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# HOLYOKE the Sun

A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

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## Sea Scouts branch now available

By Quinn Suomala  
Staff Writer

HOLYOKE – The Sea Scouts, a branch of Scouting America, are now available in Holyoke.

This program is open to anyone between the ages of 14 and 21, and those who join will learn a variety of nautical-themed skills.

It is based on the scouting program and acts as an advanced leadership program with a focus on skills needed on, under, in or around the water.

“We do a lot with seamanship and knots, and we’re focused on boats,” Sea Scouts Leader Rob Baron said. “We’re going to do stuff with paddleboards and scuba. A lot of the basis is also on swimming and lifeguarding skills. There are also parts of the program where

you can get into getting a Coast Guard captain’s license or small boat certifications.”

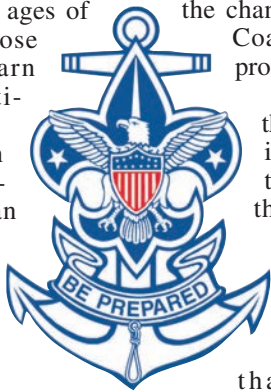
Overall, the program is rather open ended and can thus be shaped to fit what skills those in it most want to learn. Those in the program also get the chance to work with the Coast Guard Auxiliary program.

“We’re going to let the youth get involved in what they want to do and work with them so that it is not us dictating, it is the youth dictating what they want to do,” Baron said.

Baron hopes that this program will allow more people in Holyoke to get involved in Scouting.

This Sea Scouts is one of only two ships (or troops) in Western Massachusetts, so this truly is a unique opportunity for

See SCOUTS, page 12



## Girl injured, mayor asks for driver vigilance

HOLYOKE – While the investigation of the car-pedestrian accident that badly injured a 12-year-old girl Friday morning continues, Holyoke Mayor Joshua A. Garcia wants to remind the public of safety guidelines that can help prevent such tragedies.

“When incidents like this happen, it’s an opportunity for all of us to reflect and remind ourselves of our responsibility to drive with care to prevent tragedies,” Garcia said.

The mayor reminded motorists to be extra vigilant when driving the City’s streets,

especially now that school is back in session. This includes avoiding distractions and watching your speed.

School Superintendent Anthony Soto encourages parents and guardians to remind their children to use crosswalks, look both ways when crossing the street, and avoid distractions.

Soto added, “We all have a shared responsibility to see that our kids make it to school safely.”

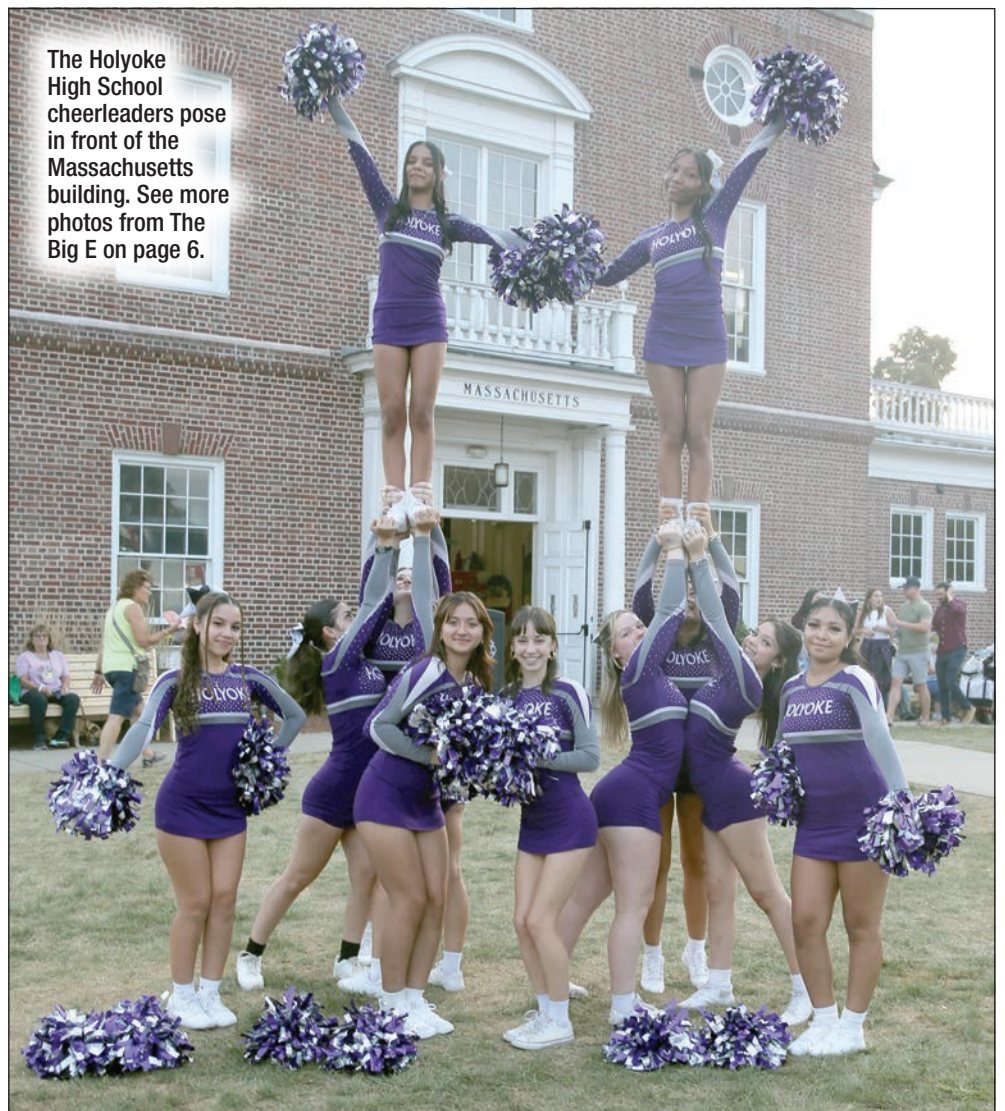
The injured girl remains hospitalized. She is expected to survive.

## Three cheers for Holyoke!



The cheerleading squad gather from Holyoke Community Charter School.

Turley photos by David Henry



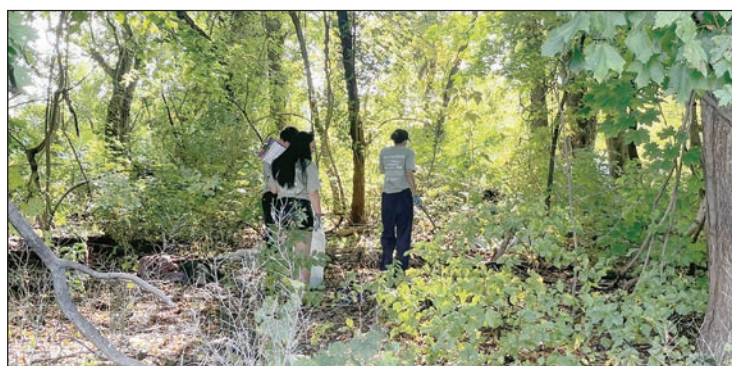
The Holyoke High School cheerleaders pose in front of the Massachusetts building. See more photos from The Big E on page 6.

## HHS student volunteers help clean up Springdale Park area

By Quinn Suomala  
Staff Writer

HOLYOKE – Students from Holyoke High School came out to Springdale Park to participate in the Connecticut River Conservancy’s Source to sea river clean-up.

“It’s an event that takes place up and down the Connecticut River with many different groups participating,” Assistant Principal at HHS Michael Cotto said.



The students from Holyoke High School who volunteered for the river clean up made sure to sweep the areas closest to the river bank for trash.

Turley photo by Quinn Suomala

HHS has been doing this process for the past eight years as an effort to help keep Holyoke’s section of the Connecticut River clean.

“It’s a way to promote environmental awareness while also helping the community,” Cotto said.

They sign up for this event through the Connecticut River Conservancy, and the conservancy works to provide clean-up materials to all groups who sign up to be a part of their Source to

Sea river clean-up.

“We provide supplies so... you can see everyone here as the t-shirts, the sharps containers and the plastic bags,” Recreation and Restoration Program Manager Gabriel Chevalier said.

Holyoke’s Department of Public Works, Heritage State Park, Holyoke’s Department of Conservation and Sustainability, and the State Department of Conservation and Recreation

See CLEAN UP, page 11

# Third annual 'Magic for Maddie' fundraiser



The third annual Magic for Maddie 5k, 2 mile family fun walk and carnival will be to honor Madeine "Maddie" Schmidt, who lost her battle with cancer. Submitted Photo

HOLYOKE – Although 8-year-old Madeine "Maddie" Schmidt lost her heroic 10-month battle against diffuse intrinsic pontine glioma, a horrific form of brain cancer, her legacy continues to shine and inspire her community.

