

Serving  
the city  
since 1995

FREE

August 23, 2024

Local news. Local stories.  
Local advertisers.

# HOLYOKE the Sun

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

thesun@turley.com

www.sun.turley.com

## Garcia working toward PILOT program

By Quinn Suomala  
Staff Writer

HOLYOKE – Mayor Joshua Garcia is working to establish an official payment in lieu of the taxes policy.

Garcia imagines that there will be an official contract with a public policy consultant within the next few weeks.

Once that is settled the process of establishing a policy should take about six months.

“We want to get a systematic approach and formalize an agreement to PILOT payments,” Garcia said.

Establishing this policy would allow for Garcia to send out a set proposal to large non-profit organizations in the city that own tax-exempt properties.

Using the policy, Garcia would request that the non-prof-

See PILOT, page 11

## Nature journaling captures beauty of Ashley Reservoir



Above, participants gathered around to introduce themselves and learn about nature journaling. Right, Artist in Residence at the New England Trail Emma Aiken gave out examples of her own nature journaling for people to look at as they went through the woods.

Turley photos by Quinn Suomala

By Quinn Suomala  
Staff Writer

HOLYOKE – The Appalachian Mountain Club and the New England Trail held a nature journaling event at the Ashley Reservoir.

The event was run by Artist in Residence at the NET Emma Aiken and AMC Outreach Assistant

Serena Kramer.

As people arrived at the event, Aiken walked them through the basics of nature journaling so they were prepared for the activities ahead.

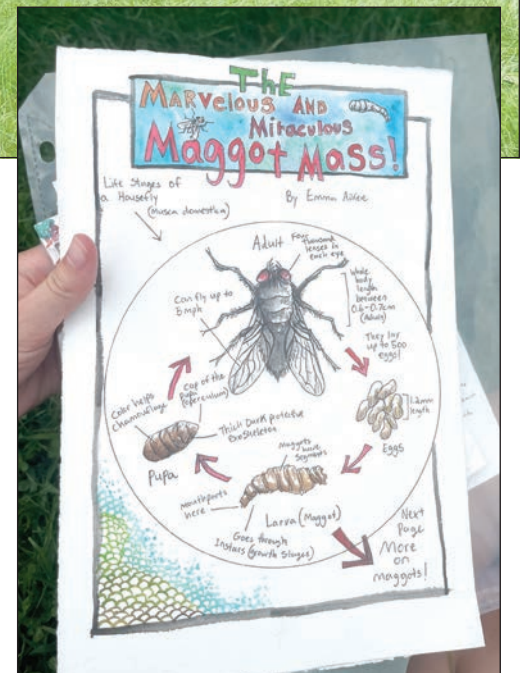
“I love to share my process, give some of the basics on observing and to do exercises on being observant and using all your senses to observe

your area,” Aiken said. “We also worked on writing skills, doing some drawing and sketching.”

One of the things Aiken enjoys about nature journaling is how easy it can be for people of any age and ability to give it a try.

“It’s very accessible

See JOURNALING, page 12



## Velis, Duffy lead local candidates currently running for re-election

HOLYOKE – The 2024 election is approaching and many candidates are intending to run for re-election.

Senator John Velis will be on the ballot in the fall and does not have any opponents.

The same goes for Representative of the Fifth Hampden District Patricia Duffy.

The primary election will be on Tuesday, Sept. 3. The voter registration deadline is Aug. 24 and the vote by mail application deadline is Aug. 26.

The state election is scheduled for Tuesday, Nov. 5. The voter registration deadline is Oct. 26 and the vote by mail application deadline is Oct. 29.

Polling hours for both elections will go from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

To find detailed information on where you go to vote, go to the state website at <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/WhereDoIVoteMA/WhereDoIVote>.

Velis has been the Senator for the Hampden and Hampshire district since he was elected in a special election in May of 2020.

Since then he has been consistently re-elected to the position and throughout his career he has pushed for an increased focus on mental health needs as well as improved support for veterans.

Velis is the chairman of the Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use & Recovery.

He has helped to usher Mental Health ABC 2.0 into law, which called for mental health supports including that emergency rooms to have a behavioral health clinic and that insurers need to cover an annual mental health wellness exam.

See RE-ELECTION, page 11

## School committee presents plan to prepare for return to local control

By Quinn Suomala  
Staff Writer

HOLYOKE – The Local Control Subcommittee presented the Holyoke school committee capacity building plan at the school committee meeting on Aug. 19.

This plan outlined the goals that the local control subcommittee decided on to help prepare the school committee for their return to local control.

“The goal of this plan is to empower our school committee in the path to local control,” School Committee Member Yadilette Rivera Colón said.

There were four key areas outlined within this plan. They are: finding the best leader, providing effective feedback, managing money wisely and developing strong policies.

Therefore, the school committee will receive training on finding and assessing a superintendent. Throughout this they will develop a process

for hiring a strong superintendent for the schools.

They will also receive professional development assisting them in fiscal responsibilities, such as creating a budget, managing finances and working with unions.

Additionally, they will receive training on setting effective educational goals for the district.

For each of the highlighted key areas, the committee will have specific tasks and deadlines for different training and smaller goals.

They will also work to support the receiver in setting goals and to keep everyone in the district informed of what is going on, including families and staff.

Also included in the presentation of the plan were the ideas for some of the next big steps.

“One of the things we

See SCHOOL, page 11



## MiraVista announces new associate chief nursing officer

HOLYOKE – Evangeline Murray, MSN, RN, CNL who most recently served as director of Nursing Operations at Albany, NY, Medical Center, has been appointed as the associate chief nursing officer at MiraVista Behavioral Health Center.

Murray brings extensive experience in mental health services, with a focus on both adult and adolescent care. She holds a Master of Science in Nursing Clinical Leadership from Saint Xavier University in Chicago, a certified Clinical Nurse Leader and is an active member of the American Psychiatric Nurses Association.

“We are pleased to welcome

Evangeline to our senior leadership team,” said Shelley Zimmerman, MiraVista hospital administrator. “Her professional background includes managing nursing operations in hospital settings and overseeing the delivery of both inpatient and outpatient behavioral health services. Her expertise in staff education and regulatory compliance will be invaluable as we continue to enhance the quality of care we provide to our statewide community.”

Murray said “I am honored to be part of MiraVista Behavioral Health



Evangeline Murray

Center, an organization known for its compassionate and comprehensive care. The opportunity to work alongside a dedicated team, serving individuals in crisis and supporting their mental health journey, is incredibly rewarding. I am eager to contribute to the continued growth and success of our services.”

Before her tenure at Albany Medical, Murray was the Administrative Director of the Mental Health Service Line at Ellis Medicine in Schenectady, NY. There, she expanded

the child and adolescent mental health clinic, secured over \$2.7 million in grants and donations to enhance mental health services, and established a specialist role to provide emotional support to colleagues within mental health services.

Her previous roles at Ellis Medicine included Nurse Manager in Outpatient Mental Health, Patient Care Manager for Inpatient Adult, Adolescent, and Crisis Mental Health Services, and Registered Nurse in those same areas. Earlier in her career, she worked as a Registered Nurse in Correctional Medical Care at the Albany County and Schenectady County Correctional Facilities.

## United Congregational Church to host Young at Heart chorus

HOLYOKE – They say that age ain’t nothing but a number, and an upcoming concert at the United Congregational Church of Holyoke seeks to prove just that. UCCH will be hosting a performance by the Young at Heart Chorus on Sunday, Sept. 29, from 3 to 5 p.m.

The Young at Heart Chorus is a group of performers ages 70 years old and up who put their unique stamp on songs from legendary artists such as Bob Dylan, Aretha Franklin, the Rolling Stones, Beatles, and Pearl Jam.

Tickets for the concert are \$7 to \$15 and can be purchased by calling the church office at 413-532-1483. Learn more about the Young at Heart Chorus by visiting [www.youngatheart-](http://www.youngatheart-chorus.com)

[chorus.com](http://www.youngatheart-chorus.com).

Don’t miss out on this opportunity to support activities in Holyoke that will appeal to the entire family. Free parking and shuttle service will be available. Doors open at 1:30 p.m. Come early to get the best seating. All Are Welcome.

The United Congregational Church of Holyoke is an open and affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ. All individuals are welcome, regardless of where they are on their journey. To learn more about UCCH, please visit the website at [www.uccholyoke.org](http://www.uccholyoke.org), find UCCH on Facebook or Instagram, or call our office at 413-532-1483 Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

## Hibernians holding summer picnic

HOLYOKE – The Hibernians of Hampden/Hampshire Counties invites the public to attend the Annual Traditional Summer Picnic featuring Jim O’Connor and the Boston Irish-American Blackthorne Band at Hamel’s Summit View Pavilion 555 Northampton St Holyoke on Sunday, Aug. 25 from 1 to 5 p.m. The event will be held rain or shine

Tickets are \$35 per person for adults and children ages 16 and up; Kids ages 5-10 are \$10; Kids ages 5-16 are 15.

For reservations by Tuesday Aug. 20, call Joe O’Connor at 413-627-7148 or Fran Hennessey at 413-785-5687 or [aoh-holyoke.com](http://aoh-holyoke.com).

The Maurice A. Donahue Memorial Scholarship will be presented to Kayla Williams of Chicopee.

There will be Irish-American music; dancing; hot dogs, hamburgers, barbe-

cue chicken, baked beans, potato salad, tossed salad, dessert; coffee. There will also be a cash bar, kid’s games, and a giant raffle.

The event will benefit the Maurice A. Donahue Memorial Scholarship.



# We work hard to be **this Simple.**

Whether you are opening a checking account, applying for a mortgage or growing your business, PeoplesBank is committed to keeping banking as Simple as it can possibly be.

 PeoplesBank  
Real. Simple. Banking.

[bankatpeoples.com](http://bankatpeoples.com)



Member FDIC

## Library hosting new chess club

HOLYOKE – The Holyoke Public Library announced it will be hosting an adult chess club beginning Tuesday, Aug. 27 from 4 to 5 p.m.

The club will be held every Tuesday in the Community Room.

There is no experience necessary and all adults are welcome to come play and learn the game.



## Hibernians announce fall activities

HOLYOKE – Hibernians of Hampden/Hampshire Counties have announced the following events:

Halfway to St. Patrick's Day – The public is invited to an evening of celebration and fun featuring Dee Reilly at the Glendale Ridge Vineyard, 155 Glendale Rd Southhampton, Mass.; Admission is free of charge and the event will be held Tuesday Sept. 17 from 5 to 7 p.m. There will be food and wine for purchase at a cash bar. The event will be held rain or shine. Everyone is encouraged to bring a non-perishable food item to help Kate's Kitchen.

