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Second write-in candidate emerges

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

HOLYOKE – After Pat Beaudry made an announcement dropping out of the Ward 6 school committee hunt due to moving out of the ward, Patty Norris Lubold's candidacy as a write-in candidate was also announced.

Last Saturday, city resident Christian Carde also announced his candidacy for the seat, which will be vacated by longtime Ward 6 School Committee member William Collamore.

Carde issued the following statement to The Sun:

"I am a proud Puerto Rican, first-generation college graduate, and product of public schools. My family has called this community home for nearly 30 years, and I've lived here for the past eight years. With a background in social work and higher education, and in my current role at Amherst College, I've dedicated my career to supporting students, families, and educators through collaboration, inclusion, and innovation. I believe our schools should be safe, inclusive, and empowering spaces where every child has the opportunity to learn and thrive in a collaborative environment, free from segregation. My goal is to strengthen partnerships between school administrators, families, teachers, and the community to build a brighter future for Holyoke."

Carde and Norris Lubold will be working during the final two weeks of the campaign to get word out to resident of Ward 6, who now have two options to write into their blank ballot for the Ward 6 seat.

The general election will take place on Tuesday, Nov. 4 with multiple contested races for the city council and school committee.

Magic for Maddie 5K draws huge turnout

By Brendan Rooney
Correspondent

HOLYOKE – Last Saturday, the 4th annual 'Magic for Maddie 5K Family Fun Walk and Carnival' took place from the grounds of the Ashley Reservoir, where history was made.

In addition, there were various events set up throughout the Elks Lodge campus, such as the fun run event for kids of all ages, where all participants received medals, to show sportsmanship, which acted as a prelude for one of the main draws being the big 5K, which saw supporters gather at the starting line, all decked out in bright pink and purple 'Magic for Maddie' shirts which were provided to each who participated. From there, a shotgun start followed as the runners ran off, then the walkers took their positions, as the Family Fun Walk transpired. Also, to add, for those who attended were treated to various 50/50

See 5K, page 12



Walkers make their way along the path at Ashley Reservoir.

Turley photos by Brendan Rooney



Madeline "Maddie" Schmidt



Runners get ready at the starting line.



Magic for Maddie 5K Family Fun Walk and Carnival drew a big turnout last Saturday.



Maddie's family is ready for the event.

Alumni from HCC reflect on history of school

By Brendan Rooney
Correspondent

HOLYOKE – On Monday, Oct. 20, Holyoke Community College (HCC) held its first-ever "Fall Back Together: Graduates of the Last Decade" event from inside the HCC MGM Culinary Arts Institute, and the consensus among the

attendees was that it turned out to be a resounding success.

Providing insight centered around the purpose of the event and how things came together was HCC Executive Director of Development, Julie Phillips, who admitted the idea was one of a simple partnership between Assistant Director

for HCC Alumni Relations, Natalia Castagno, and a representative from the HCC Culinary Arts Institute, who passed along that the building was available for use, and then it only continued to grow from that point forward.

"We thought, let's get the graduates of the last decade, and see what they

have been up to, and offer a bit of check-in process, while understanding what impact our alumni have been making in Western Mass and beyond," Phillips said. "I want to add, even though we've never done this before, we are thrilled with the turnout, and the response from the alums was received quite quickly, which led to us reaching capacity at a rapid pace, and we had to shut down the event to accommodate those who already confirmed to join us."

It should be noted, the social gathering saw more than 60 alumni representatives, with a variety of classes represented, ranging from the classes of 2015 to the most recent of 2025, who all shared the same mindset of having the chance to stop by and reconnect with old friends while reflecting on their tenure at the institution, and offering stories and insight about what they have done since departing

Soto will not seek permanent role as schools superintendent

HOLYOKE – Last week, the Holyoke Public School announced in a press release that it was hiring the MASC to assist in the search for a new superintendent of school. With the release of HPS from state receivership, the role of chief administrator of the schools is back in the hands of the city.

HPS said the following: The Holyoke School Committee is in contract negotiations with the Massachusetts Association of School Committees (MASC) to support the search process for a new superintendent, now that state receivership has ended and the district was returned to local governance as of July 1.

School Committee members were informed during their meeting on Monday, Oct. 6 that MASC provided the lowest of three quotes provided by outside

vendors. MASC has more than 30 years of successful search consulting experience and has provided both technical assistance and full search management to more than 200 member school districts across Massachusetts during that time.

