free ice cream from an ice cream truck at the summer reading kick-off.

Better Business Bureau warns: Beware of scholarship scams during financial aid work

Many students are still searching and applying for grants and scholarships to fund their college education. For students struggling to pay tuition, a sudden offer of a grant or scholarship can look like a dream come true. But it could be bait for a scam.

Scholarship scammers trick victims with the promise of money, but upfront “fees” never actually materialize into those much-needed funds. In a recent twist, these scammers claim to help with student loan forgiveness.

BBB recommends caution when dealing with companies that help find financial aid opportunities. Students and their families should be wary of websites, seminars, or other schemes that promise to find scholarships, grants, or financial aid packages for a fee.

What you’ll learn:
• How scholarship and financial aid scams work, including tactics scammers use to trick students with fake offers, upfront fees, and fake checks.

• Red flags to watch out for, such as unsolicited offers, requests for payment, and vague or evasive answers from supposed aid providers.

• Tips to find legitimate financial aid, including relying on school counselors, using official government resources, and starting the search early to avoid rushed decisions.

Updated May 29, 2025 to cite a recent BBB Scam Tracker report and updated tips to avoid scholarship scams

How the scams work:
Scammers typically claim to represent the government, a university, or a nonprofit organization. The details vary, but the con is the same. The scammer will pose as a financial aid representative using words like “National” and “Federal” to sound more official. They claim you have won a scholarship or a grant (without ever applying) and ask for payment of a one-time “processing fee.”

In a recent BBB Scam Tracker report, someone reported utilizing a website appearing to be FAFSA; “They are an easy target for students looking to fill out a FAFSA application. Especially since they are using a .org domain name. Very shady to ask for a credit card. And can only return \$30 not the \$35. Keeping \$5 for a processing fee. This is probably the only way they stay in business.”

In this BBB Scam Tracker report, a student reported, “The website claimed to be a database of grants and scholarships for graduating high school seniors and anyone interested in attending a post secondary school or interested in research. The applications weren’t easily accessible and when I tried to cancel the membership because of it, I thought it had gone through but I have been charged twice more since then without any sort of email or letter mail.” This student lost \$100 to this scam.

In another version, the scammer pressures you into applying for a “guaranteed” scholarship or grant. However, there is a fee to apply. Time goes by once the fee is paid, and the money is never sent. When attempting to contact a representative, it is quickly discovered that the company has set so many conditions that it is almost impossible to receive a refund.

Another variation of the scam involves a check arriving for the scholarship, and instructions are included to send back payment for taxes or fees. The check turns out to be

a fake, and you’re out whatever money was sent.

A consumer recently reported their experience with a scholarship scam to BBB Scam Tracker: “The website advertises to offer a 100% scholarship for students who can’t afford the cost of their courses...I was approved, however, I was told I’d still have to pay a \$99 shipping fee for a card from the DOL and there is no option to take the course without paying for that. This is very misleading and appears to be false advertising.”

Legitimate companies are helping students find aid with some results. However, students and parents can usually find the same awards and others on their own by searching online. Prospective college financial aid offices can also help, especially if it is a college the student is seriously considering attending.

How to avoid scholarship scams:

• Beware of unsolicited offers. Typically, winning a scholarship or grant that wasn’t applied for is impossible. Ask how the organization got your name and contact information, and then verify it

with the source outside of the email, phone number, or website they used to contact you.

• Remember, it is generally free to apply for scholarships. If you’re required to pay a fee to apply for financial aid, take that as a red flag for a scam. If you’re looking into working with a company that offers professional financial aid search, ask about any fees, and get the information in writing.

• Avoid guaranteed scholarship offers. No one can guarantee you’ll receive money. Legitimate scholarships are earned through merit, need, or application.

• Verify the organization. Scammers often use official-sounding names like “national” or “federal.” Double-check their legitimacy through trusted sources like BBB.org or government websites.

• Take your time. Start your scholarship search early so you are aware of upcoming deadlines and are not rushed into finding financial aid opportunities. If you’re rushed, you may be more likely to fall for a scam that seems too good to be true.

• Ask lots of questions. Be

cautious if an organization that is offering financial aid is reluctant to answer questions about the scholarship or the process of applying for it. If you can’t get your questions answered, walk away. The same goes for any companies helping to find financial aid opportunities – ask questions and walk away if the representative is being evasive.

• Rely on your guidance counselor or a college financial aid office. These professionals will have connections to legitimate scholarships and financial aid opportunities that you can apply for. If you’re questioning a financial aid opportunity that was presented to you, ask these counselors if they are familiar with the scholarship or company offering it.

• Be aware that a check can bounce even after the bank allows cash withdrawal from the deposit. Check processing is a confusing business, as is the terminology. Even if a bank representative says that a check has “cleared,” it is not sure that it won’t be detected as a fake weeks later. One thing the account holder can be sure of is that they will be responsible for any funds drawn against the amount.

