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Wistariahurst Museum holds plant sale

By Christina Giosica
Correspondent

HOLYOKE – Each year at Wistariahurst Museum, plant sales begin in May and go all the way through spring and summer into the fall. Additionally, they have an option to buy plants online and pick them up. Each month there is one plant sale, on a Saturday starting at 10 a.m. The proceeds of each of the museum’s plant sales primarily go to maintaining the grounds, through preservation and garden upkeep. They sell perennials as well as some edible plants such as tomatoes and different herbs. The plants can vary depending on the sale.

Karen Coffey has been gardening at Wistariahurst since 2015. She originally got into gardening in early life through her mother also enjoying the hobby.



Turley Photos By Christina Giosica

The volunteer gardeners at Wistariahurst Museum, including Sue Gillian, Laurie, Toi Graham, Judy, Paul, Karen Coffey, Carol, and Kathy. Left, there were dahlia flowers among the items for sale.



Coffey said, “I’m a master gardener, and so some of the other master gardeners, we’ve kind of bonded and I’ve learned an

awful lot from the ones that have been here much longer than me. I haven’t been here as long as so many of the others, and the knowledge

that they have, I’ve learned so much, it just enriches my life. That, and just their

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MONARCH MAJESTY



A monarch butterfly stopped by a lilac bush before it fluttered away. Turley photo by Kara Walsh-Vey

Staying safe from ticks, mosquitos this summer

By Quinn Suomala
Correspondent

As the weather gets warmer there is an increase in the number of ticks and mosquitos as people go about summer activities.

It is important for people to be aware of protection against these insects to prevent illnesses, including West Nile Virus, Lyme disease and Alpha-gal Syndrome.

The Director of Public Health in Wilbraham Ryan Paxton recommends that people check themselves, children and pets for ticks after going outdoors.

The key places to check are: inside and behind ears, along the hairline, the back of the neck, the armpits, the groin, the legs, and between the toes.

To remove a tick utilize fine point tweezers and grab the tick as close to the

skin as possible. Try to pull straight out, as moving at an angle can leave parts of the tick behind.

Additionally, as is on the website for the Massachusetts Department of Public Health, people should avoid applying kerosene, petroleum jelly, nail polish or a hot match tip to remove a tick, as those methods aren’t effective and can result in injury.

The Department of Public Health also recommends noting when the tick was removed and where on the body it was removed from. This information will be helpful if a person or pet needs to go to a doctor for treatment.

A person should go to the doctor if they develop a rash where they were bitten or experience the common

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Opportunity Academy offering students introduction to college-level science

HOLYOKE – Freshman students at Opportunity Academy engaged in a hands-on introduction to college-level science earlier this year, collaborating with Dr. Cagney Coomer of Smith College’s neuroscience department and Smith College neuroscience students. In the kitchen, students made mozzarella cheese to explore milk acidity using bases such as vinegar and lemon. This experiment directly connected to their Plant Power course on soil acidity.

As part of her volunteer activities at OA, Dr. Coomer and her college students also worked with OA’s 9th graders to develop their understanding of

neuroscience, including activities that measured brainwave activity and tested neural responses during video games, soda consumption, and sound/image reactions.

“The partnership between Smith College and Opportunity Academy aims to provide students with more than a science lesson,” Opportunity Academy’s science and math teacher Fatimah Shabazz. “By working with a scientist of color and connecting classroom concepts to their community, students gained hands-on experience, career exposure, and a reminder of science’s accessibility and relevance.”

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Submitted photo

Holyoke’s Opportunity Academy recently offered incoming freshmen a look at college-level science.

Applications available for FY27 CPA funding

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

HOLYOKE – The City of Holyoke Community Preservation Act Committee (CPAC) is pleased to announce the opening of its FY27 grant cycle.

According to a press release from the city, potential applicants are invited to submit an eligibility application form by Sept. 4. The eligibility form is the first step in a multi-step application process: after project eligibility is established, applicants will then be invited to submit a full application for consideration by the committee, followed by public presentations of each project’s scope, benefit, and budget. Finally, CPAC makes its recommendations to the City Council for funding approval.

The Eligibility Form and other application materials are available by contacting CPA Administrator Naomi Klayman at klaymann@holyoake.org, and will also be posted to the City of Holyoke website. Eligibility requirements can be found on the Massachusetts Community Preservation Act’s website.

The Community Preservation Act (CPA) is a state law enacted in 2000 and adopted by the City of Holyoke in 2016. The CPA supports historic preservation, recreation, open space, and community housing projects within Holyoke. The program has funded a variety of popular projects throughout the city, including community housing at Appleton Mills and Library Commons, the fully accessible Miracle League Playground, the restoration of Lady Liberty at Veterans Park, and ongoing upgrades to Scott Tower and the Holyoke Merry Go Round.

Since its adoption, the CPAC has disbursed over \$5 million to preserve Holyoke’s character and improve quality of life for its residents.

Applicants are encouraged to contact Naomi Klayman with questions and for support throughout the application process.

Last year, several great projects were funded through the CPA. Among them were work on Scott Tower at Anniversary Hill Park, work to the City Hall steps, window restoration at Holyoke Health center, a horse restoration for Friends of MGR, Butler’s Pantry at Wistariahurst Museum, and a garden on Dwight St. requested by Neighbor to Neighbor.

For Scott Tower, a restoration of the tower and associated landscaping funds have been requested. The CPA funds were combined with other grant funding for the project as well as a previous \$100,000 grant from the CPA.

Friends of the Holyoke Merry-Go-Round received \$31,960 to restore four horses for the merry-go-round, which are near 100 years old. The Friends have been working since 2003 to

See CPA, page 10

Hyundai donates \$10K to HCC food pantry

Rome Hyundai.” Hyundai Hope is Hyundai Motor America’s corporate social responsibility initiative that provides support in the area of health.

“Research has shown the number one concern for Americans is food insecurity, and basic needs are essential for these students,” said Brandon Ramirez, director of corporate responsibility for Hyundai Motor North America.

The HCC Thrive Center manages the college’s food pantry and provides services, such as food and housing assistance, that help address students’ basic needs.

HOLYOKE – Holy Trinity Church in Holyoke is celebrating its 5th Greek Festival on Aug. 22 from 11-5 p.m.

The community event will raise funds to support the Ladies of the Philoptochos (Friends of the Poor) Society whose main mission is to support those facing hardships.

As America celebrates 250 years, this year's features will include live music, a community-wide charity drive (personal care items, Walmart Gift-Cards, and slightly used backpacks), honor those who protect and serve by offering First Responders \$5 off any purchase with ID, and baklava sundae.

HOLYOKE – The City of Holyoke announced the location and hours for cooling centers to be used this summer. Check the city website for forecasted heatwaves for their opening. During regular business hours, the War Memorial Building at 310 Appleton Street, the Center for Human Development (CHD) at 696 Dwight Street, the Holyoke Public Library at 250 Chestnut Street, and the Holyoke Senior Center at 291 Pine Street.

The Pouliot swimming pool at 575 Maple Street (behind the ice skating rink) is now open seven days a week:

Adult Swim Daily, 9 to 11 a.m.; Open Swim, Monday - Friday, 1 to 6 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Splash pads for children are up and running at Springdale Park, Pulaski Park, Community Field, Pina Park, Carlos Vega Park, and Heritage State Park. The splash pad at Pouliot pool also is open.

Holyoke Emergency Management urges residents to avoid excessive outdoor activity, to exercise caution with the elderly, children, and individuals with chronic illnesses, and to stay hydrated by drinking water.

played on the Elks soccer field, which the Lodge has proudly made available to local soccer clubs for years. Community organizations such as the Holyoke St. Patrick's Parade Committee and Alcoholics Anonymous have used the Lodge as a meeting and event space. Organizations including Magic For Maddie have also used our facility as a gath-

See ELKS, page 3

couches. The Bousquets' generously donated Little Free Library is the perfect addition to this updated space.