As part of the search process, MASC will seek input from the School Committee as well as HPS families, staff, city officials, and community members through a variety of means to develop candidate selection criteria and develop the formal job posting. A new superintendent is expected to be appointed for July 1, 2026.

During Monday's meeting, Interim Superintendent Anthony Soto shared his personal decision not to apply for the position, after a great



Alums catch up during a roundtable discussion.

Turley photos by Brendan Rooney

See ALUMNI, page 12

See SOTO, page 12

HHS to present fall theatrical production

HOLYOKE – The Holyoke High School Theater Company invites the community to an evening of mystery, laughter, and suspense with “The Final Act,” an original Murder Mystery Dinner Theater written by Fynn Maldonado, a member of the Holyoke High School Class of 2026 in the Performing and Media Arts academy. The performance takes place at 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Nov. 13 at De La Luz Soundstage located at 114 Race Street in Holyoke. Written by Fynn

Maldonado and produced under the direction of Bevan Brunelle, “The Final Act” is an immersive theatrical experience that pulls the audience directly into the story. Guests will enjoy a three-course sit-down meal—salad, main course, and dessert—while the mystery unfolds all around them. As the drama builds, patrons will collect clues, piece together evidence, and compete to solve the mystery before the final act is revealed. Every table has a chance to uncover the

truth... if they can connect the dots in time. This one-of-a-kind event invites guests to dine, watch, and even become part of the plot. A limited number of VIP “Suspect Add-On” packages allow participants to step into the story by submitting a photo and five personal “facts” to become a suspect in the case. VIP Sponsor Seating includes premium table placement, one soft drink ticket, a signed cast poster, and a sponsor listing in the official playbill. Tickets

are: General admission: \$30; Students admission: \$20 (must show student ID at door); and, V.I.P Sponsor Seating: \$45. No tickets will be sold at the door. All ticket sales close at 8 p.m. on Sunday, November 9, and guests must be 11 years or older to attend. Business casual attire is encouraged for this immersive, student-created evening of intrigue. Tickets are available online only at <https://delaluz.org/events/the-final-act/>

Dream Designers hosted by E.N. White School

HOLYOKE – Join us for exciting and interactive STEM activities designed to ignite curiosity, creativity and critical thinking in children 2.9 to five years old and their families. Explore, experiment and discover the wonders of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math through hands-on experiences. This event will be held at E.N. White Elementary School, located at 1 Jefferson St., Holyoke on Wednesdays,

Oct. 1 through Nov. 5 from 4 to 5 p.m. Children must attend with an adult. The programs are offered by the Holyoke Chicopee Family and Community Program. Funded by the Coordinated Family & Community Engagement Grant from the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care. To register, contact Shane at 413-310-1632.

DAISY Award nominations available to Holyoke Medical Center nurses

HOLYOKE – Nurses at Holyoke Medical Center will soon have the ability to be nominated for The DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses®. The international award is part of the DAISY Foundation’s mission to recognize the extraordinary, compassionate nursing care they provide patients and families every day. The DAISY Foundation is a not-for-profit organization, established in memory of J. Patrick Barnes, by members of his family. Patrick died at the age of 33 in late 1999 from complications of Idiopathic

Thrombocytopenic Purpura (ITP), a little known but not uncommon auto-immune disease. (DAISY is an acronym for Diseases Attacking the Immune System.) The care Patrick and his family received from nurses while he was ill inspired this unique means of thanking nurses for making a profound difference in the lives of their patients and patient families. Nurses may be nominated by patients, families, and colleagues. The award recipient is chosen by a committee at Holyoke Medical Center to receive The DAISY Award.

Awards are presented throughout the year at celebrations attended by the Honoree’s colleagues, patients, and visitors. Each Honoree receives a certificate commending her or him as an “Extraordinary Nurse.” The certificate reads: “In deep appreciation of all you do, who you are, and the incredibly meaningful difference you make in the lives of so many people.” Honorees also receive a DAISY Award pin and a beautiful and meaningful sculpture called A Healer’s Touch, hand-carved by artists of the Shona Tribe in Zimbabwe.