The Annual Par-3 Golf Tournament sponsored by the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians will be held on Saturday, Sept. 21. The public is invited to participate in the tournament, which will be held at Holyoke Country Club, 2 Country Club Rd., Holyoke. Golf registration begins at 9 a.m. with tee-off scheduled for 10 a.m. Lunch will be held at 12 noon. The cost for golf and lunch is \$60. The cost for lunch only is \$25. Please call Nora McMahon at (413) 218-2092 for more information. At the tournament, a collection needed items will be taken for residents of the Holyoke Veterans Home.

Please go to aoh-holyoke.com for a list of needed items.

The Annual Food and Clothing Drive for Providence Ministries will go on from Sept. 1 through Dec. 1. The Hibernians and the Polish National Credit Union are sponsoring the drive. The drop off location is at the Polish National Credit Union, 270 Westfield Rd., Holyoke. Please consider bringing non-perishable food items and gently used clothing; sleeping bags and blankets needed. Or make a donation and ask to sign up to enter a raffle for \$100 and/or a raffle basket.

## Sen. Velis celebrates outreach for youth mental health

HOLYOKE – Following a multi-month summer campaign by MiraVista Behavioral Health Center and the Public Health Institute of Western Massachusetts to bring awareness to Adolescent Mental Health, Sen. John C. Velis is set to join MiraVista and the Public Health Institute of Western Massachusetts to recognize their efforts.

The partnership campaign, Adolescent Mental Health Doesn't Take a Vacation, launched in June in print and on various social media platforms to better inform both students and parents about the importance of mental health care. According to the CDC, about 1 in 5 teens in the U.S. have experienced a mental health disorder.

"School break over summer is welcomed by many students, but separation from school supports and friends can be isolating for some teens, including those with existing mental health diagnoses," said Kimberley Lee, MiraVista chief of Creative Strategy and Development.

"I am grateful for the work of the Public Health Institute and MiraVista to inform families on the resources

available to teens during the summer when they may not have traditional access to behavioral health support services offered by their school," said Velis (D-Westfield), Senate Chair of the Joint Committee on Mental Health, Substance Use, and Recovery.

Velis will be presenting a citation to the Public Health Institute of Western Massachusetts and MiraVista Behavioral Health Center during a visit to the hospital at 1 p.m. on Tuesday, Aug. 27. Representatives from the Public Health Institute of Western Mass will be in attendance as well.

Jessica Collins, executive director of Springfield-based PHIWM, has said the hope for the campaign has been to "inform parents, guardians, and the community about ways to promote good mental health and the resources available to our young people."

Collins has also noted that health surveys of youth "conducted across Western Massachusetts have generally seen an increase over time in students reporting depressive symptoms with more than two out of five students during so in 2023."

## HHS class of '69 announces reunion

HOLYOKE – The Holyoke High School Class of 1969 will be holding its 55th reunion on Saturday, Oct. 5, at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 250 Westfield Road.

The reunion party will begin at 5:30 p.m. with cocktails and hors d'oeuvres, followed by dinner at 7 p.m. Dinner, raffle, and cash bar, along with entertain-

ment by Moose and the Hightops, will be provided. Tickets are \$45.

The Reunion Committee has worked to locate as many classmates as possible. To be sure everyone is invited or have questions, please contact Janice Shewchuk (413-530-9524), Marc Joyce (413-575-0597), or holyokehighclassof1969@gmail.com.

## Registration now open at Holyoke Community College for fall semester

HOLYOKE – Registration is now open for noncredit professional development and personal enrichment classes at Holyoke Community College for the fall 2024 semester.

The fall calendar begins Sept. 3, with individual classes running on different schedules throughout the semester. Many are available as single sessions that cost as little as \$39.

Classes for fall include Indian cooking, wine tasting, drawing, piano, cake decorating, dance, watercolor painting, machine sewing, voiceover coaching, conversational Spanish, French, and Polish, bartending, yoga, home design,

estate planning, medical interpreting, K-1 education, retirement planning, money management, and educational technology.

Most classes meet in the Kittredge Center for Business and Workforce Development on the main HCC campus, 303 Homestead Ave. Cooking, wine tasting, and bartending classes meet at the HCC MGM Culinary Arts Institute, 164 Race St.

To see complete fall course listings and schedules, or to register, please visit hcc.edu/bcs.

Check back often as more classes will be added as fall approaches.

## Harmony House holding spaghetti and meatball dinner fundraiser Sept. 6

CHICOPEE – Harmony House of Western Massachusetts, a home for the terminally ill, has scheduled a spaghetti and meatball dinner to be held on Friday, Sept. 6 from 4:30 to 8 p.m. at the Moose Family Center, 244 Fuller Road, Chicopee. Dinner will be served from 4:45 to 6:45 p.m. Bring your friends and family for a fun evening of food and fun, including entertainment and exciting raffles for prizes. The donation is \$15

and dinner is free for children under the age of six. Tickets can be purchased by calling and leaving a message at 413-315-9784, Jennifer at 413-654-0821, or by Venmo at @harmonyhousewma and entering #tickets Spaghetti Dinner. Tickets will also be available at the door.

Founded by the late Ruth Willemain, a hospice volunteer for many years, the goal of Harmony House is to provide a comfortable, compassionate, and loving

environment to people who have little or no resources or family and are entering the final stages of life. The organization provides personal care with honor and dignity at little or no cost to terminally ill individuals.

Harmony House is totally privately funded through the generosity of individuals, businesses, and foundations. Contributions are gratefully accepted at all times. "Someday you may need us;

right now, we need you." Donations are always appreciated. Please visit the website at www.harmonyhousewma.org or send your checks to Harmony House of Western Massachusetts, 66 View Street, Chicopee, MA 01020. Harmony House is a 501(c)(3) corporation. If interested in learning more or becoming a volunteer, please contact Harmony House at 413-315-9784 or by email at harmonyhousewma@gmail.com.

**Public Auction**

**FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup> at 11:00 A.M.**

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE  
• HOLYOKE •

**6 ROOM / 3 BEDROOM  
2 STORY  
COLONIAL STYLE HOME**  
WITH  
**TWO CAR DETACHED GARAGE**

372 Hillside Avenue HOLYOKE, MASSACHUSETTS  
To be Sold on the Premises

**Features:**

- 2 Story Colonial Style Home • ±5,011 S/F of Land •
- Total of (6) Rooms w/ (3) Bedrooms & (1½) Baths •
- 1,680 S/F of Gross Living Area • Gas Heat • Full Basement •
- Vinyl Siding • Hardwood Floors • Open Porch • Deck •
- Public Water & Sewer • Zoned: R2-Residential • Assessor's Parcel #: 124.32 •
- Two Car Detached Garage •

Sale Per Order of Mortgagee  
Attorney C. Barry Waite  
Of the firm of Resnic, Beaugard, Waite & Driscoll, 30 Whitney Avenue, Holyoke, MA  
Attorney for Mortgagee

**Terms of Sale:** \$10,000.00 Deposit Bank or Certified Funds.  
5% Buyer's Premium Applies.  
Other Terms to be Announced at Time of Sale.

**Aaron Posnik**  
AUCTIONEERS - APPRAISERS

West Springfield, MA • Philadelphia, PA  
413-733-5238 • 610-853-6655  
TOLL FREE 1-877-POSNIK-1 (767-6451)  
MA Auc. Lic. #161 • PA Auc. Lic. #AY000241L

**Aaron Posnik**  
AUCTIONEERS - APPRAISERS

www.posnik.com • E-mail: info@posnik.com

**Public Auction**

**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 28<sup>TH</sup> at 11:00 A.M.**

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE  
• HOLYOKE •

**6 ROOM / 3 BEDROOM  
2 STORY  
SINGLE FAMILY STYLE  
ROW HOUSE**  
"LOCATED IN ELMWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD"

196 Walnut Street HOLYOKE, MA  
To be Sold on the Premises

**FEATURES:**

- 2 Story Single Family Style Row House • ±2,148 S/F of Land •
- Total of (6) Rooms w/ (3) Bedrooms & (1) Bathroom •
- ±1,208 S/F of Gross Living Area Above Grade • Gas FWA Heat •
- Full Basement • Brick Exterior • (2) Porches • Public Water & Sewer •
- Assessor's Parcel # 005-05-013 • Zoned: DR •

Sale Per Order of Mortgagee  
Attorney Jonathan C. Sapirstein  
Of the firm of Sapirstein & Sapirstein, PC  
1500 Main Street, Springfield, MA

**Terms of Sale:** \$5,000.00 Deposit Cash or Certified Funds.  
5% Buyer's Premium Applies.  
Other Terms to be Announced at Time of Sale.

**Aaron Posnik**  
AUCTIONEERS - APPRAISERS

West Springfield, MA • Philadelphia, PA  
413-733-5238 • 610-853-6655  
TOLL FREE 1-877-POSNIK-1 (767-6451)  
MA Auc. Lic. #161 • PA Auc. Lic. #AY000241L

**Aaron Posnik**  
AUCTIONEERS - APPRAISERS

www.posnik.com • E-mail: info@posnik.com

**Public Auction**

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 20<sup>TH</sup> at 11:00 A.M.**

MORTGAGEE'S SALE OF REAL ESTATE  
• HOLYOKE •

**13 ROOM / 6 BEDROOMS  
2 STORY  
THREE FAMILY STYLE HOME**

272 Walnut Street HOLYOKE, MA  
To be Sold on the Premises

**FEATURES:**

- 2 Story Three Family Style Home • ±6,621 S/F of Land (.15 Acres) •
- Total of (13) Rooms w/ (6) Bedrooms & (3) Baths •
- Steam Heat • Full Basement • Enclosed Porch • Vinyl Siding •
- Public Water & Sewer • Parcel ID: 004-03-006 • Zoned: DR •

Sale Per Order of Mortgagee  
Attorney Jerry B. Plumb  
Of the firm of O'Connell & Plumb, P.C.  
75 Market Place, Springfield, MA  
Attorney for Mortgagee

**Terms of Sale:** \$10,000.00 Deposit Bank or Certified Funds.  
5% Buyer's Premium Applies.  
Other Terms to be Announced at Time of Sale.

**Aaron Posnik**  
AUCTIONEERS - APPRAISERS

West Springfield, MA • Philadelphia, PA  
413-733-5238 • 610-853-6655  
TOLL FREE 1-877-POSNIK-1 (767-6451)  
MA Auc. Lic. #161 • PA Auc. Lic. #AY000241L

**Aaron Posnik**  
AUCTIONEERS - APPRAISERS

www.posnik.com • E-mail: info@posnik.com

Guest Column



## Does some of my Social Security payment include repayment of my contributions?

Dear Rusty

I have a question about my Social Security benefits. Would I be correct to assume that part of the monthly Social Security income I get is a repayment of what I contributed to the fund while I was working? If so, how much of my monthly benefit payment is my own money coming back to me?