Wistariahurst welcomes visitors to the ribbon cutting and story time with Mayor Garcia Monday, July 27 at 10 a.m. Enjoy story time, bring a book, and take a book to enjoy. This event is free and open to the public. Visitors are welcome to peruse Wistariahurst's Free Little Library during the museum's open hours, Mondays, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and Tuesdays, 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.



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Guest Column

SOCIAL SECURITY
Matters

By Russell Gloor



Can my spouse file at 63 and then get half of mine when I later claim?

Dear Rusty:
My spouse is 63 and I am 65.

I am planning to take my Social Security benefits at age 70. Can my lower earning spouse take his own benefits now, and then -when I take my full benefits at age 70, can he then file for 50% of mine instead of the lower benefit he is getting because he claimed at age 63?

Signed:
Higher Earning Spouse

Dear Higher Earning Spouse:

Yes, your lower-earning spouse can take his benefits based on his personal lifetime earnings record at any time (i.e., age 63) and, when you later claim your own SS at 70, your spouse will be evaluated to determine whether he is eligible for a “spousal boost” based on your Social Security record.

But to be sure you are clear, if you claim at age 70, your spouse will not get 50% of your age 70 benefit amount.

Spousal benefits are always determined by comparing each partners’ Full Retirement Age entitlement and, if your spouse’s FRA entitlement is less than half of your FRA entitlement, your spouse will get a “spousal boost” to bring his monthly SS retirement payment up to what he is entitled to as your spouse.

The amount of the “spousal boost” would be the difference between his FRA entitlement and 50% of your FRA entitlement, which would be added to his own (age 63) SS retirement amount.

And that means that his total benefit amount would be less than half of your age 70 amount (less also than 50% of your FRA amount, because he claimed at age 63).

One caution for your spouse to be aware of: if he is still working and claims at age 63, he will be subject to Social Security’s Annual Earnings Test, which limits how much he can earn before SS takes away some benefits.

The earnings limit for 2026 is \$24,480 (changes annually) and if that is exceeded, SS will take back \$1 of benefits for every \$2 he is over the limit. FYI, Social Security will “take back” by withholding future benefit payments, so he will not get his benefits for some months if he exceeds the annual earnings limit.

And if the annual earnings limit is significantly exceeded, your spouse could even be temporarily ineligible to receive SS benefits (until he either earns less or reaches his full retirement age, the earnings limit goes away

when FRA is reached.

The only way your spouse can avoid both a reduced personal benefit and the annual earnings test limitation is to wait until his own Full Retirement Age to claim Social Security.

However, if he’s not working full time and needs the Social Security money sooner, then claiming at age 63 may be a good choice. In any case, he won’t get half of your age 70 amount.

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.



Appalachian Trail

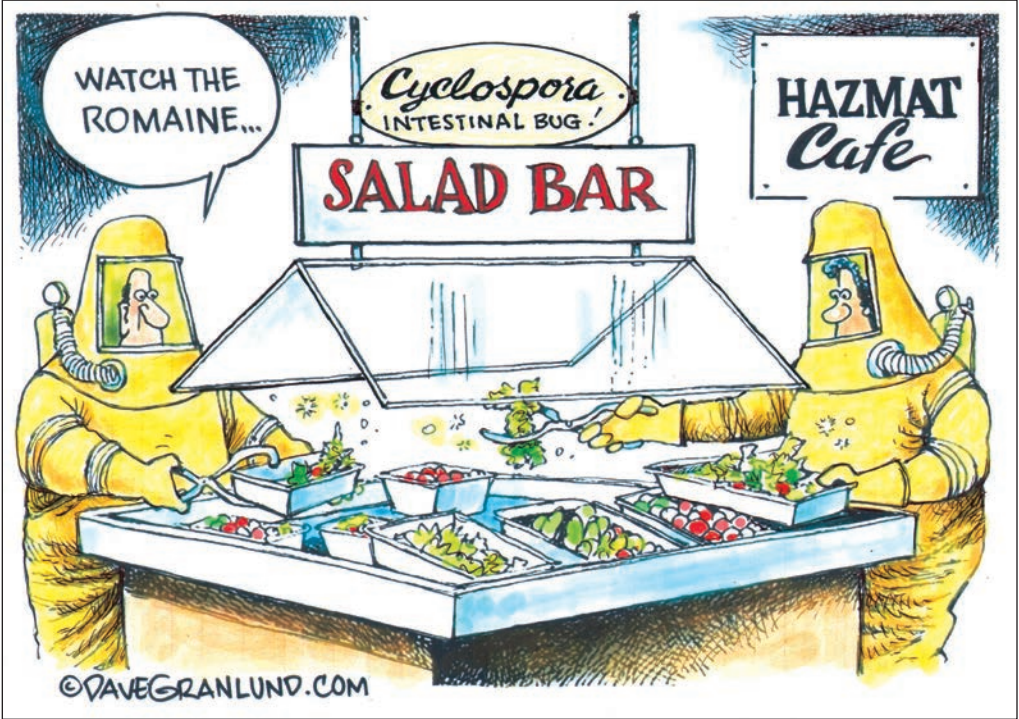
By Julie Midura
Guest Columnist

Seventeen days into our 320-mile walk on the A.T. from North Carolina to Virginia, the sky broke open with unyielding rain, drumming the leaves overhead and turning the trail into a torrent of rushing water. The squish, squish, squish of water-filled shoes became a constant melody for the next eight days as rain drifted through the forest... sometimes in sheets and sometimes in hushed murmurs.

Wet foliage accosted us at every turn, the branches leaning heavily onto the trail from the weight of SO MUCH unrelenting rain.

Every step became methodical. Our eyes looked down rather than ahead, focusing on the individual brushstrokes rather than the entire painting. Only then were we able to see the tiny little details we likely would not have noticed under sunny skies.

As we continued to walk through ever-present WET, our attention narrowed. We focused our eyes on a much smaller world-the one directly below our feet.



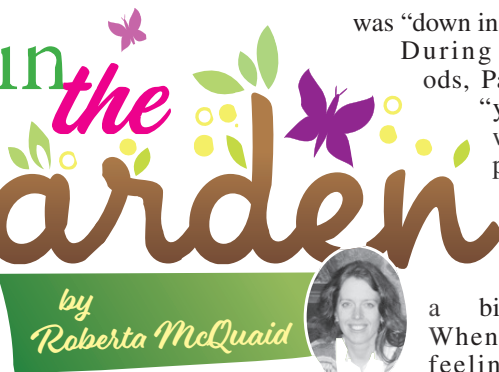
Guest Column

Washing the elephant in the garden

The name Paul Rogers may ring a bell with some of my readers. Paul was a dear friend of mine, a mentor and acclaimed horticulturist who had amazing influence at Old Sturbridge Village, especially early on in my tenure.

He operated Stonehedge Gardens with his wife Barb in Charlton and for many decades wrote a regular column for the Worcester Telegram and Gazette. Paul also had a radio show, a weekly gardening Q&A on WTAG.

It was with his coaxing that I applied for and got this gig as the Garden Lady for Turley Publications over 20 years ago. He was very well known throughout Central Massachusetts, the Boston area and beyond.



Once I was in Bath, Maine, and to my disbelief someone mentioned that they knew Paul Rogers when I was shopping in a kitchen store of all places. But alas, I digress.

Paul and I would meet every other week at the Village unless he was traveling on some horticultural odyssey. Many times he and I would chat before we took our walks around campus to assess my beds.

I learned all about his trips in great detail and he got to know me pretty well, too. He always knew when I

was “down in the dumps.”

During those periods, Paul would say, “you’ve got to wash the elephant.”