SPORTS

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

SEND US YOUR SUBMISSIONS

www.sports.turley.com

Mutiny clinches playoff spot

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW – Back on June 8, the New England Mutiny scored a season-high six goals during a road victory against the New Jersey Alliance. The Alliance were scheduled to make their first ever visit to Lusitano Stadium last Sunday afternoon, but they didn't have enough players to fill out their roster.

Instead of taking the weekend off like the Western Mass. Pioneers were forced to do 24 hours earlier, the Mutiny were able to find another opponent on short notice. The Worcester Fuel made the 45-minute trek west on the Mass. Pike to Ludlow.

It wasn't a very competitive match, as the Mutiny posted a 12-0 shutout victory in what was most likely their final home game of the season.

The Mutiny and Fuel were originally scheduled to face each other at Millbury High School on July 6.

"New Jersey indicated to us that they were having ros-

See **MUTINY**, page 8

Bankers take second straight over Saints

HOLYOKE – Last week in Tri-County League action, PeoplesBank defeated St. Joe's 5-3 at Mackenzie Stadium in Holyoke. Jovanni Merced got the win with Jack Feltovic taking the loss. Seth Allen had two hits and two RBI for the Bankers while Dave Clark turned in two hits. PeoplesBank is a perfect 6-0 so far this season while St. Joe's is 7-4.



Above, Dave Clark slings a throw to first. Left, Devin Slattery sends a throw to first.



Jovanni Merced sends a pitch home for PeoplesBank.



Cam MacDonald gets an out.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com



Kyle Platner goes for a tag.



Brandon Magni attempts to catch a pickoff throw.

Teddy Bear Pools remains winless

CHICOPEE – With the folding of the Chicopee Falls Tigers last year, Teddy Bear Pools has taken over the varsity field at Holyoke Community College and

also absorbed several of Chicopee's players.

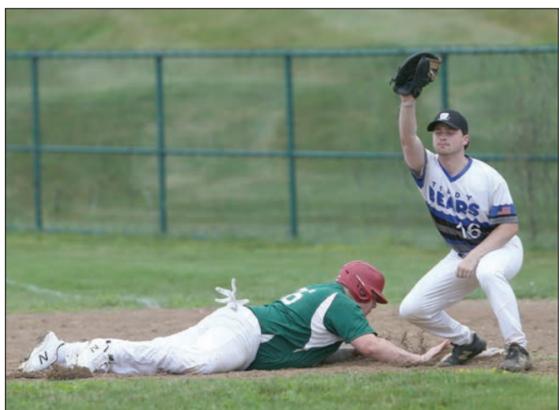
So far, Teddy Bear Pools is 0-5-1 on the season.

Last Tuesday, they were defeated by St. Joe's 10-5.

Teddy Bear is back in action following the Fourth of July holiday against St. Joe's on Monday, July 7 at 7:30 p.m. at St. Joe's Field in Palmer.



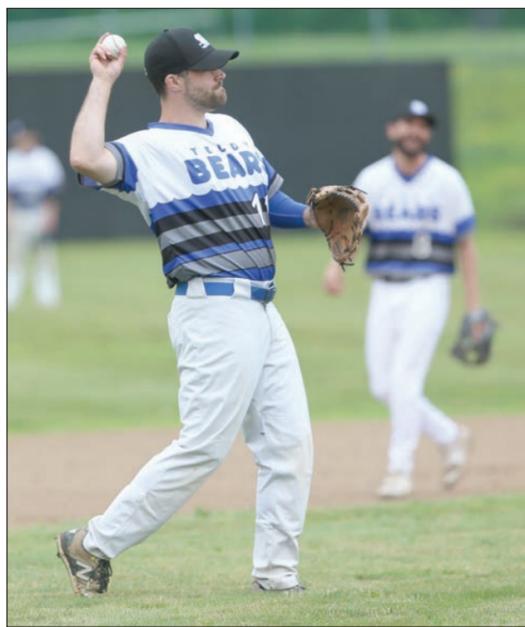
Ryan Magni catches a throw down to second.



Tyler Evans catches a pickoff throw.



Brendan Fournier pitches to the plate.



Greg Koziol completes a play to first.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com



Mason Barcomb sends a throw to first.

First inning surge leads Blue Sox past Sharks

HOLYOKE – A four-run first inning was the catalyst for a dominant Blue Sox win on Saturday, as they handily defeated the visiting Martha's Vineyard Sharks by a final score of 6-2.

After an error by Vineyard's Harley Goodner opened the scoring, Valley piled on three more runs. The runs scored on a Gavin Schrader single, a Mike Lucarelli double and a Cade Carr sacrifice fly.