Signed: Curious Beneficiary

Dear Curious

I'm afraid that is not how Social Security works. The money you contribute to Social Security during your working years does not go into a special account to be repaid to you. Rather, the Social Security taxes you pay while working are used to pay benefits to all those currently receiving Social Security benefits.

The system is, in effect, a "pay as you go" program where all those currently contributing help pay benefits for all those now receiving. What your contributions do, however, is earn you "quarter credits" and, when you have enough credits, you become eligible for Social Security retirement benefits for life. Generally, someone must have about 40 quarters, about 10 years, contributing to Social Security to be eligible for SS retirement benefits.

How much you receive monthly is determined not by how much you contributed but, rather, by how much your work earnings were

See SECURITY, page 5

## 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](mailto:thesun@turley.com). Please include a daytime telephone number for verification purposes (it will not be printed). Letters must be received by noon Monday to be considered for that Friday's newspaper. No attack letters will be printed. No letters written by candidates supporting their own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper, or if the letters become repetitive, the newspaper reserves the right to print a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election.

For more information, call 413-283-8393.

### Campaign news

As part of its election coverage, the 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.



Guest Column

## Friends with questions for the Garden Lady



I love it when I get texts from friends with a random gardening questions. I never know when they will come but I am glad when they do!

The first question came from my friend Jacquie. She has only a small spot near her condo for gardening, but apparently her tomato harvest has been quite impressive.

She was concerned with small holes in her cherry tomatoes, and was curious if slugs could be the culprit. Then she confirmed it by seeing one on the fruit, and wanted to know what to do about them.

Apparently, the beer basin I advised worked well. She sent me a follow-up text saying she found 21 drunken slugs the morning after setting the trap.

Read on for a full how-to!

Probably the most famous slug trap around is made from stale beer. To be effective it must be set up correctly, otherwise slugs will be lured but not trapped.

Bury a container level with the soil surface and fill it with beer to one inch from the top. Ideally, slugs stretch out their bodies to reach the liquid, fall in and drown.

Dump the container often, especially after it rains, since water will dilute the beer as well as raise the level of the liquid. Commercial slug "motels" come with a yeasty powder you mix with water – these work on the same principle as our homemade version.

Some folks also have good luck trapping slugs in watermelon or cantaloupe rinds placed about the garden. Dispose of the slug filled fruit into the trash each morning without an ounce of slime on your fingers!

Slugs feed during the night and hide during the day, for that reason we should rid

the garden of popular daytime hiding spots, or at least conduct a search and destroy mission on these spots regularly. In my garden, stepping stones or old boards used for garden pathways, come to mind.

Another friend, Debi, sent me a text about the hardness of Gladiolus. She specifically wanted to know if the corms had to be lifted in the fall and stored indoors over the winter.

While my short answer is yes, they do need to be dug up, there are certain micro climates that allow these plants to overwinter. Sometimes planting them right up against the foundation of the house is all the buffer you need.

Or drive east two hours and chances are they may squeak in hardness-wise. Just that little bit of temperature modulation from the ocean puts some easterly locales in a zone or half-zone warmer than we are.

Anyway, read on to learn about proper overwintering practices.

Around the time of our first frost corms should be lifted from the ground with a spading fork or shovel. Cut the stem from the corm as closely as possible. Rinse under running water and allow to dry in a frost free airy location for two-three weeks.

Check the corms regularly, and when a corky area develops between the mother corm and the new corm break off and discard the mother. After drying is complete, store on trays or in mesh bags in a well-ventilated area at temperatures between 38 and 58 degrees.

The lower the temp, the better.

Inspect throughout the winter months and throw away any corms that begin to rot.

It's a lot of fun to answer questions – keep them coming!

Roberto McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 32 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to [pouimette@turley.com](mailto:pouimette@turley.com) with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.



I received an email from a Brimfield resident who said, "On Aug. 1 at the no named pond in Warren on New Reed Street there were three great egrets near the far shore. The birds would sometimes be out of sight in the vegetation near the shore." He

also saw two great blue herons and a belted kingfisher.

The great egret is a large, 39 inches, white heron with a yellow bill and black legs. In breeding season, both males and females have long white plumes on their backs. Like other herons, the great egret feeds by slowly walking, head erect and then striking its prey. It forages in shallow water for small fish and amphibians. It also feeds on land for insects, reptiles and small mammals.

Great egrets nest in colonies with other herons, ibises and cormorants or they nest singly. The female lays one to six pale blue

See BACKYARD, page 5

HOLYOKE  
the Sun  
TEAM

EDITOR/SPORTS  
Greg Scibelli  
[thesun@turley.com](mailto:thesun@turley.com)

ADVERTISING SALES  
Wendy Delcamp  
[wdelcamp@turley.com](mailto:wdelcamp@turley.com)

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



@The Holyoke Sun



www.sun.turley.com

PATRICK H. TURLEY  
CEO

KEITH TURLEY  
President

DEANNA SLOAT  
Graphics Manager



www.turley.com

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



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

## Letters to the Editor Policy

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

Unsigned or anonymous letters will NOT be published.

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

Deadline for submissions is Wednesday at noon.

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

# Comcast announces turbo-charged network in Holyoke

SPRINGFIELD — Comcast announced it turbo-charged its next-generation network, with 2 gigabits-per-second download speeds and up to 10x faster upload speeds now available to all customers in Holyoke, Longmeadow, West Springfield and Westfield, over the existing connections in their homes and businesses. This speed increase, which is made possible by Comcast's ongoing investment in its network, paves the way for Comcast to deliver symmetrical multi-gigabit speeds in the near future. In addition, work is nearly complete to provide these faster speeds to all customers in Southwick and Springfield, with the vast majority of those customers already experiencing these faster speeds.

"Providing the best WiFi in-and-out of the home for our customers across Western Massachusetts is a priority for Comcast," said Carolyne Hannan, senior vice president of Comcast's New England Region. "Thanks to decades of innovation, Comcast continually provides a faster and more reliable Internet experience, which is backed by our next-generation network and an immediate benefit to our customers in Holyoke, Longmeadow, West Springfield and Westfield."

Comcast continues to make significant enhancements to its state-of-the-art network to ensure it delivers all the speed, capacity, reliability and security customers need today, and well into the future. The investments made recently in

Holyoke, Longmeadow, West Springfield and Westfield have many added benefits beyond just speed.

As part of this network evolution, every Xfinity customer in Holyoke, Longmeadow, West Springfield and Westfield has the fastest speeds available in that market today, as well as:

Reliable no matter what: Comcast-developed platforms use artificial intelligence and machine learning to continuously monitor performance data, identify potential issues and automatically optimize performance, often before customers even notice a problem. Earning a 99.9% world-class reliability score, so our customers have an always-on connection.

Secure at every moment: We have a

dedicated team of highly-skilled, industry-certified cyber security experts working 24/7 to protect customer data. All included with and at no additional cost to customers with an Xfinity Gateway. Just download and sign in through the Xfinity app.

Lower latency: Reduced latency or "lag" enables better performance of real-time applications like video conferencing, multi-player on-line gaming, live video streaming and VR experiences.

This project is part of Comcast's commitment to Massachusetts, where the company has invested almost \$909 million in technology and fiber infrastructure upgrades, including these network innovations, over the last three years.

## BACKYARD, from page 4

fish eggs in a flimsy platform nest of sticks, twigs and reeds placed in a tree from eight to 40 feet above ground or in cattails. They inhabit marshes, swamps, seashores and lake margins.



Great egret

In the past, they were hunted for the plumes used in the feather trade. Since the ban on hunting and on the use of DDT, which caused fragile eggshells, their population increased.

### Eagle sighting and more

My daughter, Paula, saw a belted kingfisher at Tully Lake in Royalston on Aug. 3. She saw two cormorants, two female mallards and a juvenile bald eagle at Hardwick Pond on Aug. 10. The bald eagle was diving, unsuccessfully, for fish not too far from her canoe. She said, "[It] was really cool to see."

### Brimfield birds

The Brimfield resident, who saw the great egrets, said, "I have a bird bath with a drip. On a recent hot afternoon the birdbath got a workout; cat-bird, blue jay, titmouse, house finch, Baltimore oriole, rose-breasted grosbeak, song sparrow and chipping sparrow all took a bath and goldfinch were getting a drink from the drip."

He also said, "In the yard yesterday (Aug. 2) I saw two Carolina wrens. I've seen two Carolina wrens in the yard infrequently since spring but I don't think they have nested nearby

because I've never heard them singing. And at the very top of a dead tree (where else) I saw a male scarlet tanager." He said the male ruby-throated hummingbirds are still around and there is more activity at the feeders now that the recently fledged young are out and about.

He also reported at the pond on South Street the four great blue herons nests are all empty, the twelve chicks have all fledged and the three osprey chicks are out of the nest and flying around the pond.

### Bird bath

I wish I had the activity at my birdbath this Brimfield resident has. I have yet to see a bird use it. My daughter's dog drinks from it whenever he visits.

### Hovering hummingbird

Recently, I let my daughter Jenny's dogs out. While I watched them from the window in the door a ruby-throated female hummingbird came name the door and hovered as if looking in the window at me. Ironically, I was wearing a tee shirt with hummingbirds and bee balm. Maybe it was attracted to the red bee balm.

### Hummingbirds and more

The Brimfield resident said in response to my email telling him about my hummingbird experience, "I've had hummingbirds hover in front of me a couple of times, pretty cool. Also yesterday I saw some motion out of a window and when I looked it was a hummingbird and a female common yellowthroat having a 'discussion.' The hummingbird was upset I believe because the warbler was near where it perches between visits to a nearby feeder."

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

## SECURITY, from page 4

over your lifetime. You will get a percentage of your average pre-retirement work income as your monthly Social Security payment, but that is also affected by your age when you claim benefits.

It is your average lifetime earnings adjusted for inflation, which determines your "Primary Insurance Amount." Your PIA is what you get at your Social Security Full Retirement Age, but your age when you claim benefits determines if you get more or less than your PIA.

Claiming SS before your FRA means a smaller monthly benefit, while waiting longer than your FRA means a benefit higher than your PIA. SS benefits reach maximum at age 70. FYI, each person's FRA is different based on the year they were born, but full retirement age today is between age 66 and 67. When you claim benefits relative to your FRA determines how much of your PIA you will receive each month.

So, your contributions to Social Security aren't used to determine your monthly benefit amount, but your average lifetime work earnings and age when you claim are. Nevertheless, you may be interested to know that most people get back everything they have personally contributed to Social Security within about three to five years of collect-

ing their benefits. In that sense, Social Security is an exceptionally good deal, since most Americans now collect benefits for about two decades.