At first this made little sense to me, but after a bit I understood. When you are not feeling like yourself, you have to tackle a project, a big, elephant-like project, and afterwards you will feel better.

Of course, his projects were, and mine are, typically garden related.

So this weekend I tackled the iris and rose bed. Or shall I say the iris, rose and violet bed?

The violets were un-welcomed guests in the garden, as were the borers, but we will get to that in a minute.

You see, I inherited this beautiful patch of blue-purple bearded irises when we

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Guest Column

Twenty-four days of mountains, miles & memories

I crouched down to see a turtle shyly peeking its head out of its bright yellow lacquered shell. I squatted with my elbows on my knees in the middle of the path to watch a snail moving with ceremonial slowness as it crossed the trail on a rotting log, leaving a trail of silver in its wake. I stooped low to get a closer look at a vivid orange salamander with black speckles dusting its back and golden eyes staring straight into mine. I observed tiny creatures of our earth-who remain under cover on hot sunny days-come to life on the surface of the rain-drops.

For eight days in a row, we awoke in a tent and pulled on soaking wet socks and shoes. We gripped trekking poles with fingers that turned white and puckered by days end. But we also witnessed magical forest spirits and tiny details we would never have noticed on a clear day.

It rained overnight and was still spitting when we packed up our wet tent on our final day on trail. Before we started walking, we ended our morning prayer with, “And if it be your will, Lord, please let us end this hike under sunny skies.”

Several hours later, we reached the end of our journey at the Virginia border, completing our 320-mile walk from Fontana Dam, NC to Damascus, VA! We congratulated each other, snapped a few pictures, then continued hiking the final few miles toward the town of Damascus, where our friends were meeting us to shuttle us back to our car.

As we walked, the clouds finally began to loosen their grip on the sky.

Minutes later, golden beams of sunlight spilled between the branches, as if an unseen hand was parting a curtain. The entire forest came alive with a radiance that could not be explained by mere sunlight alone.

I stopped walking, and with my pack on my shoulders, I tilted my face upward as the sun poured rivers of gold through the canopy above me. And suddenly, I was filled with an overwhelming revelation-so powerful that I began to weep uncontrollably.

I wept not because the rain finally stopped. Not because the hike had been so hard. Not because we completed our goal. I cried, because in that sudden moment of awakening, I could feel God’s presence to the depths of my very soul. And I realized we had never

walked a single mile alone.

God had carried us through every storm. Through every drop of rain. Every exhausting climb. Every windswept ridge. Every stretch of muddy trail. Through every ache and every pain.

He had not been waiting for us at the end. Had not been watching us from a distance. He had been walking right alongside us, filling us with His glory with every step, and carrying us when we could no longer carry ourselves.

My fatigue had concealed it. The rain and clouds had obscured it. My own determination had camouflaged it. But here, in a moment of complete clarity, with the sunlight warming my face, drops of water drip-

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Submitted photos

the HOLYOKE Sun

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

Unsigned or anonymous letters will NOT be published.

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

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

Election letters to the editor welcome

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 the editor at 413-283-8393.

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

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

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your health

By Teri (Dreher) Frykenberg, RN
Guest Column

July 2025 made history as one of the Earth’s five hottest months on record. This July? More of the same.

The stubborn “heat dome” that blanketed a good chunk of the U.S. in June held on to make July 4th miserable for a lot of people. Dealing with the heat is tough enough, especially for children and those over 65, but with the heat come warnings about the AQI, or air quality index.

The AQI was implemented in 1968 by the then-National Air Pollution Control Administration, whose responsibilities are now under the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). It tracks five major pollutants: ground-level ozone, particulate matter, carbon monoxide, sulfur dioxide

and nitrogen dioxide.

In short, it tell us how safe our air is to breathe. And it’s an important number to know in your locality. Fortunately, you can look up real-time AQI information for over 500 U.S. cities on airnow.gov, a partnership among the EPA, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Association, the National Park Service, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, NASA and others.

You can also find worldwide data on AQLin, an open-source AQI tracker developed by a New Delhi-based entrepreneur.

So, it’s easy to find the information. The question becomes how you can use it to protect yourself and loved

What is the AQI and why should you care?

ones from pollution.

First, let’s break down the five pollutants and why they can be dangerous, especially to those with pre-existing health conditions, such as asthma, COPD, bronchitis and heart disease.

- **Ground-level ozone:** The ozone layer up in the atmosphere protects us from most of the sun’s radiation. On Earth, though, it’s damaging to our lungs. As ozone concentrates and mixes with other pollutants, it becomes known as smog. It is currently one of the least well-controlled pollutants in the U.S. – and also one of the most dangerous, according to the American Lung Association.
- **Particulate matter:** Known as PM, this pollutant refers to microscopic solid or liquid particles suspended in the air, which can include dust, soot and smoke – a particular concern during wildfire season. These particles can penetrate deep into the lungs and even enter the bloodstream, leading to various health issues.
- **Carbon monoxide:**

Known as CO, it is a colorless, odorless and tasteless toxic gas produced by incomplete combustion of carbon-based fuels such as gasoline and coal. It’s extremely dangerous because it binds to hemoglobin more readily than oxygen, potentially bringing on oxygen deprivation, which can be fatal. It’s especially dangerous to those with heart conditions.

- **Sulfur dioxide and nitrogen dioxide:** These pollutants come primarily from the burning of fossil fuels, particularly in vehicles, power plants and industrial facilities. They pose serious health risks, including respiratory problems, and contribute to environmental issues like acid rain.

All of these are factored into the AQI, which can tell you when it’s safest to be outdoors, and when it’s not. The AQI is a numerical scale that is color coded. An AQI 50 or under is considered good (green); 51-100 (yellow) is moderate; 101-150 (orange) is unhealthy, especially for sensitive groups; and anything

from 151 to 300 or more (red) is extremely hazardous to the general population.

Summer is typically when the AQI is more concerning. Air pollution is often made worse by intense heat and stagnant air, especially in populated areas. Drought conditions can bring on wildfires. If you recall, smoke from last summer’s wildfires in Canada had a huge impact on U.S. states.

Here are a few tips to keep yourself and your loved ones safer this summer from the pollutants measured by the AQI.

- **Check the AQI before venturing out:** It’s front and center on most weather apps. Go outdoors for yardwork or exercise in the morning: The AQI generally gets worse as the day heats up, and it’s also unfavorable in the evening due to accumulated pollutants and reduced wind speeds.
- **Be prepared:** If you or someone in the family has asthma, carry a rescue inhaler. N95 masks, which we learned to wear during the pandemic,

can also help limit the amount of particulate matter you may inhale.

Pay attention to indoor air quality: Use air purifiers with HEPA filters, for example. Dust and vacuum to control particulate matter. Frequently change filters in furnaces and air handlers. Control moisture to avoid mold.

The AQI is more than a number. It’s a guide to a healthier summer.

Teri (Dreher) Frykenberg, R.N., a registered nurse and board-certified patient advocate, is the founder of www.NurseAdvocateEntrepreneur.com, which trains medical professionals to become successful private patient advocates. A Monson, MA resident, she is the author of “How to Be a Healthcare Advocate for Yourself & Your Loved Ones” and her new book, “Advocating Well: Strategies for Finding Strength and Understanding in Health Care,” available at Amazon.com. Contact her at Teri@NurseAdvocateEntrepreneur.com to set up a free phone consultation.

GARDEN, from page 4

moved to this house. For years it bloomed effortlessly. I divided it once a few years back and it was nice for awhile.

But this year blooms were sparse and rose suckers began to show up everywhere within the garden. Violet foliage crowded out the vertical spear-shaped iris leaves.

How was I to tame this mess and do it in the most efficient way possible? My approach may seem unconventional, but if I didn’t do it this way I might still be outside squatting in that very garden.

I took out the lawn mower and adjusted the height to the tallest I could, six inches. Then I mowed down the garden.

