

# Overdose Awareness Day *recognized by city*



Outreach Coordinator and Production Manager at Hope for Holyoke Kevin LeBeau alongside Director of Hope for Holyoke Raymond Rodriguez accepted Mayor Joshua Garcia's proclamation. Turley photos by Quinn Suomala

*recognized by city*

By Quinn Suomala  
Staff Writer

HOLYOKE – Regional and city officials recognized Overdose Awareness Day on Friday, Aug. 30 with a gathering in Veterans Memorial Park put on by Hope for Holyoke.

Overdose Awareness day is celebrated in Holyoke every Aug. 30 as a chance to remember those the community has lost to the disease of addiction and to support those who are still struggling with the illness.

“Together we can honor those we have lost, support those who are grieving and commit to ending the stigma surrounding overdose,” Outreach Coordinator and Production Manager at Hope for Holyoke Kevin LeBeau said. “Every day we lose somebody in our area to this disease of addiction.”

This event had music, a variety of speakers (including Mayor Joshua Garcia and Senator John Velis)

and resources available for those in attendance.

Not only was there several city officials speaking at the event, but there were also community members who shared their own stories of how they have been impacted by addiction.

“We open the microphone up and allow people to share their stories,” LeBeau said.

Throughout the event, various purple items were passed out to attendees. This is because purple is the color associated with addiction awareness and recovery.

“We call it light up the city purple because we try to give away as many lights as we can,” LeBeau said. “Purple is an honorable color, historically royalty wore purple, and that is why they chose that color [to represent the cause].”

LeBeau appreciates how many community members and organizations came together in order to make this event possible.

“The community comes together in that central location [of Veterans Park] in solidarity in the face of this chal-

See AWARENESS, page 12

# School year starts off strong

By Quinn Suomala  
Staff Writer

HOLYOKE – Receiver/Superintendent Anthony Soto told the school committee that he is proud of how well the start of the school year is going.

“We’re now in week three of the school year and I’m really pleased with the energy I’m seeing in schools,” Soto said.

Not only does Soto feel this way, but he has apparently spoken with many staff members in Holyoke Public Schools and they agree that this year is going quite well.

“I’m hearing the same kind of feedback from our building leaders and teachers and even students that this year felt like one of the strongest starts that we’ve had,” Soto said.

The school year started off with a convocation, the first one the district has had in person since the pandemic.

Soto was delighted by how much school spirit everyone brought to the event, and he was glad that everyone seemed to be having a good time.

“The energy in the room

See SCHOOL, page 11

# Councilor proposes highlighting city leaders

By Quinn Suomala  
Staff Writer

HOLYOKE – City Councilor David Bartley filed an order requesting that Administrative Assistant Jeffrey Anderson-Burgos help to highlight Holyoke’s honorary streets in the city website.

He hoped that highlighting the streets on the website, and adding some biographical information on the people the streets were named after, would help to keep their deeds and memories alive as people would be able to easily access information.

City Councilor Patti Devine also suggested that they contact Nueva Esperanza about the banners on Main Street honoring different Latino leaders throughout the city, so that those people can be highlighted as well.

See LEADERS, page 5

# Morgan School’s sidewalk art completed



Last weekend, volunteers gathered to create art along the walking route to Morgan School. The work was recently completed in conjunction with the start of the school year. Volunteers complete artwork for the sidewalk route to Morgan School. See more photos on page 6. Submitted photo

# Mayor seeks resolution of building code fines

HOLYOKE – Mayor Joshua A. Garcia has advice for property owners with outstanding fines for building code violation: Clear up or pay up.

“Landlords, property managers, and homeowners of units of three families and higher should know that the City of Holyoke is preparing to turn over to the Tax Collector those property owners who have been fined for non-compliance of the state building code and non-payment of the accrued fines,” Garcia said.

The Garcia administration announced in February that the city is determined to hold building code violators accountable to improve conditions and the quality of life for residents. Since the announcement, many of

the property owners came forward and worked with the Building Department to get into compliance.

Fines on both landlords and private individuals have now reached \$20,700,000 as of September 9.

Fines are assessed by the City’s Building Department or Board of Health after property owners neglect to resolve violations of the State Building Code. The City grants a grace period to allow time for property managers or individuals to achieve compliance, but many property owners have left problems unaddressed and allowed fines of up to \$300 a day to accrue. The period for these property owners to respond and become compliant closes Dec. 31, 2024. After this date, the

City will turn over fines owed to the Tax Collector to piggyback code violation fines onto the January 2026 property tax bills of those in violation. This would be in addition to current enforcement mechanisms: denial of city-issued permits or licenses and recording municipal liens at the Hampden County Registry of Deeds.

Garcia said fines could be reduced once property owners fix the problem for which they have been cited. But once handed over to the Tax Collector, the opportunity to reduce will no longer exist.

A total of 634 individual violation letters were sent out to 424 property owners on the list. Of those, 67 properties were in compliance when the list was

created. A total of 177 are now in compliance but fines are still owed to the City. If fines are not paid, they will be included on property tax bills. Owners of 185 properties have submitted an application with some also submitting part of the required documents. None of these are in compliance and do not have a valid certificate of inspection. This leaves 272 properties that have not responded in any way and are not in compliance.

“This effort is part of the larger initiative of the city, which includes the Flex Squad, the city’s receivership program, and the property preservation group, to improve the quality of life for every resident and business owner in Holyoke,” Garcia said.



Wistariahurst Museum will be holding a cemetery tour at Forestdale Cemetery on Oct. 12

## Sign up now for the Forestdale Cemetery tour on Oct. 12

HOLYOKE – Step past the cemetery gates and peer behind the veil with Wistariahurst as volunteers channel the spirits of Holyoke’s ancestors, leading tours through the meandering paths of Forestdale Cemetery on Oct. 12. Established in 1860, Forestdale Cemetery is a serene yet beautiful landscape and the final resting place for many of Holyoke’s founding families, politicians, and other notables who helped breathe life into the city. Guests

will walk amongst the monuments, markers, crypts, and crosses to discover the mystique of Holyoke’s vibrant heritage.

“Learn some of Holyoke’s history through the tales of the people that lived and died here,” Penni Martorell, City History, said. “Forestdale Cemetery is such a unique and beautiful setting to reflect on the history we share with the people you will see represented in our tour.”

Discover all there is to know about

living and dying in Holyoke from narratives of the people who now find solace beneath these hallowed grounds. Cemetery Tours at Forestdale Cemetery include walking and standing on cement and gravel walkways with tours lasting around forty-five minutes. To fully enjoy this tour, we ask that guests wear comfortable shoes and weather-appropriate clothing. In the event of rain, the tours will be canceled, refunded, and not rescheduled. Wistariahurst Museum’s

Cemetery Tours blend history, concepts of the afterlife, and local connections to create an unforgettable outing. Tickets for this delightfully spooky and educational tour sell fast, so make sure to purchase your tickets before they’re gone.

For more information and to register for the tours please visit <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/cemetery-tours-at-forestdale-cemetery-tickets-998568383917?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>.

## Carlos Vega Fund to host fall event

HOLYOKE – The Carlos Vega Fund for Social Justice will honor Gladys Lebron-Martinez as the 2024 Social Justice Award recipient at its annual fall event on Saturday, Oct. 19, from 2 to 5 p.m. (program starting at 3 p.m.) at Fame Lounge/Eatery, 386 Dwight St.

The activity will include complimentary tapas, music, and a short program to honor Gladys Lebron-Martinez. A cash bar will also be available. The event is free, and the public is invited. There will be a request for donations of any amount to support the work of the Carlos Vega Fund.

This year’s award recipient Lebron-Martinez, was born in Springfield and today is a proud mother, grandmother, and resident of Holyoke. She’s a dedicated advocate for community development and social justice whose career spans more than four decades of impactful service. Lebron-Martinez has devoted much of her life to advocating for those around her. Her career ranged from working at Nueva Esperanza and Career Point in Holyoke (now MassHire) to fulfilling her commitment to public service through her tenure on the Holyoke School Committee from 2004 to 2010, and her significant con-

tributions as Holyoke City Councilor from 2011 to 2022. Recognized for her advocacy in anti-racism and LGBTQ+ rights, Lebron-Martinez is celebrated as a role model for her unwavering dedication to creating positive change in her community.

Vega was an advocate for those experiencing hardship because of poverty, homelessness, lack of education and job opportunities, as well as unfair treatment based on racism and intolerance. His organizing work on behalf of people in Holyoke spanned over four decades. He died in 2011.

The CVFSJ has awarded grants to over organizations in the Greater Holyoke area since 2011. The Fund established the Carlos Vega Social Justice Award to honor outstanding activists who demonstrate a deep commitment to improving the lives of people in Greater Holyoke. The Fund recently created the Appreciation Grant program to acknowledge good work that community groups are doing and to encourage them to submit grant requests during the regular program cycle.

For more information about the Fund or to donate online, visit [carlosvegafund.org](http://carlosvegafund.org).

## Girls Scouts to hold 10th annual Geek Is Glam Oct. 13

WORCESTER – Hundreds of middle school girls will convene at Worcester Polytechnic Institute Sunday, Oct. 13, to celebrate Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics at the Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts 10th annual Geek Is Glam STEM event and it’s not too late to participate.