Maddie's kindness, tenacity and "sparkle" endures and the nonprofit created in her name Magic for Maddie, Inc. will pay it forward during the third annual Magic for Maddie 5k, 2 mile family fun walk and carnival on Saturday, Oct. 19. Registration is now live with nearly 200 family and corporate supporters including Hyundai Hope on Wheels' \$25,000 "Ring Leader" sponsor with Gary Rome Hyundai in Holyoke. Since 1998, Hyundai Hope On Wheels has worked tirelessly to support the families, researchers, doctors, and children affected by childhood cancer and awarded grants totaling over \$250 million.

Magic for Maddie will take place at Ashley Reservoir and the Holyoke Elks, 250 Whitney Ave. The day will include a full day of fun for families of all ages including food and ice cream trucks, live music including country rock band Southern Rain, bounce houses, magic with Ed Popielarczyk, games, a dunk

tank, a raffle and much more.

For the first time this year, online fundraising web pages will be available for all participants to easily raise additional funds for Magic for Maddie upon registration. Last year, Magic for Maddie welcomed 40 teams and this year hopes to grow that number. Registration is \$35 for adults, \$15 for kids and \$100 family max and includes all carnival activities and entertainment, a Magic for Maddie t-shirt and choice of an ice cream or complimentary beer/wine. Parking is free.

Magic for Maddie was born during the summer of 2022 to raise funds for DIPG research and to help fund Maddie's clinical DIPG trial at Children's Hospital in Philadelphia. Ninety percent of children diagnosed with DIPG die within 2 years of diagnosis, the median survival time is 11 months and overall survival rate is less than 1 percent.

"Although cancer is what took Maddie's life, it is not her legacy," said Nora Schmidt, Maddie's mother.

"In eight short years, Maddie loved deeply, shined brightly, and inspired a community with her kindness, tenacity,

and sparkle. We want to thank our amazing community for your support during our darkest hours and we hope this event will bring a little of Maddie's magic to all who attend. We know Maddie will always leave a little sparkle wherever she goes."

Magic for Maddie became an official 501(c)(3) charity in 2024 doubling down on its mission to fuel research for DIPG, help families in the fight against pediatric cancer and impact locally. To date, Magic For Maddie has raised more than \$500,000 and funded more than \$90,000 in game changing research, primarily through their partnership with ChadTough Defeat DIPG Foundation as a Research Co-Funder, and also with the DIPG DMG Research Funding Alliance. The foundation has also donated more than \$65,000 in direct financial support to pediatric cancer families and kept \$70,000 local, supporting Western MA non-profit organizations and families fighting serious childhood illnesses.

For more information about the 3rd annual Magic for Maddie event, to become a sponsor or to learn more about Maddie's legacy, visit [www.magicformaddie.com](http://www.magicformaddie.com).

## Community compost hub at Dwight Street Garden

HOLYOKE – The Holyoke Food and Equity Collective is excited to announce the launch of its first community compost hub at Neighbor to Neighbor's Dwight Street Garden. This innovative project aims to create awareness, community ties and quality compost out of would-be-wasted food scraps.

The compost hub features a robust, rodent-proof three-bin composting system. Residents will have the opportunity to contribute their food scraps, engage in the composting process, and collaborate with neighbors to create high-quality compost. By keeping organic materials within the community, we can promote a healthier urban food system in Holyoke and reduce reliance on landfills and

incinerators, which contribute to environmental pollution.

Access to the compost hub is restricted to prevent contamination, with locked bins available to members who successfully complete a straightforward sign-up process. Each household that joins will receive a unique code for 24/7 free access to the composting system. While the collective aims to grow participation, membership may be capped until additional funding is secured to establish more hubs throughout Holyoke.

For more information and to begin the sign-up process, please visit [holyokey-collective.org/compost](http://holyokey-collective.org/compost) for English or [holyokey-collective.org/composta](http://holyokey-collective.org/composta) for Spanish.

## Wealth Transition Collective hosting annual food drive

HOLYOKE — The Wealth Transition Collective, a financial planning firm out of Holyoke, recently announced it will host their 4th annual weeklong food drive, beginning Monday, Nov. 11 through Friday, Nov. 15, to benefit Margaret's Pantry in Holyoke in honor of National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week.

Since the start of this event, they have raised over 4,000 pounds of food and monetary donations of over \$7,500. Individuals can drop off non-perishable and canned foods during business hours (Monday to Friday, 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.) at their office at 1632 Northampton St., Holyoke.

Weather permitting, there will be

a drop-off table outside the front door for easy accessibility.

Some of the most-needed items at the pantry during this time of year are: stuffing mixes, canned good like gravy, soups, stews, baking mixes, frosting, syrup, salad dressing, condiments, Jello, and kids snack items.

Margaret's Pantry, a division of Providence Ministries for the Needy, is a full-service food pantry that has provided food to residents of Greater Holyoke for more than 30 years.

Presently, the pantry provides food to more than 180 families each month, and approximately 72,000 meals a year are distributed to the needy in the community.

Wilbraham & Monson Academy  
**OPEN HOUSE**  
 Sunday, Oct. 6, 10 a.m.



For families interested in grades 6-12, PG.

Meet faculty, students, parents and coaches.  
 Learn more about our programs and community. Tour our campus.

**rsvp: [www.wma.us/openhouse](http://www.wma.us/openhouse)**

## Cemetery tours offered

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>.

# Holyoke Gas & Electric celebrates Natural Gas Week

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Gas & Electric is inviting the local community to celebrate Public Power & Public Natural Gas Week on Oct. 9 from 3 to 6 p.m. at The Holyoke Merry Go Round. This free event will feature a little something for the entire family.

“Public Power & Public Natural Gas Week honors the community ownership of HG&E, which results in competitive rates, innovative and sustainable energy solutions, reliable service, and excellent customer care for residents and businesses. It also recognizes the economic, social, and environmental contributions of our public power system,” said James Lavelle, HG&E’s Manager. “HG&E is

proud of the role we play in the community, and we look forward to celebrating with our customers.”

Customers can learn more about HG&E’s energy efficiency opportunities, air source heat pumps, electric and natural gas safety, the local power supply portfolio, and so much more. In addition, there will be free merry go round rides, kids’ activities, giveaways, a food truck, and ice cream truck.

This community celebration will feature many of HG&E’s partner organizations, including:

Marcotte Ford & Gary Rome  
Hyundai: Displaying electric vehicles and offering test drives and education.

Energy New England: Providing education on electric vehicles, HG&EV incentives, and State EV programs.

Massachusetts Municipal Wholesale Electric Company: Free energy audits and NextZero incentives.

Holyoke Fire Department: Fire and carbon monoxide safety.

Holyoke Police Department: Community Policing.

Valley Opportunity Council: Heating Assistance program and other services.

OneHolyoke: Community Programs  
South Holyoke Safe Neighborhood Initiative: Program Information

DCR: Program Information  
Greater Holyoke Chamber: Local

Business Information.

Kids’ Activities.

Each October, community-owned utilities throughout the country celebrate Public Power & Public Natural Gas Week, collectively providing electricity and natural gas services to millions of Americans. This annual nationwide event is intended to build public awareness about the value of having a community-owned utility. Public Power & Public Natural Gas Week is a national, annual event sponsored in conjunction with the American Public Power Association and the American Public Gas Association. For more information, visit [www.hged.com](http://www.hged.com).

## Invitation to join Holyoke’s Community Advisory Committee

HOLYOKE – In partnership with the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Holyoke School Committee is developing a plan to transition from state receivership back to local control. The School Committee plans to build on the district’s accomplishments and listen to stakeholders about their hopes and expectations for the future of Holyoke’s Public Schools and what is important to them as the School System transitions back to local control.

“The Holyoke Public School System is at a critical point in its efforts to realize its vision to become a high-performing school system where students reach their full potential, educators inspire, families are partners, and the community thrives,” said Holyoke Mayor and School Committee Chair Joshua A. Garcia.

The School Committee, with support from DESE, is in the process of writing the transition plan and is seeking input to help inform the direction of their work through the creation of an Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee will be led by two co-chairs, ideally one co-chair from the School Committee and another from the community.

The role of the Advisory Committee

is to help shape the process and content of stakeholder engagement and provide input and feedback on elements of the transition plan.