Said Bonnie Barnes, FAAN, Doctor of Humane Letters (h.c.) and Co-Founder of The DAISY Foundation, “When Patrick was critically ill, our family experienced first-hand the remarkable skill and care nurses provide patients every day and night. Yet these unsung heroes are seldom recognized for the super-human, extraordinary, compassionate work they do. The kind of work the nurses at Holyoke Medical Center are called on to do every day epitomizes the purpose of The DAISY Award.” “Holyoke Medical Center

is proud to join many health-care organizations across the globe participating in The DAISY Award program. Nurses go above and beyond every day. It’s important that nurses at HMC know their work is highly valued, and The DAISY Foundation provides a way for us to do that,” said Margaret-Ann Azzaro DNP, RN, CENP, Sr. Vice President, Patient Care Services & Chief Nursing Officer at Holyoke Medical Center. In addition to the DAISY Award for Extraordinary Nurses, the Foundation

expresses gratitude to the nursing profession internationally in thousands of health-care facilities and schools of nursing with recognition of Nurse-led Teams, Nurse Leaders, Nurses Advancing Health Equity, Nursing Ethics, Nurse Educators, Nursing Students, Lifetime Achievement in Nursing and through the J. Patrick Barnes Grants for Nursing Research and Evidence-Based Practice Projects, Medical Mission Grants and their new Health Equity Grant programs. More information is available at <http://DAISYfoundation.org>.

MiraVista teams up with farm for fun nurse appreciation event

WILBRAHAM – Rice’s Fruit Farm—famous for its apple cider, sugar-and-spice donuts, and homemade ice cream—is adding something new to its menu: heartfelt appreciation for nurses. On Thursday, Oct. 30 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Rice’s Fruit Farm is teaming up with MiraVista Behavioral Health Center to celebrate the nurses who care for our community every day. All nurses are invited to stop by, enjoy a complimentary cup of cider and a donut, and take a moment to relax, recharge, and feel appreciated. This collaboration with MiraVista is a simple but meaningful way to say “thank you” to healthcare professionals for their compassion, dedication, and

commitment to healing. “Nurses are there for all of us on our best days and our hardest ones,” said Anthony Maloni, owner of Rice’s Fruit Farm. “If a warm cider and a fresh donut can bring a smile or a moment of calm to someone who spends their days caring for others, then that’s the least we can do. We’re honored to partner with MiraVista to say, from our whole team: thank you, nurses.” Cost: Free for nurses; one cider and one donut per nurse, while supplies last. According to Kimberley Lee, Chief of Creative Strategy and Development for MiraVista, nurses anchor our health-care system with skill, heart, and resilience. By welcoming the nursing

community, Rice’s Fruit Farm is helping create a simple moment of respite—one that recognizes the essential, often unseen work nurses do across hospitals, clinics, schools, long-term care facilities, behavioral health programs, and more. MiraVista Behavioral Health Center is proud to join in this expression of gratitude and to uplift caregivers who are central to the well-being of individuals and families across Western Massachusetts.” Stop in. Take a seat. Have a sip. Because kindness—like cider—is best shared warm. Community partners and residents are encouraged to share this invitation with nurses in their networks and on social media.

Elks hosting free throw contest

HOLYOKE – The Holyoke Lodge of Elks #902 proudly announces its annual Elks Hoop Shoot Free Throw Contest, to be held on Saturday, Nov. 8, at the Holyoke Boys and Girls Club. Registration begins at 9 a.m., and the contest starts promptly at 9:30 a.m. This event is free of charge and open to all boys and girls ages 8 through 13 as of April 1, 2026.

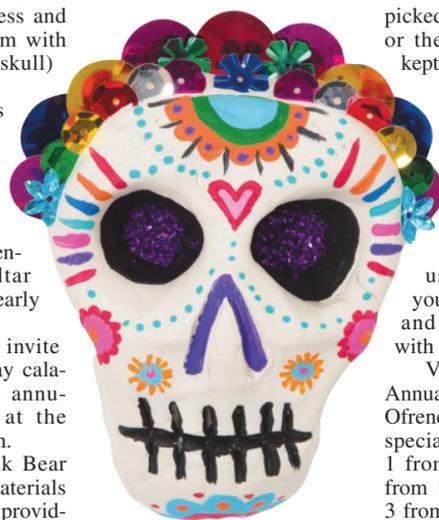
Contestants will compete within their age and gender divisions. Winners from the local contest will advance to the district competition, with the opportunity to continue on to the state, regional, and national levels. National champions will have their names permanently inscribed on a plaque at the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in Springfield, Massachusetts — an honor

that celebrates their dedication and achievement. The Elks Hoop Shoot is a proud tradition that encourages youth to develop character, sportsmanship, and perseverance — one free throw at a time. Don’t miss this exciting opportunity to test your skills, have fun, and represent your community. For more information, please contact Sal Canata at (413) 883-1561.

