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Busing issue raises heated debate

By Quinn Suomala
Staff Writer

HOLYOKE – During the city council meeting on Sept. 5, the council decided to refer the issue of children in Lyman Terrace no longer receiving bussing to school to the Joint Committee of the School Committee and City Council and to the Public Safety Committee.

This decision came after several residents stepped forward in the public comment section of the meeting to ensure this issue came to the council's attention.

"My kids do need the bus, there's a lot of issues that needed to be taken into consideration before that transportation was taken away from them," Iris Espada, President of the Lyman Terrace Association

See **BUSING**, page 11

Art submissions on display

By Quinn Suomala
Staff Writer

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Preservation Trust held an art contest to celebrate Holyoke's 150th Anniversary.

The deadline for submissions was Aug. 25. The HPT received over 55 submissions for the contest, as Olivia Mausel was thrilled to report.

"That's been the fun part, seeing it all come together," she said.

All submissions to the contest were required to either be inspired by Holyoke's history or a vision for its future. They wanted to allow residents a chance to look back on how far Holyoke has come since its founding, and how much room it still has to grow.

"That's the theme of it really, to not dwell on the things that are bothering us now but to look forward and be positive," Mausel said.

Many artists from the area were inspired by the contest, no matter their age. From students from Blessed Sacrament School to older Holyoke residents, everyone got a chance to share their vision of Holyoke.

"There's students and adults, so it's such a wide range across the board for the city," Mausel said. "There's a whole



"My City" in wood by Tom Kass and oil paintings of Holyoke Catholic High School by Lora Barrett were on display in celebration of Holyoke's 150th celebration.

Turley photo by Quinn Suomala

lot of creativity out there that we don't often get to see."

It is part of this range of ages that makes this contest special for the 150th. With some submissions from adults who

may have seen the last anniversary and others from children who will see the future one, the contest brought Holyoke together.

"We figured that it was a way to get the general population

and the school-aged population interested in the 150th events that are going on," Mausel said.

With many of the other

See **ART**, page 11



Above, bounce houses were set up for children attending Lt. Elmer J. McMahon Elementary School's back-to-school event to enjoy. Left, A bounce house was set up at Morgan Full Service Community School for attendees of the back-to-school event to enjoy. See more photos on page 12. Turley photo by Quinn Suomala

City children head back to school

HOLYOKE – The transition back to learning took place during the past week as students headed back to school through-

out Holyoke. Due to the transitions taking place with a new school to be constructed, some students were headed for new

schools. Following the Labor Day holiday, all students were back in the classrooms throughout the city.

Fundraiser planned for merry-go-round

By Quinn Suomala
Staff Writer

HOLYOKE – The merry-go-round has been a staple of Holyoke for 94 years, 30 of which it has now spent in Heritage State Park. To celebrate this occasion, the merry-go-round board is hosting a 90s themed fundraiser at the Mater Dolorosa School gymnasium from 6 to 10 p.m. on Friday, Oct. 13.

This fundraiser promises to be a night of fun, with everyone requested to come in their best 90s outfit, live music performed by Ready, Set, Go and delicious food.

"Really it's just a chance for people to get together and have a no-stress fundraiser where you just come and we just ask people to have a good time," Merry-Go-Round Board Member Laura Shaw said.

Everything about this event was planned to ensure

that attendees could enjoy themselves and be fully immersed in the 90s theme. Even the location was chosen with the theme in mind according to Shaw.

"Everything is very 90s inspired, and lots of parties then were in gymnasiums instead of in rented out halls or spaces like that," she said. "We're trying to bring back a little bit of the fun and simplicity of the 90s in all of our decisions."

Shaw in particular looks forward to hearing the band perform and seeing everyone relax and enjoy the evening.

"The band is a lot of fun, they play at a lot of big spots around town...they are a wonderful local band," she said. "I'm looking forward to having a good time and getting a big turnout so we can all hang out together."

Ticket prices for the eve-

See **FUNDRAISER**, page 6

In The News

Chef Kashouh to teach fall classes

HOLYOKE – Chef Nadim Kashouh, owner of the celebrated Springfield restaurant, Nadim's Downtown Mediterranean Grill, will be sharing more kitchen secrets during a series of fall classes at the HCC MGM Culinary Arts Institute.

Kashouh taught his first-ever classes at HCC this summer and will return to Holyoke Community College four times this fall on Thursdays, Sept. 28, Oct. 19, Nov. 16 and Dec. 14 from 6-9 p.m. at the HCC MGM Culinary Arts Institute, 164 Race St.

In each stand-alone class, participants will learn to cook and are encouraged to consume a different five-course

meal right off the menu of Chef Nadim's popular restaurant. "Each night's meal will be different," said Kashouh. "We bring in staples like the hummus and baba ghanoush and stews that pair very well with rice. It's five courses. We do an appetizer, a salad, a meat, a starch and a dessert."

Chef Nadim will also be sharing some of his favorite wines imported from his native Lebanon.

Here are the menus for each night: Sept. 28 Hummus, Baba, Tabouli, simmered chicken with Hashwee rice, Ismalia for dessert; Oct. 19 Hummus, Cheese roll-up, Mediterranean salad, simmered lamb with Hashwee rice, rice

pudding for dessert; Nov. 16 Hummus, meat roll-up, Fattoush salad, Cannellini lamb stew served with rice pilaf, Ismalia for dessert and Dec. 14 Hummus, Falafel, Tabouli, Green bean, and lamb stew served with rice pilaf and Rice pudding for dessert.

"I promise it will be tons of fun," said Kashouh. "It's a very interactive class. It's hands-on, if you want it to be. If you don't, it will still be three hours full of tasting, laughing, and enjoying what I'm putting together for them."

The cost is \$189 per session. Beer and wine is included in the cost. Seats are limited. To register, people should visit hcc.edu/cookingfa23.



Chef Nadim Kashouh will be teaching classes this fall at Holyoke Community College. Submitted photo

150th celebrations continue

HOLYOKE – The city of Holyoke is collecting items for a time capsule, silent auction, and stories for the commemorative book for its 150-year anniversary. Organizers are currently looking for suggestions on what to include in the time capsule. On September 15 the public comment time-period for the time-capsule will close. To submit ideas go to <https://www.exploreholyokey.com/submit-time-capsule/>.

Pre-sales for the Holyoke 150th Commemorative Book will begin in September. Filled with photos and chapters written by event organizers, business owners, and community leaders, this will be a book to pass down to future generations.

On Saturday, Oct. 28, Holyoke

will hold its 150th Gala, a masquerade ball in the historic City Hall Ballroom. This event will feature food by Log Rolling, an open bar, valet parking, music by the Maxxtones, a silent auction, and more. Tickets will be available soon. Save the date! You won't want to miss this once in a lifetime event.

Volunteers are needed for all these events. Please contact Robert Comeau at bobcat4214b@yahoo.com to find out how you can get involved. You can also sign up to volunteer at <https://www.exploreholyokey.com/guide/volunteer-for-holyokes-150th/>. Visit exploreholyokey.com for more details, historic tour's locations, and other event information.

NAMI education program starts Sept. 19

HOLYOKE – National Alliance on Mental Illness Western Massachusetts is offering NAMI Family-to-Family Education Program in person, starting Tuesday, Sept. 19, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. in Greenfield.

What is the NAMI Family-to-Family Education Program?

NAMI Family-to-Family is a free, 9-session educational program for family, significant others, and friends of people with mental health conditions. It is a designated evidenced-based program. This means that research shows that the program significantly improves the coping and problem-solving abilities of the people closest to a person with a mental health condition.

NAMI Family-to-Family is taught by NAMI-trained family members who

have been there and includes presentations, discussions, and interactive exercises.

NAMI is the nation's largest grassroots mental health organization dedicated to building better lives for the millions of Americans affected by mental health conditions. NAMI Western Massachusetts is an affiliate of NAMI Mass. NAMI Western Massachusetts and its dedicated volunteers, members, and leaders work tirelessly to raise awareness and provide essential education, advocacy, and support programs for people in our community living with mental health conditions and their loved ones.

Pre-registration is required. For more information contact: Susan Sharbaugh at suesharbaugh@gmail.com or visit: namiwm.org/support.



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Presented by Emily Uguccioni, CDP

Wednesday, September 20th • 10:00 AM

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An RSVP is required to attend this event.

Please call 413-561-7958 to secure your seat, visit RSVPDayBrookVillage.org or scan the QR code.