"It allowed us to be confident," said Head Coach Endy Morales of the early surge. "We had lost to them already this week, they're a really good team, so to come out and punch them first, it just set the tone for the rest of the game."

Michael O'Connor added the other two Valley scores on a home run that soared into the Blue Sox bullpen. Sebastian Mexico contributed a two hit performance, and Michael Elko came across home plate twice as a base runner.

Valley threw eight pitchers in the contest, striking out 11 Vineyard batters. Max McCrary earned the win. Andrew Wertz came in for the ninth inning, when he struck out two batters to close out the game and earn the save.

Gio Colasante started the game for Vineyard, allowing four hits and four runs across two innings of work. He was credited with the loss.

The Blue Sox improve to an overall record of 10-8 on the season, while the Sharks fall to 12-7. The win snaps a two game losing skid for Valley.

See **SOX**, page 8

Registration open for annual Julia's 3v3 Soccer Jamboree

BELCHERTOWN – The Third Annual Julia's 3v3 Soccer Jamboree is scheduled to be held at the State Street Fields in Belchertown on August 16th, 2025. The annual event is held in memory of 13-year-old Julia Haynes who passed away in March of 2023 following a battle with brain cancer. All of the funds the Jamboree raises benefit the Julia Haynes Scholarship Fund, which is a 501(c)(3)

founded by four of Julia's classmates.

The first two events hosted more than 60 teams, each year, in grades 3 through high school for the all-day event bracket which also featured food trucks, raffle and dunk tank.

Registration is open until July 20 and is \$100 per team for up to four players and includes an event t shirt. There is also a new bracket for class of 2022 -

2025 participants. There will again be food trucks, a DJ and some fun activities for attendees including a raffle. Those interested in registering a team, becoming a volunteer, sponsor or donating to the raffle can get more details on the @julias3v3jamboree Instagram or Julia's 3v3 Soccer Jamboree Facebook pages or through Runsignup: <https://runsignup.com/Race/MA/Belchertown/Julias3v3SoccerJamb>

SOX, from page 7

"I thought that was a good one to get. It could have very easily been three losses in a row," said Morales. "Now we get to go into the off day with a win, and a really tough stretch coming up next week. I thought that was a great way to approach the off day and beat a team that's super competitive."

The Valley Blue Sox suffered defeat on Friday despite a rally in the sixth inning that saw them score four runs and take the lead.

Down 3-0 to the visiting Mountaineers, Valley went on a run that featured a Rees Kozar two run double,

a Clay Burdette sacrifice fly and an additional run on a throwing error.

Vermont responded in the top of the seventh with a Jaylen Hernandez two run home run, securing the 5-4 victory at MacKenzie Stadium.

"Overall, our defense needs to be cleaned up. We're making key mistakes later in the game ... I would like for us to be a little more efficient on the mound, and then defensively just clean up in those big moments," said Head Coach Endy Morales.

Beau Ellison started the game on the mound for Valley, allowing six hits and three runs across four innings of work. Riley

Williams was credited with the loss in relief for Valley.

For the Mountaineers, Jack Rollo earned the win. Oliver Ellison got the save.

The loss drops Valley's record on the season to 9-8. Morales will look to build on this record today, when they host the Martha's Vineyard Sharks.

"In the grand scheme of things, we're still above .500, I would love to stay above .500 [today] ... This is the time where you want to make that separation. You don't want it to be the last week of the season and you're chasing four wins to try and get into the playoffs. You want to do that now so you have a bit more buffer," Morales said.

T-Birds recognized with honors

INDIANAPOLIS, Ind. – The Springfield Thunderbirds were recognized among their peers across multiple business areas during the American Hockey League's Team Business Meetings presented by Victory Live in Indianapolis. The team captured the following honors:

- AHL Marketing Department of the Year
- AHL's Most Unique Social Media Content
- Matthew McRobbie: 3rd in Eastern Conference in corporate sales revenue generated
- Ticket Sales Department Benchmark Award for 600 New Full Season Equivalents
- Corporate Sales Department Benchmark Award for 90% Renewal in Corporate Cash

The highlight of this year's award recognition was the team's Marketing Department capturing top marks in the 32-team league with the title of AHL Marketing Department of the Year. The department has excelled with a fully in-house strategy blending creativity, consistency, and a strong brand identity. Each of the team's 36 home games features a unique campaign built around a cohesive season-long look, incorporating bold visuals and local imagery. Their efforts span digital, print, radio, billboards, and social media—reinforced by a revamped website and new mobile app—all designed to engage fans and drive recognition across every platform.

The Thunderbirds' Social Media Departments also earned leaguewide recognition during the 2024–25 season, most noticeably by winning the award for Most Unique Social Media Content. The honor stemmed from the team's inventive response to a shipping mishap that sent their Teddy Bear Toss jerseys to Germany by mistake. Turning an unfortunate situation into an opportunity, the social media team showcased that agility and creativity are sometimes the most powerful tools in a successful strategy.