And therein lies much of Social Security's financial dilemma; people are now collecting benefits for many more years than the current program is designed to support. And that is what Congress needs to fix as soon as possible. The Social Security trust funds, which now provide supplemental money to pay benefits, are projected to be depleted around 2033, which will mean a cut in everyone's monthly Social Security payment, unless Congress acts soon to reform the program and restore it to fiscal solvency.

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

## NOTICE

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

*The Golden Age Senior Club of Holyoke*  
 founded January 1951  
 is recruiting for new members.  
**Membership fee is \$20 for the year and entitles you to entertainment, guest speakers and various games and fun activities.**  
 We are hosted by the HCOA, 291 Pine St. in Holyoke every Wednesday from 1 to 3 PM.  
**This invitation is open to anyone 55 years of age or older, regardless of what city you live in.**  
**COME AND CHECK US OUT!**

**EARLY DEADLINES**  
 In observance of Labor Day,  
**Public Notices & Classifieds**  
 EARLY AD DEADLINE  
 Place your public notice  
 no later than 12 noon  
**Friday, August 30**  
 - Thank you!

**CENTER STREET AUTO PARTS OF CHICOPEE, INC.**  
 We will pay you top dollar for your car AND we will pick it up! Call us for a price!  
 • Top-Of-The-Line Auto Salvaging Services  
 • First-Rate Used Auto Parts  
 • Top-Grade Auto Body Parts  
 • Sell Your Old or Used Car to Us  
 "Serving all of Western Mass."  
**\$\$\$ Money on the Spot for All Vehicles**  
**centerstreetautoparts.com**  
 651 Center St., Chicopee **413-733-2778**

**OAKDALE DENTAL ASSOCIATES, P.C.**  
 Oakdale Dental Associates, P.C. is happy to announce that  
**Dr Manar Al Nuwab** has joined our practice and is accepting new patients.  
 Please visit our website (OakdaleDental.com) or call 413-536-1782 to book an appointment.  
 1820 Northampton Street • Holyoke  
 413-536-1782 • OakdaleDental.com

# Warm humid weather ramps up mosquito population



PALMER – In June, the eastern equine encephalitis virus was detected in mosquitoes in Carver, Massachusetts located in Plymouth County for the first time in 2024, according to the Massachusetts Department of Public Health.

“Although the communities in our region have not been identified on the warning list, it’s still important to take steps to avoid mosquito bites,” said Dr. Joe Sills, chief of Emergency Medicine for Baystate Wing Hospital. “Some mosquitoes carry germs that can make people and some animals sick. In Massachusetts,

the diseases linked to mosquitoes are West Nile virus and Eastern Equine Encephalitis virus. Most people won’t experience symptoms from either virus, but there are important differences to be aware of.”

EEE is relatively rare in humans, although there are occasional outbreaks in certain regions of the country. Outbreaks of EEE usually occur in Massachusetts every 10-20 years. These outbreaks will typically last two to three years. The most recent outbreak of EEE in Massachusetts began in 2019 and included twelve cases with six fatalities. The outbreak continued in 2020 with five cases including one fatality. The risk of getting EEE is highest from late July through September when more mosquitoes are present and active.

“It is possible that some people who become infected with mosquito-borne viruses may not develop any symptoms or in some cases only flu-like symptoms,” said Sills. “The incubation period for the virus from the time of an infected mosquito bite to onset of illness ranges from four to 10 days and the illness can last one to two weeks. There is no specific treatment for EEE. Antibiotics are not effective against viruses, and no effective anti-viral drugs have been discovered for the treatment of EEE,” said Sills. “Severe illnesses are treated by supportive therapy, which may include hospitalization, respiratory support, IV fluids and prevention of other infections.”

West Nile virus is a mosquito-carried virus most commonly spread to people through the bite of an infected mosquito. Because most people who are exposed to WNV have no symptoms, it is difficult to know exactly how many people have

been infected. People who develop severe illness with WNV are most often reported. Between 2014 and 2023, 131 people were reported with WNV infection in Massachusetts. Eight of these people died. Cases have been identified from around the state.

Sills encourages community members to follow The Department of Public Health tips that will help people protect themselves and their loved ones from illnesses caused by mosquitoes:

**Be Aware of Peak Mosquito Hours:** The hours from dusk to dawn are peak biting times for many mosquitoes. Consider rescheduling outdoor activities that occur during the evening or early morning.

**Apply Insect Repellent when Outdoors:** Use a repellent with DEET (N, N-diethyl-m-toluamide), permethrin, picaridin (KBR 3023), oil of lemon eucalyptus [p-methane 3, 8-diol (PMD)] or IR3535 according to the instructions on the product label. DEET products should not be used on infants under two months of age and should be used in concentrations of 30% or less on older children. Oil of lemon eucalyptus should not be used on children under three years of age.

**Clothing Can Help Reduce Mosquito Bites:** Wearing long sleeves, long pants, and socks when outdoors will help keep mosquitoes away from your skin.

**Mosquito-Proof Your Home and Drain Standing Water:** Mosquitoes lay their eggs in standing water. They can begin to multiply in any puddle or standing water that lasts for more than four days. If you have a bird bath in your yard, be sure to empty it daily and refill it with

See MOSQUITO, page 9

**Servicing the Construction Industry for over 15 years**

**Services:**

- Hydraulic Hose Assembly
- Hydraulic Cylinder Rebuilt
- Line Boring
- 24-Hour Emergency Service

**10% Discount**  
MUST MENTION CODE TP2024

**Products:**

- Construction Tools & Supplies
- PPE Products
- Blades, Welding Supplies, Marking Tools
- Specialty Equipment
- And Much, Much More

**Find us at**  
**83A Carmelinas Circle, Ludlow**

**Donovan's Irish Pub** *Western Massachusetts #1 Irish Pub!*

**Live Music, Great Food & A Pint To Raise Your Spirits!**

<b>Friday, August 23</b> <b>Kilashandra</b>	<b>Friday, August 30</b> <b>Paul Pender</b>
<b>Saturday, August 24</b> <b>Billy Eagen</b>	<b>Saturday, August 31</b> <b>Eagle Eyes</b> 3-6 p.m.

**80 Jarvis Avenue, Holyoke**  
**413-543-0791 • donovanspub.com**  
Mon.-Thurs. 11am-10pm; Fri. & Sat. 11am - Midnight; Sun. 12pm - 8pm

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

USDA INSP. FROZEN BONE-IN CENTER-CUT PORK LOIN CHOPS.....	<b>\$2.49</b> lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF TENDERLOIN CUT FREE	<b>\$9.89</b> lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN BEEF SHORT RIBS FLANKEN CUT ....	<b>\$9.79</b> lb
USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS PORK BUTT STRIPS.....	<b>\$2.99</b> lb	USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF SIRLOIN STEAK OR SPOON ROAST	<b>\$5.99</b> lb	USDA INSP. FRESH WHOLE CHICKEN TWIN PACK .....	<b>\$1.44</b> lb
USDA INSP. FROZEN BONELESS CENTER CUT PORK LOIN ...	<b>\$1.99</b> lb	USDA INSP. STORE MADE ITALIAN MARINATED 1/2 CHICKEN.....	<b>\$2.99</b> lb	USDA INSP. FRESH CHICKEN WINGS 10 LB BAG.....	<b>\$2.49</b> lb
SLICED IN OUR DELI HORMEL SMOKED HAM.....	<b>\$2.99</b> lb	USDA INSP. BUTCHER WRAP BONELESS DINNER HAM 3-4LB ,	<b>\$1.99</b> lb	USDA INSP. FROZEN AT SEA MAHI MAHI FILLETS.....	<b>\$4.99</b>
USDA INSP. IN OUR DELI MONTEREY JACK CHEESE.	<b>\$4.99</b> lb	USDA INSP. STOREMADE KOREAN BBQ MARINATED BONELESS PORK BUTT STRIPS .....	<b>\$3.35</b> lb		

**GREAT ON THE GRILL**

USDA INSP. GROUND FRESH DAILY DIET LEAN GROUND BEEF 5 LB BAG **\$4.99** lb

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

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

SALE DATES: 8/15/24-8/21/24 BUY DIRECT FOR SAVINGS • SELECTION • SERVICE We reserve the right to limit quantities.

**Tuesday Night 6:30pm Pitch Night**

**Wednesday Night 5-6:30pm Smoked BBQ**

**Monday, Sept. 2 Labor Day Hamburgers & Hot Dogs On The Grill**

**AMERICAN LEGION POST 325**  
22 Sycamore Street, Holyoke, MA  
Find us on Facebook Paper City Post 325

# SPORTS

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

ADVERTISEMENTS

www.sports.turley.com

## Pioneers, Mutiny wrap up great seasons

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

LUDLOW – The soccer aficionados from Ludlow and the surrounding communities had a lot of fun watching the New England Mutiny and the Western Mass. Pioneers play their home matches at Lusitano Stadium in Ludlow this summer.

“You really never know how things are going to go prior to the start of the regular season,” said Joe Ferrara during a recent interview. “Both teams had a great season.”

Ferrara has several different titles, and he doesn’t have very much free time during the soccer season.

He’s the commissioner of the United Women’s Soccer League and is the owner and Managing Director of the Mutiny, who have been play-



Mamadi Jiana, a Chicopee High graduate, played with the Pioneers this summer.

ing their home matches at the 106 year old soccer stadium in Ludlow since 2019. He’s also the General Manager of the Pioneers, who were founded in 1998.

Another person who didn’t have very much free time this summer is Federico Molinari, who has been the Pioneers head coach for more

than ten years. He was also the head coach of the Mutiny for the first time.

“I’ve watched Federico coach the Pioneers for the past several years, and he has a passion for the game of soccer,” Ferrara said. “He’s one of the best soccer coaches that

See SOCCER, page 8



Alexis Legowski, of South Hadley, was a regular in the Mutiny’s lineup this season.



The Pioneers made it to the second round of the playoffs this season.



Hope Santaniello, of Agawam, performs during the Mutiny’s conference final.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

## White falls short in finals



Tyler Goncalves dekes and then sends a pass away.



AJ Quiterio looks to clear the ball.



Jordan Kaduah sends a pass away ahead of pressure.



Ethan Lupa works through a crowd of players.

LUDLOW – The Lusitano White men’s soccer team was the runner up in last year’s PVSSL championship game. White would fall to Villa FC in the championship game earlier this month. Luistano White has been a regular in the championship game over the past several years.



Dominic Cavallini sends a pass away. Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

## Wroth named ‘Umpire of the Year’ in NECBL

NORTH ADAMS – Nic Lops, manager of the Sanford Mainers has been selected as the New England Collegiate Baseball League (NECBL) Joel Cooney Manager of the Year, while Brian Wroth of the United Collegiate Umpires Association was voted Umpire of the Year for the 2024 season.