Wistariahurst hosting skull painting

HOLYOKE – Get ready for another amazing Dia de Los Muertos celebration with Attack Bear Press and Wistariahurst Museum with a special calaveras (skull) painting event. Dia de Los Muertos is a special tradition that allows people to celebrate and remember deceased loved ones by decorating an ofrenda, a communal altar dedicated to those dearly departed. On Oct. 19, we invite you to paint your clay calaveras to add to the annual ofrenda hosted at the Wistariahurst Museum. Thanks to Attack Bear Press, all painting materials and calaveras will be provided at the event. You may also bring a photograph of your departed loved ones to not only add a personal touch to your artwork, but also so the

community can honor and remember them as well. skull to take home as a cherished keepsake. All materials must be picked up by November 4th or they will be stored and kept for next year. Don’t miss this unique chance to connect with the rich tapestry of Dia de Los Muertos and contribute to a vibrant, communal ofrenda. We invite you to join us, and we encourage you to bring your friends and family to celebrate with all of your loved ones. Viewing for the 8th Annual Holyoke Community Ofrenda will be available for special open hours on Nov. 1 from 6 to 8 p.m., Nov. 2 from 12 to 2 p.m., and Nov. 3 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. We can’t wait to see the collective beauty and heartfelt tributes created by our very own community and celebrate this important holiday.





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Inked in symbolism: Tattoo talk with Donnabelle Casis

HOLYOKE – Wistariahurst Museum is excited to announce an upcoming presentation with Donnabelle Casis, corresponding with the museum's Current exhibit: Identity in Ink: The Art of Tattooing. This talk will dive into the history of Filipino tattooing. Visitors will learn about symbolism found in common tattoos and the practice of hand-tapped tattooing. This method of tattooing is touched upon in the exhibit, but Casis will dive deeper, sharing her own connections to tattooing.

Donnabelle Casis is an artist, psychic medium, Reiki Master Teacher, sound therapy practitioner, and intuitive development mentor through my practice, SonorousLight, LLC. Her visual art practice involves painting and kinetic sculpture. About her work, Casis says, "I draw inspiration from my Filipino heritage, particularly the symbols and patterns found in tribal tattoos and textiles. These designs are deeply

rooted in storytelling, identity, and spiritual connection." Identity in Ink merges modern tattooing with the history of the art form. The art of tattooing is one of the ancient traditions in human history. Etching pictures and symbols into skin has been around for thousands of years and has held countless meanings throughout different cultures and times. Some are still rooted in tradition and rituals, but tattoos have evolved into powerful symbols of self-expression, storytelling, and identity. Casis's presentation will be the perfect way to celebrate this exhibit.

Inked in Symbolism will take place on November 10th, 2025, from 6pm-7pm. Registration is encouraged, but not required. Register for this event on Wistariahurst's Eventbrite page. We hope to see you for this exciting talk to close out the exhibit.

Identity in Ink: The Art of Tattooing is on view through Nov. 11. Open gallery hours for this exhibit

it will be on Mondays (10 a.m. to 2 p.m.) and Tuesdays (4:30 to 6:30 p.m.). These gallery hours are open and free to the public, so that all of our community members can stop by to explore this exhibit, discover unique artistry, and engage with educational information surrounding the history of tattoos. This program is funded in part by a grant from the Holyoke Cultural Council, a local agency that is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

Plow contractors wanted to assist city

HOLYOKE – With winter nearing, the Department of Public Works is seeking individuals to assist city plow operators in the 2025-2026 winter season. Qualified individuals with the proper equipment are encouraged to apply in person at: DPW, 63 Canal Street, Holyoke.

Veterans Services to restore graves Nov. 8

HOLYOKE - The Veterans Services is honored to host a Graves Restoration Event on Saturday, Nov. 8 at the Calvary Cemetery located at 2140 Northampton Street. The event will begin at 10 a.m. Rain Date will be on Nov. 15. This event is to restore and preserve our deceased veterans markers so that they are kept in a presentable form for posterity. Tools and supplies will be provided. There are no hazardous chemicals (to

humans, animals or environment) used in the process of restoration. If you have any questions, please contact Wayne Klinge at klingew@holyokey.org or 413-322-5630. All are welcome.