"As we look back on the 2024–25 season, we couldn't be prouder of our team's tireless effort and passion in delivering a first-class experience for our fans—both in the arena and through our marketing and social media content," said Thunderbirds President Nathan Costa. "To see those efforts recognized at the league level is incredibly rewarding and reinforces the strong year-round engagement we strive for. When you pair that with another record-setting year at the Thunderdome—including new highs in attendance, season ticket membership, and corporate revenue—it's a testament to our entire organization."

In addition to teamwide awards, the Thunderbirds also saw Director of Business Development Matthew McRobbie recognized for finishing third among all Eastern Conference representatives in corporate sales revenue. This

marks the second consecutive season that McRobbie finished in the top-3 in the conference in this category.

Continuing a trend established over the previous three seasons, the 2024–25 Thunderbirds once again set new Springfield hockey records in average attendance per game (6,369), season ticket members, and group sales revenue. The ticket sales team also earned benchmark recognition with 600 new Full Season Equivalents (FSEs), the industry standard for measuring full- and partial-season ticket sales.

In another milestone year for the club's corporate sales team, the department was honored for achieving a renewal rate exceeding 90 percent in corporate cash accounts, helping drive a new single-season record in corporate revenue for the second straight year.

The Thunderbirds enjoyed another impactful season in the Springfield community, making over 400 appearances with mascot Boomer and players alike. Their presence spanned everything from youth hockey practices to major charitable events, including the Rays of Hope Walk, annual Teddy Bear Toss deliveries, the Community Caravan (with support from MassMutual), and a variety of corporate-sponsored initiatives. Altogether, the T-Birds Foundation raised more than \$100,000 in support of charitable causes across Western Mass. the 2024–25 season.

Contact the sports editor at sports@turley.com

MUTINY, from page 7

ter issues for this weekend, so we decided to switch our game with Worcester," said Joe Ferrara, who's the Owner/Managing Director of the Mutiny. "We'll try to reschedule the game with New Jersey or find another opponent to fill out our regular season schedule."

Because Mutiny head coach Federico Molinari was unavailable to coach last Sunday's home match, Ferrara took over the coaching duties.

The Worcester team used to be in the same Division as the Mutiny, but they were moved down to the second Division this year. They've played a couple of other games

against First Division clubs this season.

The victory improved the Mutiny's record to a perfect 7-0 Racing Power, who are from Baltimore, lost to the Mutiny, 3-0, at Lusitano Stadium on June 14, but they'll most likely be hosting the playoff game on July 13 because of the goal differential. The margin is capped at five goals for each match.

The U.W.S. National semifinals and finals are scheduled to be held in Chicago, Illinois.

The Mutiny, who lost in last year's championship match, clinched a berth in the United Women's Soccer League playoffs for the fifth time since they moved to

Lusitano in 2019.

"We've had a lot of success since we began playing our home matches here at Lusitano Stadium," Ferrara said. "We've had a dynamic group of players during the past couple of years. We are losing a couple of key players for the rest of the season."

Chioma Okafor was called up to play for the Nigerian Women's National Team in the African Nations Women's Cup. Cat Perez, who's a goalie, is playing for the Colombian National Team.

Kendall Bodak, who's from Monson, returned to Clemson University to start preparing for the college soccer season. Avery Galante also went back to the University of

South Carolina.

While the Mutiny were missing a couple of players, Hope Santaniello played in her first match of the season against Worcester. She returned home to Agawam after playing for a professional soccer team in Iceland. She has been a member of the Mutiny since 2019.

"Playing soccer with this team is something that's very special to me," Santaniello said. "It was great to be back and see all the girls again. I've also really enjoyed playing for the professional soccer team in Iceland. I'm learning a lot of different things."

Santaniello scored the Mutiny's fifth goal of the first half and added three more

during the final 20 minutes of the match.

"Hope just looks fantastic," Ferrara said. "She's been on our roster the whole season and is one of our all-time best players."

Hope's younger sister, Bella, was also scheduled to play for the Mutiny in last Sunday's match. However, because Worcester didn't have enough players show up for the match, she played for the visitors.

"My sister definitely has a lot of potential," Hope said. "I'm very glad that she's following in my footsteps. It was a lot of fun playing against her today."

Maddy Theriault, who graduated from Palmer High

School, recorded a hat-trick during the first 15 minutes of the opening half.

Bella Meadows scored the other first half goal for the Mutiny. She also scored the first goal of the second half.

Avery Klingensmith, who graduated from Belchertown High School, chipped in offensively with a pair of second half goals.

Mila Dillard, who's from Chicopee, also scored a goal during the second half.