Lops’ Mainers clinched the top wild card spot with a 26–18 regular season record, helping the Mainers finish the season on an 11–1 stretch, including an 11–game winning streak going into the season finale.

The Mainers went into the 2024 postseason as the No. 4 overall seed, earning home field advantage for the first round against the Keene SwampBats. After finishing 7–1 against their north division rival, the Mainers swept the SwampBats in the first round, matching up with the #1 Vermont Mountaineers in the semifinal round, a

See UMPIRE, page 8

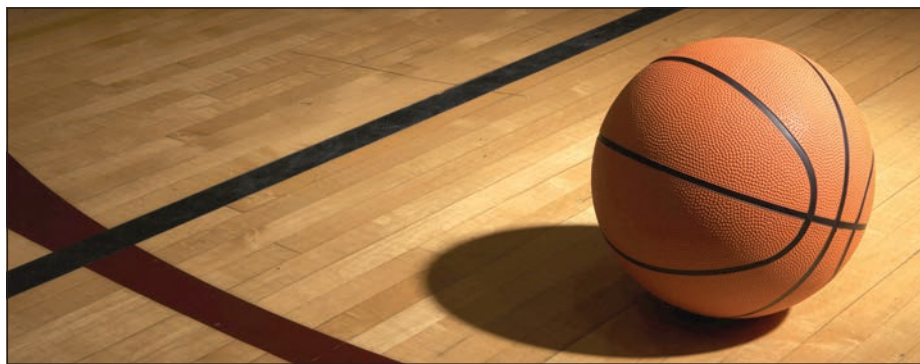
# Events announced for Basketball Hall of Fame weekend

SPRINGFIELD – The Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame announced additional details, including start times for key events, regarding the Class of 2024 Enshrinement Weekend.

The Class of 2024 celebration will culminate with the Enshrinement Ceremony on Sunday, October 13, in Springfield, Mass. – the Birthplace of Basketball. The Class was revealed in April and includes a total of 13 honorees.

Enshrinement Weekend will tip off at Mohegan Sun on Saturday, October

12, starting with the always-popular autograph session, followed by the headlining Tip-Off Celebration and Awards Gala. The Class of 2024 and over 40 returning Hall of Famers will then journey to Springfield, Mass. for the annual celebratory events taking place at the acclaimed Marriott Springfield Downtown as well as Springfield's Symphony Hall. Fans and guests are also encouraged to tour and visit the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame on Enshrinement Weekend.



## Bonsignore grabs second-place finish in Thompson 150

THOMPSON, CT – The NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour returned to Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park on Wednesday night for the Thompson 150. Justin Bonsignore and the Kenneth Massa Motorsports team prepared a strong No. 51 Phoenix Communications Inc. entry, and Bonsignore came away with a strong second-place finish.

Bonsignore qualified third for the Thompson 150, then fell to fourth on the initial stint of the race. On the next restart, Bonsignore took second spot away, and never relinquished the position on the track again. After a pit stop, Bonsignore chased the back bumper of eventual winner Patrick Emerling for the remainder of the distance.

The runner-up finish was Bonsignore's eighth top-five of the season in the first 10 races. He also took the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour points lead heading for the final six races of the year.

"Patrick's car was really good," Bonsignore said. "Track position would have been nice if I could have got the lead on the restart, but we had a great car. I got stuck in lapped traffic a bit in the final 10 laps and the tires just kind of gave out there at the end. It's getting towards the late summer and it's good to start putting some strong runs together with great speed like we've had the last few weeks. We will move onto Oswego and try to go win the Classic."

## Local athletes help lead Western Mass. to bronze

WALTHAM – The Western Mass. representative in the Bay State Games for girls soccer captured the bronze last month. Here is a look at a couple of their matchups during the games.

In the bronze medal game, West won 3-0 over Coastal. West had an early lead on Coastal and was able to hold it throughout the game. The three goals that solidified the bronze medal for West were made by Katie Gilhooly (Chicopee, Chicopee Comp HS), Fallon Clancy (Belchertown, Belchertown HS), and Maya Tellier (Belchertown, Belchertown HS).

During the tourney, West scored a win over Central 4-0. In the matchup,

Despite Central taking some beautiful shots, the goalkeeper for West, Chloe Laizer (West Springfield, West Springfield HS) wouldn't let any past her. Kylie Marino (East Longmeadow, East Longmeadow HS), Allison Fleury (South Hadley, South Hadley HS), Gilhooly, and Clancy all made goals that ultimately led to their win.

In an early round game, West beat Coastal 5-1. Fleury had a great game with two assists and one goal. Both Brianna Ribeiro (Belchertown, Belchertown HS) and Megan McGrath (North Adams, Dury HS) had two goals. For Coastal, Savannah Parker (Lunenburg, Lunenburg HS) made the goal in their fight against West.

### SOCCKER, from page 7

I've seen particularly on gamedays. He always makes the right tactical adjustments. He also runs a very good training session. I've received tremendous feedback from the players on both sides about him. I'm hoping that Federico can coach both teams again next year."

The Mutiny finished the 2024 regular season with a perfect 8-0 record, while the Pioneers posted an 11-2-1 record.

The Mutiny began the U.W.S. playoffs with a 2-1 home win over Steel City FC on July 12. Two days later, they celebrated an exciting 1-0 victory against Sporting CT in the East Conference championship match. It was their final home match of the season.

The following weekend, the Mutiny played in the U.W.S. National semifinals and championship match, which were held at All-High Stadium in Buffalo, New York.

The Mutiny didn't have very much trouble dispatching the Michigan Jaguars, who captured the U.W.S. Nationals title a year ago, in the semifinals. The final score of that match was 5-0.

"We performed very well in the semifinals," Ferrara said. "We were able to score a couple of early goals, which took the pressure off of us."

On that same night, Molinari and the Pioneers players were in Virginia playing Lionsbridge FC in a USL-Two playoff match. Unfortunately, the Pioneers season came to an end following a 2-1 loss.

Alec Hughes, who's a post-grad student listed on the UMass men's soccer team, led the Pioneers this summer with 17 goals. He's the USL-Two Golden Boot winner and was also named as the Player of the Year. He'll most likely be drafted by an MLS team next year.

"Alec has really improved a lot in the two years that he's been playing for the Mutiny," Ferrara said. "He was a key player for us this year. I'm hoping he signs with a Pro

team next year."

Scott Testori, who plays college soccer at UConn, chipped in with 12 goals. Jared Smith led the way with nine assists.

One of the Pioneers local players was Mamadi Jiani, who graduated from Chicopee High School. He scored four goals this season.

The Pioneers assistant coaches are Dennis Gomes, Jay Willis, and Thomas Duben.

Molinari, along with Duben, coached the Mutiny in the championship match the following night.

The Mutiny, who played in the U.W.S. finals for the first time, faced the Santa Clarita Blue Heat, who lost to the Jaguar in the 2023 championship match.

The score was tied 1-1 at the end of the first 45 minutes.

Mila Dillard, who lives in Chicopee and is a sophomore on the Pope Francis girls' soccer team, netted the Mutiny's goal during the 43rd minute. It was assisted by South Hadley's Alexis Legowski.

The Mutiny took a 2-1 lead 25 minutes into the second following a goal by Chioma Okafor, which was also assisted by Legowski, who played college soccer at Northeastern University.

Okafor was one of the UConn women's soccer players listed on the Mutiny roster.

The Blue Heat scored the equalizer late in the second half and they wound up winning the title, 6-5, in a penalty shootout.

Following the championship match, Legowski, who signed with a professional team in Poland, was selected as the MVP of the U.W.S. National Tournament finals. The M.V.P. award was the trophy of a Buffalo.

"Alexis is now playing for a pro team in Poland, which is awesome," Ferrara said. "She played very well in the tournament and was selected as the M.V.P. of the championship game."

Legowski and Dillard were two of the players from Western Mass. listed on the Mutiny roster. The other local players were Maddie

Therhault (Palmer), Hope Santaniello (Agawam), Sam Breton (Chicopee) Avery Klingensmith (Belchertown), Chandler Pedolozky (Westfield), and Emma Pedolozky (Westfield).

"I always want the best local high school soccer players to play for the Mutiny," Ferrara said. "It builds excitement and fanfare within the local community. The local players have been the core of our team during the past several years."

Santaniello, who plays college soccer at UMass-Lowell, is the only remaining Mutiny player from the 2019 squad.

Okafor, who's from Blantyre, Malawi, is listed as a junior on the UConn women's soccer roster. Several of her college teammates also played for the Mutiny this summer.

The UConn women's soccer coach is Margaret Rodriguez, who's a former Mutiny player.

Carey (Dorn) O'Brien, who's currently the associate head coach at UConn, played for the team when they were known as the Springfield Sirens.

"Margaret and Carey played soccer for me, and we've built a very good relationship over the years," Ferrara said. "We're allowed to have five players from a Division 1 school on our soccer roster. We are going to try our best to get the best players from UConn to play for us again next year. I'm looking forward to going to watch the UConn women's soccer team play this fall."

Okafor is only a junior, but she'll most likely be playing for a professional soccer team next year.

Cat Berry, who plays soccer at the University of South Carolina, only played in a couple of matches for the Mutiny at the beginning of the regular season, but she was also a fan favorite.

Before heading back to Ludlow from Buffalo, the Mutiny players and coaches visited Niagara Falls.

"The long bus ride home gave us the chance to reflect on the outstanding season," Ferrara said. "When we got back to the stadium, nobody wanted to say goodbye because they knew it would be their last time together as a team. It was a fantastic season."

### UMPIRE, from page 7

team that won 31 games during the regular season. After rain suspended game one, the Mainers took care of business at home and swept both games to advance to the Fay Vincent Sr. Cup Championship with a perfect 4-0 record. The Mainers met the #2 Newport Gulls in the championship, winning game one at Cardines Field 7-1, however, dropping the next two games and falling a few outs short of the Fay Vincent Sr. Cup.

The 2024 season marked Lops' fourth season at the helm for the Mainers and fifth overall with the club. Lops was also named the 2022 Manager of the Year after leading the Mainers to the semifinals that season as the #6 seed. Outside of his Mainers' tenure, Lops has helped Southern Maine win three of their seven consecutive conference titles, as he also earned the Yankee Small Conference Coach of the Year all three seasons.

A member of the United Collegiate Umpires Association, Wroth was a part of the umpiring crew for the 2024 NECBL All-Star Game at Muzzy Field in Bristol, Connecticut. Wroth's son played in the NECBL for the Valley Blue Sox and won the Fay Vincent Sr. Cup with the team back in 2018.