The day-long interactive STEM conference for girls in grades 4 through 8 is hosted by Girl Scouts of Central and Western Massachusetts and WPI with over 60 area education and adventure collaborators. Participants will be exposed to some of the area’s top scientific and engineering minds as they engage in the hands-on aspect of exploration and discovery while they build, explore, assemble and imagine. The day kicks off at 9 a.m. with keynote speakers Miss Massachusetts 2024, Kiersten Khoury and Miss Massachusetts’ Teen 2024 Maggie Leighton.

Participants will spend the day in interactive workshops, demonstrations, and hands-on exhibits presented by: Boston Society of Civil Engineers, Cummings School of Veterinary

Medicine at Tufts University, Smith College STEAM Team, UMass Amherst Polymer Science and Engineering, UMass Department of Dermatology, Sub Zero Nitrogen Ice Cream, New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill and Women in Aviation- Boston Chapter to name a few. From Discover Museum to DuPont, from rainbows to robots, girls will be engaged in interactive activities, games and displays.

For more information and to register go to <https://www.gscwm.org/en/discover/activities/special-events.html> or call 413-584-2602. The fee is \$55 per girl and includes lunch, snacks, a Geek is Glam t-shirt, drawstring backpack, and an exclusive Geek is Glam patch. Financial assistance is available. No previous Girl Scout experience is necessary to attend. Registration closes Sept. 19.



# St. Patrick's committee names citizenship award winner

HOLYOKE – The St. Patrick's Committee of Holyoke announced that its 58th Citizenship Award winner is Rev. Fr. Robert A. Gentile, Jr. The Citizenship Award is presented annually to a person or organization that may be of non-Irish descent that has made substantial contributions to the Parade and/or the Parade Committee.

Gentile has been a long-time friend to the St. Patrick's Committee of Holyoke - providing both spiritual guidance to the Committee and a long-time supporter for Parade weekend.

While Pastor of Holyoke's Blessed Sacrament School and Parish, Gentile encouraged students to participate in the many celebrations of the famous Holyoke St. Patrick's Road Race and Parade. Whether it was managing water stations and cheering on the thousands of runners, encouraging students to enter the annual Grand Colleen Float Design Contest, and marching with students and parishioners in the Parade, Father's support for the Committee and its events has helped to ensure that these community traditions will continue.

Gentile served as interim Chaplain to the St. Patrick's Committee and to this day, although he now serves as Pastor for Ste. Rose de Lima Parish in Chicopee, he continues to provide spiritual guidance and friendship to the Committee.

The son of Robert A. Gentile, Sr. and Beverly J. (Crate) Gentile, the fami-

ly grew up in the Forest Park section of Springfield until the age of thirteen when his family moved to Ludlow. While living in Springfield, Gentile attended Holy Name School on Dickenson Street; later attending Saint John the Baptist School on Hubbard Street in Ludlow. Cathedral High School was his choice to further his education, with the hopes of reuniting with his Holy Name classmates.

Upon graduating from Cathedral High School Gentile's path would lead him to Springfield Technical Community College where he studied Engineering.

While studying Engineering, Fr. Gentile discovered an interest in economics. Upon changing his career track, Fr. Gentile transferred to American International College, where he earned a bachelor's degree in economics, which then lead to a position with Merrill Lynch in the financial training program. He worked as a financial advisor for several years.

Fr. Gentile, Jr's father, Robert A. Gentile, Sr. was diagnosed with emphysema at the age of thirty-five and by the age of fifty-eight the disease facilitated his retirement from his job. His retirement made it necessary that someone look after him and the property the family acquired over the years. Fr. Gentile, Jr. was the



Rev. Fr. Robert A. Gentile, Jr.

only one of his family who understood the properties and was the only one who was not newly married or just starting a family. He left his position as a financial consultant to care for his father.

The death of his father caused Fr. Gentile Jr to re-evaluate his life and the direction he wanted to pursue. It was at this time that the discernment process for priesthood began leading Fr. to enter Pope Francis the XXIII Seminary in Weston, Massachusetts. Not totally committed to the priesthood, Fr. left the seminary after two years to resume a career in the financial service industry. It was not long, however, before Fr. realized that the priesthood really was what he was being called to do, and only after a year away he returned to Pope John the XXIII to complete seminary. It was with great solitude that in the year 2003, Fr. Robert Gentile Jr. was ordained to priesthood in the Diocese of Springfield.

After ordination, his first assignment was at St. Thomas in the Apostle Church in W. Springfield, Massachusetts as the Parochial Vicar, where he served for thirty-three months. That assignment concluded when he was asked to become the new Pastor of Blessed Sacrament Church in Holyoke. On May 1, 2006, he began his service

to Blessed Sacrament Parish. He served in Holyoke until March 1, 2024, when he began his assignment at Ste. Rose de Lima Church in Chicopee, MA.

"I'm honored that Fr. Bob will be marching in the 72nd Holyoke St. Patrick's Parade as its Citizenship Award recipient", said John Beaulieu, Parade President. "Fr. Bob's service to his Parishioners and his community is well-known and appreciated throughout Western Massachusetts. We are grateful to the contributions he has made to the Parade and support he has given to my fellow Committee members. As his parishioner, I'm especially grateful for his spiritual guidance."

"I have the greatest job" says Fr. Gentile, "God does all the work and I get all the credit! Thank you to the St. Patrick's Committee of Holyoke for this great honor. I look forward to marching again in the Holyoke St. Patrick's Parade."

Fr. Gentile will be honored at the Coronation Ball and Awards Reception in February 2025. For more details or to purchase tickets to the reception, please visit our website.

The 72nd Holyoke St. Patrick's Parade will be held on Sunday, March 23, 2025, and the 48th Holyoke St. Patrick's Road Race will be held on Saturday, March 22, 2025.

For more information, please visit our website at [www.holyokestpatrickspatrade.com](http://www.holyokestpatrickspatrade.com).

## Doors Open Holyoke event to be held Oct. 19

HOLYOKE – The Office of Planning and Economic Development (OPED), in collaboration with the Greater Holyoke Chamber, is excited to announce the City's 4th Annual Doors Open Holyoke (DOH) 2024 will take place on Saturday, Oct. 19 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Doors Open events across the country invite the public to see behind the doors of many places not usually open to the public. Doors Open connects residents and visitors to local places of historical, cultural, and architectural significance to bridge communities and inspire new and broader perspectives.

For three years DOH has featured iconic Holyoke locations like Open Square, the Richards Train Station and the Victory Theater, as well as places of worship and manufacturing companies. On Oct. 19 we have new locations and activities including shuttle service Mural Tours.

This year's DOH will be part of, A Day In The Yoke, a full day of events celebrating Holyoke, including the Great Brick Race, and the exciting Paper City Food Festival.

Doors Open relies on individuals and organizations that have a passion for Holyoke. If you are interested in being a Doors Open location please fill out the google form application: <https://www.exploreholyokey.com/explore/doors-open-holyoke/featured/>.

## 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.

## Holyoke moves to eliminate wastewater discharges

HOLYOKE – The City of Holyoke continues to eliminate combined sewer overflows that cause discharges into the Connecticut River. The Holyoke wastewater system now prevents around 70 percent of solid waste from bypassing the treatment plant during heavy rains. According to Mary L. Monahan, chair of the City's Board of Public Works, Holyoke was recently awarded \$10 million in zero interest loans (and some principal forgiveness) from the commonwealth's State Revolving Fund and a \$2 million federal earmark for the River Terrace Sewer Separation project that will increase that reduction level to 85 percent, meet the current national requirements and put the city in full compliance with the Clean Water Act. The city will be bidding this project this fall.

Monahan noted that Holyoke is not the only CSO community discharging untreated wastewater into the Connecticut River as a result of rain events, such as the rain that fell last Friday. CSO communities are required to notify the public when a CSO event occurs. Holyoke doesn't have a local daily newspaper that

meets the required notification timeline, so Holyoke notifies residents via emails, City website updates, and TV news outlets. Unless Holyoke is subject to a unique localized heavy rain event, Monahan stated, other CSO communities in the area, including Springfield and Chicopee, are likely experiencing their own CSO overflows as well. They just have different notification procedures.

When cities were smaller and water treatment did not exist, stormwater and wastewater flowed through a single pipe to be discharged untreated into the nearest river. After the passage of the Clean Water Act in 1972, these pipes were diverted to treatment plants, where sewage, and sometimes stormwater, were treated before discharging the liquids into the river.

As cities have grown, the effluent volume after a heavy rainfall can overwhelm the capacity of the pipes and treatment plants. When that happens, the mixture of stormwater and sewage bypasses treatment and goes directly into the river. This discharge is called a combined sewer overflow, or CSO.

"Holyoke's efforts to separate combined sewers, which are a legacy of our industrial past," Monahan said "have resulted in significant improvements in water quality. Long time residents and users of the Connecticut River can attest to this. The increase in recreation activity on the Connecticut River is a testament to Holyoke's commitment and that of the other CSO communities discharging to the river."

Five of the Massachusetts and Connecticut municipalities through which the Connecticut River passes are CSO communities. Montague, Holyoke, Chicopee, Springfield, and Hartford have been working to reduce CSO discharges for decades. The main challenge is the immense cost of this work. That challenge is exacerbated by the fact that increasing water and sewer rates to pay for much of this work creates issues of affordability for local taxpayers. It's the reason municipalities, including Holyoke, participate in consent decrees with the federal government. Holyoke's consent decree outlines a \$35-million, long-term control plan through 2035.