It was the Mutiny's fourth shutout of the regular season. The defense was anchored by Aida Name, who's from Chicopee, Kylie Ray, who graduated from Minnechaug Regional, Rachel Marchini, and Anna Carson.

Send Us Your Autumn Event Information

Turley Publications will print your Autumn event **FREE OF CHARGE** in our **Autumn Fest Supplement** which will be published **September 10, 2025.**

Total circulation of 85,000 reaching over 200,000 readers in the Pioneer Valley.

Deadline for Calendar submissions is August 11.

Community Autumn Events

Event Should Be Non-Profit & Open to the Public

FREE Calendar Listings Reaching over 200,000 Readers in the Pioneer Valley

Event Name _____

Date/Time _____

Location _____

Description _____

Cost _____

Contact name & phone number for more information _____

MAIL YOUR LISTING INFORMATION TO:
Turley Publications, Attn: Jamie Joslyn, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069
or email* them to: jamie@turley.com
***Be sure to indicate "Autumn Event" in the subject line of your email.**

Classifieds

12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS | SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE

Call us at 413.283.8393

FOR SALE

ELECTRIC MINI BIKE. New 2024 Greenworks, 60V with two 8.0 oh batteries, dual port, 128 lbs. 25 mph max, 20 mi. radius, 90 minute charge, black/green. \$1350. **413-575-6448.**

FIREWOOD

FIREWOOD
Fresh cut & split \$200.00
Seasoned cut & split \$300.00
All hardwood.
Tree length available
*Also have seasoned softwood for outdoor boilers (Cheap). Quality & volumes **guaranteed!!** New England Forest Products **(413)477-0083**

MORE HEAT LESS WOOD. Central Boiler Classic Edge HDX Outdoor Wood Furnace. EPA Certified. Titanium Stainless Steel. \$2K Tax Credit. Call **(508)882-0178.**

TAG SALE

221 BRECKENRIDGE STREET, PALMER. Holiday decorations, blow molds, Snow Buddies, household misc., tools, car parts, etc. **July 4th through July 13th, 8am-5pm.**

ESTATE SALE. 6 Wheeler Road, West Brookfield. Saturday-Sunday, July 12-13, 1pm-5pm. Old tools, refrigerator, furniture, rain or shine.

WANTED

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

WANTED TO BUY

ANTIQUES AND OLD STUFF WANTED.

BUYING Bottles, Crocks, Jugs, Pottery, Costume Jewelry, Toys, Games, coins, sterling, Glassware, Silver-plated items, watches, Musical instruments, typewriters, sewing machines, tools, radios, clocks, lanterns, lamps, kitchenware, cookware, knives, military, automotive, fire department, masonic, license plates, beer cans, barware, books, oil cans, advertising tins, hunting, fishing, signs, and more.

Donald Roy **(860) 874-8396**

JUNK REMOVAL

A Call We Haul FAST REMOVAL
Junk, Appliance, Cleanouts.
We load it & take it.
413-531-1936
CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

JUNK REMOVAL

ARA JUNK FURNITURE REMOVAL

Full house cleanouts, attics, basements, garages, pools, hot tubs, sheds, decks. Same day service. 8am-9pm. Credit cards accepted. Free estimates on phone. *Fully insured.*
Call Pete 413-433-0356.

SERVICES



2*****A & B HOUSEHOLD REMOVAL SERVICE*****

Cellars, attics, garages cleaned, yard debris. Barns & sheds demolished. Swimming pools removed. Cheaper than dumpster fees and we do all the work. Lowest rates. Fully insured. **(413)283-6512, cell (413)222-8868.**

DRYWALL, PAINTING AND CEILINGS, plaster repair. Drywall hanging. Taping & complete finishing. All ceiling textures. Fully insured. Jason at Great Walls. **(413)563-0487**

ELECTRICIAN

CHAMPAGNE ELECTRICAL CONTRACTORS
Residential electrical service, mini splits, EV chargers, smoke detection. Fully insured. #22882A.
Mike **413-210-9140.**

LICENSED ELECTRICIAN

I offer good quality electrical work, no project too small. Mini-splits, upgrades, pools, trustworthy & dependable.
Luis Arroyo #20773A.
Text or call **413-218-3301.**

ZEN ELECTRIC COMPANY LLC

Fully licensed and insured; Master Electrician on staff. Call for all your electrical needs. No job too small. Senior citizen and Veteran Discount. A veteran owned company. MA License #8101A1.
Call John at **(413)206-6509**

EXCAVATING

ELIOT STARBAR EXCAVATION
35+ yrs of happy customers.
508-882-0140

HOME IMPROVEMENT

HOME IMPROVEMENTS. REMODELING Kitchens, baths. Ceramic tile, windows, painting, wallpapering, siding, decks. Insurance work. Fully insured. Free estimates. **(413)246-2783** Ron.