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PVPA Charter Public School to hold supplemental lottery

SOUTH HADLEY – Pioneer Valley Performing Arts Charter Public School will hold a special lottery on Thursday, Sept. 14, at 4 p.m. to fill limited openings in grades 8 and 11 for the 2023/24 school year.

The special lottery is for students in grades 8 and 11 only. While most grades are currently full and have a waitlist, we have identified openings in grades 8 and 11 and currently do not have a waitlist for those grades. This is a rare opportunity for students to be able to apply for the current school year. Applications for 10th grade are being accepted as well. If the 10th grade waitlist is exhausted, a lottery

will be scheduled at a later date with at least one week's notice.

Applications can be submitted until the deadline on Wednesday, Sept. 13, at 11:59 p.m. Late applications will not be accepted. Applications are available at www.pvpa.org/admissions.org in both English and Spanish.

Enrollment in PVPA is free and open to all Massachusetts students on a space available basis. All students are welcome to apply; no audition is required. Students who are passionate about the Arts are strongly encouraged to apply. Priority is given to students from Franklin, Hampden and Hampshire coun-

ties, as well as Brookfield, Petersham and Sturbridge.

The lottery will be open to the public via a Zoom link that will be shared on the PVPA website www.pvpa.org/admissions.

Applicants will be notified of their standing by email within 3-5 days. After the open spots are filled, applicants will be placed on waiting lists.

Applications for the 2024/2025 school year, open to all grades 7-12, will be accepted beginning Nov. 1, 2023.

PVPA is a publicly funded charter school authorized by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of

Elementary and Secondary Education, enrolling students in grades 7-12. PVPA offers a college preparatory curriculum that provides all students with a broad exposure to the performing arts programs.

Per MA General Laws, Chapter 76: Section 5, shall not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, creed, sex, ethnicity, sexual orientation, gender identity, mental or physical disability, age, ancestry, athletic performance, special need, proficiency in the English language or academic achievement.

Please contact PVPA at admissions@pvpa.org with any further questions.

Food, clothing drive drop off location at Polish National Credit Union

HOLYOKE – The Hibernians of Hampden/Hampshire Counties and The Polish National Credit Union together are once again sponsoring a food drive and clothing drive to benefit Providence Ministries. The drive will begin in September and will continue until Dec. 1.

Jennie Adamczyk, executive director of Providence Ministries has a mantra "If we don't who will?" Kate's Kitchen serves one hot meal a day, 365 days a year and often feeds up to 240 people on a given day. The mission of Providence Ministries "Nourishing hope, and rebuilding lives through our life changing programs."

Drop-off location for the food and clothing drive: Polish National Credit Union Insurance Services, 270 Westfield Road.

Please consider donating non-perishable items like: Ramen Noodles, Canned Goods, Pasta, Cereal, Dried Beans, Dried Fruit, Soup, Spam, Brownies, and Cookie Mixes, Desserts, Stuffing, Instant Potatoes, Peanut Butter, etc.

Please consider donating gently used items: Sleeping bags, towels, blankets, children's clothes, Men and Women's Clothes, shoes, comforters, sheets, curtains, pots, and pans, small household items etc..

Make a donation and be entered to win a raffle basket and/or \$100.00.

Please help those who are experiencing food insecurity and assist Providence Ministries as they continue to transform lives. Stop in the Polish National Credit Union in Holyoke and make a donation today to Providence Ministries.

Residents to receive new trash carts

HOLYOKE – Starting Sept. 18, the Department of Public Works will distribute new, 96-gallon trash carts to city residents.

Effective the week of Sept. 25, bags of garbage left in front of homes will no longer be picked up. Garbage placed in cans, containers, or carts other than the city-issued models also will not be picked up. Only trash in the new carts will be collected. All trash must be bagged before being placed in the cart.

On Friday, Sept. 1, postcards in English and Spanish announcing the distribution of the new carts will be mailed to all Holyoke residents. There is no charge for the new trash carts. Single-family homes will receive one trash cart. Two-family, three-family, and four-family homes will receive one trash cart per family. Residents must start using the new trash carts the week of Sept. 25. Residents' collection day will remain the same.

Also, Holyoke is recommitting to dual-stream recycling, which had been suspended during Covid because of the deluge of cardboard brought on by

online shopping.

All recyclables must be separated into two bins, one for paper and cardboard and a separate one for glass, metal, and plastics. Residents can obtain additional recycling bins at the Department of Public Works office, 63 North Canal St., for \$10 each. Residents with their own trash cans can use them for recycling, as well as for leaves and yard waste.

The city plans to roll out recycling carts in the future. An announcement will be made when this comes about.

To dispose of an old trash can, label it in large letters "TRASH" and place it beside the new cart on your collection day for disposal.

Items and materials that cannot be placed in trash carts include yard waste, recyclables, hazardous materials, paint, appliances, televisions, and demolition waste. If these or similar materials are found in a trash cart, the cart will not be picked up that day.

For more information please call the Department of Public Works, 413-322-5645.

NAMI-WM announces new yoga class

HOLYOKE – The National Alliance on Mental Illness of Western Massachusetts would like to announce Mindfulness Mondays Yoga with Kateri. This class is designed as a gentle, therapeutic yoga class with beginners in mind. It is easy-paced, helps reduce stress and anxiety, and aids in the management of mental health symptoms.

Kateri is a certified yoga instructor

and is a member of our board of directors. The classes will begin in September and will be held on the second and fourth Mondays of the month starting from 5 to 6 p.m.

They will take place at the same location as NAMI-WM at 1221 Main Street, in the Catherine Horan Medical Building. Classes are by donation and partial proceeds will go to NAMI-WM.

HCC offers free line cook training

HOLYOKE – The Holyoke Community College is offering free training classes in line cook skills offered through the Office of Workforce Development office. The free line cook training starts in September and is for anyone interested in developing new skills.

Classes will be held in person at the HCC MGM Culinary Arts Institute, 164 Race St. For more information about the programs, please visit hcc.edu. Class times are as following:

Line Cook a.m. Training

Sept. 18 to Oct. 20, 2023

Monday is from 9 a.m. to Noon

Tuesday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Line Cook p.m. Training

Sept. 18 to Nov. 9, 2023

Monday to Thursday, 5 p.m. to 9:30 p.m.

Line Cook AM Training

Oct. 30 to Dec. 8, 2023

Monday is from 9 a.m. to Noon

Tues to Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

SHHS Class of 1961 holding reunion

SOUTH HADLEY—The South Hadley High School class of 1961 are planning a get-together in South Hadley on Oct. 5. If a part of this the class of 1961, please consider attending. If

you would like to attend, email Judy Mitrolka Izatt at jizatt@charter.net and put "get-together" in the subject line. More specific information will be sent out via email.

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Guest Column



I'm 64. When should I claim my Social Security?

Dear Rusty

I am 64 years old and still working full time. My question is - when should I start my Social Security? I would like to start it in January 2024 and go part time at work, but would I be losing much Social Security by not waiting until full retirement age?

Signed: Trying to Plan Ahead

Dear Trying, to Plan:

You are smart to evaluate the impact of claiming your Social Security benefits early. First, be aware that your full Retirement Age for Social Security purposes is 66 years and 8 months and that is when you get 100% of the SS benefit you've earned from a lifetime of working.

It appears you already know that if you start benefits before your FRA, you'll be subject to Social Security's "earnings test," which limits how much you can earn from working before they take away some of your benefits. But if you go part time at work you can mitigate the earnings test and claim your benefits early - just understand that your payment will be permanently reduced by doing so.

If you claim your benefits to start in January 2024, you'll be taking your Social Security about 18 months early, which means that instead of 100% of your FRA entitlement you'll get about 90% (a reduction of 10%).

The earnings test will still apply and we don't yet know what the 2024 earnings limit will be, but it will be something more than the 2023 limit of \$21,240. If your 2024 earnings exceed the annual limit, SS will take away \$1 in benefits for every \$2 you are over the limit. They "take away" benefits by withholding future payments until they recover what you owe for exceeding the limit.

If you work part time and don't exceed the 2024 annual earnings limit, there will be no penalty and you will get every month's SS payment. If you find you will exceed the annual 2024 earnings limit, you can call Social Security and inform them of that and by how much, and they will suspend your benefits for the number of months necessary to avoid overpaying you.