After that I got into the bed with a hand trowel and one scoop at a time, dug up the bed. It was easier than I thought, because the iris-

es were in worse shape than I thought. They came up so easily because they were weakened by a bad iris borer infestation.

I had never seen anything like it. As I unearthed the rhizomes I smelled the rot before I found my first borer. To say it was gross was an understatement.

Each rhizome was lifted, inspected and cut back to healthy tissue. Two inch long borers were collected in a yogurt container for the chickens. They ranged in color from light pink to deep mahogany.

To think that I’ve been gardening for so long and had never seen one before! The violet rhizomes were also dug up and discarded, as were the unwanted rose runners and suckers.

Thinning out the apothecary rose will certainly help to dissuade powdery mildew from taking hold next year. This year it’s pretty bad.

Meanwhile, the irises

were moved to a holding bed, also known as the vegetable garden, while I solarize the area they came from to kill off any violet seeds. I hope. They are notorious at self seeding.

I realize I took this project on a bit later in the season than I should have; my irises may not bloom next year, but it was then or never.

So now you have my “washing the elephant” story. And you know a little more about an amazing man who I miss so much and think of often, especially when I am in the garden.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 34 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.

HIKING, from page 4

ping from the leaves above me, and over three hundred miles behind me, I could see it clearly.

God had been with us in every step.

In the strength when ours failed. In the shelter that appeared when we needed it most. In the strangers who offered kindness. In the moments when we thought we had nothing left, yet somehow continued forward.

I stood among the trees, while beams of gold-

en light streamed through the branches above me in silent testimony. Stripped of my armor, I wept on my husband’s shoulder while he held me in his arms. And finally, every raindrop, every ache, every hard climb, every trial, and every mile... made sense.

We completed our goal, not because it was easy, but because we kept putting one foot in front of the other for 24 days.

We embraced a path that humbled us. Carried us. Challenged us. Stripped us down and built us up-physi-

cally, mentally and emotionally. Taught us resilience. Showed us that we can sit in discomfort without becoming a casualty of it.

We tasted freedom. We inhaled silence. We knew peace.

The miles may be finished, but we will carry what they gave us as we step out of this wilderness and re-enter the world we left behind.

Onward!

Read more about Julie and Tom’s wilderness adventures on Instagram @morethanthemountain.

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CLUES ACROSS

- Listen to
- Presents
- A type of guitar
- Actor Idris
- A citizen of Iran
- Pretentiously artistic
- Harness
- Diamond weight measurement
- “Better Call ___”
- Fervent support
- Male cat
- Jewish spiritual leader
- Disposed to venture or take risks
- A way to nail
- Cool!
- Women’s ___ movement
- “Losing My Religion” rockers
- Step-shaped recess
- A princess can detect it
- Tractor-trailer
- Leslie and Leon are two

- Color at the end of the spectrum
- Lines where fabrics are sewn
- Dodgers great Hershiser
- Floor covering
- Traveled aimlessly
- Rocker Stewart
- Body art
- Congressman (abbr.)
- No seats available
- Breaks apart
- Hand gesture
- Ballplayer’s tool
- Sword
- Baseball team
- Upper bract of floret of grass
- Italian Seaport
- Mars crater
- Tube on a shoelace
- U. of Miami mascot
- South American nation
- Video game series “Max ___”

CLUES DOWN

- German courtesy title
- Ancient Greek personification of mercy
- Jewish calendar month
- Family of long-legged frogs
- Photo
- Delivered a speech
- Lute used in Indian music
- Decorated
- Cease to stand
- The bottom layer
- Member of a Semitic people
- Part of a ticket
- Defunct monetary unit
- Challenges
- Body part
- Tell on
- By way of
- Shady green alcove
- Egyptian city
- ___ and flowed

- Widens a hole
- Eurasian wheat
- Act incorrectly
- “Be back later”
- Al Bundy’s wife
- Ocean
- Large root eaten as a vegetable
- Units of subjective loudness
- Music genre
- A way to drench
- Popular hot beverage
- Silk-like cotton fabric
- Rumanian city
- Come back
- Vaccine developer
- Canadian law enforcers
- Wings
- Observational comedian Bill
- Small fry
- ___ Clapton, musician
- Take a chance
- Semi-liquid food for babies
- Consumed food

CROSSWORD ANSWER on page 6

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

CHURCH DIRECTORY

Your Community Church

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 and Thursday, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.
Wednesday, 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.
Friday, 12:30 p.m. - 4:30 p.m.
WORSHIP:
Sundays at 9:30 a.m. (also on Facebook Live) & Thursdays at 6:30 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](https://instagram.com/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)

First Lutheran Church

1810 Northampton St.
Holyoke, MA 01040
Every Sunday at 9 a.m.

The Holyoke Sun • JULY 24, 2026 • 5

Women’s Center Foundation committing more grant funds

SPRINGFIELD – The O’Dell Women’s Center Foundation is committing \$1 million in funding to non-profit organizations serving low-income women and girls throughout Hampden County, Massachusetts.

This represents the Foundation’s largest grant-making investment to date, the 2026 grant program reflects the growing need for

services that help women and girls achieve stability, opportunity, and long-term economic mobility.

“Our decision to double our grantmaking reflects both the urgency of the needs we see across our community and our unwavering commitment to supporting women and girls,” said Keely Krant, Founder and President of the O’Dell Women’s Center.

“Women deserve access to both immediate support during difficult times and opportunities that lead to long-term financial stability.”

The Foundation’s grant-making is centered on two funding priorities:

• Critical and Basic Needs supports programs that help women and their families meet essential needs and maintain stability during

challenging circumstances.

• Education, Career Development, and Economic Stability supports programs that help women achieve financial stability through education and career advancement.

Grants will range from \$20,000 to \$100,000, with an average award of \$50,000, supporting organizations that provide critical services

while helping women build stronger futures. Applications are now open and will close Sept. 18.

The O’Dell Women’s Center Foundation is committed to investing in programs that address both immediate challenges and long-term opportunities for women and girls. By supporting organizations that remove barriers and expand

access to education, employment, and essential services, we help build stronger families and more resilient communities throughout Hampden County.

For more information about the 2026 grant cycle or to register for the virtual information session, visit the O’Dell Women’s Center website at www.odellwomen-scenter.com.

Registration, volunteer signups open for Run Stanley 5K

WESTFIELD – Stanley Park is excited to announce that registration is now open for the 14th Annual Run Stanley 5K, taking place on Sunday, October 4, 2026. Participants and volunteers can sign up online at <https://runsignup.com/Race/MA/Westfield/RunStanley>.

Run Stanley is a beloved community tradition that brings together runners, walkers, families, students, and their four-legged companions

for a morning of fitness, fun, and support for Stanley Park. The event welcomes participants of all ages and abilities through a variety of race divisions, including the 5K Trail Run/Walk, K9 Division, 1-Mile Stroll & Roll, and the ¾-Mile Munchkin Run for elementary school students.

Elementary schools are also encouraged to participate in the School Spirit Challenge. The elementary school with the most registered partici-

pants will take home the coveted Run Stanley School Spirit Trophy.

In addition to participants, Stanley Park is seeking volunteers to help make the event a success. Volunteers are needed for a variety of roles, including registration, course marshaling, water stations, finish line support, and event setup and cleanup. Community members, service groups, students, and local organizations are encouraged to get involved.

As a private nonprofit organization, Stanley Park relies on the support of events like Run Stanley to help maintain its nearly 300 acres of gardens, trails, wildlife sanctuary, and recreational spaces, which are enjoyed by more than 400,000 visitors annually. The park remains free and open to the public year-round.

To register for the race or sign up to volunteer, visit: <https://runsignup.com/Race/MA/Westfield/RunStanley>

Granby Free Public Library offering photography workshop July 30

GRANBY – On Thursday, July 30 from 5 to 7 p.m. Granby Free Public Library will host “Photographing and Capturing the Beauty of Flowers and Gardens.” If you love flowers, plants, and gar-

dens, chances are you love taking pictures of them too!

