Paper City Clothing Company holds sneaker mixer

By Shelby Macri smacri@turley.com

HOLYOKE – Local business Paper City Clothing Company teamed up with the Youth Works program to offer a four-week course to kids in entrepreneurship, after creating a virtual course for the program last year.

Team member Katy Moonan said they mixed the element of design into their entrepreneurship course last year. They made a course for kids to easily follow during the changes of last year. This year they’ve created an in-person program where those kids who signed up where able to take control of the clothing shop store, they designed the inside in a way that they like and believe will bring in a younger crowd

The students in the program came up with the idea to hold a Sneaker Mixer out front of the store as a way to draw people’s attention to the shop, specifically the younger crowd.

Co-owner Fernando Goffe explained that for the program e and co-owner Carlos Pena told the kids that they now owned the store, then they asked the kids what they wanted to do to the store to make merchandise sell. They helped to guide the kids and answer questions when needing to, but that all the work of creating the shops set up and the Sneaker Mixer was done by the kids. The way the shoe wall is displayed, the way the clothes are set up, and the clothes picked to be featured on the racks and in the windows were all chosen by the kids.

Pena and Moonan talked about how the kids were able to see the screen-printing action and they were able to screen print their own t-shirts with the Paper City Clothing Company on the front. The four-week course has allowed Moonan, Goffe, and Pena to teach these kids ways to be successful and critical thinking in other areas then they’re typically used to. Program member Avrielys Candelario said the course has been fun and she’s learned a lot of new things and she’s really liked the experience.

The event was also an unveiling of the redesigned storefront that the students put together, the mixer was explained as a space for everyone in the community to celebrate the youth influence on fashion and culture. The event was free to attend, and featured booths outside the clothing store selling their shoes and shirts outside. There was also a DJ booth to give music and atmosphere for those attending, there was a sectioned of area that had a couch and chairs for people to group together and relax at the event.

Other local businesses were included to Holyoke’s

Successful turnout at school vaccine clinic

By Shelby Macri smacri@turley.com

HOLYOKE – As a part of the Holyoke Back-to-School plan the High School’s North Campus hosted a vaccine clinic in the Roberts Field Sports Complex for students 12 years and older.

The Vaccine was held in a back gym at the Roberts Field Sports Complex, which has a separate entrance from the street as it’s located behind the high school. The Holyoke Public School partnered with the Holyoke Health Center to hold the vaccine clinic on Wednesday, Aug. 11. The clinic was held at the school and targeted children 12 years old, and the students and their families were notified of the clinic by the school. Nurses working the clinic mentioned that the school nurse visited the clinic, additionally the nurses were glad to see many teenagers showing up with their gard- dens for the vaccine.

Head nurse Mary Jo Sardella said that many 12-year-olds and more teenagers showed up throughout the day, additionally a lot of adults showed up for walk in’s including the parents and guardians for students. The clinic had scheduled appointments for the day but were also accepting all walk-in’s until 1 p.m. to allow as many people to be vaccinated as possible. Sardella said the clinic would be held in the back gym at door 14 in two weeks for the second dose. People who received their first dose on Wednesday need to visit the Roberts Field Sports Complex a second time on Sept. 1, the Holyoke Health Center is also holding other vaccines at other sites.

Sardella said the clinic would be held again at the Back-to-School event that the Holyoke Back-to-School event the unveil of the redesigned vaccine clinic.

New school building committee announced

Applications accepted through Aug. 29

By Shelby Macri smacri@turley.com

HOLYOKE – Acting Mayor Terence Murphy held and joint press conference with Superintendent Anthony Soto, regarding a school building committee for the plans to build a new school in the city.

Soto mentioned there was a failed vote for two new middle schools about a year and a half ago, he mentioned their back in the pipeline for one new middle school.

Soto said feedback from those who were against the new schools included the committee not being made up of a diverse background or wide range of thoughts. He said this aspect is very important for the project to be successful.

Soto mentioned some people were against the new middle schools because of financial reasons and not wanting taxes to increase, he mentioned the city’s taxes would not raise for the new building.

“This building of a school will not increase our tax obli- gation, I meant that is going to stay stable,” Murphy said. “What I tried to do with the sewer, which I do think makes sense, is balance our city bud- get, which would then make it much more predictable in terms of what we can provide and do so within our capacity.”