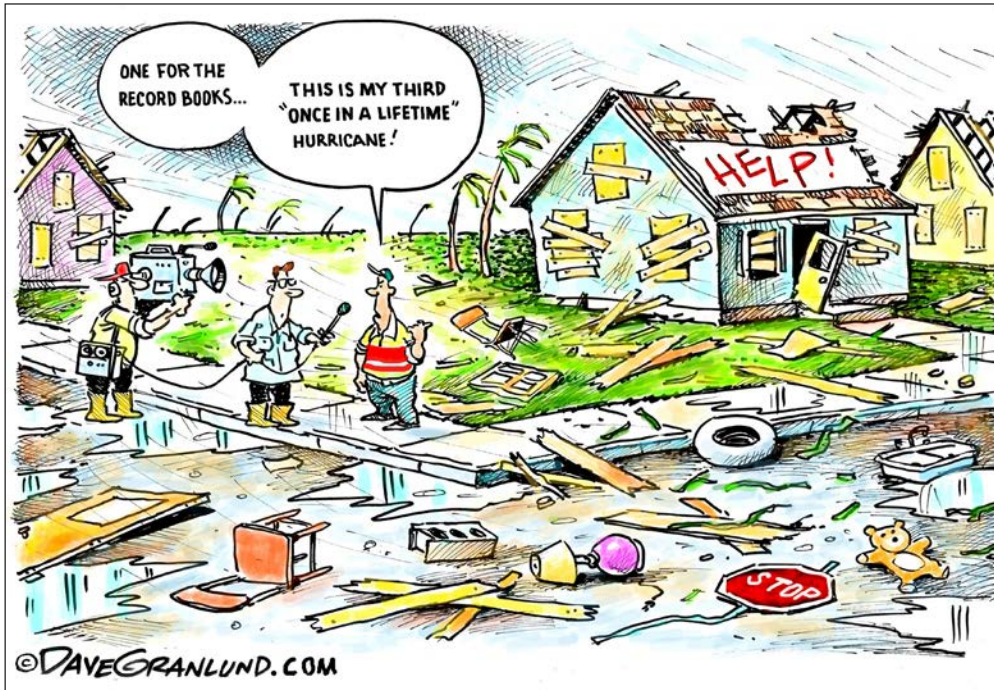
If you don't inform them and you exceed the annual 2024 limit, they will catch up in 2025 when they get your 2024 earnings information from the IRS and issue an Overpayment Notice requiring you to pay back the amount owed, half of what you exceeded the 2024 annual limit by. As you likely know, the earnings test no longer applies after you reach your full retirement age.

So, the decision on when to claim your Social Security benefit is yours to make, and you are smart to consider your work plans - but should also consider your life expectancy and marital status. If you are married and eventually die before your lower earning spouse, your spouse's benefit as your survivor will be based on your benefit amount at the time of your death.

Thus, your age when you claim your benefit may also affect your spouse's benefit as your survivor; the longer you wait up to age 70 the more your spouse's survivor benefit would be. And if you enjoy at least average longevity, which is about 84 for a man your current age, then by waiting until your FRA or later to claim you'll not only get a higher monthly payment but also get more in cumulative lifetime benefits.

If, however, your financial circumstances are such that you need the SS money sooner, then claiming earlier may be the right decision, provided you don't substantially exceed the annual earnings limit prior to reaching

See SECURITY, page 5



Guest Column

Fall plants extend the season



Over the last few days, I have heard the same sorry statement again and again: "I can't believe summer is over."

I am not sure if this is because school has started, or if honestly, folks feel cheated out of summer because of all the rain and overcast skies we had. Probably it's a little of both!

There have been a few coldish mornings, enough to make me get excited about all that is fall. Pumpkins, crisp apples, beautiful foliage and you guessed it, autumn plants!

Read on for a column from the archives, one that will inspire you to add some late season color to your landscape.

It is always fun to freshen up the garden with new plants. I think of adding a splash of color at this point in the season as a last hurrah before old man winter sets in.

There are all types of mums, and flowering cabbage and kale available for sale

right now. Unfortunately, they command higher prices than summer annuals do.

This article will teach you how to get the most out of your investment.

Choose mums carefully.

Daisy and other decorative flower types will generally not last as long in the garden as "cushions" will. These have petals straight through to the center of the flower- no yellow center is visible.

Because the flower head is dense it tends to hold up after a heavy rain and as well as after the first few frosty nights. Although mums are pretty in their pots, they will do better if planted in the ground or at least repotted into a larger container.

The poor things have been growing in the pots you bought them in for quite a while and are usually root-bound. Because of this it is important to slice the roots in a few places just as you would annuals or perennials at planting time.

This way they will have a chance to expand into the new soil you have provided. Mums tend to dry out quickly and require water often.

If you notice that your plant has wilted before you have had a chance to plant it, submerge the pot in a bucket of water- the shrunken soil ball will soak up water like a sponge!

See GARDEN, page 5

Who was Mayberry's 'Mystery Man'?

By J. Mark Powell
jmarkpowell.com

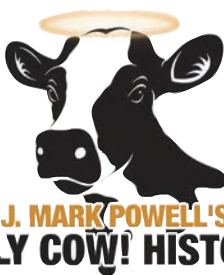
I begin this week's column with a confession. I'm a life-long, dyed in the wool fan of "The Andy Griffith Show".

It debuted just a few weeks before I was born, I grew up watching it in prime time, and I've religiously followed it in reruns for decades.

Andy and Barney, Opie and Aunt Bee, Floyd and Otis, and the whole gang feel like extended family. I belong to several Facebook fan groups where members vigorously debate the merits of their favorite characters and argue over who should and shouldn't have been Andy's girlfriend. (Helen Crump? Seriously?)

The show has attained a kind of cult status. Multiple books have been written about it, college courses have been taught on it, and we aging Baby Boomers secretly yearn to spend our golden years in a friendly little town just like Mayberry where people are nice, where right always triumphs over wrong, and where the home cookin' is, in Andy Taylor's words, "extr' goo-ooood!"

Given all that adoring attention, you may be surprised to learn a big mystery from the program remains unsolved more



than 50 years later. Who played the mysterious Mr. Schwamp?

Who? It's easy to not remember him.

Although he appeared in over two dozen episodes, both black and white and color, he never spoke a single word. Not even once, although Andy and Barney frequently refer to him by name as "Old Man Schwamp" or Schwump, if you prefer.

We don't know the correct spelling because the character is never listed in the show's credits. In fact, nobody even knows the name of the round-faced actor of a certain age who portrayed him.

He smiles in acknowledgment of his name from time to time, but that's all.

There's a rumor among some fans that the actor was a personal friend of Andy Griffith who had fallen on hard times. He was given a small walk-on role with only a few lines as an act of charity.

Supposedly, according to this uncorroborated version, the actor forgot his lines and froze. So, Andy filmed the scene without him speaking.

That supposedly amused the show's star, who got a kick out of it when he saw

See MYSTERY, page 5

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A Quote

OF NOTE

"Be brave.
Growth
is supposed
to be
uncomfortable."

Stephanie
Hird

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 the-sun@turley.com. Mailed letters can be sent to The Sun, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

Guest Column



The Massachusetts Audubon Society reported the sighting of a black-crowned night heron in Pittsfield.

The black-crowned night heron is about 25 inches long and is gray and white. It is a stocky heron with pale yellow legs, which turn reddish in the breeding season.

The immature is brown with white streaks below and large, buff white spots on its back and wings. It keeps its immature plumage for two years. The immature black-crowned night heron is distinguished from the yellow crowned night heron by its greenish-yellow lower bill. The yellow-crowned has a dark bill.

Although the night heron will feed by day, as its name implies this species feeds mostly at night or at dusk. They roost in trees.

It feeds on fish, amphibians, insects and small mammals. It also will eat the young of other bird species such as terns, herons and ibises. They inhabit freshwater streams, lakes, rice field, dry grassland and salt marshes.

These herons nest either in colonies



Black-crowned night heron

or singly. The female lays three to five pale blue green eggs in a nest of twigs, reeds and finer material placed against a tussock or in the reeds, shrub or trees up to 160 feet.

When greeting other black-crowned night herons, they stretch their necks horizontally with breeding plumes on the head raised and they touch bills. They make a low, hoarse “quok” sound often heard at dusk. During nesting, they make a “rok rok.”

Red-winged blackbirds

I received an email this week from someone who lives in the West Springfield Agawam area. She said, “Red-winged blackbirds are one of my favorite birds, but I always wondered why they leave the area so early?” She also said, “I go to areas where I know they nest, but never see them after mid-July or so.”

Red-winged blackbirds are one of



Red-winged blackbirds

the first to arrive in early spring with the males coming first, then the females. They migrate anytime from late August to early October and gather in flocks for the trip south.