SERVICES

CHAMELEON PAINTING & REMODELING

INTERIOR/EXTERIOR
Remodeling & Deck Specialists
Residential/Commercial
Fully Insured • Free Estimates
413-351-1147

WALKER HOME IMPROVEMENT

Interior and exterior
Finish carpentry, framing, window & door replacement, drywall, painting and decks. Competitive pricing. Insured.

Call Brendan at **413-687-5552**

LANDSCAPING

A. ROZELL'S LANDSCAPING & BOBCAT SERVICE

Excavator Services
Overgrown property?
Extreme Brush Cutting!
Shrub, Stump, Tree Removal
Lawn/Arborvite Installed
Loam, Stone, Mulch, Sand
Storm Clean-up
Small Demolition/ Junk Removal
Insured
Josh Rozell 413-636-5957

****ALL SEASON**** Specializing in shrub trimming, pruning, design, deliveries, loader, backhoe, insured. Professional. Please call Bob **(413)537-5789 (413)538-7954.**

MATT GUERTIN LANDSCAPING

Weekly Mowing
Landscape design and installation
Paver Patios, Walkways
For more services visit **mattguertinlandscaping.com**

Call or text **413-266-9975**
Insured - Commercial - Residential

LAWN & GARDEN

***COMPOSTED LOAM* 3/8"** screened, \$40/yd. deliv., 10 yd min.; No additives, fillers or by-products. Local deliv. to Oakham and surrounding towns only. Elliot Starbard **508-882-0140.**

MASONRY

STOP WET BASEMENTS ABC MASONRY & BASEMENT WATERPROOFING

All brick, block, stone, concrete. Hatchway doors, basement windows, chimneys rebuilt & repaired, foundations repaired, basement waterproofing systems, sump pumps. BBB+ rating. Free estimates. Lic #14790. Call **(413)569-1611, (413)374-5377**

SERVICES

PAINTING

DUTCH TOUCH PAINTING
Interior only \$199.00 for average 12x16 room. Very neat, references, prompt service. Serving Palmer, Barre and surrounding area. Call **(508)867-2550**

PLUMBING

GREG LAFONTAINE PLUMBING & HEATING Lic #19196 Repairs & Replacement of fixtures, water heater installations, steam/HW boiler replacement. Kitchen & Bath remodeling. 30 years experience. Fully insured. \$10 Gift Card With Work Performed. Call Greg **(413)592-1505**

TREE WORK

AAA-TROM'S TREE SERVICE PROFESSIONAL SERVICE. Residential removal of trees. Free estimates, Fully insured W/Workman's Comp. Remove them before the wind takes them down. Cordwood, stump grinding. Call **413-283-6374.**

DL & G TREE SERVICE - Everything from tree pruning, tree removal, stump grinding, storm damage and brush chipping. Honest and Dependable. Fully insured. Now offering a Senior Citizen and Veteran discount. Call today for free estimate **(413)478-4212**

TUNE-UPS

LAWN TRACTOR & MOWER TUNE UP & REPAIR

A&M TUNE-UPS
Push Lawnmowers, Riding Mowers and Small Engine Repair.
Work done at your home.
STUMP GRINDING
FREE PICKUP OF UNWANTED LAWN EQUIPMENT
Call Mike **(413) 348-7967**

Advertise your HOME IMPROVEMENT SERVICES in our classifieds.

WE GET RESULTS!
Call **413-283-8393**



SERVICES

STUMP GRINDING

DL & G STUMP GRINDING Grinding stumps of all sizes, insured & certified. Senior discounts. Call Dave **413-478-4212**



SAW Stump Grinding
Call for a Free Estimate,
Veteran Owned, Fully Insured
WWW.SAWSTUMPGRINDING.COM
413-213-5470

PETS

MINIATURE SCHNAUZER PUPPIES, AKC reg. Salt/ Pepper. Vet checked, first shot, non shedding. Ready now, \$1500. **413-782-2305**

AUTO

CASH FOR JUNK AND REPAIRABLE CARS
FREE TOWING
FAST SERVICE
CASH PAID AS IS
CALL OR TEXT
413-219-6839

HELP WANTED

HAMPDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT is now accepting applications for a **FULL-TIME police officer.** Review of applications begins immediately. Visit **www.hampdenpolice.com** for more information. EOE

REAL ESTATE

FOR RENT



All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.
This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

REAL ESTATE

FOR RENT



EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.