Murphy said this is obviously an issue that is ongoing and he’s working to get some clarification on information regarding this project and the financial aspects.

The announcement included creating a new school building committee and how interested people can express their desire to join. Soto said this building is a monumental moment for all of the Holyoke Public School students who
HOLYOKE – This summer, join Wistariahurst staff and volunteers for a guided tour of the historic gardens and grounds. On Saturday, Sept. 11 at 10 a.m., Wistariahurst Curator and Holyoke City Historian, Penni Martorell, will lead walking tours joining by Wistariahurst members for free. Attendees will learn about how the landscape and gardens have evolved over the years, what has been planted here historically, and the history of this plot of land. Your guides will share stories about how the Skinner family came to be here and what the property looked like when they lived here.

Tickets are $10 and $7 for Wistariahurst Museum Members, students, and seniors. Tickets are available at www.Wistariahurst.org. Advance registration is required and tickets are limited. Please call 431-322-5660 for more information.

Please note that this tour takes place entirely outside and is approximately 45 minutes long. Our tour guides will use basic sound amplification. We ask that participants maintain 6 feet social distance and/or wear a mask. Hand sanitizer will be available. All guests will be asked to sign in for contact tracing purposes.

HOLYOKE – Free “Stop the Spread” COVID-19 testing at Holyoke Community College will be extended through October 21, according to the Holyoke Board of Health. Drivers-through/rapid testing at HCC is conducted six days a week in Parking Lot M by the Massachusetts Center on Athletics & Recreation on the opposite side of HCC campus on Homestead Avenue.

HCC has been serving as a “Stop the Spread” drive-through testing site since August 2020 to help reduce the spread of COVID-19. Drivers are asked to enter the campus from Homestead Avenue, turn right onto the Campus Road and proceed to parking lot. There are signs and parking attendants on site to help guide traffic.

The HCC testing site is open Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday and Saturday from 7 a.m. to 11 a.m., and Thursday from 11 a.m. Testing is free to all Massachusetts residents and is selected on a first-come, first-serve basis. There are no appointments and no referral is necessary. Testing may sometimes be canceled if sufficient numbers of results are typically four or fewer days.

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In addition, guests will also have the opportunity to get vaccinated this weekend. Through a partnership with Holyoke’s Board of Health and Behavioral Health Network, Holyoke Mall will be hosting a free pop-up Pfizer vaccine clinic this Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 14 and 15. Saturday’s clinic will be held from Noon – 3:00 p.m. and Sunday’s clinic will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. These clinics do not require an appointment and will be held on the upper level across from Billy Beer. A picnic style lunch will be served along with COVID-19 vaccine. Through a partnership with Holyoke’s Board of Health and Behavioral Health Network, Holyoke Mall will be hosting a free pop-up Pfizer vaccine clinic this Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 14 and 15. Saturday’s clinic will be held from Noon – 3:00 p.m. and Sunday’s clinic will be held from 1 to 4 p.m. These clinics do not require an appointment and will be held on the upper level across from Billy Beer. A picnic style lunch will be served along with COVID-19 vaccine. The event which begins at 4 p.m. is open to the public with tickets at $15 per person, with a cash bar and great Polish-American food available,” said Anop.

“From our experience and accommodate their busy schedules. The program is presented in both English and Spanish. The ICCC Western Massachusetts cohort opens with two half-day seminars on the mornings of Tuesday, October 26 and Thursday, October 28. Throughout the program, there will be half-day seminars, digital learning sessions, and one-on-one business coaching appointments that provide support and help to reduce conces- tracted poverty, close the racial wealth gap, and revitalize distressed communities. They are thrilled that this partnership with the Massachusetts Foundation is supporting the ICCC program’s fourth cohort in the region and supports local small business owners.