Audubon Society sightings

Other Audubon Society sightings reported for August in Berkshire include an alder flycatcher in Washington and a yellow-bellied flycatcher at the Jug End State Reservation in Egremont. In Hampshire County, four sandhill cranes were at East Meadows in Northampton and four more sandhill cranes at the Arcadia Sanctuary.

Migrants tallied at Quabbin Park in Ware included four common nighthawks, two yellow-bellied flycatchers and four Cape May warblers. In Worcester County 14 Common Mergansers were seen near fishing area #3 at Quabbin Reservoir in Petersham and four Bonaparte’s Gulls were tallied along the Dana shoreline in



Black vultures

Petersham.

Two black vultures were seen soaring over Mt. Wachusett in Princeton and in Paxton there was a Cerulean warbler. Mount Wachusett is a popular spot for birders to view hawk migrations during September and October. Two Cape May warblers were seen at the Moose Hill Wildlife Area.

Wild turkeys

It seems wild turkeys are everywhere. I have seen groups of three or four Tom turkeys and much larger groups of hens and their poults. Several times I stopped while a large flock of hens and youngsters crossed the road.

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

your full retirement age. I hope the above provides what you need to make an informed decision.

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

Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

GARDEN, from page 4

Although mums can stand temperatures a few degrees below freezing, it is still a good idea to cover them if an early hard frost is in the forecast. Try using bushel baskets, old sheets or blankets, etc.

It is a nuisance, but so many times I have been grateful that I went through a bit of work to be able to enjoy my mums for weeks longer than if I hadn’t.

If you are hoping that your mums will return for another season, cut them back to “fist height” in November, and provide them with a loose mulch after the ground freezes. The term “hardy mum” doesn’t always prove true, but planting them properly, providing ample water and mulching for the winter will increase your odds of a repeat performance.

Remove the winter mulch around the time forsythias bloom.

Prevent gangly growth by pinching them back to a manageable height two or three times prior to mid-July. Expect blooms this time next year.

Flowering kale and cabbage can add nice texture to the fall garden. The same planting instructions apply here, but I have found that they can be finicky about water.

Consistent overwatering and they rot; giving them too little and they wilt. The best advice: test them before you get out the hose by inserting your finger into the top couple inches of soil.

Kale and cabbage need little in the way of grooming other than an occasional bottom leaf removed. Slugs do tend to enjoy the foliage, however, so set up some traps or barriers nearby.

The color on cabbage and kale

will intensify as the weather gets colder, and the plants will continue to look good well into December, provided we don’t get an early long standing snow- it will eventually make the leaves mushy. While it’s tempting to leave them in your containers and add greenery and such for the holidays, it’s not recommended unless the planters are in a protected spot.

Plant now for your garden’s last hurrah of the season- you’ll be glad you did!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 31 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@turley.com with “Gardening Question” in the subject line.

MYSTERY, from page 4

the finished product. So, Griffith had the writers insert brief, passing scenes with Old Man Schwamp from then on. (When your name is in the show’s title, you can get away with things like that.)

Mr. Schwamp appears at a Mayberry stag dance, watches Ernest T. Bass throw a rock through a window, and of course passes time on a sidewalk bench outside the courthouse. He also pops up in a few episodes of the spinoffs Gomer Pyle, USMC and Mayberry RFD.

Always without speaking, and never mentioned in the closing credits. He remains the one complete mystery from a TV program millions of Americans know inside and out.

A few years ago, someone posted on YouTube a home movie taken by Ron Howard’s father of a behind the scenes glimpse of “The Andy Griffith Show” set. In the background, standing among the crew, a gentleman is seen reading a newspaper who bears a strong resemblance to the mystery man.

blance to the mystery man.

Could he have been part of the production team, and the whole thing was just an elaborate inside joke? Probably. I agree with that theory.

But we’ll never know the true story.

Don Knotts, who played the beloved bumbling Barney Fife, passed away in 2006. Andy Griffith followed six years later. Mr. Schwamp’s identity likely went to the grave with them.

Why does it matter, you ask.

In the great scheme of things, it doesn’t. But we humans love pondering the unanswerable.

Americans have spent 82 years wondering what became of Amelia Earhart, after all.

And so Old Man Schwamp stares back at us from a half century old spool of celluloid.

The chubby face grins and his eyes twinkle. He clearly enjoys knowing what we don’t know, and probably never will.

Holy Cow! History is written by novelist, former TV journalist and die-hard history buff J. Mark Powell.

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Residents to participate in Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk

HOLYOKE – Three residents from Holyoke will participate in the Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk on Sunday, Oct. 1.

Linda Drury, Janis Sokop, and Alina Sokop will participate in the iconic annual event that will unite the community to raise funds to support all forms of adult and pediatric care and cancer research at the nation's premier cancer center, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. The Jimmy Fund Walk has raised more than \$167 million for Dana-Farber Cancer in its 34-year history, raising a record-breaking more than \$8.8 million in 2022.

"Throughout the past 34 years, the Jimmy Fund Walk has continuously supported life-saving research and can-

cer care at Dana-Farber. The 2023 Walk will be held during the Jimmy Fund's 75th anniversary year and will aim to raise \$9 million in the effort to prevent, treat, and defy cancer," said Zack Blackburn, Director of the Jimmy Fund Walk. "This year also marks the 35th annual Jimmy Fund Walk. We are eager to get out on the course and see all our outstanding walkers and teams come together to support this great cause."

The Jimmy Fund Walk is the only organized walk permitted on the famed Boston Marathon course, and participants have the flexibility to choose from four distance options: 5K walk (from Dana-Farber Cancer Institute's Longwood Medical Campus), 10K walk (from Newton), Half Marathon walk

(from Wellesley), and Marathon walk (from Hopkinton).

Whatever route walkers choose, participants will be treated to 10 refueling stations as well as poster-sized photographs of patients, Jimmy Fund Walk Heroes, displayed at each mile and half-mile marker as inspiration. All four routes of the Jimmy Fund Walk will culminate at the Jimmy Fund Walk Finish Line Powered by Schneider Electric.

Due to construction in Copley Square, the Jimmy Fund Walk Finish Line location has been moved to the Fenway neighborhood for 2023. Walkers should know that distances may be slightly shorter than previous years. The finish line will include a

celebration complete with food, music, and a speaking program.

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

To register to walk or volunteer (#JimmyFundWalk) or to support a walker, visit www.JimmyFundWalk.org or call (866) 531-9255. Registrants can enter the promo code NEWS for \$5 off the registration fee. All registered walkers will receive a bib, medal, and a Jimmy Fund Walk T-shirt.

FUNDRAISER, from page 1

ning are \$55, with all the funds going to the merry-go-round to help get them a new roof, fund upgrades around the building and ensure that ticket prices for the ride itself can stay low.

The fundraising goal for the evening is \$30,000, with the board relying on their many sponsors to help reach that goal.

"We are so grateful to all of our sponsors so far," Shaw said.

Already they have many sponsors, including Holyoke Community College, Polish National Credit Union, UniBank and more.

If anyone is interested in becoming a sponsor, they can reach out to Laura Shaw at her email laurish21@gmail.com or send a message on the Holyoke merry-go-round Facebook page.

The merry-go-round has been in Holyoke for 94 years, and Shaw says it is thanks to the wonderful community that it has managed to stay open for this long.

"It's just a really special place and we wouldn't be able to keep the doors open if it wasn't for the generosity of our local businesses and local community members," Shaw said.

When Mountain Park was shut



down, it was thanks to the community that the merry-go-round was relocated to Heritage State Park, rather than closed down along with Mountain Park.

The community banded together and held a "last ride" at Mountain Park,

which around 3,000 people attended according to Shaw. From there, the community continued to help out to ensure the ride was moved to Heritage Park so all could continue to enjoy it.

"They had all kinds of bake sales

and local businesses that chipped in," Shaw said.

"We have been super fortunate that our local community has always supported us year after year."

The merry-go-round continues to thrive today thanks to the continued community support.

Between birthday parties, other celebrations and just every day park goes who purchase tickets, the merry-go-round still spins on.

Generations of Holyokers continue the tradition of the merry-go-round, with parents who once rode the ride in their childhood now taking their own kids to go for a spin.

"We're finding that kids who rode the merry-go-round 20 or 30 years ago are now coming back around with their kids and holding their birthday parties there," Shaw said.

This fundraiser is to ensure that it can continue on for many more years to come.