## HCC art gallery debuts 'Human Erratics' installation

HOLYOKE – The campus of Holyoke Community College and the woods around it, like many places in western Massachusetts, are marked by occasional, enormous boulders called "erratics," giant rocks left in seemingly random locations by glaciers as they receded at the end of the last Ice Age.

"Human Erratics" is the title of a new installation at HCC's Taber Art Gallery that takes its name from a short film by artist Marie Lynn Haas. The film, composed entirely of still images, explores what she calls "wastescapes" - deserted buildings and dumpsites, in her hometown of Worthington.

"Like glacial erratics, left behind by the movement of ice across long distances, wastescape structures mark the path of human movement," she explains in a note that accompanies the exhibition, which opened Sept. 3 with the start of the fall semester and runs through Friday, Oct. 18. "They are, in a sense, human erratics, deposits of human abandonment

and remnants of neglect."

"Human Erratics," the show, includes four short film projects created by Haas and her artistic collaborator Tori Lawrence, residency director and founder of Atland, an artists' retreat in West Chesterfield, where Haas is also a curator.

The gallery, located inside the HCC Library on the second floor of the Donahue Building, will host an opening reception for "Human Erratics" on Thursday, Sept. 12, from 5-7 p.m. that includes an informal meet-and-greet with the artists.

According to Rachel Rushing, Taber Art Gallery director, the films and the exhibition itself are really a collaboration of the many artists who comprise the Tori Lawrence and Co. group, which is made up of dancers, musicians, builders, and other artists.

"They all work together on each other's projects," said Rushing, "such as these short films and the installations."

Each film in the show runs on a continuous loop and is meant to be experienced in a different way.

Also part of the installation is a book of Haas's photographs titled "Wastescapes," along with two empty journals that invite visitors to contribute their own thoughts and drawings.

"These works explore personal and collective turmoil and reveal how chronic illness and the cycles of life and death are woven into the fabric of ecological change," reads a note that accompanies the exhibit.

The films run from five to 15 minutes. None have narration or a typical storyline, so they don't have to be watched from beginning to end to be appreciated in the context of the show.

The Taber Art Gallery, located off the lobby of the HCC Library on the second floor of the HCC Donahue Building, is free and open to the public Monday through Thursday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. during regular school sessions.

Guest Column



## Husband upset about his wife's survivor benefit

Dear Rusty

This is a matter that I find particularly irksome. My wife, a retired teacher, was told that, should I pre-decease her, she is not eligible to get survivor benefits from my Social Security payments. I'm sure there is some arcane, bureaucratic justification for this, but I think it unconscionable. Is this true and if so, what sort of major miracle would be required to alter that?

Signed Disgruntled in Texas

Dear Disgruntled

If your wife was a teacher in a school district, which includes all Texas school districts that exempted her from paying into Social Security, then any Social Security surviving spouse benefit she becomes entitled to from you will be affected by a provision called the Government Pension Offset. The GPO will reduce her Social Security survivor benefit by two-thirds, 67%, of the amount of her (non-covered) teacher's pension, which can and often does eliminate her surviving spouse benefit. The GPO affects teachers in about 15 states, who have opted not to participate in Social Security.

For information, this is similar to what happens to a spouse who has also earned a Social Security retirement benefit, their survivor benefit is offset by their Social Security retirement benefit and only the excess, if any, is paid.

See SECURITY, page 5

## Election letters to the editor welcome

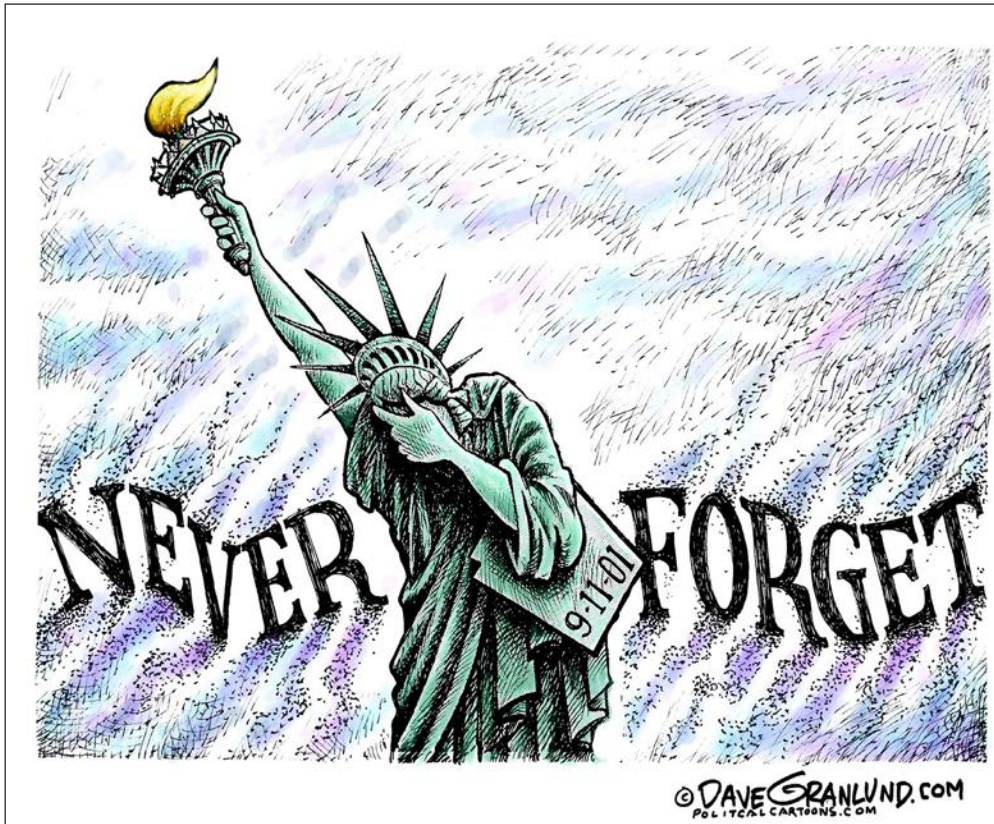
The Holyoke Sun welcomes readers to participate in this year's election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to The Holyoke Sun, care of 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

## How to best store your produce for winter



The question I answered last week on how to best cure onions spawned a number of follow up questions.

Gardeners are looking for advice on storing potatoes, apples, winter squash and more. Read on for some timely tips that will keep your produce in tip top shape for off-season eating and enjoyment.

Why don't we start with potatoes, since they are perhaps the most tricky vegetable to store. Curing them properly will help to prevent rot, premature sprouting, and toxic greening of the skin and flesh.

By waiting a week or more after the plant has died before digging up the tubers, the skins will thicken and be less prone to injury during harvest. Once they are dug, a week spent in a cool and totally dark space will further firm their skin and change sugars to starch, completing the ripening process.

Never wash potatoes prior to storage! Gently brush off dirt and store in a single layer in the darkness at 55-60 degrees.

Darkness will prevent greening, which renders potatoes inedible. Use any pitch-forked or shovel-marked spuds first, as damage to the skin will invite rot.

Harvest winter squash after vines have died back or prior to an impending frost. A pretty New England autumn scene is fields of pumpkins or colorful squash curing under sunny skies.

If you follow the farmers lead, just be sure to lift squash off the ground, and cover if rain or frost threatens. Two weeks in the field or a sunny, well-ventilated space is sufficient for curing, at which point the skin should be hard enough to resist the dent of a fingernail.

Gently washing squash in a 10% bleach solution will help to prevent rot prior to storing at temperatures between 50 and 60 degrees. The flavor of many of our favorite squashes only improves with age.

My garlic was harvested well over a month ago, after the plant gave me a signal with one-third of its foliage withered and

browned. It was dried stems and all in a shady, protected spot up off of the ground.

Soon I'll gently rub off dirt and cut back the stems to a couple of inches before storing for the winter in a cool and dry location, in mesh bags or on slatted trays etc. Soft neck types of garlic have pliable foliage that lends itself well to braiding.

In any case, allowing for good air circulation will ensure a long storage life.

I don't grow enough apples of my own to store just yet, because my orchard is still very young. To get the low-down on best storage practices I consulted a couple of great books on the subject and this is what I came up with: According to "The Apple Cookbook" by Olwen Woodier (Storey Publishing) the key to preserving the flavor and texture of apples is to put them in a cool place immediately after picking or purchasing.

But first, sort them, setting aside any with blemishes for immediate use- the old saying "one bad apple spoils the whole barrel" is true! Next, put them in perforated bags (you were right on, Mom!) and store them in the hydrator drawer of the refrigerator at temperatures between thirty-two and forty degrees.

No room in the fridge? Try storing them in the cellar at temperatures close to thirty-two degrees and eighty to eighty-five percent humidity.

Janet Chadwick, in her book "The Beginner's Guide to Preserving Food at Home" (Storey Publishing) recommends storing apples in sawdust inside a cardboard box lined with a plastic.

Although they will ripen more quickly at even slightly higher temperatures, don't let the lack of a super-cold spot dissuade you from storing your apples. Sure, they won't keep till spring, but you may get a month or two out of them.

Any that turn a little soft will still make great baked apples. Late season apples would lend themselves to winter storage better than those that are ripe now.

Enjoy the fruits (and vegetables!) of your labor by proper curing and storage!

Roberta 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.

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

Turley Publications, Inc.

www.turley.com

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



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

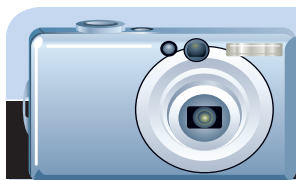
Letters to the Editor have a maximum of 350 words. We require writers to include their name, address and phone number in order for our office to authenticate authorship prior to publication. Addresses and phone numbers are not published.