2024 was Wroth's 41st year umpiring baseball, 34th at the collegiate level and 28th with the NECBL. Wroth began playing baseball at the young age of seven and has been in the game since. Wroth was appreciative of all of the opportunities he received this year as part of the NECBL and more.

"This was a special year for me working my first Division 3 Regional, working in the NECBL All-Star Game and to receive this award which could be given to several other umpires."

When asked about the honor, Wroth brought up one of his favorite baseball movies and how it connects him with the game.

"Kevin Costner was in a baseball movie called 'For The Love of The Game,'" Wroth said. "That's how I'd sum up my life when it comes to baseball."



# STCC program receives accreditation for simulation in healthcare

SPRINGFIELD – The Society for Simulation in Healthcare awarded Springfield Technical Community College’s SIMS Medical Center with full accreditation in teaching and education, a prestigious recognition that underscores the program’s commitment to excellence in healthcare education and training.

SSH accreditation, the gold standard in health care simulation, serves as a benchmark for excellence in patient simulation. Accredited programs are committed to providing superior patient outcomes.

The SIMS Medical Center, located on the STCC campus in Building 20, was developed to provide a state-of-the-art, immersive educational environment where students and health care personnel obtain new skills and refine existing skills.

Uniquely positioned as the only technical community college in Massachusetts, STCC offers a variety of health care programs and courses. Some of the programs are sonography, dental hygiene, dental assisting, surgical technology, medical lab-

oratory technician and physical therapist assistant. Cannot be found elsewhere in the region.

Patient simulations allow students to experience a variety of health care scenarios as they pursue their course of study. Students in the college’s signature health science program also have the opportunity to experience simulations in a variety of fields in their first semester as they explore career opportunities. The program recently added new simulators representing patients with different cultural backgrounds to expand diversity in the lab.

Christopher Scott, the Dean of the School of Health and Patient Simulation at STCC, said “the accreditation is a testament to the dedication and excellence of our faculty, staff and students.”

It’s the first time the program has earned full accreditation. The SIMS Medical Center will be accredited until December 2029. The SSH team visited the facility for an onsite review before granting accreditation.

Scott applauded the work and leadership of staff and faculty who helped to secure the recognition. They included Renae Gorman, department chair and professor in the Physical Therapist Assistant program, Lisa Fugiel, assistant dean of the School of SHPS and Director of Nursing, and Daniel O’Neill, simulation coordinator.

“It’s an honor to be recognized for our outstanding patient simulation program,” Scott said. “Accreditation from the SSH reflects our commitment to providing top-tier education and training to the future healthcare professionals who will serve our community with skill and compassion.”

Highlighting strengths of the SIMS Medical Center, the SSH stated the dedicated staff draw from their background in education, technology and innovation to provide quality simulation experiences.

The SIMS Medical Center includes a number of care units with patient simulators that allow students, faculty and providers to conduct medical procedures in

real settings. The simulators are life-size, computer-controlled teaching tools that mimic human anatomy and physiology and provide a hands-on, immersive and realistic learning experience. Staff, who are located in an unseen control room, provide a voice for the simulator to interact with students.

The center also features an Innovations Lab with 3D design and printing, virtual reality technology and video experiences.

Prospective students can apply now for the fall semester, which starts Sept. 3. Massachusetts residents who have yet to earn a bachelor’s degree can enroll at STCC this fall for free thanks to a new state initiative known as MassEducate. Residents 25 and older without an associate or bachelor’s degree can enroll in MassReconnect, which offers free community college.

Interested in applying to STCC? Visit [stcc.edu/apply](http://stcc.edu/apply) or call Admissions at (413) 755-3333.

## Public Notices

### City of Holyoke Legal Notice

The Holyoke License Board will be holding a Public Hearing on **Wednesday, September 4, 2024, at 5:15 pm.** You can join via Zoom.com; ID 885 2208 8943; CALL IN: \*67 646 558 8656 or in person at Holyoke Media 1 Court Plaza, regarding the application for a **Application for a Transfer of an Off-Premises Beer & Wine License for F&M Hideway, Inc. DBA Schermerhorn’s at 224B Westfield Road**, pursuant to M.G.L. Ch.138.

Applicant:  
F&M Hideway, Inc.  
License Board:  
Anthony Luciano,  
Chairman  
08/23, 08/30/2024

### City of Holyoke Legal Notice

The Holyoke License Board will be holding a Public Hearing on **Wednesday, September 4, 2024, at 5:15 pm.** You can join via Zoom.com; ID 885 2208 8943; CALL IN: \*67 646 558 8656 or in person at Holyoke Media 1 Court Plaza, regarding the application for an **Application for a Transfer of an On-Premises Beer & Wine License for F&M Hideway, Inc. DBA Schermerhorn’s Seafood Restaurant at 224B Westfield Road**, pursuant to M.G.L. Ch.138.

Applicant:  
F&M Hideway, Inc.  
License Board:  
Anthony Luciano,  
Chairman  
08/23, 08/30/2024

### LEGAL NOTICE CITY OF HOLYOKE GAS & ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT 2024 ELECTRIC DISTRIBUTION TRANSFORMERS

Sealed bids for the above-named contract will be received by Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept. until **2:30 p.m. September 10, 2024**, at the Office of the Manager, 99 Suffolk St., Holyoke, MA 01040, at which time proposals will be publicly opened and read.

Additional information may be obtained from:  
Chi Wong  
Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept.  
99 Suffolk St.  
Holyoke, MA 01040  
cwong@hged.com  
(413) 335-0148

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

Please mark sealed envelopes “**Bid for 2024 Electric Distribution Transformers**” and address them to:  
**James M. Lavelle, Manager**  
Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept.  
99 Suffolk St.  
Holyoke, MA 01040  
08/23/2024

**Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Hampden Probate and  
Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103**

### (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD24C0269CA In the matter of: Elishia B. Powell

**CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME**  
A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by **Elishia B. Powell of Holyoke, MA** requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:  
**Elishia Powell**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: **Hampden Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/19/2024.**

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

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: August 21, 2024  
**Rosemary A Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
08/23/2024

### City of Holyoke Legal Notice

The Holyoke License Board will be holding a Public Hearing on **Wednesday, September 4, 2024, at 5:15 pm.** You can join via Zoom.com; ID 885 2208 8943; CALL IN: \*67 646 558 8656 or in person at Holyoke Media 1 Court Plaza, regarding the application for a **New Seasonal All Alcohol Application for Sixty-Six Corporation at 56 Jackson Street**, pursuant to M.G.L. Ch.138.

Applicant:

Sixty-Six Corporation  
License Board:  
Anthony Luciano,  
Chairman  
08/23, 08/30/2024

**Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Hampden Probate and  
Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758**

**Docket No. HD24P1714EA**  
Estate of:  
**Liefia P Laptas**  
Date of Death: **03/06/2024**  
**CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:  
A Petition for **Formal Determination of Heirs** has been filed by **Witman Properties, Inc. as Court of Holyoke, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

**IMPORTANT NOTICE**

**You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/12/2024. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by**

**an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.**

**UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)**

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

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: August 15, 2024  
**Rosemary A Saccomani**,  
Register of Probate  
08/23/2024

**Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Hampden Probate and  
Family Court  
50 State Street  
Springfield, MA 01103  
(413)748-7758**

**Docket No. HD24C0250CA**  
In the matter of:  
**Eric Robert Solzak**  
**CITATION ON PETITION TO CHANGE NAME**  
A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been

filed by **Eric Robert Solzak of Holyoke, MA** requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

**Syndi Miller Solzak**  
**IMPORTANT NOTICE**  
Any person may appear for purposes of objecting to the petition by filing an appearance at: **Hampden Probate and Family Court before 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 09/06/2024.**

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

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.

Date: August 09, 2024  
**Rosemary A Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
08/23/2024

### City of Holyoke Notice of Public Hearing

The Holyoke License Board will be holding a Public Hearing on **Wednesday, September 4, 2024, at 5:15 pm.** You can join via Zoom.com; ID 885 2208 8943; CALL IN: \*67 646 558 8656 or in person at **Holyoke Media 1 Court Plaza**, regarding the application for a **Multiple Amendments Application for Air-dell Inc. DBA The ClubHouse at 209A South St.**, pursuant to M.G.L. Ch.138.

Applicant:  
Christian Airoidi  
License Board:  
Anthony Luciano,  
Chairman  
08/16, 08/23/2024

## MOSQUITO, from page 6

fresh water. Remove containers that may hold water in places that are hard to see such as under bushes, porches, decks, or stairs.

Drill holes in the bottom of recycling containers that are left outdoors so that water can drain out.

Clean clogged roof gutters; remove leaves and debris that may prevent drainage of rainwater.

Turn over plastic wading pools and wheelbarrows when not in use.

Change the water in birdbaths every few days; aerate ornamental ponds or stock them with fish.

Install or Repair Screens. Keep mosquitoes outside by having tightly fitting screens on all of your windows and doors.

More information about different types of mosquitoes that can spread the virus can be found on the MDPH website at [mass.gov/dph/mosquito-borne-disease](http://mass.gov/dph/mosquito-borne-disease).

## 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 \$225, 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](mailto:obits@turley.com).

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

U	L	A	N	C	O	C	O	S	U	M	B	O
N	A	R	A	W	R	A	P	S	L	O	O	P
A	R	A	M	M	A	N	E	T	N	A	N	A
U	D	D	E	R	T	O	R	C	A	B	A	L
S	E	R	E	N	A	D	E	S				
M	O	L	D	A	D	T	A	O	C	A	P	
U	N	I	T	E	D	S	I	B	B	O	G	Y
S	I	M	A	S	M	A	C	S	O	L	A	R
C	O	B	B	C	E	E	C	A	B	A	N	A
A	N	I	C	U	D	P	U	G	S	A	N	
S	I	L	I	C	A	T	E	S				
U	S	N	E	A	C	O	L	S	A	B	E	R
G	H	E	G	C	A	R	A	T	B	A	R	I
L	E	N	O	I	R	A	T	E	I	B	I	S
I	D	E	S	D	E	L	E	D	N	E	C	K

# Classifieds

12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS | SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE

Call us at 413.283.8393

## FOR SALE

**3-WHEEL SCOOTER**, Space Saver Plus-3 Premier, stylish, powerful, maintenance-free, cushioned seat w/ arms, basket & manuals. Easy assembly for travel. **413-335-9116.**

**8 CEMETERY PLOTS FOR SALE** at Glendale Cemetery, Wilbraham. \$1100 each, 2 or more \$1000 each. **(413) 245-1370.**

**MAXIMUM EFFICIENCY. EXTRAORDINARY** performance. Central Boiler certified Classic Edge Titanium HDX OUTDOOR WOOD FURNACE. Call today **413-296-4320.**

## ANTIQUES

### ANTIQUES AT WINGEGARDEN FARM

**(413) 539-1472**  
359 Stafford Rd., (Rt. 32), near the CT State Line  
**Monson, Mass.**  
Open by appointment most anytime!