Learn a set of simple techniques for taking stunning flower and garden photos. All cameras, phones, and experience levels are welcome. You’ll have a chance

to try your new skills as we photograph real flowers and experiment with backgrounds, small lights, reflectors, diffusers, Lensball, special effect attachments for your phone, and more.

This workshop is led by

Massachusetts-based event, lifestyle, and branding photographer, Joan Celebi.

Space is limited, so please contact the library to sign up. Sponsored by the Friends of the Granby Free Public Library.

Public Notices

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
Docket No.
HD26P1470EA
Estate of:
William T. Baxter, Sr.
Date of Death:
January 29, 2026
INFORMAL PROBATE
PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **William T. Baxter, Jr. of Holyoke, MA**

a Will has been admitted to informal probate.
William T. Baxter, Jr. 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.
 07/24/2026

City of Holyoke
Notice of Public Hearing
 The Holyoke License Board will be holding a Public Hearing on **Wednesday, August 5, 2026, at 5:15 p.m.** You can join via [Zoom.com](https://zoom.us); ID **83974921923**;

CALL IN: *67 646 558 8656 or in person at City Hall, 536 Dwight St. in the Old Tax Collector Office Room 6, regarding the application for a New Seasonal All Alcohol On-premises License for Demented FX Inc., 530 Main Street. pursuant to M.G.L. Ch.138.
 Applicant: Demented FX Inc.
 License Board:
 Jose Correa, Chairman
 07/24, 07/31/2026

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.
HD22P2487EA
Estate of:
Daniel Francis Griffin
Date of Death: 08/19/2022
CITATION ON PETITION
FOR SALE OF REAL ESTATE BY A PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

To all interested persons:
 A Petition for Sale of Real Estate has been filed by: **Maureen A O’Driscoll of Holyoke, MA** requesting that the court authorize the Personal Representative to sell the decedent’s real estate at a private sale.

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 08/14/2026.

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

file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

Witness, **Claudine T. Stoudemire**, First Justice of this Court.
 Date: July 06, 2026
Rosemary A Saccomani,
 Register of Probate
 07/24/2026

INVITATION TO BID
JONES POINT PARK
IMPROVEMENTS REBID
IFB 2027-5P

Sealed bids for of Jones Point Park Improvements (Re-Bid), Holyoke, MA will be received on **August 6, 2026** at the City of Holyoke Office of Procurement, 536 Dwight Street, Room 3, Holyoke, Massachusetts 01040, Attn: Jaime Morrow, Chief Procurement Officer **until 2 PM** prevailing time, at which said Bids will be publicly opened and read aloud. All bids shall be submitted within a sealed envelope addressed to the “City of Holyoke Office of Procurement, 536 Dwight Street, Room 3, Holyoke, Massachusetts 01040, Attn: Jaime Morrow, Chief Procurement Officer” and titled “**Jones Point Park Improvements (Re-Bid), Bid#2027-5P**”.

The work under this contract shall include park improvements including installation of a walking path, basketball court resurfacing, parking improvements, and other incidental construction related to the project. Bidding procedures shall be in accordance with the provisions of M.G.L. Chapter 30, Section 39 M as amended.

This project may be funded in whole or part with federal funds. Attention is called to the minimum wage rates required to be paid for all labor on this project. Every Bid shall be accompanied

by a bid deposit, in an amount not less than five percent (5%) of the bid amount, in the form of a bid bond; or a certified check; or a treasurer’s check; or by cashier’s check issued by a responsible bank or trust company, made payable to the City of Holyoke. **Beginning at 10 AM on July 22, 2026**, all project documents will be distributed and supplied by the City of Holyoke’s in electronic format only.

Submit requests for documents to Jaime Morrow, Chief Procurement Officer, at morrowj@holyoke.org between the hours of 8:30 AM and 4:30 PM. Requests shall include firm name and address, contact name and title, email address, and telephone number.

Any questions need to be submitted in writing via email to morrowj@holyoke.org by **July 29, 2026 @ 2 PM**. The answers will be issued via addenda to all bid holders no later than **July 31, 2026**.

The bidder Contractor shall also be MassDOT, Highways Division, Prequalified in the class of work “RECREATION FACILITIES”.

An award will not be made to a Contractor who is not pre-qualified with the MassDOT Highway Division prior to the opening of proposals.

The bidder agrees that its bid shall be good and may not be withdrawn for a period of 45 days, Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays excluded, after the opening of the bids.

The Awarding Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bids, and/ or waive any informality, if it is deemed to be in the public interest so to do.
 07/24/2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Fam-

Florence Bank announces Zabek new assistant VP

FLORENCE – Florence Bank is pleased to announce it has hired Kim Zabek of Chicopee as Assistant Vice President and Branch Manager of the Florence Branch office.

With over 28 years of banking experience, Zabek has previously held the positions of Branch Manager Officer, Call Center Manager, Assistant Branch Manager.

In addition to managing Florence Bank’s Florence branch, she will oversee community outreach and engagement, growing customer relationships, and customer service.



Kim Zabek

“I’m excited to lead the Florence branch team,” said Zabek. “I look forward to building lasting relationships and helping individuals, families and businesses achieve their financial goals.”

President and CEO Matt Garrity is pleased to welcome Zabek to the bank. “Kim comes to us with a wealth of experience in banking,” said Garrity. “With her prior experience and incredible skillset, I am confident she will provide exceptional service to Florence Bank’s customers.”

ily Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
413-748-775
Docket No.
HD26A0041AD
In the matter of:
Dallas Colton McCullough
CITATION G.L. c.210,
Section 6

To: Any unnamed or unknown parent and persons interested in a petition for the adoption of said child and to the Department of Children and Families of said Commonwealth
 A petition has been presented to said court by **Tawnee Renee Gonzalez and Harry Enrique Santiago Jr. of Chicopee, MA** requesting for leave to adopt said child and that the name of the child be changed to

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

An indigent person is defined by SJC Rule 3:10. The definition includes but is not limited to persons receiving TAFDC, EACDC, poverty related veteran’s benefits, Medicaid, and SSI. The Court will determine if you are indigent. Contact an Assistant Judicial Case Manager or Adoption Clerk of the court on or before the date listed below to obtain the necessary forms.

IF YOU DESIRE TO OBJECT THERETO, YOU OR YOUR ATTORNEY MUST FILE A WRITTEN APPEARANCE IN SAID COURT AT: **SPRINGFIELD ON OR BEFORE TEN O’CLOCK IN THE MORNING (10:00 AM) ON: 08/17/2026**

WITNESS, Hon. Claudine T. Stoudemire, First Justice of this Court

Date: June 29, 2026
Rosemary A. Saccomani
 Register of Probate
 07/24/2026

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.
HD26P1112EA
Estate of:
Michael Soderbaum
Date of Death: 03/09/2008
CITATION ON PETITION
FOR SALE OF REAL ESTATE BY A PERSONAL REPRESENTATIVE

To all interested persons:
 A Petition for Sale of Real Estate has been filed by: **John J Ferriter of Holyoke, MA** requesting that the court authorize the Personal Representative to sell the decedent’s real estate at a private sale.

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 08/19/2026.

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

Witness, **Claudine T. Stoudemire**, First Justice of this Court.
 Date: July 09, 2026
Rosemary A Saccomani,
 Register of Probate
 07/24/2026

Public Notices
ARE NOW ONLINE

1

Email all notices to notices@turley.com

2

Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.

3

Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

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

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com

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.

SPORTS

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

SEND US YOUR COMMENTS

ports.turley.com

Aldenville enters playoffs

CHICOPEE – Last week, Aldenville was defeated by Belchertown 7-0 in American Legion baseball action as both teams prepared to participate in the American Legion Zone 3 playoffs.