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.



Send Us Your Photos!

TheSun@turley.com

# UCCH to host performance of Young at Heart chorus Sept. 29

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.youngatheartchorus.com](http://www.youngatheartchorus.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.

# Help wanted: Volunteering is an essential component of Habitat

Volunteering is not just an opportunity offered at Habitat for Humanity, it's the soul of the nonprofit organization. Greater Springfield Habitat for Humanity (GSHFH) can't function without volunteers. In fact, there's just three paid construction positions and three administration staffers at the affiliate. Volunteers make up the remainder of the team.

On average, Greater Springfield Habitat builds one to three homes a year and takes on a half dozen home preservation projects for low-income seniors who want to age in place, limited-income families and veterans. The affiliate also attends several community events, hosts fundraisers and projects that support recycling and green building, workshops on financial stability, and many administrative tasks in the West Springfield office.

"I was aware of Jimmy Carter's role as a volunteer and I had long thought that I would like to try it. My wife, Anne, and I have done many do-it-yourself projects together as homeowners over the years so I thought it would be something I could do," said Tom Eisenman, a retiree who began volunteering at GSHFH approximately 13 years ago. "I did like it. I've done other things besides construction, including Christmas gift wrapping, event planning, and serving on the Family Services committee. I found that people who choose to volunteer or work for Habitat tend to be very nice folks."

Construction volunteer Christopher Daly agreed. He said he's been aware of Greater Springfield Habitat for years, but it wasn't until he visited a build site following a New England Public Media fundraising campaign held with GSHFH

held in summer 2021 that he realized an opportunity to volunteer. Christopher is an on-air fund drive director for the nonprofit broadcasting station headquartered in Springfield.

"I really enjoy working on the builds, seeing, and learning what it takes to complete a home. Also, the people at the job site are terrific," Christopher said. It's a good, productive way to fill free time."

Volunteers come to Habitat for many reasons. Some are students looking to fulfill a community service graduation requirement. Others work for corporations and want to participate as a team. Some are individuals like Tom and Christopher, or part of a church group. This year, at least a dozen corporations, vocational high school groups, and families have volunteered at Habitat.

Some, like Sue Zielenski, enjoy making a difference in the financial lives of the Greater Springfield community. Sue manages the day-to-day operations at the Bank of America Holyoke Lincoln Financial Center and frequently teaches 90-minute financial literacy seminars that started this year.

"It makes me smile when I see one of the participants is enlightened by the lesson," Sue said. "I also love the energy in the room and the participants actively engaging in the discussion."

Signing up to volunteer at Greater Springfield Habitat is simple. Visit [habitatspringfield.org/volunteer](http://habitatspringfield.org/volunteer), and click the "volunteer calendar" button. Select a preferred day and opportunity. Click the "register" button and follow the prompts to create a volunteer profile account.

## SECURITY, from page 4

The GPO is actually a bit more generous, in that your wife's survivor benefit is only offset by 2/3rds of her non-covered teacher's pension, whereas the offset is 100% for other surviving spouses who have earned SS retirement benefits as well. This is a provision that has been law since 1977, affecting all those who have a pension earned without contributing to Social Security. Its premise was to better equalize the way SS benefits are paid to everyone.

How can that be altered? Well, the only way is by Congress changing Social Security law. There have been numerous attempts to change the GPO law over the years, none of which have been successful. Indeed, there is a proposed law, H.R. 82 The Social Security Fairness Act,

which was introduced in Congress last year. That proposal, to eliminate the GPO and a sister provision called the Windfall Elimination Provision, has essentially made little Congressional progress, short of a few committee hearings and the outlook for passage at this point is about zero.

I'm afraid I can't be optimistic that the GPO will be repealed, as Congress is more keenly focused on resolving Social Security's looming solvency issue, set to come to a head in less than a decade.

*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 interpreta-*

*tions 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](mailto:ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org). Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.*

## LEADERS, from page 1

According to Devine, the streets include the David Bartley Way, the Dick Welch Way, the John Whelihan Way, Barbara Bernard Way, Joe McGiverin Way and the St. Florian Way.

Some of the banners include Betty Medina and City Councilor Israel Rivera.

All of this information would also be sent to the joint city council and school committee in the hopes that there could even be an educational component to this project.

"Principals of Holyoke High and of Dean can divide these up in their history classes so that each child may take one of these, do the research, and then perhaps go on channel 12 and talk about whoever they have to look up and research and also to have it on Holyoke Media," Devine said. "I think the public would have a real kick out of that and learn about people that are on those banners and these streets."

Bartley agreed that this was a good idea.

"I like the thing with the banners, too...I think it makes sense," Bartley said.

Jurdain also brought to light that HPS has a Holyoke history class, which could also be a good option for the education component of this project.

Bartley also included an order to add

a page to the city's website to highlight Holyoke's sister cities program.

Holyoke's sister cities include Salinas in Puerto Rico, Tralee in Ireland and Svalyava in Ukraine.

This order was also sent to the joint committee in the hopes that Holyoke students could learn more about the history of the sister cities program and the cities themselves.

Jourdain believes that students of Holyoke can even learn more about their own city by researching the sister cities.

"One of the things I would like to point out with these three sister cities is that there is a lot in common between them and us," Jourdain said.

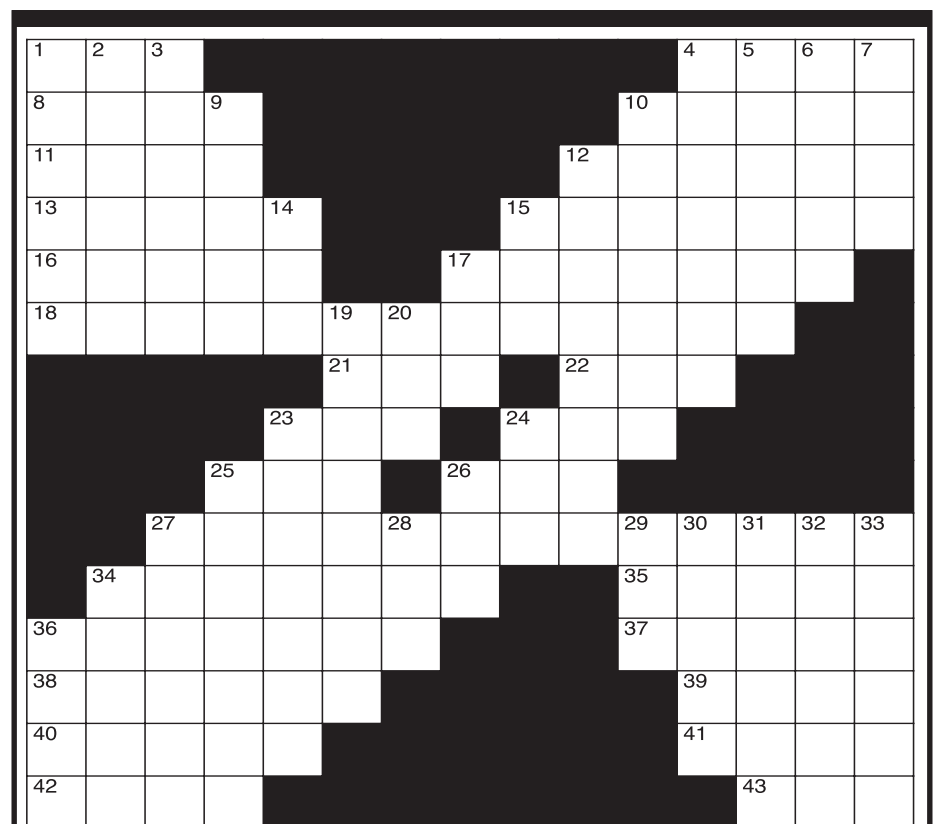
The other councilors were eager to see this project develop further so that these aspects of Holyoke's history could be brought into further light, as they are so often overlooked or pushed aside.

Council President Tessa Murphy-Romboletti suggested that they could set up a QR code either to make the information more accessible or to allow people to more easily send in research.

Bartley hopes to see this project push forward and include many factors of the city.

"Hopefully we can build it up and see where it goes," Bartley said.

Bartley looks forward to working with Anderson-Burgos in order to move this work further.



### CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Engine additive
- 4. A type of test
- 8. Curtail
- 10. Irish surname
- 11. The opposite of good
- 12. Got rid of
- 13. Central parts of a church building
- 15. Stylistically
- 16. Intestinal
- 17. Negative potential outcomes
- 18. Lived up to a standard
- 21. Snag
- 22. Time units (abbr.)
- 23. Ad \_\_\_
- 24. "Partridge"
- actress Susan
- 25. For each
- 26. \_\_\_ Paulo, city
- 27. League titles
- 34. More intensely black
- 35. Slang for lovely
- 36. Petrarch is known for them
- 37. Old Eurasian wheat
- 38. Body part
- 39. Swedish rock group
- 40. They're worth avoiding
- 41. Rising and falling of the voice
- 42. Wings
- 43. Enzyme import for respiration

### CLUES DOWN

- 1. Idyllic
- 2. South Pacific island nations
- 3. Shrub of the olive family
- 4. Boundaries
- 5. Encircle
- 6. Weights
- 7. Samberg is one
- 9. Sheep sound
- 10. European country
- 12. Respected group of people
- 14. Trigraph
- 15. Prosecutors
- 17. Assign a nickname
- 19. Huge size
- 20. Partner to cheese
- 23. Fastballs
- 24. Principle underlying the universe
- 25. Distinct units of sound
- 26. Title of respect
- 27. Against
- 28. Foot (Latin)
- 29. One point east of due south
- 30. Concerning the blood
- 31. Type of pentameter
- 32. North American peoples
- 33. Layers of rock
- 34. Georges \_\_\_, French philosopher
- 36. Lengthy tale

CROSSWORD ANSWER on page 11

# In The News



## Walk this way

Volunteers gathered to create art along the walking route to Morgan School. The work was recently completed in conjunction with the start of the school year. The idea of the decorating was to create a fun environment for students walking to school. *Submitted photos*

## Build a winner at Fortnite tournament

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Public Library will host Fortnite online tournaments during the fall and early winter. Want to test your skills in Backstabber against others. Register at the library for this free local tournament from the comfort of home.