Senate expands 'Move Over' law

BOSTON – Last week, State Senator Jake Oliveira (D-Ludlow) and his colleagues in the Massachusetts Senate passed legislation that strengthens roadside safety protections for drivers, utility crews, and others who must work or stop along state highways and local roads. The bill, An Act relative to the Move Over Law, expands existing protections for emergency vehicles to include utility trucks and any disabled vehicle displaying hazard or flashing lights. It requires motorists to slow down and, when possible, move over a lane when approaching a stationary utility vehicle or car stopped on the shoulder. The goal is to prevent more crashes, injuries, and fatalities on Massachusetts roads.

Senator Oliveira stated that the measure has particular importance for the safety of workers and drivers in rural Western Massachusetts, where many roadways have limited shoulders and visibility. "Whether it's a line-man restoring power after a storm or a driver stuck on Route 202 in Belchertown, everyone deserves to feel safe when they're pulled over," said Senator Oliveira. "This bill is a common-sense step that will save lives, especially on our rural roads where there's little room for error." Under the legislation, fines for violating the Move Over law will increase to \$250 for a second offense and \$500 for third and subsequent violations. Repeat offenders will also be required to complete a driver education program to

reinforce safe driving practices. The original Move Over law already covers police, fire, EMS, tow trucks, and highway maintenance crews. This expansion ensures that utility workers, who often face the same roadside dangers, and stranded motorists receive the same level of protection. "In communities like Granby, Palmer, and Ludlow, our utility workers are out in all conditions fixing downed lines, restoring heat, and keeping people connected," Oliveira added. "We owe it to them and to every driver on the road to build a culture of caution and respect behind the wheel." Having passed the Senate unanimously, the bill now moves to the House of Representatives for consideration.

Mall hosting Halloween event Oct. 30

HOLYOKE – Families and children of all ages are invited to Holyoke Mall's annual Halloween Mall-O-Ween, trick-or-treating event, on Thursday, Oct. 30 from 4 to 6 p.m. Participating mall retailers will be handing out candy throughout the center, making it the perfect destination for little ghouls and goblins to safely enjoy trick-or-treating. Attendees can also participate in a Social Media Costume Contest. Simply snap a photo while trick-or-treating at the mall, post it on Facebook and/or Instagram, follow and tag the mall @HolyokeMall, and use the hashtag #HolyokeMallHalloween2025. Contestants must be at least 18 years of age. Winners will be announced on November 3rd and awarded spooktacular prizes. For full details regarding Halloween Mall-O-Ween, please visit <https://www.holyokemall.com/event/halloween-mall-o-ween-2025/>.



Hibernian Clothing and Food Drive benefit for Providence Ministries 2025

HOLYOKE – The Ancient Order of Hibernians of Hampden/Hampshire Counties along with the Polish National Credit Union Announce the Annual Clothing and Food Drive for Providence Ministries from September to Dec. 1. Please drop off gently used clothing, blankets, sleeping bags, and/or non-perishable food items to the Polish National Credit Union 270 Westfield Rd. Holyoke. Make a donation and be entered to win a raffle basket. Please help those who are experiencing food insecurity and assist Providence Ministries as they continue to transform lives through their life-changing programs. Stop by the PNCU-your efforts will be greatly appreciated.

NAMI Western Mass. offering family-to-family education

HOLYOKE – NAMI Western Massachusetts is pleased to offer their NAMI Family-to-Family Education Program in person, starting Saturday, Oct. 25 from 9 a.m. to 12 noon in Holyoke. NAMI Family-to-Family is a free, 8-session educational program for family, significant others, and friends of people with mental health conditions. It is a designated evidenced-based program. This means that research shows that the program significantly improves the coping and problem-solving abilities of the people

closest to a person with a mental health condition. NAMI Family-to-Family is taught by NAMI-trained family members who have been there and includes presentations, discussions, and interactive exercises. NAMI, is the nation's largest grassroots mental health organization dedicated to building better lives for the millions of Americans affected by mental health conditions. NAMI - W M is an affiliate of NAMI Massachusetts. NAMI Western Massachusetts and its dedicated volunteers, members, and leaders work tirelessly to raise awareness and provide essential education, advocacy, and support programs for people in our community living with mental health conditions and their loved ones. Pre-registration is required. For more information contact: Bonnie Pueschel at 413-426-7644 BpishL21@gmail.com or visit: www.nami-wm.org/support.