If you would like to purchase tickets for this fundraiser, go to <https://www.holyokemerrygoround.org/>.

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 God bless.

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Former field hockey standout Leclerc takes coaching helm at Elms

By Quinn Suomala
Staff Writer

H O L Y O K E – Holyoke native Katelynn Leclerc is the new head field hockey coach at Elms College.

Leclerc has been playing field hockey since she was in sixth grade, when her father Pete Leclerc started the Holyoke youth program.

“I used to go to the high school games because my brother used to announce, and I enjoyed watching the sport, then



Katelynn Leclerc

my dad started the program so I could start to play,” Leclerc described.

Playing in Holyoke helped her to find her love for field hockey, and she is grateful for the experience and lessons the city provided her.

“I think culturally it was very impactful and I took a lot of the life lessons with me as I moved onto collegiate athletics,” she said.

See **LECLERC**, page 8



Katelynn Leclerc, who was an outstanding field hockey player at Holyoke High School, is the new coach of Elms College field hockey. Leclerc talks to her team during a timeout at a game last Friday. Submitted photos



Kyle Tomas winds up for a long kick.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Pioneers cap season with Festa match

LUDLOW – After another season with a play-off appearance in the USL-2 League, many members of the Western Mass. Pioneers got together one last time for the annual Friendly Festa game on Sunday afternoon.

The entire team was put together by the Lusitano Club of Ludlow.

The exhibition has been happening for the past several years during the town’s Festa celebration.



Noah Rivera stops the ball.



Max Robbins looks to catch up with the ball.



Goalie Al Albano sends the ball up the field.



Monson’s Connor Hicks receives a pass and makes his way up the field.

Westfield State Owls drop opener to Anna Maria

WESTFIELD – Jordan Smith (Coventry, Conn.) ran for 121 yards and a touchdown and Corey Jackson Jr. (West Hartford, Conn./Farmington HS) caught a pair of TD passes, but a slow start doomed the Owls as Westfield State fell to Anna Maria College, 51-26 in the season-opening, non-conference football game for both schools last Saturday afternoon.

Westfield fell behind 17-0 as the Amcats' Eric Pino ran the season-opening kickoff back 77 yards for a touchdown. The Cats moved the ball smartly on their early drives and tacked on a 24-yard field goal from Ryan Kent and then an 11-yard TD toss from Ryan Russell to DeAndre Wallace to grab the 17-0 lead before the end of the first quarter.

Westfield got on the board with the

first of Jackson's two TD's, on a 24-yard strike from QB Colby Pires (Milford, Mass.) with 5:17 left in the second quarter to trim the lead to 17-7. Holyoke's Gabriel Fernandez, who has seen significant playing time last season, did not take any snaps for the Owls.

The Amcats answered with a 7-play, 77 yard drive that was capped by a 1-yard Russell plunge for a TD, but Westfield responded with a big play of their own, as Smith scampered 89-yards down the left sideline for a touchdown that cut the Anna Maria lead to 24-14. The 89-yard TD run sets a school record for longest TD run, originally set by Joe Champigny in 1985 and tied by Tim Lightfoot a decade later.

The Amcats struck once more before the half, aided by a pair of Owls penal-

ties, set up 1st and 10 at the Westfield 30 after the kick return, and Russell found Wallace for a 30 yard TD to give Anna Maria a 31-14 lead at the half.

The lead burgeoned to 45-14 early in the third quarter, but Westfield State put together a 9-play, 70-yard drive that was capped by a 10-yard scoring pass from Pires to Jackson with 34 seconds left in the third.

The Owls got the ball right back after forcing a fumble on the ensuing kick return, and Pires cashed in with a 17-yard scoring strike to Will Brewster (Westfield, Mass.), which cut the lead back to 45-26 with 12:46 left in the fourth quarter.

From there, a pair of turnovers by the Owls eliminated any hopes at a further comeback. Russell finished the day

27-44 passing for 389 yards and five TD's to lead the AmCats. Mark Johnson-Morgan caught eight passes for 137 yards and one TD, and Justin Brown rushed for 90 yards on 16 carries.

For Westfield, Smith finished with 122 yards on 23 carries. Brewster caught a pair of passes for 52 yards, and Piers finished 10-31 passing for 122 yards with three TD's and two interceptions.

The Owls defense was led by 11 tackles and a sack from Cameron Danahy (Kingston, Mass./Silver Lake), with Marckus Allen-Nesmith (Glassboro, N.J.) adding 10 stops and an interception.

The Owls will host their home opener on Friday, Sept. 8, facing local rival Western New England in a 7 p.m. kickoff in the annual 'Presidents' Cup' game at Alumni Field.

Doug Coby among hungry contenders for Monadnock

MOORESVILLE, N.C. – After two races off, Tommy Baldwin Racing announced today that the team will field a Mayhew Tools No. 7NY entry for Doug Coby in this Saturday's NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour 150 at Monadnock Speedway.

Coby and Baldwin enter the event leading the point standings for the Whelen Granite State Short Track Cup, which will conclude Saturday night.

The Cup awards a bonus of \$5,000 to the team that captures the most points over three events. Coby picked up the win in round one of the Cup at Monadnock back in May and finished sixth in the second race at Lee USA Speedway to enter this weekend in the lead.

The team is also eligible for additional bonuses from the Cup, including a lap leader bonus from all three events combined and the best average finish over the three races. The team has the opportunity to collect over \$6,400 in bonus money, plus any winnings collected for finishing position on Saturday. It made the decision to attend a no-brainer.

Last month, Tommy Baldwin Jr. announced a diagnosis of cancer and is currently undergoing treatments. The team is not returning full-time on the Whelen Modified Tour for the remainder of the season, but will come together to chase the Cup crown at Monadnock.

Baldwin is selling Baldwin Strong stickers on his website, TommyBaldwinRacing.com, and donating final proceeds to the Matheny School. His goal is to share awareness and have everyone know they are all in it together when fighting through

health issues.

"After winning at Monadnock in May and leading the Cup standings heading into Saturday, we really wanted to make this event happen," team owner Tommy Baldwin Jr. said. "I'm thankful for everyone's support through my announcement and treatments - it's been incredible and our entire family couldn't be more grateful. The team will be ready to roll into Monadnock to chase the Cup title, but also another win for Mayhew Tools and everyone involved with Doug and our team."

Coby has one goal in mind for Saturday: win.

"We had a great car last time at Monadnock, it was dominant all day," Coby said. "This will be a little bit of a different race being at night compared to the day time back in May. As far as Tommy wanting to have a car prepared and go to the track, it's good for him to be able to have something different to focus on and he said he feels good enough to make it happen, which is great to hear. With the race now 150 laps, you will probably be able to go harder and really battle for spots earlier in the race. There will likely be some serious battling on restarts to keep or gain track position."

Saturday's event schedule at Monadnock Speedway includes NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour practice from 2:55-3:55 p.m., followed by qualifying at 5:30 p.m. The estimated green flag time for the Winchester Fair 150 is set for 8 p.m. Tickets for the race are available in advance at JDVProductions.com. The event will air live on FloRacing.TV for those who can't make it to New Hampshire.

Worcester Railers Hockey Club name Aitken new VP

WORCESTER – The Worcester Railers Hockey Club (@RailersHC), proud ECHL (@ECHL) affiliate of the New York Islanders (@NYIslanders) is pleased to welcome David Aitken to the front office staff as the Vice President of Tickets & Corporate Partnerships.

"David has a proven track record of driving revenue in minor league sports," said Railers HC President, Stephanie Ramey. "He has been a direct contributor of significant AHL ticket sales growth in both Rochester and Cleveland and will bring new ideas to enhance the Railers experience for fans and sponsors."

Aitken will oversee all revenue channels for the Railers and will help further develop the ticket sales and corporate sponsorships departments. Most recently, Aitken spent nearly five years as the Director of Ticket Sales with the Rochester Americans (AHL) and Rochester Knighthawks (NLL), as part of Pegula Sports and Entertainment, the parent company of the Buffalo Sabres and Buffalo Bills. His responsibilities included strategy, budgeting, and personnel.

Under Aitken's leadership, the Amerks achieved their highest season ticket numbers and ticket sales revenue in the franchise's 67-year history. The Amerks concluded the 2023 Calder Cup Playoffs with the highest attendance for the AHL clubs playing more than one home playoff game, which featured three of six home games with a sell-out crowd of 10,662 at their venue.