You will communicate on Discord and live stream on Twitch. The first night will be Thursday, Sept. 19 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. Even though players could team up, there will be only one winner. There will also be tournaments held on Oct. 17, Nov. 14, and Dec. 19.

## 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 reg-

istration 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.

### Donovan's Irish Pub

Western Massachusetts  
#1 Irish Pub!

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

**Friday,  
September 13**

**Stu & Bob**  
(Boston's Erin Og)

**Saturday,  
September 14**

**Dee Reilly**

**We will be closed**  
**Monday, Sept. 16 - Sunday, Sept. 22.**  
**Reopening Monday, Sept. 23.**

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

## Communion Breakfast to be held Sept. 29

HOLYOKE – Saint Jerome Parish is hosting its annual Communion Breakfast on Sunday, Sept. 29 at 9 a.m. at the Pope John Paul II Social Center on the Mater Dolorosa Campus.

The guest speaker is Sr. Joan Magnani, Ministry Coordinator at

Jericho, The Bureau for Exceptional Children and Adults.

Tickets are \$20 per person and may be purchased at all weekend Masses at St. Jerome's from Sept. 7 through Sept. 15 or by contacting the Parish Office at 413-532-6381.

**LOWER PRICES TO BOOST YOUR BUDGET!**

INFLATION

PRICE BUSTERS

**PRICES IN RED ARE AT OR BELOW LAST YEAR'S PRICES!**

<p>USDA INSP. FROZEN CENTER CUT PORK LOIN CHOPS <b>\$279</b> lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. FRESH COUNTRY STYLE PORK RIBS <b>\$248</b> lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. FROZEN CHULETA KAN KAN PORK CHOPS <b>\$399</b> lb</p> <p>SLICED IN OUR DELI TURKEY BREAST ..... <b>\$499</b> lb</p> <p>SLICED IN OUR DELI MONTEREY JACK CHEESE. <b>\$499</b> lb</p>	<p>USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF PORTERHOUSE or T'BONE STEAKS <b>\$799</b> lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN BEEF CHUCK ROAST or STEAKS <b>\$566</b> lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. GROUND FRESH DAILY 80% LEAN GROUND BEEF <b>\$379</b> lb</p>	<p>USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF SHOULDER ROAST or STEAKS..... <b>\$499</b> lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS &amp; SKINLESS CHICKEN BREAST 10 LB BAG ..... <b>\$233</b> lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN CHICKEN THIGHS 10 LB BAG ..... <b>\$149</b> lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. FROZEN LAMB WESTON GOURMET ONION RINGS 2 LB BOX <b>\$499</b> ea</p> <p>USDA INSP. IQF FROZEN RAW SHRIMP EASY PEEL 31/40 COUNT 2 LB BAG ..... <b>\$888</b> ea</p>
---	---	--

GREAT ON THE GRILL

**90 Meat Outlet**

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

90 Avocado St. Springfield  
**413-737-1288**  
[www.90meat.com](http://www.90meat.com)  
We reserve the right to limit quantities.

SALE DATES: 9/12/24-9/18/24 BUY DIRECT FOR SAVINGS • SELECTION • SERVICE

Tell Us What You Think

Share your thoughts and suggestions with our staff and your fellow readers. **Participate in our opinion pages, or contact us anytime with your feedback!**

## The Holyoke Sun

Your Community Newspaper

[www.sun.turley.com](http://www.sun.turley.com)  
thesun@turley.com • 413.283.8393

# SPORTS

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

SEND US YOUR SPORTS SUBMISSIONS

www.sports.turley.com

## Holyoke picks up win over Ware

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

HOLYOKE – A very good learning experience is a good way to describe the first meeting of the regular season between the Ware and Holyoke

girls' varsity volleyball teams. The Purple Knights improved their early season record to a perfect 2-0 following a 3-1 victory over the Lady Indians in a Central Division

See VOLLEYBALL, page 8



Ashantyls Calderon keeps play going.



Leyska Rodriguez Melendez sends the ball back over the net.



Yohandlie Pabon gets a bump to start a play.



Nayshaliz Gonzalez gets the bump for Holyoke.



Vicsssel Colon sizes up a hit from the pack line.  
*Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com*



Xavier Davila looks to settle the loose ball.



Landon Koziara sends a punt away.  
*Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli*



Erik Salinas passes ahead of the pressure.



Christian Piedra tries to steal possession of the ball.



Ryan Kennedy tries to work around the opposition.



Christian Guzik makes his way up the field.

## Pair of losses start season for Knights

HOLYOKE – The Holyoke High School boys soccer team suffered two 3-0 losses to start the regular season.

Last week, it was Chicopee Comprehensive that defeated Holyoke while Central defeated Holyoke last Friday.

The Knights look to pick up their first win on Friday, Sept. 13 at 4 p.m. against Monson.

## Lady Knights fall in season opener

HOLYOKE – Last week, Holyoke High School girls soccer traveled to neighbor Easthampton to start the regular season.

In the opener, however, the Knights were unable to put any goals on the board and Easthampton shut out the Knights 4-0.

The Knights were scheduled to host Ware earlier this week, and next head to St. Mary's High School on Friday afternoon at 5 p.m.

The travel to Frontier Regional on Tuesday, Sept. 17 at 7 p.m.

## Railers trainer moves into AHL position

WORCESTER – The Worcester Railers Hockey Club (@RailersHC), proud ECHL (@ECHL) affiliate of the New York Islanders (@NYIslanders) announced today that Alex Maring has been hired by the Tampa Bay Lightning to be the next Head Athletic Trainer of the American Hockey League's Syracuse Crunch.

Maring, 24, goes to Syracuse after serving as the head athletic trainer for the Railers for the 2022-23 & 2023-24 seasons. He first joined the Railers after serving as an athletic training intern with the Springfield Thunderbirds of the American Hockey League during the 2021-22 season, joining them on their way to an AHL Eastern Conference championship and Calder Cup Finals appearance. He shadowed with the Utica

Comets of the AHL during the 2015-16 season, working under current St. Louis Blues assistant trainer Dustin Flynn.

"We're excited to see Alex take the next step in his career," Chief Operating Officer Michael G. Myers said. "This is something that's well deserved, and we look forward to following his success in the coming years. The Railers are extremely proud of our track record and commitment to developing employees to get to the next level both on and off the ice."

The New Hartford, NY native graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Athletic Training from Springfield College in May of 2021. Maring graduated from Springfield College's Master of Education in Sport and Exercise Psychology program in May of 2023.

"I'd like to thank the Railers organization and the city of Worcester for the past two years," Maring said. "The Railers gave me the opportunity to provide the best possible care to every athlete that came through the door. I was able to foster great relationships with all of our amazing partners and staff in Worcester. I look forward to maintaining the connections I made in Worcester for a lifetime."

The Worcester Railers HC 2024-25 Opening Weekend at the DCU Center is Sat., Oct. 19th and Sun., Oct. 20th vs. the Reading Royals. The new 508 Club is now on sale for the 2024-25 season! Get access to games this season, exclusive events and additional benefits by calling the Railers front office at 508-365-1750 or by visiting RailersHC.com.

## HCC adding eSports team to its athletics roster

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Community College is adding another athletics team to its roster of intercollegiate sports.

Along with men's and women's soccer, cross country, golf, volleyball, men's and women's basketball, track and field, and baseball, HCC will soon begin recruiting students to play eSports.

In eSports - short for electronic sports - participants play online video games against individuals or other teams. Some of the more common collegiate-level eSports are Overwatch (a multiplayer, first-person shooter game), League of Legends (an arena-style battle game), and Rocket League (a vehicular soccer game).

"They are strategy games," said HCC Athletics Director Tom Stewart, "thinking person's games. Every athletic event is a thinking person's game, but these are more strictly thinking person's games, but they also require a measure of physical coordination and stamina."

According to Stewart, HCC will

be just the fourth community college in Massachusetts to create an eSports team, joining Mass Bay, Northern Essex, and Bunker Hill community colleges. The HCC team will be co-ed.

"We're the only community college west of Worcester that's going to have eSports," he said.

Although HCC belongs to the National Junior College Athletic Association, the NJCAA, its eSports team will compete in the Eastern College Athletic Conference, which has an eSports division.