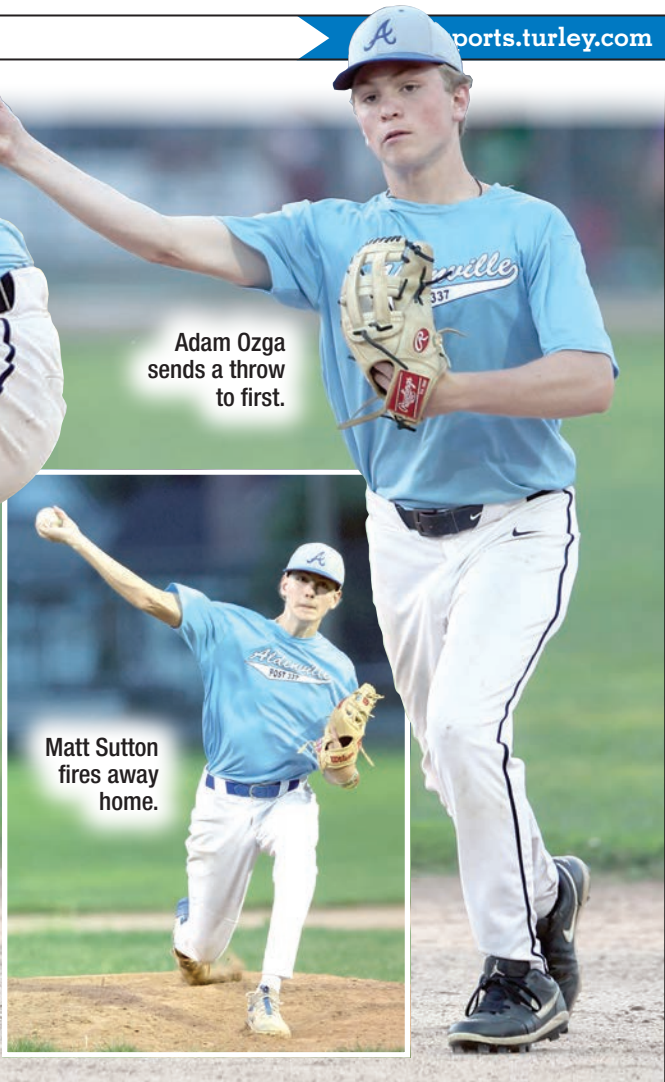
Aldenville was scheduled to face Longmeadow to start the playoffs.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Noah Carillon corrals a throw down to second base.



Cam Carpenter makes a backhand play.



Adam Ozga sends a throw to first.

Matt Sutton fires away home.

PeoplesBank defeats Teddy Bear Pools

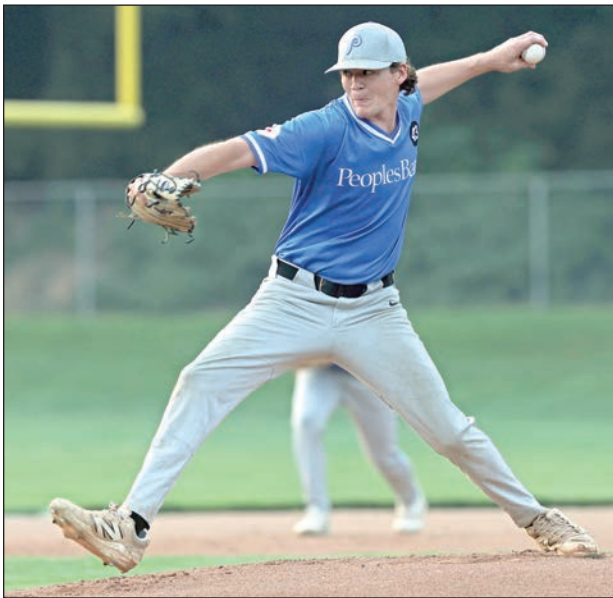
WILBRAHAM – Last Thursday night at Spec Pond in Wilbraham, Jake Jachym pitched PeoplesBank to a 7-5 win over Teddy Bear Pools.

The Bankers got a save from Johnny Gegetskas to

secure the win. The Bankers lead the Tri-County League with a 15-3-1 record and 31 points. The regular season is about to wrap up with the playoffs beginning shortly after.



Alex Gochinski cleanly fields a grounder.



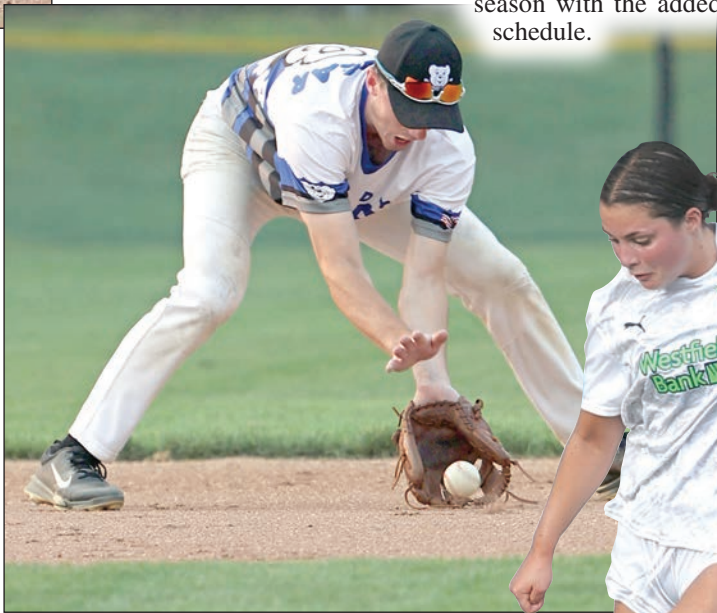
Jake Jachym sends a pitch home.



Darien Rosado is safe as he slides home.



Robert Ninotti fires a throw across the diamond.



Ray Toth gets the grounder to short. TURLEY PHOTOS BY DAVID HENRY



Mason Barcomb pitches for Teddy Bear Pools.

Mutiny finishes up first dual league season

LUDLOW – Earlier this month, the New England Mutiny, which features soccer players from all over the region as well as some players from out of state, finished up their season, unfortunately failing to reach any postseason play despite playing in two leagues this season. The Mutiny participated in both the USL as well as the UWS, nearly doubling its number of games this season. The Mutiny hope to have better luck next season with the added schedule.



Trinity Clark dribbles toward the goal.



Addyson Earl hustles after the loose ball.



Sadie Mathis winds up for a long shot.

Laci Lewis fights to keep possession.

St. Joe’s suffers late-season loss against Teddy Bear Pools

By **Tim Peterson**
Sports Correspondent

THORNDIKE – In what might’ve been a preview of a TriCountry League playoff matchup, Teddy Bear Pools and Spas broke open the final meeting of the regular season against St. Joseph’s by scoring nine runs across the fifth and sixth innings, rolling to an 11–1 victory at St. Joe’s Field in Thorndike, last Friday night.

“We split with St. Joe’s during the regular season, and we’ll probably be seeing them again in the playoffs,” said Teddy Bear Pools player/manager Ryan Magni. “The first three innings of tonight’s game was almost like a play-off game. Then we were able

to break it open against their relief pitchers.

Even though Friday’s makeup game was played at St. Joe’s Field, Teddy Bear Pools served as the home team because their own field was unavailable. The game ended with two outs in the bottom of the sixth inning due to the ten-run mercy rule.

Teddy Bear Pools entered the final week of the regular season sitting in third place in the league standings with a 13-5-1 record one point behind second place St. Joseph’s. The Saints had a 14-4 overall record.

Peoples Bank (15-3-1), who are looking to capture the league championship title for the 13th consecutive season, was sitting in first place.