For anyone interested in serving on the committee, here is additional information to know:

Commitment:

Pre-work for and participation in four advisory team meetings (1.5 hours per meeting)

(Early November), in-person — Understand why we are here and who is and isn’t in the room, co-develop guiding questions for public meetings and focus groups. Pre-work: Read draft transition plan.

(Early December) — Ask and answer guiding questions for public meetings; review draft of questions for all-stakeholder survey

(Early January) — Review data from public meetings, focus groups, and survey. Determine themes. (Mid- or late-January) — Review final draft of transition plan, determine important next steps Attend one public engagement meeting about the transition plan.

Membership:

The School Committee is looking for Advisory Committee members with a:

Desire to share not only their points of view, but common points of view that others like them may share (e.g., parents speaking on behalf of other parents, teachers sharing the perspective of other staff members, etc.)

Belief that students are at the center of everything we do and in the HPS equity commitments that can be found at [www.hps.holyoke.ma.us](http://www.hps.holyoke.ma.us); and passion for education in Holyoke.

Ideal representation, across schools and across grade levels, includes:

Families and Students (10-14 representatives).

Middle and high school students (4)—at least 1 from Dean, 1 from North, 1 from Opportunity Academy, and 1 from a middle school. Parents/Caregivers (6-10) from various schools.

Holyoke Community (10 representatives), Partners (4) — at least 1 from higher education, 1 from a local business, and 2 from non-profit organizations, School Committee members (2), A designee from the City as chosen by Mayor Garcia (1), A City Council representative (1), Additionally interested community members (2).

Holyoke Public Schools Staff (8 representatives), Teachers (6)—1 each at the

high school, middle school, and elementary levels, and 1 each in early childhood, special education, and English language development. FACE team member (1), School leaders (e.g., principals, APs, Deans) (1), there is flexibility to add several other people depending on applicant interest.

When selecting Advisory Committee members, the School Committee will look to build a broad base of representation including diverse viewpoints and experiences, as well as race, gender, length of time in Holyoke, job function, school representation, etc.

If interested in applying please follow steps below;

Step 1: By Oct. 3, please submit your interest by filling out the form at [www.holyoke.org/signmeup](http://www.holyoke.org/signmeup). Note: All applications should include a paragraph that answers the questions: Why do you want to serve on the Advisory Committee for Transition to Local Control? What skills or experiences would allow you to be a valuable contributor to the Team?

Step 2: The applicants will be presented to the School Board at their Oct. 15 meeting. The School Committee will select the applicants to serve on the Advisory Team membership.

## Free computer classes start on Oct. 9

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Community College is offering a free six-week beginner computer training course starting Oct. 9.

The real-time, instructor-led online classes will run Mondays and Wednesdays Oct. 9 to Nov. 25, from 5:30 to 8:30 p.m. Laptops and WiFi hotspots for internet access will be provided for students who need them. The program was originally scheduled to start Sept. 30.

The program, run in partnership with the Albany, N.Y.-based nonprofit CanCode Communities, is aimed at helping individuals build essential computer skills for both personal and professional development. Participants will explore the Microsoft Office program, learn how to create resumes, manage calendars, and send email, and be introduced to the world of artificial intelligence.

Funding for the program comes from the Western Mass Alliance for Digital Equity.

To sign up for classes, please send an email to [admissions@albany-cancode.org](mailto:admissions@albany-cancode.org) or call 518-238-6808 (ext. 702).

PLEASE RECYCLE THIS NEWSPAPER

## Wistariahurst Museum offers 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, on Oct. 18, at 6 p.m. 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 participants wander through the home. This unique character tour of Wistariahurst Museum includes

standing, walking, and transitioning between the first and second floors using the 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,” said Penni Martorell, City History “This tour is the best way to learn some of the secrets hidden beneath our walls.”

Join in 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. The specialized character tours are beloved by the community and sell fast, so make sure to secure tickets before they are gone.

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

## City to host comprehensive plan listening sessions

HOLYOKE – The City of Holyoke is charting a path for the next chapter in its history.

For the first time since 1999, Holyoke is updating its Comprehensive Plan, a Commonwealth-mandated document under that requires Massachusetts cities and towns to maintain a plan for their long-term physical development. Through comprehensive plans, cities and towns envision aspirational futures for themselves and identify implementation pathways for achieving those aspirations. These plans span all aspects of physical development, from the types of housing available in the community, to how people get around, to the community’s resilience to climate change, and more.

Holyoke is committed to shaping

the new comprehensive plan through engagement with residents. This fall, the City will host a series of community listening sessions. Free food featuring local restaurants and free youth activities will be provided. These sessions will be bilingual. Live Spanish interpretation will be available, and materials will be displayed in Spanish and English. Participants will receive free gift cards for the Holyoke Farmers’ Market. City officials hope Holyokers will share their aspirations and priorities for the future of the community at any or all of the community listening sessions:

**Community Listening Session #2**

Saturday, Oct. 26, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.

(drop-in format)

Heritage State Park, 221 Appleton St.

**Community Listening Session #3**

Thursday, Nov. 21, 5-7 p.m.

Location TBA

Holyoke’s Office of Planning and Economic Development is leading the comprehensive plan update in collaboration with the Holyoke Planning Board. To support them, a team of consultant urban planners has been retained, led by Cambridge-based Agency Landscape + Planning with support from Northampton-based Cambridge Econometrics, Boston-based Nitsch engineering, and Queens-based Hive Public Space. Several of the consulting planners are native Spanish speakers and several live in the Pioneer Valley.

The City aims to complete the project in Summer 2025.

Guest Column



## Veteran asks about special credits for military service

Dear Rusty

I just learned that if I served in the military during an active-duty period, I could get extra earnings for Social Security and that these benefits would be automatically added to my record, but I was never asked by the SS employee, who calculated my benefits if I was in the military. I took benefits at age 62 (2013) due to health reasons. Should I ask for a recalculation or is it too late?

Signed: Proud Veteran

Dear Proud Veteran

Thank you for your service to our country, for which you have every right to be proud. You likely heard about "Special Extra Credits for military service," which applies to those who served in the military during certain periods earlier than the year 2001. This rule can add up to \$1,200 per year to your Social Security earnings record for the years you served and, since your SS benefit is based on your lifetime earnings record, your military earnings may have been included when calculating your Social Security benefit.

But the rules for getting that "extra earnings credit" are a bit complex, and how much extra earnings credit you receive depends entirely on which years you served. Here's a quick summary:

SS taxes have been withheld from military pay since 1957, so your actual military earnings are already included as part of your lifetime SS earnings record.

If you served between 1957 and 1977, an extra \$300 for each quarter of active-duty service would be added to your military pay, up to \$1,200 per year maximum.

See SECURITY, page 5

## Election letters to the editor welcome

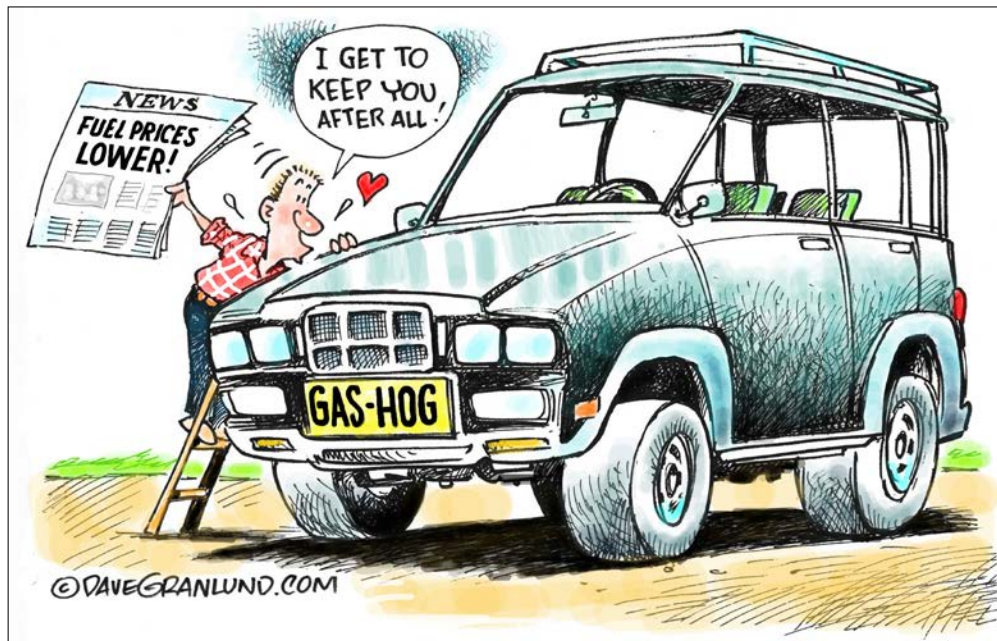
The Holyoke Sun welcomes readers to participate in this year's election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to The Holyoke Sun, care of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

## Seeds among the weeds



If there is a consolation from having a garden gone wild, there was one today. You see, I went out for a walk to assess the garden and decided it was time to clean up my overgrown perennial beds. Lo and behold, there were seed pods galore, just waiting for taking!