Last month, HCC posted an employment notice soliciting applicants for a head coach to lead the eSports team. Over the summer, a for-

mer classroom on the second floor of HCC's Bartley Center for Athletics and Recreation was converted into an eSports center and outfitted with 10 eSports stations that will allow two teams of five

to play simultaneously. Each station includes a high-performance computer, monitor, keyboard, headset, mouse, and gaming controller. There's a large screen monitor on the wall, where the coach can plan strategy and watch gameplay, and a small lounge area in the middle of the room for downtime. Only members of the eSports team and their coaches will have access to the room for practices and competitions.

With this new offering, Stewart said

*"It's the biggest growth sport in the county. I think it's going to attract a different kind of kid. When local high schools find out we have an eSports team here, I think it's going to help enrollment."*

- Tom Stewart

the college is hoping to capitalize on the increasing popularity of professional Sports, a market expected to exceed \$1 billion in revenue in the United States in 2024 and growing about 15 percent annually, according to Statista, an online industry database.

"It's the biggest growth sport in the county," Stewart said. "I think it's going to attract a different kind of kid. When local high schools find out we have an eSports team here, I think it's going to help enrollment."

Like all of HCC's athletic teams, eSports will have academic eligibility requirements, as well as nutrition and fitness components.

"It's not a gaming club," said Stewart. "Team members are not going to be able to kick it in here all day long instead of going to class. They'll have to maintain their grades. It's just another athletic offering to complement their overall educational experience."

## T-Birds announce another season of promotions

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds are cranking up the volume on their impending ninth season of play in the American Hockey League with a loaded promotional schedule that features brand-new giveaways, returning staple events, and some never-before-seen elements at the Thunderdome.

It all starts on Saturday, Oct. 12 with Opening Night presented



by MGM Springfield. Before puck drop, fans can flock to the Plaza at MGM Springfield for the Community Bank N.A. season-opening Block Party, with support from the Springfield BID, from 4 to 6 p.m., featuring live music, food & drink to drop the puck on another magnificent season. The team anticipates a ninth consecutive Opening Night sellout and a 15th consecutive sellout dating back to last season.

Fans can expect to see five specialty jerseys corresponding to the team's traditional theme nights: Teddy Bear Toss, Throwback Night, Ice-Opes Night, Military Appreciation Night, and Pink in the Rink. Should we do six specialty jerseys? Stay tuned for more info. The fan-favorite blue third jerseys will return this season on the following game nights: Friday, Oct. 25; Friday, Nov. 22; Tuesday, Dec. 31; Monday, Jan. 20; Friday, March 28; and Friday, April 18.

The full promotional schedule can be found at [www.springfieldthunderbirds.com](http://www.springfieldthunderbirds.com).

## MIAA looks to honor officials

The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association is looking to collectively recognize the efforts of our Game Officials. The fall National Officials Appreciation Week will be held Oct. 6 to 12. Once again, MIAA staff members will travel around the state to personally thank officials and support their efforts on the local level. We hope that you will consider recognizing them in some manner. The Winter Officials Appreciation Week will be Jan. 13-18, 2025 and the Spring Officials Appreciation Week will be April 6-12, 2025.

### VOLLEYBALL, from page 7

match-up played at Holyoke's High John 'Jinx' O' Connor Gymnasium, last Thursday night.

Holyoke won the first two sets 25-23 and 25-18. Ware kept the match alive by squeaking out a 25-22 win in the third set before the home team secured the victory by taking the fourth set 25-18.

"I think it was very important for us to win our home opener," said Holyoke assistant varsity coach Willie Lopez. "We do have a lot of new players on the varsity team, and it was a good learning experience."

Lopez, who graduated from Holyoke High School in 2023, is currently a member of the AIC men's volleyball team.

While the Purple Knights began the

2024 campaign by posting a 3-0 win at Mount Everett two days earlier, last Thursday's match was the Lady Indians season opener.

"This was our first match of the season and we're a very young team. We're still trying to figure things out," said Ware head coach Becca Hurlburt. "This was a good learning experience. We lost to Holyoke twice last year and we're hoping to play a lot better against them at home in the second meeting."

The only seniors listed on the Ware varsity roster are Karysa Smith, who was a member of the JV squad last year, and Kenyce Crump, who's the captain.

The duo finished the match with four kills. Sophomore Emma Zalesky also had four kills for the Lady Indians.

With sophomore Andrea Albano handling the serving duties, the Lady Indians won the first six points of the

opening set.

An ace by Holyoke senior Serymar Santos closed the gap to 6-4.

The score was tied 15-15 when the Purple Knights took the lead for the first time following a kill by junior Ashantily Calderon.

The Lady Indians held a 23-20 lead before Holyoke ended the first set with a 5-0 run.

The score of the second set was tied at 3-3 before the Purple Knights took control with the help of a 6-1 run.

An ace by senior Yohadlie Pabon gave the home team a 13-7 advantage.

Pabon, along with junior Vicssel Colon are the Purple Knights leading players.

Holyoke's largest lead of the second set was 22-13 and they coasted home.

"We were able to win the first set, which was very close," Lopez said. "We

didn't have very much trouble in the second set, which gave us the momentum. We did get a little bit too comfortable in the third set."

Trailing 2-0 in the overall match, the Lady Indians came storming back in the third set.

Ware took an early 6-2 lead in that set with eighth grader Lana Bennington doing the serving.

The visiting team also led 12-8 following an ace by sophomore Carly Brown.

The Lady Indians kept the lead the rest of the way forcing a fourth set.

Holyoke wouldn't allow Ware to even the match, as they led the fourth set from start to finish.

The Lady Indians will be looking to split the season series when they host the Purple Knights on Sept. 30. The start time of that match is 6:15 p.m.



# Skeletal Secrets with the Skinner Servants Tour

HOLYOKE – As the night grows long and a chill lingers in the air, Wistariahurst Museum is delighted to announce a new, frightfully fantastic character tour: Skeletal Secrets with the Skinner Servants. Join a ghostly guide as former residents of this historic house manifest to speak of eerie events and strange happenings that occurred during their mortal lives. Discover dark tales of death, loss, and spirits that are said to still roam our halls to this day as you wander through the home. This unique character tour of Wistariahurst Museum includes standing, walking, and transitioning between the first and second floors using our Grand Staircase in dim lighting. This tour may include loud noises, challenging subjects, and possible jump scares. Parents are advised to consider these factors before purchasing tickets. If any guest has a question about accessibility and how to fully enjoy this immersive tour, we ask that you email us

with your inquiries.

“Our volunteers are eager to reveal these tales to our community,” Penni Martorell, City History, comments. “This tour is the best way to learn some of the secrets hidden beneath our walls.”

This new, spine-tingling tour offers a unique way to experience a guided tour of the historic house with our volunteers as they portray the spirits guests will encounter. Join us for a memorable journey through the ghastly tales of Wistariahurst. Venture into where history intersects with the supernatural this fall with general admission tickets selling at \$18. Museum Members can use their discount for \$15 tickets. Our specialized character tours are beloved by our community and sell fast, so make sure you secure your tickets before they are gone!

For registration, visit: <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/skeletal-secrets-with-the-skinner-servants-tour-tickets-1004653915907?aff=ebdsoporgprofile>



## ElderCare celebrates successful online auction

HOLYOKE – WestMass ElderCare is proud to announce the resounding success of its Fabulous 50th Online Auction, which ran from Aug. 8 to Aug. 30 in celebration of their 50th anniversary. Thanks to the generosity of the community sponsors, donors, and bidders, over \$12,500 was raised, surpassing the fundraising goals for this first-time event.

The overwhelming support from the community allowed a wide range of exciting items and experiences for auc-

tion, drawing participation throughout the event.

“We couldn’t be more grateful for the incredible response from our community,” Roseann Martoccia, executive director at WMEC. “This fundraiser not only marked a milestone in our 50-year journey but also helped raise essential funds to support the critical programs and services that benefit older adults and individuals with disabilities across our region.”

As WestMass ElderCare celebrates

their 50th anniversary, they are engaging the communities they work and live in to ensure that their mission continues for the next 50 years. With funding struggling to keep pace with inflation and rising operational costs, fundraising events like this have become increasingly essential to sustaining their vital programs. The support of the community enables WestMass ElderCare to fill these gaps and continue empowering individuals to age with dignity and independence.

The success of the Fabulous 50th Online Auction reinforces WMEC’s dedication to innovative and inclusive approaches to fundraising, further strengthening their ability to serve the community. WestMass ElderCare extend heartfelt thanks to everyone who contributed to this achievement, from the sponsors and donors to the bidders who made this event possible.

For more information about WestMass ElderCare visit [wmelder.org](http://wmelder.org) or contact us at 413-538-9020.

## Baystate recognized for providing high-quality stroke care

SPRINGFIELD – Baystate Medical Center (BMC) has received the American Heart Association’s Get With The Guidelines® - Stroke Gold Plus quality achievement award for its commitment to ensuring stroke patients receive the most appropriate treatment according to nationally recognized, research-based guidelines, ultimately leading to more lives saved and reduced disability.

Stroke is the No. 5 cause of death and a leading cause of disability in the U.S. A stroke occurs when a blood vessel that carries oxygen and nutrients to the brain is either blocked by a clot or bursts. When that happens, part of the brain cannot get the blood and oxygen it needs, so brain cells die. Early stroke detection and treatment are key to improving survival, minimizing disability and accelerating

recovery times.

Get With The Guidelines puts the expertise of the American Heart Association and American Stroke Association to work for hospitals nationwide, helping ensure patient care is aligned with the latest research- and evidence-based guidelines. Get With The Guidelines - Stroke is an in-hospital program for improving stroke care by promoting consistent adherence to these guidelines, which can minimize the long-term effects of a stroke and even prevent death.