COVID-19 testing at HCC extended through October 21

COVID-19 vaccine clinic will also be available for shoppers

Mall hours for Tax-Free Weekend

COVID-19 testing at HCC extended through October 21

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Girls Inc receives $10 million in funding

HOLYOKE – Girls Inc., the national leader in providing strong, smart, and bold, has received $10 million in funding as one of four awardees of the Equality Can’t Wait Challenge to benefit its Project Accelerate. The grant aims to expand the power and influence of women in the United States by 2030. Building on Girls Inc.’s evidence-based programming, Project Accelerate addresses inequality in the workplace by empowering young women of color in positions of influence and leadership. The program will accelerate young women’s trajectories through college and career entry, leveraging partnerships with corporations and social impact investors. Schools, classrooms, and buses are available to finance it within our tax rate, and any other information an applicant finds relevant. Letter can be sent by email, and Murphy mentioned people can call his office to set up a meeting with him if they’d like; though he’ll still require a written request of interest.

The Massachusetts Schools Building Authority has invited Holyoke to submit a proposal again, and to do that a committee needs to be put in place. “One of my goals is to make sure that committee represents the diverse populations of the city of Holyoke, and that we work together to find the best, most effective educational facility within our economic reach. And I want to say we’ve had our bonding council review the concept of the city having a new school and being able to finance it within our tax rate, and we have been given pretty solid evidence that, in fact the city can afford the one-school.”

SCHOOL, from page 1

Morrison named to Union College Dean’s List

SCHENECTADY, NY – Patrick Morrison, of Holyoke, was named to the 2021 Dean’s List at Union College.

Food service available for students

HOLYOKE – Donahue, Lawrence, and Morgan schools will be the Holyoke community on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

We will provide students with enough meals throughout the three days to assure seven days of food availability.

FoodService Van Student Meal Pick Up Locations (Monday to Friday until August 20)

Springfield Park
11:00 to 11:15 a.m.
Carlos Vega Park
11:20 to 11:35 a.m.
Topefert
11:40 to 11:55 a.m.
Veteran’s Park
12 noon to 12:15 p.m.
Churhill
12:20 to 12:35 p.m.
Beaudonte Park
1:20 to 12:55 p.m.

Time to enroll students for school year

AGAWAM – The Nonprofit Women to Watch USA. Massachusetts will be holding a person luncheon at 141 Main St Deli in Agawam on Aug. 26 from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The public is invited to attend.

The luncheon will feature guest speaker Ruby Maddox. Maddox is a purpose coach, strategic consultant and facilitator. Maddox is dedicated to helping individuals cultivate their potential for meaningful contributions to society. She has spent more than 15 years working in the field of nonprofit and philanthropy. Maddox is the co-founder of two nonprofit organizations focused on social justice, leadership and equity. She is a TEDx speaker and a recipient of the 40-under-40 Business and community leader’s award.

The luncheon will also hold a draw for the WTW scholarship fund, along with plenty of good food and networking with other area business men and women.

The cost for Women to Watch USA members is $25.00 and $30 for non-members. You can sign up at www.women2watchusawesta.com or you can email murphyt@holyoke.org before Aug. 29. If interested, or have questions please contact Meghan Rothchild at (413) 218-4943 or meghan@chikmedia.us.

YMCA holding fitness jamboree Aug. 14

WESTFIELD – YMCA of Greater Western Mass is hosting a Summer Fitness Jamboree on Saturday, Aug. 14 on the Westfield Town Green. The YMCA knows how difficult it is for individuals to get back into a healthy work-out routine during this past year. We are excited to reach out to our community and offer free fitness classes to help people get back on track. You can start your Saturday with Gentle Yoga at 10 a.m. with Heidi Taber-Man; bring your own mat, try a Strong Nation HITT class at 10:45 a.m. with Stephanie Sangiovanni, complete your workout with a Total Body Strength at 11:25 a.m. with Tony Casale then join the Zumba party at 11:50 a.m. with Kait Casale. Feel free to step by and try one class or stay for all the classes. Free raffle ticket for those in attendance with a chance to win a 1-night stay at our hotel, and our merchant give away. In case of inclement weather, all classes will be held that day at the YMCA.

With a mission centered on balance, the Y strives to be a leading voice on health and well-being for our community by providing resources so that all people, can achieve their health and well-being, by thinking in spirit, mind and body. For more information, contact Cindy Agan, Health and Wellness Director, (413) 586-8631 or email: cagan@westfieldymca.org.

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I lean to the door in an attempt to answer the phone before the call went to voicemail. I was unsuccessful, and no legible message was left. Back to the yard work and the 18 things I wanted to do today: finish mulching, dig up the dead apple tree, cut back borer ridden its leaves, trim the edge of the garden that the lawn mower can’t reach... so on and so forth.