Prior to his time in Rochester, Aitken spent eight seasons

with the Cleveland Monsters (AHL) as part of the Cleveland Cavaliers (NBA) organization. His position with the team was Sr. Manager of Business Development where he led all new business ticket sales efforts, as well as managed a senior level team of ticket representatives. During this time, Aitken was also responsible for youth hockey game-day programming and community outreach efforts for six seasons and was instrumental in the founding of the Monsters' "Grow the Game" and Learn to Play initiatives in Northeast Ohio.

Aitken's tenure in Cleveland was highlighted by placing among the AHL's top 10 in group sales for five seasons and generated the most group sales in franchise history at that time in the 2015-16 season. He was also part of the 2016 Calder Cup champion Lake Erie Monsters staff which won the AHL's President's Award for Business Team of the Year.

Aitken is originally from Chestertown, NY in the Lake George region, and is relocating to Worcester with his wife Colleen, and their three daughters, Leah, Emma, and Olivia. His start date with the Railers is Monday, July 24.

The Worcester Railers HC 2023-24 Opening Weekend at the DCU Center is Saturday, Oct. 21 and Sunday, Oct. 22 vs. the Adirondack Thunder & Trois-Rivieres Lions. Season memberships, mini-plans, and group packages for the 2023-24 season are on sale now by calling the Railers front office at 508-365-1750 or by visiting RailersHC.com.

LECLERC, from page 7

She is excited to be continuing her field hockey career at Elms. While playing the game was her passion, she is looking forward to continuing to have the opportunity to grow the game as a coach.

"It's the best way to transition from being a committed player," she said.

Leclerc attended American International College for both her undergraduate degree and her masters. During her masters program, she had the opportunity to be the graduate assistant for the field hockey team while getting her degree, an experience she enjoyed.

"It was great, I got to coach for my alma mater," she said.

After graduating from AIC, she worked in Florida briefly before one of her old teammates reached out to her about the Elms program. Leclerc said

she instantly liked the school and eagerly applied for the position.

"It was really family oriented and I felt very supported," she said.

She hopes to take that feeling of support the college provided her and pass it on to her players as coach.

One of her biggest goals as the coach is to ensure that each player feels seen and supported by her, so that they have the opportunity to meet their full potential both as a player and as a student.

"I'm always going to be there for them, I'm trying to be very supportive for them on the field and off the field so they know that they have a life coach, not only for field hockey but I want to be there to mentor them in all aspects of their life to set them up for success," she said.

Her support will not just extend to her athletes on the field, but also off it. Leclerc believes that the student athletes

should have the opportunity to have a truly holistic college experience, where they are able to be students, athletes and be involved in clubs and activities on campus.

"A lot of my girls are involved in a lot of clubs on campus...they just really get that whole college experience, which is important to me," she explained.

Additionally, Leclerc hopes her young age will help her to stay connected to the team. As she is only twenty-five, she was very recently a college student herself. Leclerc feels this is key, as she knows what her athletes are going through and hopes to be able to use this knowledge to help her team.

"I have just gone through that myself, so I understand what they're going through as a student athlete," she said. "The balance of academic and athletics can be a lot sometimes, but I think because I've just gone through it, what they may need really stands out to me."

Leclerc also believes that her experience as an assistant coach at AIC, as well as her many years as a player of the game, will help her to bring new drills to the Elms team.

As her first year of coaching at Elms begins, Leclerc hopes to focus on building and shaping the team.

Specifically, she is hoping to ensure she is on the road and recruiting for the team this year.

"I think recruiting is really going to be important for this program moving forward," she said.

On top of this, she hopes to build upon the team that is already there. She wants to focus on building team morale and ensuring they grow stronger after every game, no matter the outcome.

"We're challenging ourselves every day and continuing to build game after game, so it's going to come. We just have to piece all the little victories around the field together," she said.

Foursomes needed for golf tournament

AGAWAM – Registration and sign-ups are currently open and underway for the Sixth Annual “Shoot Fore The Stars To Cure Cancer” Golf Tournament to benefit the Dana Farber Cancer Institute. In the first five years, the event has raised over \$15,000 for cancer research. The four-person scramble event will take place on Monday, Sept. 18 at Wintonbury Hills Golf Course in Bloomfield, CT. The event will be an 11 a.m. shotgun start. There will be prizes up for grabs (Closest to Pin/Long Drive) along with a putting contest. Entry fee covers golf, lunch and dinner. Please contact ShootFOREtheStarstoCureCancer@gmail.com more information.

Paul, Hall team up to host tip-off event

SPRINGFIELD – The Chris Paul Family Foundation and Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame announced the third annual circuit of two Historically Black College and University (HBCU) events, the HBCU Tip-Off and Challenge, presented by the AEA Foundation.

The HBCU Tip-Off will take place Nov. 18-19 at the Mohegan Sun Arena in Uncasville, Connecticut, and the HBCU Challenge will be held Dec. 16-17 at Michelob ULTRA Arena at Mandalay Bay Resort and Casino in Las Vegas.

“As an HBCU graduate himself, Chris Paul has long been a prominent voice for the empowerment of HBCU athletes,” said John L. Doleva, President and CEO of the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame. “The Hall of Fame is honored to work alongside Chris to create oppor-

tunities for these student-athletes, and we look forward to watching them play in two competitive weekends of basketball.”

Paul, an active philanthropist and entrepreneur, has actively supported HBCUs for years. He currently serves on President Joe Biden’s advisory board on Historically Black Colleges and Universities. Paul executive produced Why Not Us: North Carolina Central Basketball, Why Not Us: FAMU Football, and Why Not Us: Southern Dance on ESPN+. In addition, Paul partnered with Harvard Business School to bring its Entertainment, Media and Sports program to select HBCUs to develop a pipeline for students pursuing careers in those industries. He launched HBCU voting initiatives to encourage students to vote during the past election and partnered with Sour Patch Kids

and the Thurgood Marshall College Fund to create The Mischief for Change Scholarship, a college scholarship fund with a \$1 million commitment over the next five years for students attending HBCUs. In 2022, Paul graduated with a degree from Winston-Salem State University.

“We are looking forward to the third year of our HBCU events,” said Paul. “These events present a unique opportunity for student athletes to play on a national stage. I’m excited to collaborate with the Basketball Hall of Fame, Mohegan Sun, and MGM Resorts and am grateful to all of our partners for their commitment to HBCU schools and athletes in partnership with this event.”

Tickets for the 2023 Chris Paul HBCU Tip-Off and HBCU Challenge will both go on sale on Friday, Sept. 8.

Public Notices

City of Holyoke

Notice of Public Hearing
The DGR Committee of the Holyoke City Council will hold a public hearing on **Monday, September 25, 2023 at 6:30p.m.** to hear a special permit application for home occupation of Marisol Figueroa for a nail salon at 222 West Franklin Street (078-00-092). Meeting will take place at Holyoke City Hall 536 Dwight St and can be accessed remotely via www.zoom.us Meeting ID 884 9262 8394 Meeting Passcode 871397 or by call in at 1-646-558-8656 with same Meeting ID and Passcode. Written public comment can be submitted to publiccomment@holyoke.org. For more information on this hearing or for an electronic copy of the application please contact City Council Admin Asst Jeffery Anderson-Burgos at Anderson-BurgosJ@holyoke.org or by phone 413-322-5525.

DGR Chair
Tessa Murphy-Romboletti
09/08, 09/15/2023

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No. HD23P1128GD
In the interests of
Natalia Maria Ocasio
Of Holyoke, MA
Minor**

**NOTICE AND ORDER:
Petition for Appointment
of Guardian of a Minor
NOTICE TO ALL
INTERESTED PARTIES**

1. **Hearing Date/Time:** A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on **05/31/2023** by **Nilsa Diaz-Serrano** of Holyoke, MA will be held **10/02/2023 08:30 AM Guardianship of Minor Hearing**. Located: **4th Floor, 50 State Street Springfield,**

MA 01103

2. **Response to Petition:** You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to:

File the original with the Court; and

Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing.

3. **Counsel for the Minor:** The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor.

4. **Counsel for Parents:** If you are a parent of the minor child who is the subject of this proceeding you have a right to be represented by an attorney. If you want an attorney and cannot afford to pay for one and if you give proof that you are indigent, an attorney will be assigned to you. Your request for an attorney should be made immediately by filling out the Application of Appointment of Counsel form. Submit the application form in person or by mail at the court location where your case is going to be heard.

5. **Presence of the Minor at Hearing:** A minor over age 14 has the right to be present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor’s best interests.