I gathered up a bunch of envelopes and got busy. There were some really interesting native plants that had dry but intact seed heads, including Cardinal Flower (*Lobelia cardinalis*), Blue Cardinal's Flower (*Lobelia siphilitica*), and Native Columbine (*Aquilegia canadensis*).

I also had classic cottage garden specimens, including beautiful but poisonous Wild Foxglove (*Digitalis purpurea*), Rusty Foxglove (*Digitalis ferruginea*) and then the oh so fragrant Clove Pink (*Digitalis caryophyllus*). A walk in the backyard yielded seed for the biennial Honesty, better known as Money Plant (*Lunaria annualis*).

Saving the seeds of this species is way more fun than just tapping a "pepper shaker" like I did with the others. *Lunaria* references the moon. Once you rub off the outer part of the seed head you are left with a silvery-white papery orb.

Some call it Money Plant because the

orbs resemble silver coins. As I clipped branches and began rubbing off the sides between my fingers, they fell to the ground, each containing two-four seeds.

It was so much fun to gather all of these different seeds, and economical too, when you think about the cost of seed packs. You can extend seed saving beyond perennial or biennial flowers.

In fact, I got my start way back in the 1970s, learning the tricks of the trade from my mom, when we grew annual flowers together each summer.

Sure, I loved all the flowers that we exhibited in local fairs and cut for arrangements throughout the house, but what I'm thinking about right now are the seeds saved from all of the flowers that had gone by. Every May we would take the shoe box out of the "cellar way" and open up plastic film vials that she re-purposed as seed storage containers.

Cleome, marigold, zinnia, bachelor button, calendula, balsam were stored there – the names of the flowers in our garden keep coming back to me! She would write these names on a little piece of paper and use scotch tape to mark each vial.

How I wish I could go back there for a minute as we began our garden planning. Maybe next weekend I'll venture out to my patch of flowering annuals and see if any seed heads have browned and dried, and save a few of these seeds too, just for old time's sake.

Of course, you have to be certain that the plants you save the seeds from are

See GARDEN, page 5

## Health care from a nurse-advocate



By Teri (Dreher) Frykenberg, RN  
Guest Column

Hello, readers! Having spent my growing-up years and graduating from nursing school here in western Mass, I am delighted to be able to share my perspective on today's health care with you in this new weekly column.

Health care has changed in a million ways since I earned my RN at Memorial Hospital School of Nursing in Worcester in 1976. I went on to become a critical care nurse and worked for decades in hospitals. I am now a board-certified patient advocate, owner of NShore Patient Advocates, and considered a national authority in the field of patient advocacy.

My columns and two Amazon best-selling books arise from my philosophy of health care: That knowledge is power and that we are empowered to take charge of our health.

As a private patient advocate, I help people do just that: Take charge. I leverage my knowledge of the health care system to help them navigate complex issues, whether it's caring for a loved one with dementia or getting a second opinion.

While I believe everyone needs a health-care advocate, I also believe that we can learn to advocate for ourselves and our loved ones. It just takes a bit of common sense and preparation.

Here are a few of the basics:

### Be a good patient.

You are a good patient if you are on time for your appointments, have your questions written down in advance, are succinct in your questions and comments, take your medications as prescribed and follow all health-care instructions. Sometimes, it's also helpful to bring someone with you – spouse, partner, child, friend – who can listen, fill in information gaps and help you remember

See HEALTH, page 5

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

Unsigned or anonymous letters will NOT be published.

We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions. Libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks or defamation of character are not allowed. Deadline for submissions is Wednesday at noon.

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



By Ellenor Downer



Northern Harrier

A Brimfield resident recently visited a pond on New Reed Street in Warren where he saw a northern harrier “cruising” over the marsh.

He said in an email, “The bird (northern harrier) dove after something on the ground then sat for a couple of minutes before taking off to cruise over the vegetation along the far side of the pond.”

The northern harrier is 18 inches long. It feeds by coursing close to the ground and quickly swooping down on its prey.

This behavior is what the Brimfield resident observed. The male is grey above and white below. The female is larger than the male, common in many hawks, brown above and streaked underneath. The immature harrier is brown above, reddish brown to creamy below

and streaking only on the chest. Harriers eat mice, rats, birds, snakes, frogs and other small animals. They inhabit open fields, grasslands, prairies and marshes.

The female lays three to nine bluish, white eggs in a nest of sticks and grasses lined with finer materials placed on the ground. Males are polygamous, mating with up to three females.

They often hunt at dusk and catch prey by sound as well as sight. Their owl like facial disk of feathers may function to help them locate sounds.

#### Other birds in Warren

Other birds at the pond on New Reed Street in Warren beside the north-

ern harrier were an adult bald eagle, adult osprey, four great egrets, a great blue heron and a belted kingfisher.

On another trip to the ponds in Warren with his wife, the Brimfield residents saw two great egrets at one pond and one great egret at another pond. They also saw an adult osprey, a belted kingfisher, two great blue heron, three eastern phoebes and six mallards. The male mallards were in eclipse plumage.

#### Unsuccessful hawk watch

He also did a mini hawk watch – an hour in the morning and an hour in the afternoon. He said, “Unfortunately, the hawks chose not to participate.” He did see a Carolina wren and two ruby-throated hummingbirds, one an immature male.

#### Feeding peanuts

The Brimfield resident likes to feed the birds whole peanuts. He fills a tray feeder every day and by the end of the days, they are gone. Blue jays and tufted titmice are especially fond of them along with an occasional red-bellied woodpecker. This summer he has had up to eight blue jays at a time come for the peanuts. He said, “Lately the peanut tray has not been empty when I go out to take

down the feeder and some days I only see one jay and most days and I did see three a few days ago.”

I feed shelled peanuts in the winter in a tray feeder and they are very popular. I’ve had up to ten blue jays at a time and the smaller birds like titmice and downy woodpeckers come for them as well

#### Wild turkeys

I see wild turkeys almost daily when I travel around town. It is either a group of hens with almost grown poults or a smaller group of Tom turkeys.

The Brimfield resident saw a hen with four half grown poults while driving away from his house

He believes this is the group that was seen in the yard some time ago when the poults were about half the size they were when I saw them on the road. He said in the email, “Just after seeing these turkeys another hen flew across the road in front of my car.”

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

## SECURITY from page 4

If you served between 1978 and 2001, an extra \$100 would be added to your military pay for each \$300 of active duty pay received, up to a maximum of \$1,200 per year. FYI, no additional earnings are added to your military pay for service years after 2001.

Those who served on active duty before 1967 should inform SS when applying for benefits about their military service (e.g., provide a copy of DD-214). For those who served after 1967, the “special extra credits” were automatically added to their military earnings record when they applied for SS benefits.

It’s important to note that the “extra credits” are additional earnings added to your military pay record – not an additional benefit amount added to your Social Security payment because of your military service. If, however, your military pay was included in the 35 years used to compute your Social Security benefit when you claimed, then your military pay affected your SS payment amount.

In any case, if you served in the military after 1967, the special extra earnings credits were automatically included in your military pay record and, thus, were automatically included when calculating your Social Security benefit when you applied. If your non-military work-

ing career consisted of over 35 years during which you earned more than you did while serving, your years in the military wouldn’t be included when computing your Social Security benefit anyway (only your highest earning 35 years of earnings are included when calculating your SS benefit).

Although it’s never “too late” to request a recalculation, if you served after 1967 your military pay during your service years was automatically increased by SS to account for your military service. If you served before 1967, you could contact Social Security to ensure that the extra credits were included when calculating your SS benefit. FYI, here’s a copy of the Social Security

rules on this topic: [www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10017.pdf](http://www.ssa.gov/pubs/EN-05-10017.pdf).

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

## GARDEN, from page 4

open-pollinated and not F1 hybrids. Saving seeds of hybrids could give you something with the trait of each parent but not exactly what you originally grew.