Admittedly the garden, the yard, really all of it is entirely, is a mess. I can’t honestly blame it on a week away. It was a mess even before I left. I’m really not sure what went wrong this summer. Perhaps all of the rain sent me inside and I stayed too long, wrapped up in an indoor project. Sometimes it’s hard to keep track of everything and even harder to keep on top of it all. When I pull in the driveway and see the unkemptness of the yard it rocks some stirs me back to my teenage days. “Welcome to the Jungle,” is the perfect way to describe it. I laugh at the irony of me saying anyone how to keep their garden looking it’s best. Ha. Which brings me to the unanswered telephone call. I don’t think about dinner guests any more. That first caller appeared on caller ID. It was my friend and former coworker, Mary, who I have not seen in quite a few years. She just so happened to be riding around town with another coworker of mine earlier in the day and thought she could pay me a visit. They wanted to see my gardens. I am in no way a proud person, perhaps the opposite. I am ashamed. Almighty for the fact that I was outside and not able to reach the phone, not able to show them all my weeds and unfinished garden dreams.

If they were to visit now, after a day’s work, I think dad finds me finishing mulching (just how long can someone leave mulch on a tarp with the lawn out it kill the grass, anyway?) and the iris along the perennial garden are nice and tidy (although the mass planting near the garden shed needs serious). The edge of the perennial gar den was trimmed and all of the Os-eyes dairy that self-sowed in the bed were removed. But I still need to cut back bulb color, flowers or the Liatris spikes because the birds like the seeds.

Honestly, will I ever have a picture-perfect yard? Likely not. I do have aspirations but so much is not in my present state that I will ever achieve such a lofty goal. I think part of the problem is that Iread tightly. Rarely do I spray for bugs even with natural remedies and I’ve never used an herbicide in my life. There isn’t an ounce of me that’s heavy-handed, either, that’s probably when the jugle part comes in. It’s hard for me to remove the anise hyssop, black-eyed Susan or catnip that I love. I think the idea that I, alone, have the ability to decide what goes. The plum tree is one of the things I’ve been growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to kskobrin@turley.com with “Gardening Question” in the subject line.
CONCRETE, from page 4

issues at hand or the devastation that might occur if we don’t get ahead of it.

Much like the process with pyrrhoite this was a slow-moving disas-

ter where the natural elements exposed issues in the building’s construction until the materials inevitably failed. While the science surrounding the type of decay is different, the outcome is the same. The concrete deteriorates, people are displaced, and lives are changed forever.

With nearly $5 billion in American Rescue Plan Act stimulus funding available to the state we are in a unique position where we may be able to address monetary shortfalls in rapid fashion, and direct funding towards projects that yield immediate dividends to our constituents. Set into a fund to be appropriated by the legislature, this money could become available in the near future and make an enormous impact in our communities.

Given this influx of funding it is imperative that we look at problems affecting homeowners that haven’t been addressed, and we feel that the deteriorating homes in our state demand attention. We should not shy away from acting on this issue because of the price tag, the large upfront cost of each home that might occur if left unchecked.

The bill after the courts have ruled that the neither the contractors, insurance com-

panies, nor bankrupt concrete suppli-
er can be held liable, we can dedicate money from this pool of federal fund-
ing to help those affected. This is not an unheard of thought; as mentioned before, the state of Connecticut has established a reimbursement program for the exact same issue, from the same supplier and led by spending over $120 million for repairs. It simply requires attention and action from the leaders in our state, at a time when inaction would be immoral.

House and Senate leaders plan to hold public hearings and gather input on how to spend the funding in the future, and we urge our colleagues to advocate for these families in Massachusetts who have been dealt a hand directly counteracting the American dream of owning a home that you can call your own. These people did every-

thing right, followed every step they needed to take to obtain a home ownership which many consider their primary asset in life. Failure to come to their aid would be akin to letting the results of a natural disaster impact an area without state or federal help, a tornado path that tears up Main Street and is never repaired while home values plummet and this trend suffers. By appropriating this money for reimbursement in the future we allow these individuals to move forward, safe-

ly, toward remediating their homes and give them the stability they need with-

out waiting for a tragic collapse in our own state to spur action.

Our advertisers make this publication possible. Let them know you saw their ad in the Holyoke Sun.

NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertis-
er is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one error in a single advertisement, nor will it 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.

Top vote-getting pet photos to be featured in 2022 calendar

SPRINGFIELD – Dakin Humane Society’s 2022 Pet Photo Contest is cur-

rently underway, and the organization is accepting photos for its 2022 calendar. Photos can be uploaded for a $5 fee and posted online, where they will be displayed. Viewers can vote for their favorite photos by purchasing a pack of five votes for $5. The pet with the highest number of votes will be featured on the calendar cover, with the next 12 highest vote-getters displayed on monthly pages.

To submit your pet’s photo, or to participate in the voting, please visit https://www.gogophotocountest.com/dakin-
humanesociety.

The deadline to submit photos for the contest is Aug. 31 and voting for those photos will end on Sept. 12.

The annual Pet Photo Contest and Pet Calendar raise essential funds that support Dakin’s programs and services, including accessible veterinary services like spay/neuter surgery, pet food aid, and more. These services are designed to help keep people and pets together.

Participants are asked to submit high-quality photos of their pet, then share the entry with friends and family to collect votes for that pet’s photo. People can also reserve a special day on the cal-

endar to feature their pet’s photo in honor of their birthday, adoption anniversary, or any other reason for a $15 donation.

Once a day has been reserved, it will no longer be available.

The calendar will cost $25 and can be pre-ordered by visiting https://www.
gogophotocountest.com/dakinhumanesociety. Pre-ordering will help ensure that enough calendars will be available for all who want to have them.

Dakin Humane Society deliv-
ers effective, innovative services that improve the lives of animals in need and the people who care about them. In a typ-

ical year, the organization shelters, fosters and finds more than 20,000 animals and has performed over 100,000 spay/ neuter surgeries since 2009, making it New England’s largest spay/neuter pro-

vider. Dakin is a local non-profit organi-

zation that relies solely on contributions from individuals and businesses to care about animals to bring its services to the community. For more information, or to make a gift, please visit www.dakinhu-

mane.org.

In The News

For more information about the Great Depression, the Grateful American Book Prize recommends Murray N. Rothbard’s “America’s Great Depression.”

History Matters is a bieweely fea-
ture courtesy of The Grateful American Book Prize, which is given to children’s books that emphasize the importance of American history.
STCC celebrates police officers in first-ever pinning ceremony

SPRINGFIELD – In a pinning ceremony at Springfield Technical Community College, Police Chief Jose “Joe” Rivera administered the oath of office to two recently hired campus police officers and a longtime officer who was promoted to sergeant.

Friends and family of the officers and sergeant on July 23 joined STCC President John B. Cook and college staff, including fellow campus police officers, on the seventh floor of Scibelli Hall for the badge pinning ceremony, the first of its kind at STCC.

Rivera said he wanted to formally recognize the sergeant and officers’ achievements after a challenging year. Due to the pandemic, the two newest officers were unable to have a formal ceremony when they were hired.

“The pinning ceremony on the STCC campus is a great way to bring friends and family together to recognize officers Crystal Rivera, Christian Santiago and Sgt. Jason Lariviere,” said Chief Rivera. “We wanted to honor them for their achievements. Jason, Crystal and Christian bring with them unique life experiences, skills and traits that we believe will enhance their service to the STCC community.”

Chief Rivera recognized Lariviere, of Granby, who was promoted to the rank of sergeant. Lariviere joined the STCC campus police in 1997 as a security officer. In 2005, he attended the special state police officer academy. He has obtained specialized training during his career. After being promoted to investigator in 2019, he created the first detective unit at STCC.

Lariviere said the ceremony was meaningful to him and his colleagues in the department.

“Having a badge pinning ceremony means a lot,” Lariviere said. “It allows those who are promoted or newly hired an opportunity to be publicly recognized for their hard work to achieve their position within the department.”

During the event, the police chief introduced Crystal Rivera (no relation), a Holyoke resident who started at STCC in November 2019. She received an associate degree in criminal justice and graduated from the Western Massachusetts Police Academy.

“It’s an honor to stand with my colleagues in front of friends and family and formally receive my badge,” said Crystal Rivera.

Born and raised in Holyoke, newly hired officer Christian Santiago wanted to be a police officer from a young age.