“Baystate Medical Center is committed to improving patient care by adhering to the latest treatment guidelines,” Sam Skura, president, Baystate Medical Center, and senior vice president, hospital operations, Baystate Health. “Get

With The Guidelines makes it easier for our teams to put proven knowledge and guidelines to work on a daily basis, which studies show can help patients recover better. The end goal is to ensure more people in Springfield can experience longer, healthier lives.”

Each year, program participants qualify for the award by demonstrating how their organization has committed to providing quality care for stroke patients. In addition to following treatment guidelines, Get With The Guidelines participants also educate patients to help them manage their health and recovery at home.

“We are incredibly pleased to recognize Baystate Medical Center for its commitment to caring for patients with stroke,” said Steven Messe, M.D., vol-

unteer chairperson of the American Heart Association Stroke System of Care Advisory Group and professor of neurology and director of fellowships of neurology at the Hospital of the University of Pennsylvania. “Participation in Get With The Guidelines is associated with improved patient outcomes, fewer readmissions and lower mortality rates - a win for health care systems, families and communities.”

In addition, BMC also received the American Heart Association’s Target: Type 2 Diabetes™ Honor Roll award. Target: Type 2 Diabetes aims to ensure patients with Type 2 diabetes, who might be at higher risk for complications, receive the most up-to-date, evidence-based care when hospitalized due to stroke.

## HHS class of ‘69 to hold 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 entertainment 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.

## Origami adventure for adults at HPL

HOLYOKE – On Wednesday, Sept. 18 at 5 p.m. The Holyoke Library is hosting Origami Adventures for Adults with storyteller Motoko. The event is limited to 15 participants. Please call 413-420-8101 to reserve a spot.

Motoko is an acclaimed storyteller of Asian folktales, Rakugo and Zen tales, ghost stories, mime vignettes,

and oral memoirs from her childhood in Osaka and her life as an immigrant in the U.S. She has appeared on PBS’ Mr. Rodger’s Neighborhood, toured in Miyazaki, and has been featured in festivals and theaters across the country.

In addition to storytelling Motoko is a teaching artist renowned for her contributions to classrooms.



We Have News  
For You

**Turley**  
Publications, Inc.

24 Water Street  
Palmer, MA 01069  
413-283-8393  
[www.turley.com](http://www.turley.com)

From local events to regional developments, we have the news you want in print and online anytime, plus a whole lot more...

Don’t miss out on free local activities, concerts, entertainment, restaurant specials, school events, sports recaps, new business openings, community meetings and more.

# Classifieds

12 WEEKLY NEWSPAPERS | SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

COMMUNITY MARKETPLACE

Call us at 413.283.8393

## FOR SALE

**2003 BOMBARDIER RALLY 200 ATV** four wheeler, needs carburetor and cleaned. Asking \$425. Call **860-841-9160**.

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

## FIREWOOD

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

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

## TAG SALE

**COMMUNITY TAG SALE.** Ludlow Housing Authority, 114 Wilson Street, Ludlow. **Friday, 9/20/24, 8:30am-1:30pm.** Indoors: Rain or shine. Everything must go!

## WANTED

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

**BUY LOCALLY**  
support our community!

## WANTED

### WANTED TO BUY

#### ANTIQUES AND OLD STUFF WANTED.

**BUYING** Bottles, Crocks, Jugs, Pottery, Costume Jewelry, Toys, Games, coins, sterling, Glassware, Silver-plated items, watches, Musical instruments, typewriters, sewing machines, tools, radios, clocks, lanterns, lamps, kitchenware, cookware, knives, military, automotive, fire department, masonic, license plates, beer cans, barware, books, oil cans, advertising tins, hunting, fishing, signs, and more Donald Roy **(860) 874-8396**

**Buy, Sell & Trade Video Games**  
**Retro World**  
**413-301-5020 M-S 11-7**  
**187 Main St.**  
**Indian Orchard, MA**

## JUNK REMOVAL

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

#### 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.**

## SERVICES



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

**DOG DAYCARE & TRAINING.** SPACIOUS outdoor farm style dog daycare, relaxed pickup and drop-off times. Training, lessons also available. **413-209-7744**-Hampden, MA.

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

**HAVE BRIDGEPORT** will work. Small one-man shop looking for work. Make new, remake old, repair parts. Call **1-413-207-1709**.

## 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

## 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 IMPROVEMENT SPECIALIST

Decks, porches, repair service, roofing and siding contractor. Tim **413-563-2229.** Licensed/insured. 35 year construction supervisor.

**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.**

## SERVICES

#### 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

## 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 LAFONTAIN 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**

## SERVICES

### ROOFING

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

### 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**

### STUMP GRINDING

**AFFORDABLE STUMP GRINDING** Fast, dependable service. Free estimates. Fully insured. Call Joe Sablack **413-436-9821, Cell 413-537-7994**

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

## AUTO

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

## CAMPERS

**2011 KEYSTONE MONTANA MOUNTAINEER MODEL RKD** LENGTH 33'; 2 SLIDE OUTS, REAR KITCHEN, SLEEPS 4, LOTS OF STORAGE. \$17,000. BRIMFIELD **(413)374-1880**

## HELP WANTED

**HELP WANTED: PART-TIME PODIATRY OFFICE,** Portuguese speaking helpful. Ludlow, Mass. email resume to **podbill@aol.com**.

Ludlow Public School District  
**CUSTODIAL SUBSTITUTES,** on-call Monday thru Friday, 3pm-7pm. Submit resume and letter of intent to **www.schoolspring.com.**

**OAKHAM'S HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT** is hiring part-time seasonal plow drivers. Class B CDL preferred. \$21/hr, over time after 8 hrs in a day. Contact Highway Superintendent, Harold Black at **508-882-5556.**

The Town of Oakham is seeking a qualified, experienced candidate to fill the **part-time position of TOWN CLERK.** The Town Clerk is the chief election officer for the town and the clerk of Town Meetings. For a full job description visit **www.oakham-ma.gov/clerks-office.** Salary negotiable based on experience.

**Classified Advertising DEADLINE MONDAY AT NOON**

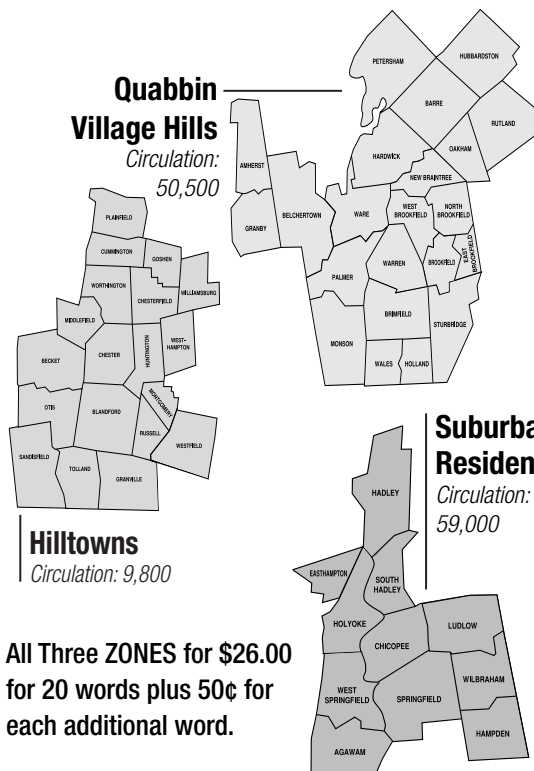
## FILL OUT AND MAIL THIS MONEY MAKER

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	22	23	24
25	26	27	28
29	30	31	32
33	34	35	36
37	38	39	40

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: \_\_\_\_\_



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!

# Classifieds

SERVING 50 LOCAL COMMUNITIES

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

Call us at 413.283.8393

## HELP WANTED

### TOWN OF WILBRAHAM

**GYM SUPERVISOR - P/T  
HEAVY EQUIPMENT  
OPERATOR  
PUBLIC WORKS  
SKILLED WORKER  
RECYCLING ATTENDANT - P/T**

The Town of Wilbraham is looking to fill several vacancies. For application and more information please visit [www.wilbraham-ma.gov](http://www.wilbraham-ma.gov). EOE

### TOWN OF WORTHINGTON HIGHWAY POSITION OPENING

The Town of Worthington is soliciting letters of interest from qualified candidates to fill two full-time **Equipment Operator/General Laborer** positions in the Town Highway Department. Valid MA CDL operator, Hydraulic Hoister's licenses and OSHA-10 certification is preferred.

Further information can be found on the Town's website: [www.worthington-ma.us](http://www.worthington-ma.us)

Questions will be answered by the Highway Superintendent at 64 Huntington Road, Monday - Friday, 7 AM to 3 PM; the telephone number is 413-238-5830.

Send letter of interest, resume and three (3) references with relevant contact information to: [worthingtonhighway@gmail.com](mailto:worthingtonhighway@gmail.com) or to Worthington Highway Department, P. O. Box 643, Worthington, MA. This posting will remain pertinent until the position is filled.

The Town of Worthington is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

## 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.

**QUIET 1 BEDROOM IN LUDLOW**, first floor, efficiency kitchen. \$925. Near Mass Pike. Parking, on-site laundry, no smoking, no pets. **413-543-3062**.