Teddy Bear Pools could move into second place with a win against BankESB on Thursday night and if St. Joe’s losses their final two regular season games.

The Saints had the opportunity to move into first place if they defeated the DOC Spartans on Monday and Peoples Bank on Wednesday.

The top two finishers in the league standings earn a first round bye and the first place team will get home field advantage throughout the playoffs, which are all best of three series.

Teddy Bear Pools righthander Matt Drobiak, who graduated from South Hadley High School, was the winning pitcher in last Friday’s game. He went the

distance, allowing one run on just one base hit with three walks and two strikeouts.

“My defense made the plays behind me in tonight’s game,” said Drobiak. “This is a big win for us, and it feels great. We’re hoping to play them again in the playoffs.”

Teddy Bear Pools took a 1-0 lead against St. Joe’s with two outs in the bottom of the third inning.

Magni, who started in centerfield, drew a leadoff walk. Then St. Joe’s lefthander Jackson Hayes retired the next two batters before catcher Michael Toth hit a flyball which the centerfielder lost in the twilight. Toth, who graduated from Granby High School, wound up at second base with a double and Magni

scored on the play.

St. Joe’s tied the score in the fourth inning.

Designated hitter Mark Jodoin singled leading off the frame before stealing second. He scored the tying run when right fielder Ryan O’Leary hit a sacrifice fly.

Drobiak then retired seven of the final eight batters that he faced.

“We just didn’t hit the ball very well in tonight’s game,” said St. Joe’s manager Paul Marcinek. “You can’t beat many teams by scoring only one run.”

Prior to the start of the bottom of the fourth inning, righty Jack Feltovic replaced Hayes on the mound.

Teddy Bear Pools retook the lead with two outs in that

inning when designated hitter Bailey Griggs hit a ground ball single up the middle into centerfield scoring shortstop Ray Toth (walk).

Teddy Bear Pools scored three more runs in the fifth inning. Two of the runs crossed the break on RBI singles from Ray Toth and right fielder Sean Rosemond. The other run scored following a throwing error by the catcher.

Holding a 5-1 lead, Teddy Bear Pools scored six more runs in the sixth.

Left fielder Josh Frometa and Magni knocked home a pair of runs with RBI singles, while second baseman Ramon Jomenez added a run scoring ground rule double to center. Griggs also drew a bases loaded walk during that frame.

Basketball Hall of Fame announces Class of 2026 ceremony presenters

SPRINGFIELD – The Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame has announced the list of Hall of Famers who will present the Class of 2026 at the Enshrinement Ceremony on Saturday, August 15, at Symphony Hall in Springfield, Massachusetts, the “Birthplace of Basketball.” Over 50 Hall of Famers are expected to be in attendance for the ceremony.

Each member of the Class of 2026 selected their presenter(s) from among previously inducted Hall of Famers, a decision made by the inductee, while the 1996 USA Basketball Women’s National Team will be pre-

sented by its own previously enshrined members.

The 2026 Hall of Fame Inductees and Presenters:

Joey Crawford - Danny Crawford (Class of 2025), Rod Thorn (‘18)

Mike D’Antoni - Jerry Colangelo (‘04), Bob McAdoo (‘00), Steve Nash (‘18), Amar’e Stoudemire (‘26), Rod Thorn (‘18)

Elena Delle Donne - Sylvia Fowles (‘25), Marianne Stanley (‘22)

Mark Few - John Calipari (‘15), Grant Hill (‘18), John Stockton (‘09)

Chamique Holdsclaw - Tamika Catchings (‘20), Tina Thompson (‘18), Teresa Weatherspoon (‘19)

Candace Parker - Tamika Catchings (‘20), Allen Iverson (‘16), Cheryl Miller (‘95), Dwyane Wade (‘23)

Doc Rivers - Kevin Garnett (‘20), Paul Pierce (‘21)

Amar’e Stoudemire - Jerry Colangelo (‘04), Mike D’Antoni (‘26), Grant Hill (‘18), Tracy McGrady (‘17), Steve Nash (‘18), Rick Welts (‘18)

1996 USA Basketball Women’s National Team - Teresa Edwards (‘11), Lisa Leslie (‘15), Rebecca Lobo (‘17), Katrina McClain (‘12), Dawn Staley (‘13), Sheryl Swoopes (‘16), Tara VanDerveer (‘11)

Blue Sox fails to complete DH sweep

BRISTOL, CT – The Valley Blue Sox couldn’t complete a doubleheader sweep Friday night, surrendering a four-run lead in a 5-4 walk-off loss to the Bristol Blues in the second game at Muzzy Field.

After opening the evening with a 7-1 victory, marking the Blue Sox’s first win over Bristol this season, Valley (13-18-1) looked to carry that momentum into a sweep. But the Blues (16-18) had other plans, erasing a four-run deficit with five unanswered runs over the final three innings to split the seven-inning doubleheader.

“I thought we were playing really well,” head coach John Raiola said. “I thought those were some of the best swings that we took in a game all year. They beat us at the end, and that’s how it goes.”

Bristol completed its come-from-behind victory in the bottom of the seventh, giving it the walkoff win.

Christopher DiPrima (Yale) opened the inning with a single before Nicholas Francuzenko reached to put two runners aboard. With one out, Cal Chance (UMass Lowell) lined a single into a right field, allowing DiPrima to score the winning run and hand the Blue Sox a walk-off defeat.

While the latter innings

decided the contest, Valley struck first and early.

Anthony Tirado (Penn State) reached base to begin the game before stealing third and eventually scoring on a throw-in g error by Chance. Moments later, Chris Cancel (UConn) tagged and advanced to third before crossing the plate on Jacob Dilley’s (UNC Greensboro) sacrifice fly to right, giving the Blue Sox a 2-0 advantage after just one inning.

Making his Blue Sox debut, right-hander Justin Masteralexis (UMass) kept Bristol off the scoreboard early. The UMass product, making his first appearance since April, allowed no hits across 1 2/3 innings while striking out three.

“[It is] great for [Masteralexis], having him be able to get back out there,” Raiola said. “It went as well as I’m sure he would’ve hoped.”

Nick Tomasetto (Seton Hall) singled to put a runner aboard before Chris Carson (Stony Brook) turned on a pitch and sent it just inside the right-field foul pole for a two-run home run. Carson’s first long ball of the season extended Valley’s lead to 4-0

and marked the Blue Sox’s 10th home run of the summer.

“Chris works hard,” Raiola said. “That was part of a bunch of really good swings today from a lot of guys.”

Bristol answered immediately in the bottom half of the inning when Nick Flores (VCU) lifted a sacrifice fly to left, trimming the deficit to three.

After loading the bases, Sean Britt (St. Johns) lined a two-run double into the left-center field gap to bring Bristol within one. Just two batters later, Evan Menzel (UConn) followed with an RBI single to center, tying the contest at 4-4.

Once the Blues got hot, the Blue Sox were unable to answer offensively. Valley finished with six hits and struck out 12 times, managing just one baserunner over the final two innings.

Despite the result, Raiola said he was encouraged by the quality of his team’s play throughout the doubleheader.

“I thought the energy was really good,” Raiola said. “Our guys were taking really good swings. Sometimes that’s baseball. They beat us at the end.”





Team Mass Boys & Girls AAU Basketball Tryouts

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Tryout # 1: Friday, July 31, 2026

Location: Oxford High School
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 (3rd grade can try out with 4th grade)
- Boys & Girls Grades 7th & 8th 6:30 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.
- Boys & Girls Grades 9th-12th 7:45 p.m. - 8 p.m.

Tryout # 2: Thursday, August 6, 2026

Location: North Brookfield High School
 10 New School Dr., North Brookfield, MA

- Boys & Girls Grades 4th-6th 5:15 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.
 (3rd grade can try out with 4th grade)
- Boys & Girls Grades 7th & 8th 6:30 p.m. - 7:45 p.m.
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Bristol completed its come-from-behind victory in the bottom of the seventh, giving it the walkoff win.