Post your job openings in our classifieds.
We get results!
Call **413-283-8393**

TARGETED MARKETING LOCAL RESULTS

Turley Publications, Inc.
www.newspapers.turley.com

- AGAWAM ADVERTISER NEWS
- BARRE GAZETTE
- COUNTRY JOURNAL
- CHICOPEE REGISTER
- THE JOURNAL REGISTER
- THE LUDLOW REGISTER
- QUOBOAG CURRENT
- THE SENTINEL
- THE SUN
- WILBRAHAM-HAMPDEN TIMES
- TOWN REMINDER
- WARE RIVER NEWS

turleynews

TurleyPublications

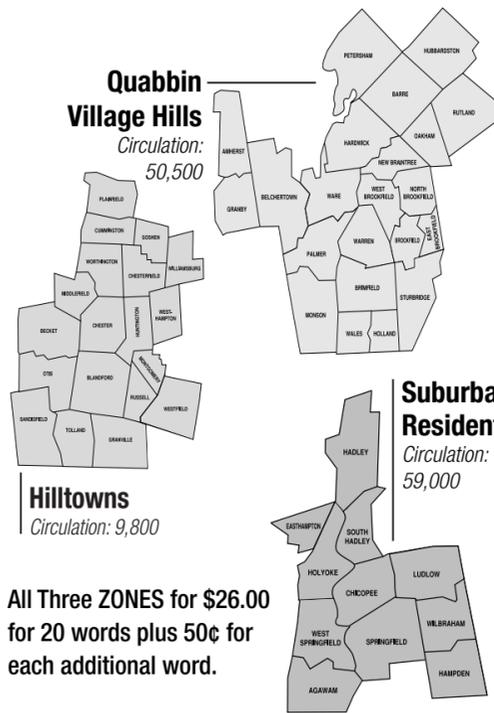
FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069 DEADLINES: **FRIDAY AT NOON**
or call: 413-283-8393

CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	Base Price \$26.50	22	Base Price \$27.00
23	Base Price \$27.50	24	Base Price \$28.00
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# _____
Card #: _____ Exp. Date _____ CVV _____
Amount of charge: _____ Date: _____

OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!



All Three ZONES for \$26.00 for 20 words plus 50¢ for each additional word.

GREAT VALUE!
ALL 3 ZONES NOW FOR THE PRICE OF ONE!

Make checks payable to Turley Publications

David Francis O'Sullivan

David Francis O'Sullivan, age 63, passed away unexpectedly but peacefully of natural causes on June 19, 2025 at his home in Holyoke.



their athletic, theatrical, and academic pursuits. He championed their interests with unwavering pride - from coaching baseball to cheering at basketball &

when appropriate, a well-timed correction.

He leaves a legacy of love and friendship, cherished by a wide circle of family and friends including his son Daniel Francis O'Sullivan of Holyoke, daughter Mary Elizabeth O'Sullivan (Jim) of Bigfork, MT, and son Kevin William O'Sullivan of New Haven, CT. He is also survived by his brother Brian O'Sullivan (Alison) of Stow, sister Meghan O'Sullivan-Spanbauer (Cary) of Carlisle, uncle Paul O'Sullivan of Concord, nephew Matthew Rivers (Alicia), niece Kelley Rivers, a large extended family of O'Sullivans, Mannixes, Finucanes, and Rices, his dog Ladybird, his former wife Kathleen (Dee, O'Sullivan) Hesselstine, and many cherished friends.

He was preceded in death by his parents Francis X. O'Sullivan, Marjorie E. (Mannix) O'Sullivan and his sister, Lauren Rivers.

He leaves behind a legacy of friendship, hard work, intellectual curiosity, and a fierce love for family. Family and friends are invited to gather for visiting hours on Friday, July 11 from 4 to 7 p.m. at Dee Funeral Home, 27 Bedford Street, Concord, MA. A Funeral Mass will be celebrated on Saturday, July 12 at 10 a.m. in St. Bernard's Church at Holy Family Parish, 12 Monument Square, Concord, followed by burial in his family plot at Sleepy Hollow Cemetery.

In lieu of flowers, donations in David's memory would be much appreciated at www.alphataugammaumass.org/Giving/ which he held close to his heart.

For David's online tribute page, please visit www.DeeFuneralHome.com.

lacrosse games to encouraging thoughtful discussions on politics, philosophy, and literature. He was proud of his Irish heritage, valued education, and made a point of reading aloud with his children when they were young, sharing stories from Harry Potter, the Bible, and history books, nurturing not only their imaginations but their sense of moral grounding.

He was a lover of the outdoors and local culture, often found hiking a nearby trail, riding his bike, relaxing at the beach, or enjoying live music in good company. He especially cherished time at the ocean where the coastal air, sandy paths, and small-town charm brought him peace and joy - his children have fond memories of time spent fishing off jetties or tossing a tennis ball in the surf. A lifelong Boston sports fan, he followed all the hometown teams with enthusiasm - especially the Red Sox, with family season tickets that spanned most of his life.