Enjoy working in a clean, modern, temperature-controlled environment!

You’ve got to be a little twisty to work here

Excelllent employment opportunities are closer than you think

Sanderson MacLeod in Palmer, MA, is growing and we’re seeking folks who want to enjoy an exciting twist in their career and are looking for steady employment in a unique work environment. If you’d like to join our team of dedicated brush experts, apply today even if you have no brush-making experience – we’ll train you!

Our OPTIM Bonus Program allows employees who qualify to earn weekly bonuses and pay raises based on goals that are in their control.

Full-time and seasonal positions are available

Apply online at SandersonMaclCed.com/careers or call 413-213-3443
Winchester, NH – Five of six feature winners fell into a familiar pattern Saturday night at Monadnock Speedway with several repeat winners. Still the racing was typical for a hot August night.

The feature event of the program was a 100-lap race for the New Hampshire Short Track Racing Association (NHSTRA) Modifieds. In the qualifying time trials, Russ Hersey of Swanzey, NH, set the fast time. The redraw to set the lineup put eighth fast-driver, Brad Zahensky of Hopkinton, NH, on the pole. When the green dropped, Zahensky led the field with Ben Byrne second. Byrne took over the top spot on lap fourteen moving Zahensky to second. By lap 32, the lead cars were trying to negotiate lapped traffic. Andy Major of Brookfield, MA, spun between turns three and four blocking the upper lanes. The lap traffic bumped Byrne out his preferred line and into the disabled Major racer. Byrne's night was over. Zahensky resumed the lead on the restart with Todd Patnode second. The next thirty-one laps it was Zahensky in the spotlight. On lap 63, Patnode made his move, taking over the lead. The pace of the race changed after that with five cautions slowing the field before the checkers fell.

Knight Wolves summer action

WILBRAHAM – Regular season action has wrapped up in the Spec Pond Summer Basketball League. The Holyoke Knight Wolves are one of the teams that will be vying for a chance to win a championship as playoffs began earlier this week.

Western Mass. Pioneers celebrate title

LUDLOW – The Western Mass. Pioneers traveled to Atlanta to take part in the USL-2 Eastern Conference Championships. The Pioneers defeated the West Chester United SC 1-0 to capture the conference title. Two weeks ago, the Pioneers gathered once more at Lusitano Stadium to celebrate their victory, inviting the public to come see the trophy and meet the players.
Valley Blue Sox make divisional round of playoffs

BELCHERTOWN – The second-seed Valley Blue Sox are advancing to the NECBL Southern Division Semifinals after winning the 7th round of the #7 Blue Sox on Tuesday, Aug. 3.

The Blue Sox saw lights-out pitching from Grant Kip, who started on the hill to newcomer closer Ziv Gar of Molloy College. Nicholas Beettel (Lehigh) and Anthony Sear (Rhode Island College) also made appearances on the mound for Valley, not allowing Bristol to score a single run through nine innings at Mackenzie Stadium.

Colby Hellman of Miami claimed two RBIs in the bottom of the fifth inning to put the Blue Sox on the board, and Michael Casalegno from Palm Beach State hit a 2-run home run in the sixth inning to extend Valley’s run total with an RBI in the seventh inning, and Paul Franzoni (NJIT) kept the momentum going with another RBI single to extend their lead to 9-0, which was the final score.

Due to the win, and the Danbury Westerners’ win over the Newport Gulls at Rogers Park, the Valley Blue Sox faced the Westerners at home on Wednesday, Aug. 4 at 6:35 p.m. for the Southern Division Semifinals.

I’m excited to get going and to play another trip to Springfield prior to the School Day Game. Those contests are scheduled for Sun., Oct. 17, Oct. 22, Sat., Nov. 20, Weds., Nov. 24, and Weds., Feb. 23.

Finally, the Charlotte Knights will include four visits to the MassMutual Center as part of their 2021-22 schedule. Those contests are scheduled for Sun., Oct. 31, Sat., Feb. 26, Apr. 15, and May 22 in Palm Beach, Ca. will play the 2022-23 regular season.