**antiquesatwinger gardenfarm.com**  
Watch for photos!

For now please BE AWARE that the Barn will be open on the following dates prior to and during the Brimfield Flea Markets. BUY HERE for Brimfield. We are fill the Barn with Fresh to the Market Antiques! Lots of new additions.

**AUG. 28-SEPT. 2**  
**OPEN DAILY 9AM-5PM;**  
**SEPT. 3-SEPT. 8TH**  
**BY APPOINTMENT.**

## FIREWOOD

**MORE HEAT LESS WOOD.** Central Boiler Classic Edge HDX Outdoor Wood Furnace. EPA Certified. Titanium Stainless Steel. 26% Tax Credit. Call **(508)882-0178**

## FOR SALE

### FIREWOOD

Fresh cut & split \$200.00  
Seasoned cut & split \$300.00  
All hardwood.  
Tree length available

\*Also have seasoned softwood for outdoor boilers (Cheap). Quality & volumes **guaranteed!!** New England Forest Products **(413)477-0083**

## WANTED

### Buy, Sell & Trade Video Games

**Retro World**

**413-301-5020 M-S 11-7**  
**187 Main St.**  
**Indian Orchard, MA**

## JUNK REMOVAL

### ARA JUNK FURNITURE REMOVAL

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

### A Call We Haul FAST REMOVAL

**Junk, Appliance, Cleanouts.**  
We load it & take it.  
**413-531-1936**  
CREDIT CARDS ACCEPTED

## AUTO

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

## SERVICES

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



**A B Hauling and Removal Service**

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

### SLISKI QUALITY WINDOWS

Vinyl replacement and new construction, Energy Star, made by Mercury Excelum, local manufacturer. Installation.  
**Call 413-221-5373.**

## ELECTRICIAN

### NEED AN ELECTRICIAN?

Look no further!  
**PJ's Electrical** offers fast and reliable electrical services for your home or business. Call now for a FREE estimate!  
**(413) 366-1703**  
LICENSED & INSURED

## EXCAVATING

**MINI EXCAVATOR FOR HIRE.** Fully operated. Shrub removal, electrical trenches, drainage work. Minor demolition. Licensed and insured. Call **413-315-1614.**

### CLASSIFIED DEADLINES

**MONDAY AT NOON**

## SERVICES

### HOME IMPROVEMENT

**HANDYMAN RESIDENTIAL REPAIRS.** Powerwashing, home repairs, interior/exterior painting, ceiling/wall repairs and chimney repairs. Fully licensed/insured. Lic. #105950CSL. Call **413-566-5596/413-433-5073.**

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

## LANDSCAPING

### A+ ROZELL'S LANDSCAPING & BOBCAT SERVICE

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

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

**J.S. RAGONA LANDSCAPING**  
Mowing - Mulching - Planting Small Shrubs & Tree Trimming, Removal  
Brush Hauling - Spring/Fall Clean-ups.  
**(413)786-6184**

### MATT GUERTIN LANDSCAPING

Serving Wilbraham & Ludlow  
Weekly lawn care  
Landscape design and installation  
Hedge trimming/mulching  
Custom edging/stone work  
For more services visit  
**mattguertinlandscaping.com**  
Call or text **413-266-9975**  
Insured - Commercial - Residential

## SERVICES

### MASONRY

**MASONRY FOUNDATION RESTORATION**, stairs, walkways, ext. Also roofing, new and repairs welcome. Licensed/Insured. Call **413-978-894-5412** or **978-894-6331.**

### STOP WET BASEMENTS

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

## PAINTING

### DUTCH TOUCH PAINTING

Interior only \$199.00 for average 12x16 room. Very neat, references, prompt service call **(508)867-2550**

## PLUMBING

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

## ROOFING

**JENKINS ROOFING** specializing in residential roofs & repairs, chimney repairs. Hampden, MA - **413-566-5596/413-433-5073.** Lic. #105950CSL. Fully insured.

Find archives of this local newspaper at  
**www.newspapers.turley.com**

## SERVICES

### RUBBISH REMOVAL

**BOB ROBILLARD'S RUBBISH REMOVAL** Attics, Cellars, Garages cleaned, Pools/Hot Tubs Removed. Family owned/operated since 1950 **(413)537-5090**

## TREE WORK

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

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

## TUTORING

**TUTORING - K-8.** Summer refreshers; Fall and Winter tutoring. Homework help. Call **978-799-9096. petedon151@live.com**

### STUMP GRINDING

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

## HELP WANTED

The Trustees of the Otis Library seek applicants for a **Library Director Position.** The position pays \$21-\$25 per hour commensurate with experience. The Director can expect to work between 25-30 hours per week. An application packet is available by emailing **otislibrary@cwmarms.org** or at the **Otis Library at 48 North Main Road, Otis, MA 01253. (413) 269-0109.** The application deadline is September 13, 2024. *The Otis Library Board of Trustees is an equal opportunity employer.*

## TOWN OF WILBRAHAM

**ASST. ADULT SERVICES LIBRARIAN - P/T**  
**ASST. CHILDREN'S LIBRARIAN - P/T**  
**BORROWER SERVICES ASST. - P/T**  
**EMERGENCY DISPATCHER - P/T**  
**ENGINEERING TECH./FIELD INSPECTOR IT SUPPORT & WEBSITE TECHNICIAN**

The Town of Wilbraham is looking to fill several vacancies. For application and more information please visit **www.wilbraham-ma.gov**. EOE

## REAL ESTATE

### FOR RENT



**EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY**

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

**THREE RIVERS - 2ND FLOOR.** 3 Bedrooms, 1 bath, off-street parking, washer dryer hook-up. 1st, last and security. \$1300. No pets. **(413)544-9012** or **(413)668-8348**

## FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

MAIL TO: Classifieds, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069  
or call: 413-283-8393

DEADLINES: **MONDAY AT NOON**

CATEGORY:			
1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20
21	Base Price \$26.50	22	Base Price \$27.00
23	Base Price \$27.50	24	Base Price \$28.00
25	Base Price \$28.50	26	Base Price \$29.00
27	Base Price \$29.50	28	Base Price \$30.00
29	Base Price \$30.50	30	Base Price \$31.00
31	Base Price \$31.50	32	Base Price \$32.00
33	Base Price \$33.00	34	Base Price \$33.50
35	Base Price \$34.00	36	Base Price \$34.50
37	Base Price \$35.00	38	Base Price \$35.50
39	Base Price \$36.00	40	Base Price \$36.50

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Town: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
Number of Weeks: \_\_\_\_\_ X per week rate = \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
Credit Card:  MasterCard  VISA  Discover  Cash  Check# \_\_\_\_\_  
Card #: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_ CVV \_\_\_\_\_  
Amount of charge: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

**Quabbin Village Hills**  
Circulation: 50,500

**Hilltowns**  
Circulation: 9,800

**Suburban Residential**  
Circulation: 59,000

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

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

**OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!**

**PILOT, from page 1**

its pay some funds to the city so that the government will have the funds they need.

"We have a mutual objective to take care of the individual they're serving and I need to make sure that I am collecting what I can to keep up with demand," Garcia said.

Currently Holyoke has a substantial number of large non-profit organizations that have bought properties in Holyoke and thus taken them off of the tax rolls.

"We're seeing a lot of that happen and so what happens is as costs for services continue to climb, we're not collecting the necessary revenue...which contributes to the tax rate increasing," Garcia said. "They're taking property after property off our tax rolls and it just makes it much more challenging for us to keep with the demand."

The consultant would come in and observe Holyoke and other communities around it to try to come up with a PILOT policy that would work best for the city.

Garcia hopes by setting up a PILOT policy, it will allow these companies to begin paying funds to the government to make up for the taxes lost when they purchased properties and made them tax-exempt.

"[The companies] are servicing vulnerable populations and those populations deserve quality services from their local government and I can't get them quality services if I'm not collecting the appropriate revenue needed to keep up with the services that the community deserves," Garcia said.

Garcia has begun the process of talking to some non-profit organizations in Holyoke about setting up a PILOT agreement or increasing the one they currently have.

For example, he spoke with the Consortium and they agreed to a PILOT payment to pay 100% of their taxes,

unless they have an off year, in which they can decrease their payment.

Garcia is grateful to the Consortium for their agreement, but he would like to have a set policy for him to approach other companies moving forward.

The companies that Garcia would ask to be a part of the PILOT policy would not include smaller nonprofits such as boys and girls clubs and little churches, but rather multimillion dollar corporations.

Additionally, Garcia mentioned that these companies do not have to agree to a PILOT policy, there is nothing that would force them to do so.

However, often nonprofits need approval or support from the mayor of the town or city they are in to take certain actions or to receive funding. Garcia would certainly prioritize companies that have agreed to PILOTs over those who did not.

"I can't make them pay taxes, they're well within their legal right... and I respect that," Garcia said. "But I am inclined politically to support what I want to support as mayor."

Garcia will continue to work hard to push the work on this PILOT policy forward.

He also mentioned that there will be a list released in the upcoming weeks detailing what organizations in town own property and are not paying taxes, how much they would be paying in taxes and how much the city is losing.

Moreover, Garcia would like to emphasize that creating this PILOT policy is not a slight against the nonprofit organizations themselves, but rather a step that could be necessary for the city itself.

"These organizations are doing important work in our community, this effort has nothing to do with the quality of work that they're doing," Garcia said.

"This is about making sure that our local government can give folks quality services."

**SCHOOL, from page 1**

were still looking for...is the formation of our community advisory," Rivera Colón said.

The school committee hopes to bring in a community advisory team in some capacity to ensure that the community also has a chance to share what they would like to see for the future of Holyoke.

"The school committee will determine the direction of the community advisory team," Rivera Colón said. "One example of where we can start using the advice of our community advisory team would be...being able to come forward with the committee and establish how to support the development of competencies from the community that they would like to see in our next superintendent."

The committee expects that this plan will change and shift as everyone involved learns more about the different key areas and how they can improve the district.

"As we go through and we learn more and go through the process, some elements of this plan may be adjusted based on any changes that occur," Rivera Colón said.

They plan to report on the updates to the plan to the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

every two months.

The local control sub committee has been working on developing this plan and other aspects of returning to local control since their initial discussion held on Mar. 15.

They have worked with the commissioner, and thus DESE, throughout this process.

After Mar. 15 they held eight meetings, including the one on Aug. 19, to figure out their transition plan, including what would be their priorities and what needed to be done to get the district ready to handle local control.