You may also get a cross from an open pollinated and another open pollinated of the same type of flower. For example, one year I grew two different, large flowered zinnias side by side. “Grandmother’s Garden” and “Berry Basket” come to mind as the name of the varieties.

They were beautiful and I saved the seeds from them. Well, let’s just say I call them “Large Flowered Zinnia” going forward, because who knows what they are anymore.

If you are interested in saving seeds of heirlooms for the purpose of continuing and preserving a specific variety, do your homework first and learn how you might isolate your plants from one another. I think it is a bit easier to manage growing flowers that result in seeds that are true to type by planting one named variety of each flower type each year.

Most seeds are viable for a couple years, so technically you could swap them out by growing one set one year and another set of favorites a year later. I encourage you to try seed saving; it’s one positive outcome of an unmanicured garden, that’s for certain.

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.

## HEALTH, from page 4

what the doctor said.

Good patients are also respectful. You want to be the patient who doctors, nurses and health-care providers enjoy serving.

#### Be prepared.

A medical emergency can happen at any time, and when it does, our minds seem to go blank because of fear and worry. Here’s where a little bit of preparation comes in handy.

Compile the following and keep it where you or first responders can find it:

Health conditions (i.e. heart disease, hypertension, cancer, diabetes, etc.)

Copies of insurance cards

All surgeries

All medications, with dosages and when they’re taken

Allergies

Name and contact information for the primary care doctor

Name and contact information for the patient’s representative, if that person isn’t on hand

A signed HIPAA release form

#### Be knowledgeable.

In this era of internet scams, bogus information and deep-fake videos, we must take care to get our health-care information from reputable sources – and it’s not some random Facebook account or website.

When you’re searching for information about healthy lifestyles or medical conditions, stick with tried-and-true resources such as the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention ([cdc.gov](http://cdc.gov)), WebMD ([webmd.com](http://webmd.com)) or Harvard Health ([health.harvard.edu](http://health.harvard.edu)).

#### Know your rights.

Who owns your health-care information? You do! Not the doctor or the hospital. You have the right to see and review your medical records, doctor’s notes after an appointment and what medications you might be receiving in the hospital.

You also have the right to appoint a patient representative, also known as an advocate. This is someone who is authorized to communicate on your behalf with health-care providers – they are your stand-in. In most states, the default patient representative is a spouse or a parent, if a child is under 18.

But if you can designate anyone by completing a HIPAA (Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act) release form, which is available on the Massachusetts Department of Public Health website. Make sure it’s on file with your doctor and the hospital.

My first experience advocating for a patient was during a family cruise in the Caribbean when my then-father-in-law developed a life-threatening health

emergency. I stayed with him in order to communicate with doctors and make sure he was well-attended.

Back at work in the hospital ICU, I advocated for a patient who was experiencing complications from surgery. The doctor didn’t like my questioning the patient’s treatment, so I was placed on leave – and during my downtime, I realized the good I could do by helping other patients in similar situations. A patient advocate was born.

I hope you’ll join me every week as I discuss current issues in health care and provide the tips you need to advocate for yourself and loved ones.

Teri (Dreher) Frykenberg, RN, is a board-certified patient advocate and Monson resident. A critical care nurse for 30+ years, she is founder of NShore Patient Advocates, ([www.NorthshoreRN.com](http://www.NorthshoreRN.com)). Her book, “How to Be a Healthcare Advocate for Yourself & Your Loved Ones” is available on Amazon. She is offering a free phone consultation to Turley Newspaper readers. Contact her at [Teri@northshorern.com](mailto:Teri@northshorern.com) to set it up.





The Holyoke High School band begins to head down the parade route.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com



The band marches while performing for the crowd.



Holyoke residents staff for the Moeshmallows business.



The parade continues on the grounds of the Big E.



The parade is an annual event on Holyoke Day.

# Salute to City of Holyoke at the Big E

HOLYOKE – On Tuesday, Sept. 17, Holyoke Day was celebrated at the Big E. The day featured a parade featuring local Holyoke dignitaries and Holyoke residents filled up the 17-day fair, which wrapped up last Sunday.



Firefighter Laurie Manning was in the Massachusetts building representing public safety on Holyoke Day.



Jeff Trask, of Holyoke, brings his car through the parade.

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# SPORTS

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Serymar Santos Ruiz socks a hit toward the net.



Libero Vicsel Colon lunges for a hit.

## Knights sweep Monument

HOLYOKE – Last Monday evening, the Holyoke High School girls volleyball defeated Monument Mountain 3-0. They followed that with a 3-0 sweep of Mt. Everett, though they fell to PVCA 3-1 last Friday. The Knights are now 5-2 and are looking for a few more wins to qualify for the state tournament once again.



Jadhe Cortes Rodriguez sends a serve away.



Ashantilys Calderon sets the ball back over the net.



Yhadlie Pabon gets the low bump.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli



Kylie Blaha breaks up the progress of a Southwick forward.



Siobhan Armstrong makes a pass back.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

## Field hockey falls in slugfest

HOLYOKE – Last Monday night, Holyoke and Southwick field hockey engaged in a scoring slugfest with Southwick prevailing 6-5. Unfortunately, it was the start of a tough week for Holyoke with losses also to Belchertown and Amherst. The Knights are now 4-6 on the season. The Knights are scheduled to host West Springfield on Friday, Oct. 4 at 4:30 p.m., then travel to Agawam on Monday, Oct. 7.



Gracie Chesmore gets a stick on the ball.



Grace Phillips makes a pass ahead of pressure.



Marialis Camacho sends a pass forward.



Jaybriel Rivera-Soto uses his body to block his opponent from the ball.



Ryan Kennedy makes a pass. *Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli*



Arthur Mazzu runs hard up the field with the ball.



Christian Piedra makes his way up the middle of the field.



Christian Guzik gets the header.

## Knights suffer tough shutout

HOLYOKE – Last Monday afternoon, Turners Falls was able to score an early goal, and made it held up in a 1-0 shutout of host Holyoke boys soccer. The Knights tries everything it could to break through, but came up short. The Knights would tie SICS 2-2 and lost to West Springfield 4-0 last week as well. They are 0-6-2 on the season.

# Westfield State Owls football defeat Worcester State

WESTFIELD – Westfield State got a pair of touchdowns each from Dylan Disabella and Curtis Dion, and the Owls held on late to beat Worcester State, 35-27 and spoil the Lancers' homecoming at Coughlin Field on Saturday.

Westfield improves to 2-2 overall and 2-1 in the Massachusetts State Collegiate Athletic Conference, while Worcester is also 2-2 and 2-1 in the league.

Westfield ground out the win with the rushing game, carrying the ball 61 times in their 76 plays. The Owls held the ball for 44 minutes, limiting the

Lancers' opportunities.

Sean Willis led the Owls with 131 yards rushing on 32 carries, with Dion adding 49 yards and two td's on 10 carries, Gabe Fernandez carried five times for 39 yards, and Disabella scored a pair of TD and gained 36 yards on just five carries.

After trailing 7-0 less than two minutes into the game, Westfield built a 28-14 lead by the half on runs of 8 and 18 yards from Disabella, and 3 and 2 yards from Dion.

Worcester pulled within a point at 28-27 late in third quarter, but missed the

extra point to give the Owls the advantage.

Westfield nearly ran out the clock with a 14-play, 61-yard drive that was capped by a 1-yard TD plunge from Willis to go ahead 35-27 after Cooper Harvey's point-after kick with 1:47 left in regulation time.

Worcester wasn't done, marching the ball all the way to the Westfield 12-yard line, but a chop block on an apparent scoring play backed the Lancers up to the 25, and Westfield's Corey Henderson picked off a pass at the 1-yard line as time expired.

Westfield registered 30 first downs to the Lancers 11, and outgained Worcester State 415-197. Turnovers plagued the Owls, with two lost fumbles and two interceptions on the day. Westfield's defense held the lancers to negative-12 yards on 15 attempts.

Westfield will be on the road next weekend, travelling to Castleton, Vermont to play Vermont State-Castleton, which will be the first-ever meeting between the Owls and the Spartans. VSU joined the MASCAC for the 2024 season.

## Springfield Thunderbirds open up training camp

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds opened their 2024-25 training camp on Monday morning ahead of their trio of exhibition games on Wednesday, Friday, and Saturday.

The initial training camp roster can be seen below. Please note this list will change as the St. Louis Blues reduce their roster ahead of NHL opening night on Oct. 8.