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Guest Column



How do I navigate the Social Security maze?

Dear Rusty:

I am a woman, turning 65 this October (2025). It seems that deciding when to claim Social Security is complicated. I would like more information to navigate through this maze. Thank you.

Signed: Ready to Claim

Dear Ready:

Deciding when to claim Social Security can be challenging, but we hope to make it a bit easier for you. You can, of course, call us at any time to speak to one of our certified Social Security Advisors, but I'll share some pertinent information here as well.

Be aware that at age 65, you have not yet reached your Social Security Full Retirement Age. Born in 1960, your FRA is age 67 and that is when you can get 100% of the SS benefit you've earned from a lifetime of working.

If you claim SS at age 65, your monthly amount will be reduced by about 13.3% from your age 67 entitlement, a permanent reduction. If you wait a bit more and claim at age 66 the reduction would be about 6.7%. To get 100% of your "primary insurance amount" you should wait until age 67 to claim. Note you can also wait longer than your FRA and earn Delayed Retirement Credits up to age 70, when your monthly amount would be about 24% more than your FRA entitlement.

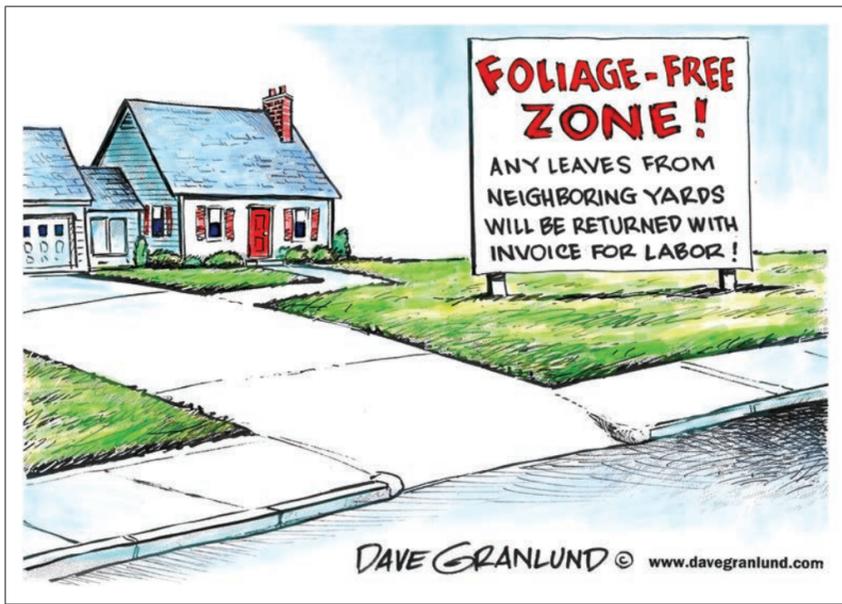
If you are still working, at age 65 you will also be subject to Social Security's Annual Earnings Test, which limits how much you can earn when collecting SS benefits before your full retirement age. The earnings limit for 2025 is \$23,400 (changes annually) and if you earn more than that, SS will take away \$1 in benefits for every \$2 you are over the limit.

There is also a special rule for the first calendar year you are collecting early benefits, which will result in you not getting benefits for any month your work earn-

ings are more than \$1,950 after your early benefits start. So, if you claim SS at age 65 and continue to work, you won't get any SS benefits in any 2025 month thereafter that you earn more than the monthly limit unless your total annual; 2025 earnings are less than the annual limit. FYI, the earnings limit no longer applies once you attain your full retirement age.

In the end, deciding when you should claim Social Security should consider your need for Social Security money, your life expectancy, your plans for working and your marital status. If you are or were married, you might be eligible for a spousal or ex-spouse benefit. You may also want to peruse the Social Security Question and Answer section at our website www.SocialSecurityReport.org. So, as you have already discerned, deciding when to claim Social Security can be confusing, but we are always here to assist you as needed. You can either call us directly at 1-888-750-2622 or email your specific Social Security questions to us at SSAdvisor@amacfoundation.org. In either case, we will be most happy to help you decide when to claim, based on your unique personal circumstances.