**Post your job openings in our classifieds.**  
**WE GET RESULTS!**

## REAL ESTATE

### FOR RENT



All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertising in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

**BUY/SELL GRIN REPEAT WITH THE CLASSIFIEDS!**

## In The News

### SCHOOL, from page 1

was amazing," Soto said. "Schools were showing a ton of school spirit, some of the schools brought their own shirts, they brought their mascots, it was just a very fun way to kick off the school year."

Students also participated in the convocation, with cheerleaders from Sullivan performing and some students leading the pledge of allegiance and closing out the celebration.

Soto felt this was a great way to set the tone and direction for the school year.

Additionally, Soto is pleased with how smoothly transportation has been going so far this school year.

"This time of year we're normally hearing about a lot of transportation issues and things like that, and our transportation team definitely worked really hard to plan the routes and we got off to a really smooth start," Soto said.

He expressed his gratitude toward Mayor Joshua Garcia, other local mayors, state senators and state representatives, who all worked on resolving the issues with the PVTA staff before it could impact schools.

"We were able to avoid something that really could've been very disruptive, especially to our two high schools, particularly those students who don't live in Holyoke but rely on PVTA

transportation to get to schools," Soto said.

The only issue Soto brought forward in the meeting was concerns with enrollment levels in schools.

"We are experiencing some tight classes at Kelly school in some grades, in their SEI classes," Soto said. "There are some grades that are already capped."

Lawrence school is also experiencing difficulty with tight classrooms, and the fourth grade has been capped.

They will be continuing to monitor the issue weekly. If they do get more students for capped grade levels, then they would help students to get to other schools in the district that can take them in.

Despite this, overall, Soto and other committee members are happy with the start of the school year.

Student Representative Evan Kennedy has also noticed a positive shift in this school year, and he looks forward to seeing it continue.

"I've noticed that this year does feel very different and I think that has to do with the fact that we got some new staff and maybe it's not adding to the population of teachers but it is maybe helping some spaces where students were not the most comfortable and now we have a really good teacher," Kennedy said. "I think that so far this year is starting out very strong."

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

## Public Notices

### City of Holyoke PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Holyoke Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, September 24, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom.com**; ID: 836-3939-8493; CALL IN \*67 646 558 8656 to hear, pursuant to the Holyoke Zoning Ordinance, a Site Plan Review (Sec 10A); Large Scale Battery Energy Storage System (File 164), submitted by AE-ESS Holyoke, LLC c/o Agilitas Energy, Inc to be located at Bobala Road and Kelly Way, Holyoke, MA 01040 (176-00-004A).

A complete copy of the application may be seen in the Office of Planning and Economic Development at 20 Korean Veterans Plaza, 8:30 am-4:30 pm, M-F.

APPLICANT:  
AE-ESS Holyoke, LLC  
c/o Agilitas Energy, Inc.  
PLANNING BOARD:  
Mimi Panitch, Chair  
09/06, 09/13/2024

### PUBLIC NOTICE

T-Mobile is proposing to modify an existing wireless telecommunications facility on an existing church stee-

ple located at 4 Holy Cross Avenue, Holyoke, Hampden County, Massachusetts 01040. The modifications will consist of the collocation of antennas at 105-ft (measured to the RAD Center) on the 117ft church steeple. Any interested party wishing to submit comments regarding the potential effects the proposed facility may have on any historic property may do so by sending comments to: Project 025521-PR - MB, EBI Consulting, 21 B Street, Burlington, MA 01803, or at 463.336.4142. 09/13/2024

**COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS  
HAMPDEN, ss. SUPERIOR COURT DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT  
CIVIL ACTION NO.: 2479CV00307  
FOUR HARPS, LLC  
Plaintiff  
v.**

**The heirs or legal representatives of EDGAR A. CAPEN and persons claiming under EDGAR A. CAPEN who may claim an interest in certain land in Holyoke, Hampden County,**

### Massachusetts by purchase, descent or otherwise Defendants

#### ORDER OF NOTICE

TO: the Defendants, the heirs or legal representatives of Edgar A. Capen and persons claiming under Edgar A. Capen, who may claim an interest in the real property at 49 Linden Street, Holyoke, Hampden County, Massachusetts (hereinafter the "Real Property") by purchase, descent or otherwise Four Harps, LLC claiming to have an interest in the Real Property by virtue of that certain deed with warranty covenants from Sophia H. Chioles and Christopher D. Chioles dated December 15, 2017 and recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds at Book 21995, page 290 has filed with this Court a Complaint to quiet and establish title to said Real Property by a judgment "in rem against the land, and a judgment establishing or declaring the validity, nature and extent of the Plaintiff's title" pursuant to M.G.L.c. 240, §§ 6 to 10.

If you object to the Plaintiff's Complaint, then you or your attorney must file a written appearance and

answer or other responsive pleading with the **Hampden County Superior Court, 50 State Street, Springfield, MA 01103** on or before **September 30, 2024** (the "Return Date"), or you may be forever barred from objecting to the Plaintiff's claims.

Witness:

McDonough, J.

Attest:

**William T. Walsh**,  
Assistant Clerk,  
Hampden County  
Superior Court

09/06, 09/13, 09/20/2024

### City of Holyoke Notice of Public Hearing

The Holyoke Planning Board will hold a public hearing to hear a zoning ordinance text change to specify that no group homes, profit or non-profit, be allowed within the city limits of Holyoke, Ma without the approval of the Holyoke City Council. Hearing will take place on **Tuesday, September 24th, 2024 at 5:30 pm via www.zoom.us** Meeting ID: 836 3939 8493 or by call in at 1-646-558-8656 with same meeting ID. To provide comments to the Planning Board, please contact Brianna Tejada

at [tejadab@holyoke.org](mailto:tejadab@holyoke.org)  
Planning Board Chair  
Mimi Panitch  
09/06, 09/13/2024

### City of Holyoke PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Holyoke Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, September 24, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom.com** ID: 836 3939 8493; CALL IN \*67 646 558 8656 to hear, pursuant to the Holyoke Zoning Ordinance, Section 6.4.6.4, a Special Permit for an Increase in Sign Size and for Multiple Signs per wall for Lighthouse-Holyoke, at 92 Race Street (Parcel 038-07-019), submitted by Agnoli Sign Co, Inc.

The complete application may be viewed through the Holyoke Planning Dept M-F, 9-4 p.m.

Applicant:  
Agnoli Sign Co, Inc.  
Planning Board:  
Mimi Panitch  
09/06, 09/13/2024

**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. HD24C0286CA  
In the matter of:  
Esme Lorraine Powers  
CITATION ON PETITION  
TO CHANGE NAME**

A Petition to Change Name of Adult has been filed by Esme Lorraine Powers of Holyoke, MA requesting that the court enter a Decree changing their name to:

**Jonah Lorraine Powers  
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 10/01/2024.**

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: September 03, 2024

**Rosemary A Saccomani**  
Register of Probate  
09/13/2024

## 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.



## PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

- 1 Email all notices to [notices@turley.com](mailto:notices@turley.com)
- 2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

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

visit [www.publicnotices.turley.com](http://www.publicnotices.turley.com)



The volunteer team for Hope for Holyoke gathered around as Holyoke's celebration of Overdose Awareness Day began. *Turley photos by Quinn Suomala*



Program Coordinator for SADO.D. Gabriel Quaglia provided resources to event attendees.



John Collins and Tommy Smyth from MHA attended Holyoke's celebration of Overdose Awareness Day.



Staff from Holyoke Medical Center gave out information and resources to those attending Holyoke's celebration of Overdose Awareness Day.



There were a variety of organizations present at Holyoke's celebration of Overdose Awareness Day in order to provide information and resources to event attendees.



Outreach Coordinator and Production Manager at Hope for Holyoke Kevin LeBeau welcomed everyone to Holyoke's event in honor of Overdose Awareness Day.



Mayor Joshua Garcia presented a proclamation at Holyoke's event in honor of Overdose Awareness Day.



Senator John Velis shared his own struggle with substance abuse disorder and encouraged people to find the recovery that works for them.



The staff at Hope for Holyoke and Highway for Hope gathered around to prepare for the guest speakers of the day.

**AWARENESS, from page 1**

leuge," LeBeau said. "We invite anyone in the Holyoke community and out of the Holyoke community to join us on this day of reflection and action."

This event was put on by Hope for Holyoke, which is an organization dedicated to helping those in the community that are facing the disease of addiction.

"We're here every day as a program to help those in need to either find a

detox, or a program or they can join in," LeBeau said. "Every day we honor those who struggle with addiction and this is why we do these events."

So many organizations helped this event come together. Hope for Holyoke worked with Holyoke Medical Center, Tapestry, Holyoke Health Center, Highway for Hope and many more organizations.

LeBeau feels that these organizations' contributions to this event, and

their support in Hope for Holyoke every day, should not be forgotten.

"It is a team effort," LeBeau said. "It's just an amazing thing...when I look at the event, I feel so honored for that and for those who give themselves free of charge."

On Sept. 20 from 12 p.m. to 5p.m., Hope for Holyoke will be putting on another event at Veterans Memorial Park to celebrate Recovery Day.

"We get to celebrate their lives in

September," LeBeau said. "We do a march through downtown Holyoke...it's a massive celebration."

The event will start with a march from Holyoke Heritage State Park to Veterans Memorial Park. This march will be followed by a resource fair as well as music, food and guest speakers.

To keep up with the events Hope for Holyoke puts on, go to their Facebook page titled Hope for Holyoke Recovery Center.

*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!**

**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**

**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**