Springfield Thunderbirds Initial Training Camp Roster (as of Sept. 30)

Forwards: #15 Dalibor Dvorsky, #20 Oliver Chau, #22 Dylan Peterson,

#24 Tanner Dickinson, #28 Colin Theisen, #34 Sam Bitten, #37 Reece Newkirk, #38 Tarun Fizer, #41 Aleksanteri Kaskimaki, #43 Greg Meireles, #46 Anthony Callin, #63 Matthew Peca, #77 Drew Callin, #81 Marcus Sylvegard

Defense: #7 Leo Loof, #9 Michael Buchinger, #13 Jeremie Biakabutuka, #25 Gianni Fairbrother, #33 Anton Malmstrom, #44 Scott Harrington, #49 Sean Allen

Goaltenders: #31 Colten Ellis, #35 Cam Johnson, #40 Will Cranley

The Thunderbirds begin their exhibition slate on Wednesday, Oct. 2 when they host the Hartford Wolf Pack at 7:05 p.m. at the MassMutual Center. They will also play a preseason tuneup on Friday at 7:05 p.m. on home ice against the Providence Bruins before traveling to Rhode Island for a rematch on Saturday at 7:05 p.m. at Amica Mutual Pavilion.

The regular season opens on Saturday, Oct. 12 against the Laval Rocket at 7:05 p.m. for Opening Night presented by MGM Springfield.

## MIAA 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.



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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.*

S	N	I	P	A	S	S	E	R	T	D	E	E	
W	I	D	E	G	A	U	C	H	E	E	R	A	
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**MORTGAGEE'S  
SALE OF REAL ESTATE**

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in that certain Mortgage, Assignment of Leases and Rents, Fixture Filing, and Security Agreement given by 156 High Holyoke MA, LLC (the "Mortgagor") to Aloha Capital, LLC, dated April 14, 2023 and recorded with the Hampden County Registry of Deeds (the "Registry") at 24973, Page 440, as assigned to Reigo Securitization Sponsor 2021-1, LLC, dated September 9, 2024 and recorded in Book 25566, Page 146, of which Mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at **Public Auction at 11:00 AM on the 15th day of October, 2024** at 156-162 High Street, Holyoke, Massachusetts, being more particularly in said mortgage, to wit:

The land in Holyoke, Hampden County, Massachusetts, being known and being more particularly bounded and described as follows:

Beginning at a point at the intersection of the easterly line of High Street with the Southerly line of Hampden Street; THENCE running Southwesterly by the Easterly line of High Street forty-nine (49) feet; THENCE Southeasterly and at right angles to said High Street eighty (80) feet to an alley or common passageway; THENCE Northwesterly by said passageway forty-nine (49) feet to said Hampden Street; THENCE Northwesterly by said Hampden Street eight (80) feet to the point of the beginning.

Containing 3,920 square feet of land more or less.

For mortgagor's title see deed recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 24014, Page 102.

Said premises shall also be sold subject to and/or with the benefit of any and all other restrictions, easements, improvements, covenants, outstanding tax titles, municipal or other public taxes, assessments, liens or claims in the nature of liens, attachments and existing encumbrances of record created prior to the Mortgage, if any there be, insofar as in force and applicable.

Said premises will also be sold subject to all leases and tenancies having priority over said Mortgage, to tenancies or rights of parties in possession now or at the time of said auction which are subject to said Mortgage, to rights or claims in personal property installed by tenants or former tenants now located on the premises, and to laws and ordinances including, but not limited to, all building and zoning laws and ordinances.

**Terms of sale:**

The highest bidder in the sale shall deposit a bank treasurer's check, or certified check in the amount of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) at the time and place of the sale as a non-refundable earnest money deposit towards the purchase price to be held at the option of the Mortgagee as liquidated damages for any default by the successful bidder. The highest bidder shall then be required to remit by federal wire transfer an additional non-refundable deposit to

bring in an amount sufficient to make the total deposit equal to ten percent (10%) of the purchase price within five (5) business days of the date of the public auction.

The balance of the purchase price shall be paid upon delivery of the deed within thirty (30) days of the date of the public auction. Each successful bidder shall be required to sign a Memorandum of Sale at the public auction containing the terms herein and any additional terms set forth in the Memorandum of Sale or announced at the public auction.

In the event that any successful bidder at the public auction fails to perform in the time specified to purchase the applicable premises, the Mortgagee reserves the right, at its sole election, to sell such premises by foreclosure deed to the other qualified bidders, in descending order beginning with the next highest bidder, provided that in each case the next highest bidder delivers to Mortgagee the amount of the required deposit within three (3) business days after written notice of the default of the previous highest bidder and promptly executes a Memorandum of Sale providing for performance within thirty (30) days of execution. Mortgagee also reserves the right, at its sole election, to assume the bid of any defaulting or declining bidder. The Mortgagee reserves the right to postpone this sale to a later date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the sale and to further postpone any adjourned sale date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the adjourned sale date.

**Other terms to be announced at sale.**

For inquiries concerning the auction, please contact Samantha Saperstein at [ssaperstein@pesco.com](mailto:ssaperstein@pesco.com).

Reigo Securitization Sponsor 2021-1, LLC,  
present holder of the Mortgage,

By its attorney,  
Lauren A. Solar, Esq.  
Hackett Feinberg P.C.  
155 Federal Street, 9th Floor  
Boston, MA 02110

09/20, 09/27, 10/04/2024

**MORTGAGEE'S  
SALE OF REAL ESTATE**

By virtue and in execution of the Power of Sale contained in that certain Mortgage, Assignment of Leases and Rents, Fixture Filing, and Security Agreement given by 445 High Holyoke MA, LLC (the "Mortgagor") to Aloha Capital, LLC, dated April 11, 2023 and recorded with the Hampden County Registry of Deeds (the "Registry") at 24973, Page 410, as assigned to Reigo Securitization Sponsor 2021-1, LLC dated September 9, 2024 and recorded in Book 25566, Page 154, of which Mortgage the undersigned is the present holder, for breach of the conditions of said mortgage and for the purpose of foreclosing the same will be sold at **Public Auction at 12:00 PM on the 15th day of October, 2024** at 445-447 High Street, Holyoke, Massachusetts, being more particularly in said mortgage, to wit:

**Parcel 1**

Certain parcel of land with the buildings thereon, situated in said Holyoke, bounded and described as follows, viz

BEGINNING at a point of intersection of the westerly

side of High Street with the northerly side of Essex Street and thence running

NORTHEASTERLY on said High Street Twenty-Eight (28) feet and one (1) inch; thence

NORTHWESTERLY at a right angle to said High Street ninety-seven (97) feet to the center line of an alley or common passageway (which passageway is fourteen wide); thence

SOUTHWESTERLY on said center line of said alley and parallel with said High Street Twenty-Eight (28) feet and one (1) inch to said Essex Street; thence

SOUTHEASTERLY on said Essex Street ninety-seven (97) feet to the place of BEGINNING.

Containing 2,724 1/12 square feet more or less.

**PARCEL 2:**

The land in Holyoke, Hampden County, Massachusetts, with the buildings thereon, bounded and described as follows:

BEGINNING at the point of intersection of the westerly side of High Street with the southerly side of Essex Street and thence running

SOUTHWESTERLY on said High Street twenty-nine (29) feet and eight (8) inches; thence

NORTHWESTERLY at right angles with said High Street ninety-seven (97) feet to, the center line of an alley or common passageway (which passageway is fourteen (14) feet wide); thence

NORTHEASTERLY on said center line of said alley and parallel with said High Street twenty-nine feet and eight (8) inches to said Essex Street thence

SOUTHEASTERLY on said Essex Street ninety-seven (97) feet to the place of beginning.

Parcel ID: 0011-8-000001

For mortgagor's title see deed recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds in Book 24895, Page 181.

Said premises shall also be sold subject to and/or with the benefit of any and all other restrictions, easements, improvements, covenants, outstanding tax titles, municipal or other public taxes, assessments, liens or claims in the nature of liens, attachments and existing encumbrances of record created prior to the Mortgage, if any there be, insofar as in force and applicable.

Said premises will also be sold subject to all leases and tenancies having priority over said Mortgage, to tenancies or rights of parties in possession now or at the time of said auction which are subject to said Mortgage, to rights or claims in personal property installed by tenants or former tenants now located on the premises, and to laws and ordinances including, but not limited to, all building and zoning laws and ordinances.

**Terms of sale:** The highest bidder in the sale shall deposit a bank treasurer's check, or certified check in the amount of Twenty Thousand Dollars (\$20,000.00) at the time and place of the sale as a non-refundable earnest money deposit towards the purchase price to be held at the option of the Mortgagee as liquidated damages for any default by the successful bidder. The highest bidder shall then be required to remit by federal wire transfer an additional non-refundable deposit to bring in an amount sufficient

to make the total deposit equal to ten percent (10%) of the purchase price within five (5) business days of the date of the public auction.