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



DAVE GRANLUND © www.davegranlund.com

Guest Column

More review; what worked what didn't

Last week I wrote about two new winter squash varieties I grew in this past summer's garden, as well as a Barbie doll sized melon.

According to Mom, it made for a good read. Let's keep the momentum going with more "new to me" varieties in this column.

As dedicated readers may remember, this past summer's garden was to accomplish the goal of growing more food, food that would cut down on the grocery bill and feed the family through the winter. I took my chances growing a hybrid paste tomato by the name of Plum Regal. Its accolades were many: late blight resistance, moderate resistance to early blight, a the promise of a good yield and a tasty outcome.

I typically only grow heirlooms, so this toma-



by Roberta McQuaid

comes not quite a success.

I'll call Muskmelon "Melonade" one of those adventures. I was intrigued by the description in the Fedco catalog, "firm orange flesh is tart, punchy and refreshing," and had hoped it would keep our fam-

ily in melons for a month or so. Not exactly.

I couldn't get over the fact that what looked like a cantaloupe tasted like a lemon! No one in the house liked it. I'm not going to call it a failure, because if anything, I learned that I could grow a muskmelon successfully.

I worried I would harvest them too early, or too late, but I harvested them just right, and they grew exceedingly well on black plastic down the middle of my heat retaining rock wall raised

With every success

See GARDEN, page 5



Black vulture

On Monday, Oct. 6, an Oakham resident watched a kettle of 28 black vultures circling above the Harrington Hospital in Southbridge.

He said, "As you may know, the species is expanding its range northward into Massachusetts." A kettle is a large group of vultures circling in a thermal, using the rising air to conserve energy during migration.

The black vulture has sooty, black plumage, a featherless black head and neat white stars under the wing-tips.

Turkey vultures are lanky birds with a teetering flight. Their cousin the black vultures are compact birds with broad wings, short



By Ellenor Downer

tails and powerful wingbeats. Turkey and black vultures often associate together. The black vultures have a poor sense of smell, but by following turkey vultures by following them to carcasses. They often soar high in the sky in search of lower soaring turkey vultures. When the turkey vultures descend on a carcass, the black vultures follow them.

Black vultures are highly social and share food with relatives, feeding young for months after they've fledged. In the United States black vultures are more plentiful than turkey vultures. Black vultures lack a voice box and their sounds are limited to hisses and grunts.

The oldest black vulture on record was a least 25 years, six months old when it was found in 1965 in Louisiana. It was banded there in 1940. They may live even longer in captivity.

Brimfield resident
On Sunday, Oct. 5, I

received an email from a Brimfield resident commenting about my seeing a moose in Oakham. He said, "Seeing a moose in Massachusetts is exciting. My wife and I saw a moose in Canada, it ran across the road in front of the car and disappeared into the woods. My wife said "look a horse with no rider, similar to your reaction."

Eagle sighting

On Wednesday, Oct. 1, I received an email from a reader. He said, "I was in my car last evening around 6:30 when I saw a huge, black-winged bird come over Main Street in Barre Plains. When we were kids it was called Canal Road. It was flying low over the street and was trying to gain altitude. The bird appeared just before Rich's Pond and it had what looked like a recent kill in its talons. It accidentally dropped the dead animal, which appeared to be a rabbit, onto the road

See GARDEN, page 5

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The Holyoke Sun welcomes election letters to the editor

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. 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 newspa-

per 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*.

the HOLYOKE Sun

TEAM



EDITOR/SPORTS
Greg Scibelli
thesun@turley.com



ADVERTISING SALES
Wendy Delcamp
wdelcamp@turley.com

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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. Mailed letters can be sent to *The Sun*, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.



PHONE

413.283.8393
Fax: 413.283.7017
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EMAIL

Advertising Sales
Wendy Delcamp
wdelcamp@turley.com

Editor

Gregory Scibelli
thesun@turley.com

WEB

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“Falling back” to a season of change



your health

By Teri (Dreher) Frykenberg, RN
Guest Column



It's not just the leaves that change in autumn. We do, too.

Our bodies naturally change with the seasons, as the hours of sunlight, temperatures and humidity fluctuate. In our fast-paced modern world, we are tempted to ignore these seasonal signals, enabled as we are by artificial lighting, indoor climate control and the year-round availability of many foods. (Strawberries in January? Really?)

Let's look at some of the ways our bodies adjust to fall, and a few ways you can

perhaps enhance wellbeing by paying attention to them.