Date: September 1, 2023
Rosemary A Saccomani
Register of Probate
09/08/2023

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No. HD23P1129GD
In the interests of
Nefali Ocasio, IV
Of Holyoke, MA
Minor**

**NOTICE AND ORDER:
Petition for Appointment**

of Guardian of a Minor NOTICE TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES

1. **Hearing Date/Time:** A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on **05/31/2023** by **Nilsa Diaz-Serrano** of Holyoke, MA will be held **10/02/2023 08:30 AM Guardianship of Minor Hearing**. Located: **4th Floor, 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103**

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Date: September 1, 2023
Rosemary A Saccomani
Register of Probate
09/08/2023

Kim Allen Grassfield

A memorial celebration will be held at 17 Canby St. in Holyoke starting at 1 p.m. on September 16 for Kim Allen Grassfield. Mr. Grassfield died peacefully at home on May 13. The cause of death was pancreatic cancer. Kim was born in Denver Colorado on October 18, 1949, to Bruce and Mary Grassfield both students at Denver University at the time. His early peripatetic years resulted from his father electing to join the Air Force after serving in the Army Air Corps during the war. By nine years old he had climbed Mount Fuji and ridden dressage at Emperor Hiro Hito’s Imperial palace. Two years later he starred on the 1960, undefeated (14 -0), Tigers Little League team at Otis Air Force Base on Cape Code. And in 1962 he moved to Niskayuna, New York. He graduated from Niskayuna High School in 1967 and attended Vermont Academy for one additional year. He

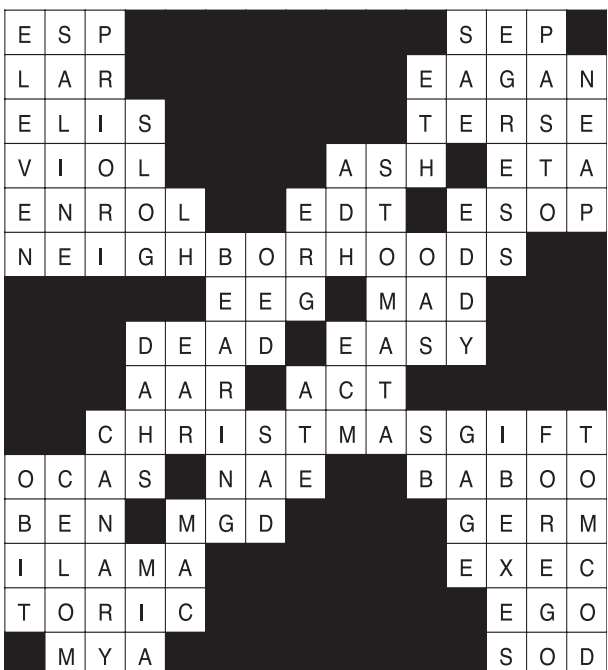
entered the University of Denver in the tumultuous fall of 1968 just as the college deferment for the Vietnam War draft was to end. A very low draft lottery number (4) guaranteed that he would be drafted by 1969. He dropped out to protest the war and did not return to academia for several years. But in 1982 he received a degree in Architectural Studies from Skidmore College. Shortly after he moved to Massachusetts where he remained the rest of his life. His was the life of the poet craftsman, the Buddhist maker, an intellectual carpenter. Kindness and community were his guide.

He is survived by his mother of Saratoga Springs NY, his brother Paul Grassfield of Brooklyn, NY, his Sister-In-Law Jennifer Stearns, nephew and niece Mason and Eve. His father and sister Amy preceded him in death. He will be lovingly remembered.

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 \$89, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. Death Notices & Paid Obituaries should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com. Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

DEATH NOTICE

**GRASSFIELD,
KIM ALLEN**
Died: May 13, 2023
Celebration of life:
September 16, 2023



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.

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

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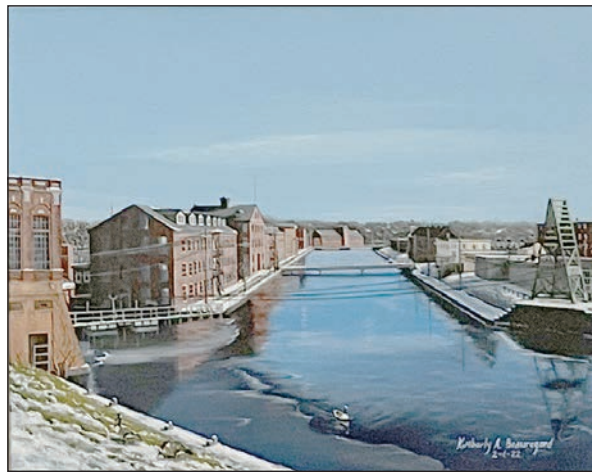
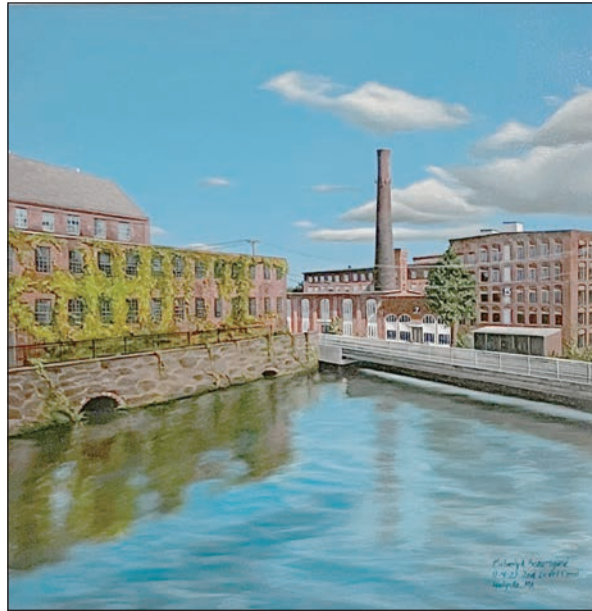
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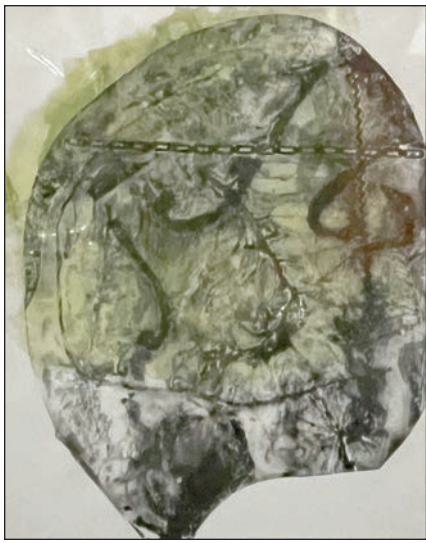
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Artwork was proudly displayed by Daniel Blaha, a student at Blessed Sacrament School.



Kimberly Beaugerard acrylic paintings on canvas of the canals in Holyoke look photo realistic. *Turley photos by Quinn Suomala*



Art was on display to celebrate the 150th Anniversary of Holyoke.



Ben Pasquini, a student at Blessed Sacrament, drew a candle celebrating Holyoke's birthday.

ART, from page 1

150th events targeted toward the adult population, Mausel was glad this contest would give the younger generation a chance to get involved with this key anniversary.

Mausel found the wide range of ages participating to be her favorite part of the contest.

"It'll be nice to see the range of things that come in," Mausel said. "There are some very professional artists and then there are kids who have submitted stick figures...I like seeing all of it."

All of the submissions are on display in the visitors' center at Holyoke Heritage State Park, and will remain there through the month of September. They will also be exhibited at Holyoke City Hall.

Heritage Park was chosen to host the drawings given its ease of accessibility to all residents of Holyoke. Additionally, with the merry-go-round, the children's museum and the park itself it will give any who want to see the art more things to do afterward.

"Heritage park is more accessible and it gathers the community," Mausel said. "Also, they [the park] are very happy to host."

The categories for the contest are best painting, best photograph, best 3D art, best mixed medium and best poetry/storytelling. These are further divided by age, with groupings of grades kindergarten through fifth, grades six through twelve and then adults.

Winners of these categories will be announced on Sunday, Sept. 17 when Holyoke Heritage State Park hosts an artist meet and greet.

Kids in kindergarten through fifth grade can win \$25-\$200, kids in sixth through twelfth grade can win \$50-\$150 and adults can win \$50-\$200, depending on how they place.

BUSING, from page 1

said. "I am here representing my community and asking you guys to take a good look at this decision."