David valued friendship deeply. Whether reconnecting with childhood friends from West Concord, his fraternal brotherhood, or forming new bonds through work and community, he cultivated relationships with warmth, loyalty, and humor. He was also the family's self-appointed Grammar Police - always ready with a sharp eye, quick wit, and

Born on September 9, 1961 in Brighton, MA to Francis X. and Marjorie E. (Mannix) O'Sullivan and a proud son of West Concord, David built lifelong friendships that endured through every chapter of his life. He attended Austin Preparatory School in Reading, MA where he excelled at tennis, and later pursued college studies in California before returning east to begin a long and fruitful career in agriculture and landscaping.

For many years, David managed the Garden Center at Wilson Farm in Lexington, MA, where he became a trusted resource and beloved figure in the local horticultural community. He also worked at Outdoor World, P.R. Russell, and The Vermont Mulch Company, building deep roots in the nursery and mulch industries.

In later years, he continued his work across the Pioneer Valley, drawing on a love for the land that had blossomed during his time at the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at UMass Amherst. A devoted member of the Alpha Tau Gamma fraternity, he remained close with many of his fraternity brothers and found great happiness in mentoring students and improving properties throughout the region.

David raised his three children in Brookline, New Hampshire, where he was an attentive and loving father, deeply involved in

OBITUARY POLICY: Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries. One is a free, brief Death Notice listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place. The other is a Paid Obituary, costing \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. Death Notices & Paid Obituaries should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com. Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

DEATH NOTICE

David Francis O'Sullivan
Died: June 19, 2025
Services: July 11, 2025
Dee Funeral Home
27 Bedford St., Concord, MA

NEWS & FEATURES

As a paper of record, we attempt to cover all general news, personality profiles, and community features that we know about. This includes all selectmen and school committee meetings as well as spot planning board, board of health, finance, and other town meetings determined by the issue's relevance to our readers. There are the annual major community event features that we should always cover, but we are more than open to suggestions of other features to celebrate the fabric of our communities and their many interesting occupants. Our loyal advertisers provide funding for this paid staff coverage.

For more information on news or community features for The Sun, please email thesun@turley.com.

A TURLEY PUBLICATION
www.turley.com

ADVERTISING SALES

HELP WANTED

- ▶ Do you want to work in your community helping local businesses connect with their customers?
- ▶ Do you want a career supporting local journalism, which tells the unique stories of our communities?
- ▶ If so, then join our team! Turley Publications is looking for an outgoing, energetic person interested in selling advertising for our community newspapers. The right candidate will assume an established territory with a portfolio of customers.

You must be a self-starter with excellent communication and organizational skills.

Basic computer skills are required.

Previous print sales experience is preferred but we will train the right candidate.

Turley Publications, a locally owned family business, offers a competitive commission structure, 401k, and health plan.

Send resume & cover letter to:



Jamie Joslyn
24 Water Street
Palmer, MA 01069
Email: jamie@turley.com

The Holyoke Sun OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

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

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



07/04/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD25C0210CA
In the matter of:
Xotchilt Ambar Acosta
CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by **Xotchilt Ambar Acosta AKA Xochilt Ambar Acosta of Holyoke, MA** requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

Xochilt Ambar Acosta
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 07/21/2025.**

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

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: June 25, 2025

Rosemary A Saccomani
Register of Probate
07/04/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
Docket No. HD25P1281EA
Estate of:
Patrick J Brennan
Date of Death: 4/8/2025

INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Vallerie L Brennan of Holyoke, MA.**

Vallerie L Brennan of Holyoke, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without surety** on the bond.

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

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. HD25P1367EA
Estate of:
Terri N Green
Date of Death: 03/25/2025
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons: A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by **Dennis E Green, Jr. of Holyoke, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Dennis E Green, Jr. of Holyoke, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration.**

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: **10:00 a.m. on the return day of 07/28/2025.** This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: June 27, 2025

Rosemary A Saccomani
Register of Probate
07/04/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD24P1194EA
Estate of:
Laura Talbot
Also known as:
Laura Ferro
Date of Death: 04/07/2024

CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT

A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by **Benjamin Ferro of Holyoke, MA** requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account, a determination of heirs at law 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 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 23, 2025
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
07/04/2025

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: June 23, 2025

Rosemary A Saccomani
Register of Probate
07/04/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD25C0185CA
In the matter of:
Nixelabel Alices Robles
CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME

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

Nixelabel Cruz Alices
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 07/22/2025.**

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

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: June 24, 2025

Rosemary A Saccomani
Register of Probate
07/04/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD24P1194EA
Estate of:
Laura Talbot
Also known as:
Laura Ferro
Date of Death: 04/07/2024
CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT

A Petition for Order of Complete Settlement has been filed by **Benjamin Ferro of Holyoke, MA** requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account, a determination of heirs at law 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 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 23, 2025
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
07/04/2025