The school committee was grateful for all of the work that the local control subcommittee put into putting this plan together.

The subcommittee put in many hours over the past several months into ensuring that all of this could come together as quickly as possible.

"This was a huge endeavor," School Committee Member Ellie Wilso said. "It was a prayer, a hope and then we hit the ground running, a full out sprint I would say, in order to get this plan in place in the amount of time. So, I just want to commend everyone who put effort into this plan."

**RE-ELECTION, from page 1**

Additionally, he has served as the Chairman on the Joint Committee on Veteran and Federal Affairs.

As part of his work to help veterans he helped to push for the \$400 million bond bill to help with the construction of a new Soldiers' Home in Holyoke.

He also authored the SPEED act, which helped veterans and their families in many ways.

One major component was that it created a new 30-day expedited licensing process for military spouses to receive licensure issued by the Division of Occupational Licensure and the Department of Public

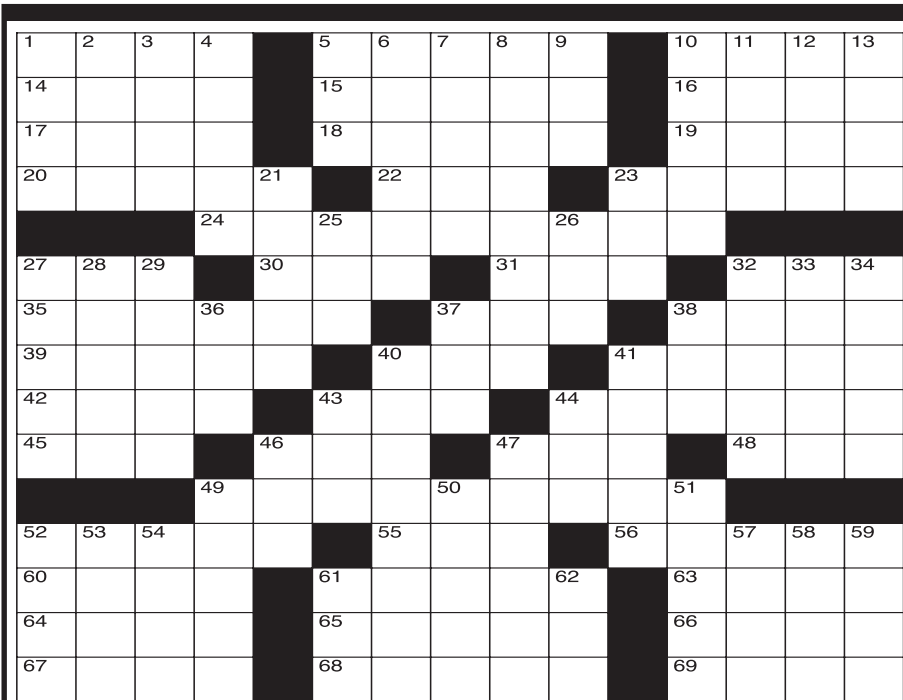
Health if they are licensed in another state and meet necessary requirements.

This act is hailed as one of the most impactful bills for veterans and their families in a generation.

Velis has also consistently voted to fully fund the Student Opportunity Act.

Duffy was elected to be a representative in 2020.

She is currently on the House Committee on Ways and Means, the Joint Committee on Agriculture, the Joint Committee on Health Care Financing, the Joint Committee on Higher Education, the Joint Committee on Veterans and Federal Affairs and the Joint Committee on Ways and Means.



**CLUES ACROSS**

- 1. Mongolian city \_\_\_ Bator
- 5. Coconut palms
- 10. Rounded knob
- 14. Japanese city
- 15. Type of sandwiches
- 16. A type of shape
- 17. Son of Shem
- 18. French modernist painter
- 19. Grandmother
- 20. Mammary gland of female cattle
- 22. Hill or rocky peak
- 23. Secret political clique
- 24. Songs to one's beloved
- 27. "Boardwalk Empire" actress Gretchen
- 30. Father
- 31. Chinese philosophical principle
- 32. Restrict the number or amount of
- 35. Combined into a single entity
- 37. Brother or sister
- 38. Evil spirit

- 39. Materials in the earth's crust
- 40. Partner to cheese
- 41. Of the sun
- 42. Baseball great Ty
- 43. After B
- 44. Place to relax on the beach
- 45. Folk singer DiFranco
- 46. Partly digested food
- 47. Small dog breed
- 48. Japanese honorific
- 49. Salts
- 52. Beard moss genus
- 55. Mountain pass
- 56. Type of sword
- 60. Albanian language
- 61. Metric weight unit
- 63. Italian Seaport
- 64. Longtime late night host
- 65. Extremely angry
- 66. Wading bird
- 67. Days in mid-month
- 68. Omitted from printed matter
- 69. Upper body part

**CLUES DOWN**

- 1. Two-toed sloth
- 2. Cooking ingredient
- 3. Iranian city
- 4. Accuses
- 5. Corrie
- 6. Delivered a speech
- 7. Collection of sacred books
- 8. Theatrical
- 9. Very fast airplane
- 10. Arm bones
- 11. Ancient kingdom near Dead Sea
- 12. \_\_\_ fide: legit
- 13. Gemstone
- 21. Counsels
- 23. Corporate bigwig
- 25. Cool!
- 26. Touch lightly
- 27. Small Milky Way constellation
- 28. Satirical website
- 29. Border lines
- 32. Soft drinks
- 33. Capital of Guam
- 34. Six-membered ring (chemistry)
- 36. Bar bill
- 37. Car mechanics group
- 38. Notable Bill Murray character
- 40. Health care for the aged
- 41. Gurus
- 43. A passage with access only at one end
- 44. Reduce
- 46. Spy organization
- 47. The upper surface of the mouth
- 49. Plants of the lily family
- 50. Type of reef
- 51. Oral polio vaccine developer
- 52. Mottled citrus fruit
- 53. Lose
- 54. Former Brazilian NBAer
- 57. Baseball great Ruth
- 58. \_\_\_ Clapton, musician
- 59. Chance
- 61. Spanish soldier
- 62. CNN's founder

CROSSWORD ANSWER on page 9

Announce Your Wedding or Engagement  
*Share Your Joy!*



**Bridal GUIDE**

Your wedding or engagement announcement will be included in our Bridal Guide, out September 30, 2024 for FREE!

**Be sure to include the following with photograph. Deadline September 4, 2024:**

Bride's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Bride's Town Residence: \_\_\_\_\_

Groom's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Groom's Town Residence: \_\_\_\_\_

Wedding Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Wedding Location: \_\_\_\_\_

**EMAIL TO: JAMIE@TURLEY.COM**  
**BRIDAL GUIDE**  
800.824.6548 | www.turley.com

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

**JOURNALING**, from page 1

for everyone and I want everyone to realize that it is open ended," Aiken said.

This accessibility showed through the wide range of ages and skills that came out to give this event a try. Everyone was able to have fun and Aiken and Kramer worked to make sure that it was engaging for everyone involved.

Throughout the event the attendees broke into smaller groups and were able to come back together at the end to discuss what they did.

"They got to work more closely with people and then share what they learned," Kramer said. "I was excited to share and be shared with."

Aiken and Kramer enjoyed seeing the different groups of people learn throughout the event and have the opportunity to express their creativity. They also hoped that this event gave them an opportunity to slow down and appreciate the nature around them.

"Hopefully they were inspired to do more art and to explore nature," Aiken said.

Both Kramer and Aiken encouraged everyone to give nature journaling a try and to try to keep doing it in their own time.

"Nature journaling is a relaxing thing to do, it helps you slow down and stay in the present moment, especially in a world that is so fast-paced and technological, it is good to slow down and observe things on a deeper level," Aiken said.

Nature journaling can also help people to become more of a naturalist, as they can learn about tracking and identifying animals and plants.

Additionally, nature journaling can include a variety of skills, making it open to many different people.

"If you like poetry, you can do that in your journal, if you like photography you can take photos and print them out," Aiken said. "It's really open ended and it encourages people to explore their creativity."

This was both Aiken and Kramer's first time leading a nature journaling event. They worked hard to make sure the event was informative and fun.

"Emma did a lot of research and espionage into other nature journal-

ing events to see how these can look," Kramer said.

Aiken had come up with the idea during her work as artist in residence at NET. Throughout the summer she had done a lot of different paintings and nature journaling work for NET, and she wanted to open it up to more people.

"I thought it would be fun to engage

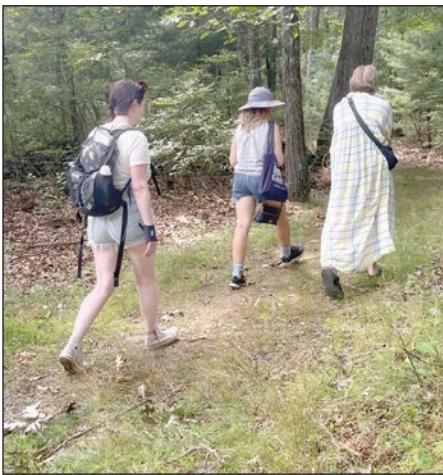
the community in this way," Aiken said.

NET recommended that Aiken and Kramer meet up with one another to discuss the idea, as Kramer had experience with co-leading hikes and she had an interest in art and nature journaling.

From there the idea grew and they were excited to present it to the people of Holyoke.



The nature journaling event attendees broke into smaller groups so they could explore the area around them and discuss what they found. *Turley photos by Quinn Suomala*



During the nature journaling event the group went through the trails to see what interesting things they could find.



Artist in Residence at the New England Trail Emma Aiken instructed the nature journaling event attendees on how to do an observation exercise.



Artist in Residence at the New England Trail Emma Aiken offered up different books to help people identify the nature around them.

## Worried about your child's development?

**We can help.**

Now serving Holyoke & Chicopee  
**¡Hablamos español!**  
(413) 301-WELL

Learn More

**bhn**  
Behavioral Health Network

bhninc.org

## Affordable Home Ownership In Holyoke

### OneHolyoke Lottery for Qualified Purchasers

## OneHolyoke CDC is offering three income-restricted duplex homes for sale; sale price \$225,000 each:

\$225,000

- 📍 278 Pine Street
- 📍 291 Walnut Street
- 📍 299 Walnut Street

Homes have approximately 2,800 square feet; 2 to 3 bedrooms per unit, porches

Successful applicants must be income-qualified (not exceeding 80% of Area Median Income (AMI)). Once qualified, applicants will enter a lottery with bidders randomly selected by OneHolyoke. Successful applicants must agree to occupancy terms—in addition to being income qualified owner must occupy the home for 10 years.

**For more information or to apply go to:**

**OneHolyoke.org**  
Or call (413) 533-7101

*Thrives*