While the council had already had that item on the agenda for the meeting, they moved it up in order to ensure that the residents who had come for public comment could hear the council's decision on the matter.

Earlier in the day, several of the councilors—Juan Anderson-Burgos, Jose Maldonado Velez, Jenny Rivera and Israel Rivera—met with residents of Lyman Terrace to hear further about the issue.

"We met with the residents today and it is something that should be dealt with sooner rather than later," Maldonado Velez said.

The residents of Lyman Terrace stopped receiving busing to Dr. Marcella R. Kelly Elementary School once the decades-long construction project on the bridge going down Lyman Terrace that blocked off the sidewalk was finally completed.

Prior to completion of the project, the walk was deemed too unsafe for children to go on. Once the project was complete, the school department and the police came to the decision that the busing was no longer needed.

The policy in the district is that any elementary school child who lives over a mile from their school will receive busing. The distance from Lyman Terrace to Kelly School is under a mile. The only reason they had been receiving a bus prior to this year was due to the construction.

Now, children in the area get a "walking bus," where adults will come pick them up and escort them to the school.

Many residents of the community argue that it is still unsafe for the children to be walking to

school.

"A lot of these kids have disabilities...they have migraines, they have chronic pain issues, so what is to be done in the winter and the summer when they need that transportation?" said resident John Rivera. "It just can't be enough that there is an adult with them on these 'walking buses', more needs to be done."

All of the councilors agreed that this was an area of concern and they hope to resolve the issue quickly.

However, there was some debate over how easy of a fix this would be.

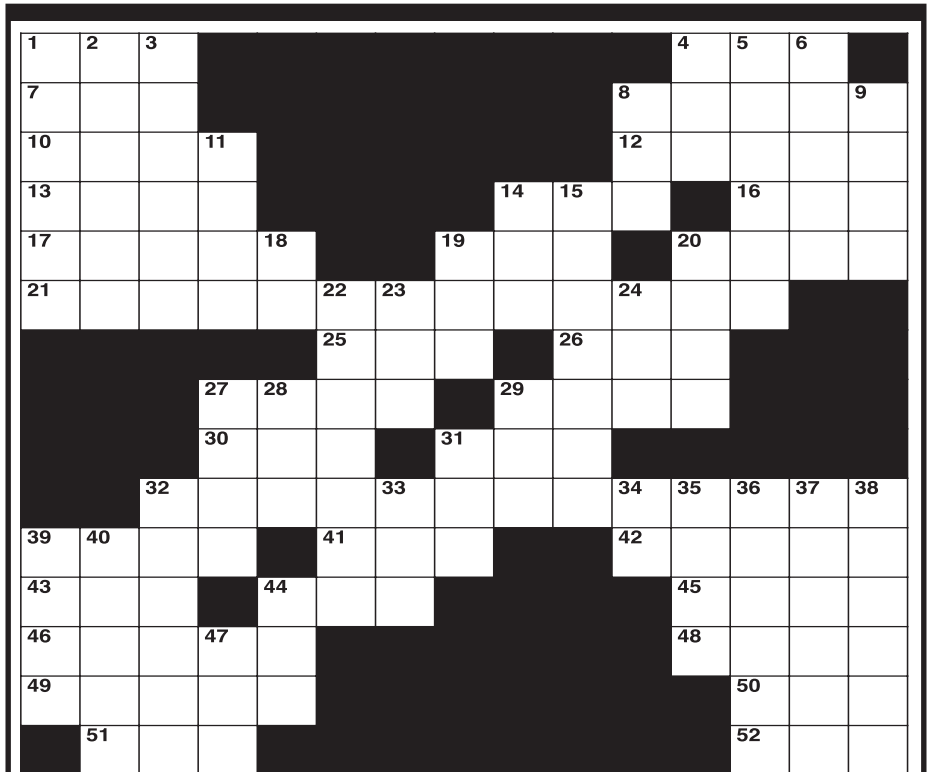
While Councilor Kevin Jourdain stated that efforts should be made to get a bus out there as soon as possible and that they could figure out exact logistics after that, several of his fellow councilors disagreed that the decision was that straight forward.

Anderson-Burgos, Israel Rivera and Jenny Rivera all pushed back that, while they agree that this needs to be attended to as quickly as possible, it is not as simple as just putting a bus back in the area.

"There's a lot of things that are lacking, there's not enough staff members at the bus company, so they would have to go through with the process of hiring somebody. Not only that, it's going to come with a CORI check," Jenny Rivera said. "So, do we want it? Yes. And we want it ASAP, but sometimes our hands are tied. It's not as easy as everybody thinks. We can't do it overnight."

In the end, the council voted to refer this issue to both the Joint Committee and the Public Safety Committee. The next Public Safety meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, Sept. 27 at 6:30 p.m. The Joint Committee should have a meeting after that, and they will take the Public Safety Committee's recommendation under consideration.

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CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Second sight
- 4. Standard electrode potential
- 7. Type of gibbon
- 8. John Joseph ___: American industrialist
- 10. Manning and Whitney are two
- 12. Abrupt
- 13. Baroque musical instrument
- 14. Post-burning residue
- 16. When you hope to arrive
- 17. Sign up (Brit. Eng.)
- 19. Sun up in New York
- 20. Employee stock ownership plan
- 21. Where people live
- 25. Method to record

an electrogram

- 26. Angry
- 27. No longer living
- 29. Simple
- 30. Swiss river
- 31. Portion of a play
- 32. It's under the tree
- 39. Wood sorrels
- 41. No (Scottish)
- 42. Dialect of English
- 43. Former Steelers' QB
- 44. Popular beer
- 45. It can make you sick
- 46. Tropical tree and fruit
- 48. Company officer
- 49. Contact lens term
- 50. Your consciousness of your own identity
- 51. "Ghetto Superstar" singer
- 52. Piece of turf

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Number of players on each side in a football game
- 2. Containing salt
- 3. Reasoning or knowledge: a ___
- 4. Car mechanics group
- 5. Leave a place
- 6. Southern Colombian capital
- 8. Old English letter
- 9. Tide
- 11. Walk heavily
- 14. Chemical compound (abbr.)
- 15. Artificial openings
- 18. Luteinizing hormone
- 19. Unit of energy
- 20. Circular movement of
- 22. A way of holding words (abbr.)
- 23. Popular book of words (abbr.)
- 24. States' group
- 27. Dashes
- 28. Body part
- 29. Electronic countermeasures
- 31. Consumed
- 32. Small bird
- 33. Unhappy
- 34. Football's big game (abbr.)
- 35. Valued object offered in good faith
- 36. Wild goats
- 37. Precede in place
- 38. Small edible fish
- 39. Notice of death
- 40. Body cavity of a metazoan
- 44. Partner to cheese
- 47. Not around

CROSSWORD ANSWER on page 9



Welcome Back To School



McMahan Elementary School Second Grade Teachers Jennifer Boyer, Shelley Reed, Christine Laboursoliere, Rachel Carr, Dimrie Cartagena, Megan Rodgers and Courtney Taylor get a chance to meet their students for the year at the back-to-school event.



Second Grade Teachers Lauren Badin, Sierra Devereux and Elissa Merchant from Morgan School get to know their students for this year at the back-to-school event.



Jeannette Rivera and Amanda Gonzalez from Girls Inc. of the Valley help pass out information to families.



Children's Librarian René Pellisier hands out information about the library at Morgan School's back-to-school event.



Vera Westbrook, Miguel Torres and Joanne Quintana from Master Heo's Tae Kwon Do give out information about their program to families at Morgan School's back-to-school event.



(Left to right) Preschool Teachers Francesca Gonzalez, Esther Diaz, Marion Harris and Katlyn Owen from Morgan School greet families at the back-to-school event.



Joanna Vazquez, Jenny Rivera and Marilyn Gonzalez from Lt. Elmer J. McMahan Elementary School served popcorn to the attendees.



June Lavelle, Sue Gorman and Michelle Libby from McMahan Elementary School make snow cones for the attendees to enjoy.



First Grade Teachers Elizabeth Hodges, Leah Will and Heidi Poulin from Morgan School pass out schedules for students at the back-school event.



Teachers Andrea Enright, Dyani Rivera, Christopher Taraczuk, Marilu Sanchez and Abbey McAndrew welcome families to the back-to-school event at McMahan Elementary School.



Oyedemi Myra, Sabrina Cohen, Eileen Martinez and Rebecca Leahy from McMahan Elementary School enjoy the back-to-school event.

Turley photos by Quinn Suomala