Springfield will play a total of 62 games against Atlantic Division opponents, including a back-and-back set with the Belleville Senators on Sat., April 2, and Sun., April 3 at the MassMutual Center. The Laval Rocket (Fri. Jan. 14), Rochester Americans (Sat., Jan. 1), Syracuse Crunch (Sat., Jan. 29), and Utica Comets (Wed., Dec. 29) will each make one visit to the MassMutual Center.

Springfield Thunderbirds 2021-22 Schedule Breakdown:

Start Times at Home: Wednesdays: 10:35 a.m. ET (Mar 16 BRL School Day Game), 7:05 p.m. ET (Nov. 24 vs. BRI, Dec. 29 vs. UTI), 7:05 p.m. ET (Feb 23 vs. BRI, April 13 vs. SYR)

Thunderbirds unveil 2021-2022 regular season schedule

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds, in conjunction with the American Hockey League, released their full schedule for the 2021-22 regular season on Tuesday, Aug. 3.

It will also be the 5th Anniversary season of Thunderbirds hockey after the club opted out of the abbreviated 2020-21 campaign.

For the second straight occasion, the Thunderbirds will begin their regular-season home ice when they host the Hartford Wolf Pack on Sat., Oct. 16 at 7:05 p.m. inside the MassMutual Center for Opening Night.

It marks the first of six contests on home ice against the 1-9-1 rivals, as the Wolf Pack will also visit Springfield on Fri., Nov. 12, Sat., Nov. 27, Sat., Dec. 18, Fri., Feb. 4, and Fri., Feb. 25.

The Thunderbirds’ 2021-22 schedule features new pack drop times on a handful of occasions, including matinee 2:05 p.m. Saturday games on Nov. 27 vs. Hartford and on Jan. 1 vs. Rochester. The team will also host play to 6:05 p.m. contests on Wednesdays (Nov. 25 vs. Bridgeport and Dec. 29 vs. Utica).

Finally, Saturday night game times in April will be shifted to a 6:05 p.m. pack drop, as Springfield will host Belleville on April 12, 19, 23, and 30, and Wilkes-BarreScarton on April 23.

The Thunderbirds will once again compete in the AHL’s Atlantic Division, and Springfield will face every Eastern Conference team at least twice during the 2021-22 regular season, with the exception of the Cleveland Monsters. The 76-game schedule includes 38 home and 38 away games. Springfield is one of 10 AHL teams that will play a 76-game slate this upcoming season. Division rivals Hershey, Lehigh Valley, and Wilkes-BarreScarton will also play 76 contests, while Bridgeport, Charlotte, Hartford, and Providence will each play 72 games.

The schedule for 2021-22 will be the final season such in the AHL, as all 32 member clubs, including the new Vegas Golden Knights, will play 80 contests.

Theresa Gourley added one RBI of her own off a sac fly to bring Brian Hart (Marist) home, making the score 3-0 heading into the sixth inning. The Blue Sox are a big win,” said Valley Head Coach Hez Randolph. “Bristol wanted it. They came very well for a stretch in the regular season. It was a 0-0 ballgame heading into the fifth inning. We have to tip our hats to them for their effort in the fifth and in the regular season.” He continued.

“This win is “everything” to Randolph, who is in his first year as the Blue Sox head coach. “When you take a leap of faith into any profession, you have doubts. You question yourself: Is it real? Is it going to work out? Is it worth all of the sacrifices you need to be willing to make?”

“There were times where I questioned: Am I good at this thing? This whole situation could have pushed both myself and my team in the right direction to be successful. Tonight was just an emotional win for me to keep doing those things. I tell the umpires every year, every single day, ‘I’m not on straight. I am very excited for what’s to come tomorrow and in the rest of the playoffs.’ He continued.

Chris Buffone of Belchertown, MA, was disappointed with a third-place tie in the Southern Division two weeks ago. He made up for it Saturday night with his third win of the season, outunning Team Wenzel. Finishing second was Tim Wenzel of Holyoke, MA, and point leader, Nate Wenzel of Granby, MA.

The Six Shooters ran their third and final event of the year. Travis Hollins of Milford, NH, hit the gas at the green flag and never looked back. Benninger, Connolly, and John Voorhees NH, drove to the podium with Paul Colburn of Charlestown, NH, nailing down third. In third place, Josh Hollins sat in the playoffs as he prepares for the upcoming season. They have good enough to secure the Championship crown.