Christopher DiPrima (Yale) opened the inning with a single before Nicholas Francuzenko reached to put two runners aboard. With one out, Cal Chance (UMass Lowell) lined a single into a right field, allowing DiPrima to score the winning run and hand the Blue Sox a walk-off defeat.

While the latter innings

Monadnock hosting open modified race

WINCHESTER, N.H. – The stakes will be higher than ever when the Open Modifieds return to Monadnock Speedway on Saturday, Aug. 1, for the thrilling Dash for the Cash 100.

The special event will feature 100 laps of intense, wheel-to-wheel Open Modified competition on the high banks, with an impressive \$10,000 awaiting the race winner. Some of the region’s top Modified competitors are expected to battle for one of the biggest pay-days of the season.

Adding even more excitement, the Dash for the Cash 100 will serve as the final event of the Open Modified Tri-Race Championship Series. At the conclusion of the night, one driver will be crowned the series champion and collect a \$5,000 championship bonus.

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The Dash for the Cash 100 promises to deliver every-

thing race fans love about Open Modified competition—high speeds, close racing, bold moves and nonstop action from the drop of the green flag to the final charge toward the checkered flag.

Racing is scheduled to begin at 6 p.m. on Saturday, Aug. 1. The rain date, if needed, is Sunday, Aug. 2.

Fans will not want to miss this championship showdown as the Open Modified stars compete for big money, bragging rights and the honor of being crowned the 2026 Tri-Race Champion.




Send Us Your Community Autumn Events

Turley Publications will print your Summer event FREE OF CHARGE in our Autumn Fest Supplement which will be published September 9, 2026.

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Event Name _____

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Contact name & phone number for more information _____

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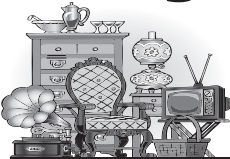
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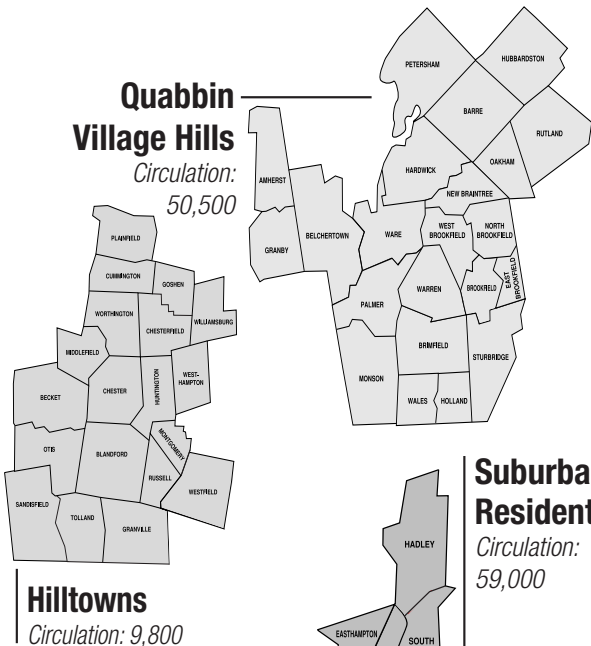
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PLANT, from page 1

friendship.” Coffey says buying locally is so important. “It’s really important to plant the native plants,” said Coffey. “It’s very important for us to have people come and buy the plants here because that’s how we’re able to generate money to do some of the things we need to do in this space, that might be maintaining structures or reinforcing structures that are starting to erode and crumble.”

Wistariahurst Museum Director Megan Seiler believes providing a local option for community members to buy plants is so important, “I think it helps further connect us to the community. These are great plants, and our gardeners are so knowledgeable. When you buy plants here, you know you’re getting a quality plant, and if you have any questions, our gardeners are a wealth of knowledge and able to help. We sell great plants in a beautiful environment, and what you spend goes back into this community space, and we put on exhibits and events that people are excited to attend. There’s something for just about everyone here to enjoy, and we have events for all ages, and a lot of what we do is free.”

Most of the plants are grown on museum grounds. However, during wintertime



A number of tomato plants on sale at the Wistariahurst Museum plant sale held on Saturday July 18.



There were a variety of plants on sale.

some of the gardeners propagate plants at their homes.

Seiler said used pots would be helpful for future sales.

“In order to keep costs low, we ask that if you have any pots from your plants,

you’re no longer using, donate them here for us to use,” said Seiler.

Wistariahurst Museum also often has artwork made by local artists on display at the museum. Seiler shares an upcoming exhibit the muse-



Russian Sage plants on sale at the Wistariahurst Museum plant sale.

Turley Photos By Christina Gloscia



Perennials could be had at the museum’s plant sale like these rose-colored daylilies.

exhibit is called ‘Pictorally Speaking,’ and it opens August 3,” Seiler says.

The next plant sale will be August 22 starting at 10:00 a.m. Consider coming to the museum to check out the various plants for sale.

The gardeners truly handle each plant with care, guaranteeing its quality. Each gardener is knowledgeable on what each plant requires and happy to answer any questions about plant care that attendees might have.

SEPTEMBER 2026

magazine

autumn 2026

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CPA, from page 1

do a full restoration of the 48 carousel horses.

Holyoke Health Center on High St. was awarded \$225,000 to restore windows. It is a historic property and thus the restoration needs to be done specifically in order to preserve the character and historic integrity of the building. While the historic look will remain, the windows

will be energy-efficient.

For the Butler’s Pantry project, funding of \$65,000 is being used to repair and replace rotten, toxic, and damaged flooring in the pantry and linen closet. The project will also involve restoring the cabinets, and replacing outdated lighting and electrical.

The sub floor will be replaced and asbestos tile will be removed from the area. Period-appropriate

tile will be replaced.

The City of Holyoke requested \$100,000 for the restoration of the granite steps at City Hall, which is also a historic building. The city already received \$30,000 for the scoping work and the new funding will enable the city to complete a detailed conditions assessment, get permitting, and prepare bid-level drawings and cost estimates.

TICKS, from page 1

symptoms of tick-borne diseases (including fever, headache, fatigue or sore muscles).

Someone should also go to the doctor if they have stomach or intestinal problems (including nausea, vomiting or diarrhea) or symptoms of an allergic reaction within a few hours of eating meat or dairy.

It is also important to be aware of mosquito bites. The West Nile Virus is the most common mosquito-born illness in the United States.

However, this illness has not been reported in humans in Massachusetts this year.

To prevent tick and mosquito bites a person can wear a light-colored long-sleeved

shirt with long pants and tuck their pants into their socks. This helps to prevent a tick or mosquito from getting onto a person’s skin and can help a person to spot a tick on their clothing.



Avoiding outdoor activities between dusk and dawn during peak mosquito season also greatly lowers the risk of mosquito bites.

The Department of Public Health also recommends removing standing water in yards, as that is where mosquitos breed.

This can include water in garbage cans, flowerpots, bird baths and discarded tires.

Property owners can also utilize mosquito prevention services, including spraying private property with insect repellent to help reduce the amount of insects.

Additionally, people should use bug repellents that contain DEET on their skin. There should be no more than 30-35% DEET in repellents for adults and no more than 10-15% DEET in repellents for children.

SCIENCE, from page 1

OA Principal Felipe Johnson thanked Ms. Shabazz for making the connection with Dr. Coomer that allowed her to participate in the classroom as a

science volunteer. “Some of the activities they’ve done together have been some of the most engaging science work I’ve seen in a classroom,” he said, noting that Dr. Coomer is connecting her Smith College students

with the science program at Sullivan Middle School. He anticipates that Dr. Coomer will return to OA this fall to continue her volunteer teaching with students at the Opportunity Academy Success Center.

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