The balance of the purchase price shall be paid upon delivery of the deed within thirty (30) days of the date of the public auction. Each successful bidder shall be required to sign a Memorandum of Sale at the public auction containing the terms herein and any additional terms set forth in the Memorandum of Sale or announced at the public auction.

In the event that any successful bidder at the public auction fails to perform in the time specified to purchase the applicable premises, the Mortgagee reserves the right, at its sole election, to sell such premises by foreclosure deed to the other qualified bidders, in descending order beginning with the next highest bidder, provided that in each case the next highest bidder delivers to Mortgagee the amount of the required deposit within three (3) business days after written notice of the default of the previous highest bidder and promptly executes a Memorandum of Sale providing for performance within thirty (30) days of execution. Mortgagee also reserves the right, at its sole election, to assume the bid of any defaulting or declining bidder. The Mortgagee reserves the right to postpone this sale to a later date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the sale and to further postpone any adjourned sale date by public proclamation at the time and date appointed for the adjourned sale date.

**Other terms to be announced at sale.**

For inquiries concerning the auction, please contact Samantha Saperstein at [ssaperstein@pesco.com](mailto:ssaperstein@pesco.com).

Reigo Securitization Sponsor 2021-1, LLC,  
present holder of the Mortgage,

By its attorney,  
Lauren A. Solar, Esq.  
Hackett Feinberg P.C.  
155 Federal Street, 9th Floor  
Boston, MA 02110

09/20, 09/27, 10/04/2024

**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. HD24P2059EA  
Estate of:  
Carlos Jose Aponte  
Also Known As:  
Carlos Jose Aponte Torres  
Date of Death: 08/23/2024  
INFORMAL PROBATE  
PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Malissa Y. Aponte of San Juan, PR**

a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

**Malissa Y. Aponte of San Juan, PR**

has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without** surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled

to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

**Commonwealth of  
Massachusetts  
The Trial Court  
Probate and Family Court  
Hampden Division  
Docket No. HD24P2040EA  
Estate of:  
Barbara J. Bresnahan  
Date of Death:  
August 2, 2024  
INFORMAL PROBATE  
PUBLICATION NOTICE**

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Patrick B. Bresnahan, III of Holyoke, MA**

a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

**Patrick B. Bresnahan, III of Holyoke, MA** has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without** surety on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.

City of Holyoke  
Office of Purchasing  
536 Dwight Street, Room 3  
Holyoke, MA 01040  
**Invitation to Bid  
2025-14DPW  
URBAN & COMMUNITY  
FORESTRY PROGRAM  
SEALED BIDS ARE DUE  
BY 2:00 PM ON 10/23/2024**

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WILL NOT BE  
ACCEPTED**

The City of Holyoke invites sealed bids for Urban

& Community Forestry Program services throughout the City. The locations of tree and vegetation management actions will be as directed by the City.

Please note that this work is separate from the City's 2023 solicitation for tree and vegetation management because this work is funded through a federal assistance grant from the National Arbor Day Foundation and ultimately under the authority of Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act. Bidders must be eligible to work under a contract using federal funds.

Beginning at 10:00 AM on October 1, 2024, all project documents will be available from the City of Holyoke Purchasing Department in electronic format only. Submit requests for documents to [sweeneye@holyoke.org](mailto:sweeneye@holyoke.org) between the hours of 8:30 AM and 4:30 PM. Requests shall include firm name and address, contact name and title, email address, and telephone number.

**The deadline to submit bid proposals is October 23, 2024, by 2:00PM**, at which time all bids received will be publicly opened in compliance with M.G.L. Chapter 30B, Section 39 M, as amended and Chapter 149, Sections 26-27B inclusive and Section 44A-44I inclusive and the City of Holyoke's Ordinances. The City reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

10/04/2024



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**THE TOWN OF PALMER DPW** is seeking contractors for snow removal for the upcoming winter season. If interested, contracts are available on the town website or at the DPW office. Completed contracts with a copy of the necessary insurance forms can be delivered to the DPW office located at 1015 Bridge St. Palmer. Rates have been increased for fiscal year 2025. Please call our office at **(413) 283-2615, M-F, 7a-330p,** with any questions.

### TOWN OF WILBRAHAM P/T PROGRAM ASST. SENIOR CENTER

The Town of Wilbraham is looking for a part-time Program Assistant to work in our brand new Senior Center. Application Deadline 10/11/24 For application and more information please visit **www.wilbraham-ma.gov.** EOE

## REAL ESTATE



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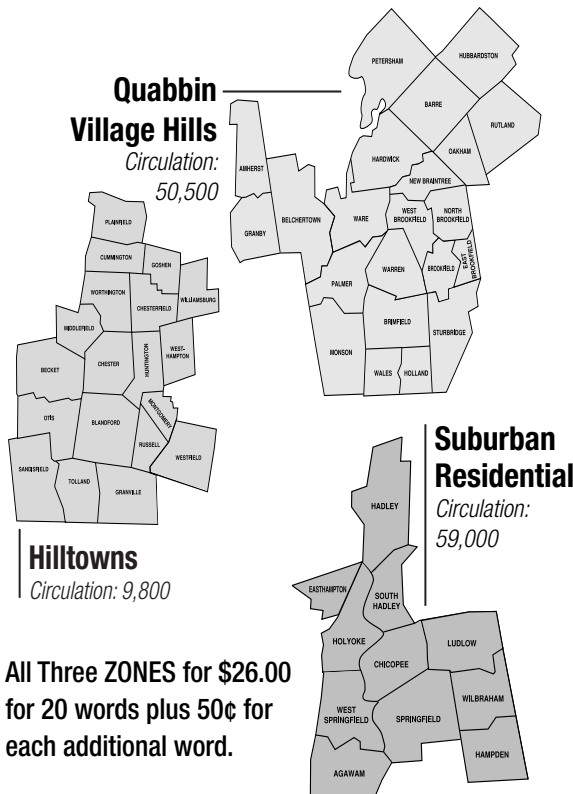
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**CLEAN UP**, from page 1

also lend their time to help put this event together.

The students from HHS came to Springdale Park to clean up the area, specifically focusing on sections close to the river bank. They wanted to help prevent trash from getting into the river.

All of the students volunteering for this event are from the Community and Global Studies academy at HHS, so this is a great chance for them to apply some of the things they learn about in school.

"These students have selected the CGS academy because they want to be difference makers and leaders within the community and this is an opportunity to show that even though they are still high school students they have an opportunity to do good within the Holyoke community and be leaders," Cotto said.

Cotto has seen students really enjoy and grow from having this opportunity available to them.

"Students come back to the school with a real sense of pride and they feel like they have made a difference," Cotto said. "Seeing them have that pride and that happiness in their work is really rewarding."

HHS has had great success with this event in the past. Many community members have volunteered their time to help with the clean-up and they, along with the HHS students, have picked up about a hundred bags of trash over the years.

"This really helps to clean up pollutants and con-

taminants that would otherwise end up in the water stream," Cotto said.

Last year they went to Springdale Park as well, and this year they could see the difference their efforts last year had made.

"They were here last year and there has been an incredible reduction in trash," Chevalier said. "You often find that once an area is clean, people are more interest-

ed in keeping it cleaner."

Cotto certainly intends to see this annual tradition continue into the future so that HHS students can always have this opportunity to make an impact on their community.

"It's something that we're proud to participate in and we're grateful for the opportunity to make our community a better place," Cotto said.



As the clean-up got started, students from Holyoke High School broke out into groups to begin picking up trash at Springdale Park.

*Turley photos by Quinn Suomala*



Students from Holyoke High School gathered around to learn about the safety rules while they cleaned up.



Students from Holyoke High School were given various supplies to help them as they picked up trash.



Students from Holyoke High School cleaned up along the more forested areas of Springdale Park.