Young Gun driver, “Fast” Eddie Petruskevics of Rutland, MA, secured his eighth win of the year and “retired” to come back on another occasion. Teagan Edson had her best run of the year for second. Dominic Smith from Milford, MA, was a strong run for third.

This coming Saturday, Aug. 14, the Tri-Tack Open Makes Union will unseeded for a 100-lap race. The NHSTRA regular divisions in the Advanced Auto Parts wins series will also run.


Late Model Sportsman: Justin Littlewood, Austin Brecho, Camden Curran, Travis Bell, Josh Wright, Craig Chaffee, Michael Beaulieu, Bill Kimball, Eric LeClair, Ben Byrne, Andrew Majow, Cole Littlewood, Christopher Buffone, Timothy Wenzel, Nathan Wenzel, Jason Kocouck, Robert Haggar, Edward Greenwood III, Mike Radzuik, Rupert Thompson, Jesse Emerson, Leighton Lutz, Hillary Reynolds, and Ken Johnson.


Petsode collected his fourth win of the year. Russ Hersey posted second and Joe Kendall of Winchendon, MA, had a strong finish for third.

In between the main events, there were some last lap fireworks in the Late Model Sportsman 25-lapper. After Kevin Vanderzi of Brattleboro, VT, led the first eight laps, Justin Littlewood of Orange, MA, moved in front with Vanderzi slowly sliding back in the field before spinning out on lap 17 to bring out a caution. On the restart, it was Littlewood, Ricky Bly of Sunapee, NH, and Aaron Fellows from Croydon, NH, right on his bumper. In the closing laps of the race both drivers raced incident free from green to checkered. Both drivers raced incident free from green to checkered.

Kevin Clayton, Kevin McKnight, Russ Zilinski, Leilei Daniels, Keegan Lamotte, Zilinski, Leilei Daniels, Keegan Lamotte.
Chief Rivera said. He received a crimi-
nal justice degree and graduated from the
Western Massachusetts Regional Police
Academy.

Santiago said the pinning ceremony
was a special day.

“I would like to be a STCC patrol of-

camer and honored to receive recognition
from Chief Rivera and celebrate with my
friends, family and colleagues,” Santiago
said.

Chief Rivera congratulated the three
for their hard work and dedication.

“Each candidate was selected as the best
person for their position,” the chief said.

“My congratulations are well mer-

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In The News

Elementary School on Aug. 21, Sardella said the event is an annual one and held separately from the Holyoke Health Center, they’re just offering their services while people are there. The cities public schools and the Holyoke Health Center are working together to get as many students and teenagers vaccinated as possible, they’ve aimed their attention to the younger generation.

“It’s been a pretty good turnout, the good thing is we got a lot of people who were 12 years and older,” Sardella said. “We focused on getting their age group vaccinated and encouraged the students to come in, it’s good to see them and their parents getting the vaccine.”

During a press conference for the new school building committee, Mayor Terence Murphy mentioned the vaccine clinic at the high school, encouraging Holyoke residents and students to visit the clinic and receive their vaccine before the start of school. Along with keeping students safe as they return to in person learning, Murphy mentioned the cities vaccination rate is at about 40% and reaching the youth with help increase this number.

“We need to be working together to get healthy,” said Murphy. “And the school department on this Wednesday is doing a vaccine for 12 and over but also anyone else that comes is eligible to get a vaccine. We need to get as many people vaccinated as possible, to keep our kids, our teachers, and everyone else healthy. Let’s read the statistics, we are trying to help not hurt, please come and get vaccinated if you haven’t.”

Superintendent Anthony Soto agreed people should do research and look up facts in places other than social media and to do their part in becoming vaccinated for the safety of the community.

Sardella said the Holyoke Health Center gave them around 100 doses for the clinic held on Wednesday, and by 1 p.m. they had given 35 vaccines to students 12 and older along with a few adults. There were more people entering for scheduled vaccine appointments who would add to the total number given, but Sardella said she was proud of the amount they had given out so far. There was some confusion on how to find the clinic as it was located in a smaller gym at the sports complex and not the main area of the High School’s North Campus, given the confusion Sardella said they were lucky to receive so many visitors.

For information on other vaccine clinics held by the Holyoke Health Center people can visit the Holyoke Health Center website at http://www.hhcinc.org or by calling 413-420-2200.

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