1	2	3	4		5	6	7	8	9	10		11	12	13	
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67					68							69			

- |  |   |   |                                   |
|--|---|---|-----------------------------------|
| <b>CLUES ACROSS</b>                    | 42. Mother of Perseus                       | <b>CLUES DOWN</b>                             | 31. Wet dirt                      |
| 1. Separate with an instrument         | 44. Ornamental waist box                    | 1. Brushed                                    | 32. Russian city                  |
| 5. State clearly                       | 45. Officials                               | 2. Water sprite                               | 33. Observed                      |
| 11. One-time MLB speedster Gordon      | 46. Uncertain                               | 3. Ones to look up to                         | 36. Irate                         |
| 14. Broad in scope                     | 49. A cotton fabric with a satiny finish    | 4. Monetary units                             | 37. Travelers need them           |
| 15. Lacking social polish              | 51. Extensive, treeless plains              | 5. We all have one                            | 39. Musical composition           |
| 16. Amount of time                     | 55. Your consciousness of your own identity | 6. Marine invertebrate                        | 40. Auction                       |
| 17. Frame                              | 56. Consumer advocate Ralph                 | 7. One who institutes a legal proceeding      | 43. Form of "to be"               |
| 19. Automobile                         | 60. Notable Spanish sports club             | 8. Outer                                      | 45. Women                         |
| 20. Caps                               | 61. Body part                               | 9. Parallelograms                             | 47. Inspire with love             |
| 21. High school dances                 | 62. One's responsiveness                    | 10. Uncomfortable feelings                    | 48. Think Japanese ankle sock     |
| 22. Utilize                            | 64. Woman (French)                          | 11. Cross to form an X                        | 49. Appears                       |
| 23. Checked                            | 65. Ready and willing to be taught          | 12. Remove                                    | 50. Old World lizard              |
| 25. One-sided                          | 66. Muslim ruler title                      | 13. Some pages are dog-__                     | 52. The lead dancer: __ ballerina |
| 27. Having an extreme greed for wealth | 67. Unhappy                                 | 18. Capital of Ukraine                        | 53. Protein involved in motion    |
| 31. Potted plants                      | 68. Gradually disappeared                   | 24. A citizen of Denmark                      | 54. Rosalind Franklin biographer  |
| 34. We all have one                    | 69. Able to think clearly                   | 26. Eighth month (abbr.)                      | 57. Popular 1920s style art __    |
| 35. Lake north of the Kalahari         |   | 28. Hindu queens                              | 58. __ Blyton, children's author  |
| 38. Unidentified flying object         |   | 29. Acids structurally related to amino acids | 59. Abnormal breathing            |
| 39. Aging persons                      |   | 30. Rider of Rohan in Tolkien                 | 63. A place to rest               |
| 41. Small amount                       |   |   |                                   |

CROSSWORD ANSWER on page ????????

# Send Us Your Community Dazzler Events

Turley Publications will print your holiday calendar events **FREE OF CHARGE** in our **Dazzler Supplement** which will be published November 20, 2024. Total circulation of 85,000 which reaches over 200,000 readers in the Pioneer Valley. *Event Should Be Non-Profit & Open to the Public*

**FREE Calendar Listings Reaching over 200,000 Readers in the Pioneer Valley**

Event Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date/Time \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_

Description \_\_\_\_\_

Cost \_\_\_\_\_

Contact name & phone number for more information \_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL YOUR LISTING INFORMATION TO:**  
**Turley Publications, Attn: Jamie Joslyn,**  
**24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069**  
**or email\* them to: [jamie@turley.com](mailto:jamie@turley.com)**  
**\*Be sure to indicate "Dazzler" in the subject line of your email.**

**Deadline for Calendar submissions is October 14.**

# 'Scary Tales: Dark Walker' premieres in Holyoke

Indie horror made in western Massachusetts

By Richard Murphy  
Correspondent

The Knights of Columbus Hall in Holyoke was the gathering place for a celebration of indie filmmaking in Massachusetts on Saturday evening, Sept. 28.

The assembled, consisting of cast, crew, and fans began drifting in early for the scheduled showing of "Scary Tales: Dark Walker".

"Dark Walker" is the latest in the Xposse Productions' Scary Tales series of horror movies, and this one is a dark tale in more ways than one.

Your correspondent arrived at the venue early and was greeted by Rick Caride, who, like many in team Xposse Productions does double duty, being cast as a Man in Black, but is part of the crew as well.

His role as a "Man in Black" is that of an intimidating presence, yet he is anything but in person, having a friendly, engaging personality. He told me to watch out for a couple of tiny aspects of the movie that were mistakes.

I missed them, but when you watch it, you can look for them.

The movie begins with a quartet of paranormal hunters who become the hunted after some banter that has a hint of the story. Then the story.

Slate, a detective, is confronted by a good cop/bad cop duo. Well, it's a bad cop/bad cop duo if they are actually cops.

They subdue and apprehend him. The two will next go after a woman named Allison, and take her out of her kitchen where she had been enjoying a



The cast of "Scary Tales: Dark Walker" pose for a photo at the movie's premiere. Turley Photos by Richard Murphy



"Scary Tales: Dark Walker" was filmed in western Massachusetts.

cup of coffee.

Finally, they come upon the writer Sara, deep in thought and apprehend her.

Slate is taken to a room where a fellow named Clawson tries to reassure a man who has been brought to him by force that it's all good. Slate is then brought to another room where Sara and Allison are being held.

Clawson again tries to be a comforting fellow, but no one is buying it, and he and an associate leave.

Locked in, other than all of them having experienced something, they don't make progress in figuring it out and notice they are being gassed.

Slate, Allison, and Sara wake up in what appears to be a living room. More speculations, but no progress among the trio.

Going out doors, they meet the "Muffin Man" who is not at all like the one from the fairy tale.

So, back in the house where more is revealed about their circumstances. Allison and Slate had both lost spouses.

Out again, and now aliens appear. Jay, Allison's husband, arrives.

Looks alive, but he is not a happy camper. Aliens show up, and one is captured.

Attempts at interrogation by the detective are less than successful. Jay sees a Sasquatch out the window. The gang's showing up.

The whole adventure seems real but, is it a dream or hallucination? Ideas come like trading the alien for a car. Well, it was worth a try, or not.

Slate and Allison attempt to go to Springfield and enter what seems Slate's house. His wife is there but in ghoulish form. Gotta go.

Sara attempts sleep to test if it is all a dream and wakes up in the room they had been gassed in. Progress...depending on how you define it.

Meanwhile, Slate, Allison and her husband go out to do battle with the array of enemies. Slate's first attempt is thwarted and Allison's husband is zombified by Slate's dead wife.

Allison fights the aliens and Slate goes up against monsters. The duo wins some breathing room, but any victory is pyrrhic at best. In their last battle, they succumb.

Back in the room, Sara wakes up and faces being injected with something that can't be healthy, but fights back and the would be injector becomes the injectee.

Sara hears Clawson and his colleague, Olivia, speak of the "greater good" and sees through the rationales. Dark Walker, a negotiator from another dimension, is to be weaponized. For Clawson, it will not be as he imagined.

Sara confronts Olivia and Clawson. She turns the tide and Clawson exits to a confrontation with the varied entities and it does not go well.

"Scary Tales: Dark Walker" is available on TUBI as are most of the previous Xposse productions, including Geno's departure from horror. He's made a western and a riff on a Hallmark movie as well as a courtroom drama without a courtroom when he went off the reservation.

What's next? Geno plans a comedy. We shall be watching out for it.

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## SCOUTS from page 1

older youth in Holyoke.

"We're doing something that is not traditionally done everywhere," Baron said. "Sea Scout ships are not very common, they are one of the underutilized programs of Scouting America and it offers a different variety of scouting for the youth and gives them a chance to see stuff that traditionally they wouldn't see."

Baron hopes to take the ship to Boston or New London for field trips. They will also be able to see boats and ships and go scuba diving.

"It gives them a chance to do things they might otherwise not have the opportunity to do," Baron said.

For those who may be nervous about joining this kind of program, Baron encourages them to come by and check out a meeting.

"There is no commitment for com-

ing by and checking it out to see what it is like and they may find something they thought they were uncomfortable with that they actually enjoy," Baron said.

The program held an open house on Wednesday, Sept. 25 and they plan to start official meetings shortly.

The meetings will be held on Wednesday nights in the Mount Tom Lodge, with the exact times and dates to be determined.

Anyone between the ages of 14 and 21 is welcome to join this group, and adults are also encouraged, if interested, to volunteer to support the group.

"Youth can either go from Scouts to us or come right off the streets, they don't need prior experience in Scouts to join," Baron said.

If interested in learning more about the Sea Scouts, email [scoutinginholyo-oke@gmail.com](mailto:scoutinginholyo-oke@gmail.com) and someone there will answer any questions you have.

## Donovan's Irish Pub

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<p><b>Friday, October 11</b></p> <p><b>Ireland The Band</b></p>	<p><b>Saturday, October 12</b></p> <p><b>Dee Reilly</b></p>

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