Sleep disruptions

The hours of sunlight gradually become fewer after the summer equinox, and then there's the jarring change when we turn our clocks back in November. The politicians have haggled for years whether “falling back” is still necessary, as it requires students to get up while it's still dark, and sunset comes ever earlier.

The effects on our bodies are profound. With less exposure to natural light, we sleep more, which can affect

mood, focus, memory and energy. Later sunrises might make it harder to get out of bed in the morning, and daytime drowsiness becomes more frequent.

Less physical activity

Chilly mornings and earlier darkness may make us less likely to get that morning or evening walk in. We sit and watch football, eating nachos and drinking beer, rather than get outside ourselves. All of this can lead to weight gain, which also affects mood.

More frequent illnesses

As we are indoors more, we are exposed to more viruses, bacteria and allergens, and that's why flu, COVID, colds and allergies come on more frequently. Drier air also has an impact, as it dries up our nasal mucous, which is designed to trap viruses, and lets those viruses in more easily. Drier noses may also bring on more nosebleeds.

Other changes

Researchers have found

that people lose more hair in the autumn than in spring or summer, probably having to do with hormonal fluctuations.

Those hormones may also go to work on the libido – more babies are conceived in November and December than at any other time of the year, according to data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. One theory is that sperm quality is better in winter, but of course we're also spending longer nights in bed.

Anxiety can be heightened, associated with the rigors of schoolwork and planning for the upcoming holidays.

And, of course, dry skin becomes more of a problem in the fall, when indoor humidity drops.

A few tips:

Get more sunlight: More exposure to sunlight increases Vitamin D, serotonin and dopamine (the feel-good brain chemicals). In particular, morning sunlight helps

our bodies sync our circadian rhythms with the season, which in turn helps us sleep better at night. It can also counteract the effects of the blue light emanating from our computers, tablets and phones.

Put your senses to work: Feel the colder air on your cheeks, listen to the leaves crunching under your feet and smell the changes in the air. Smell the crisp air, and perhaps experiment with some aromatherapy scents indoors – eucalyptus, cardamom, lavender – to elevate mood and tamp down anxiety.

Take care of your skin: Amp up your use of moisturizers, turn off the dehumidifier and avoid long, hot showers and baths. Treating your skin kindly now will help as we head into the even drier winter months.

Try some “fall foods”: Eating vitamin-rich vegetables now will help you fight off winter illnesses. Good choices include

squashes (pumpkin, butternut, acorn and the like); green leafy spinach and arugula; and cruciferous veggies like kale, broccoli and cauliflower.

Entertain yourself: Even in the Middle Ages, people enjoyed indoor games like chess, as well as outdoor activities and fall fetes.

As the saying goes, to everything there is a season. Making a few changes in your routines and habits can help you feel better this fall.

Teri (Dreher) Frykenberg, is a registered nurse and board-certified patient advocate and founder of www.NurseAdvocateEntrepreneur.com, which trains medical professionals to become successful private patient advocates. Teri offers a free phone consultation to *Turley Newspaper* readers as well as to nurses interested in becoming advocates. Reach her at Teri@NurseAdvocateEntrepreneur.com

GARDEN, from page 4

beds. Next year I will search for a variety with a more typical flavor and it could just be a win-win.

I have always wanted to grow Indian corn as a fall decoration, but was leery of the space needed for such an endeavor. The experts talk about growing corn four rows deep for proper pollination and kernel formation.

I threw caution to the wind and decided I'd grow a popcorn. I enjoyed the commentary in the Fedco catalog in the description of a variety named “Calico.” “you can hang it on your door in fall and pop the very same batch come Thanksgiving.” Sold.

I grew only eight plants, set out in a four by two pattern. Shucking the corn felt a lot like Christmas

morning with the surprise factor involved. Will the kernels be gold, blue, mottled or bronze?

I ended up with enough to decorate with and come Thanksgiving I will indeed try and pop some. I've had some experience popping eared corn before.

At our family vacation my sister in law tried it out. She put the dried ear she had purchased in a paper bag and folded it shut, placed it in a microwave on high for about 3-4 minutes and yum!

What else worked out well in my garden this year? The succession planting of green beans seeded immediately after my garlic was harvested worked out superbly. No additional fertilizer required.

I was able to freeze a lot of beans from that second sowing. I guess I

always wish there are more to freeze, so maybe next year the row will be longer.

I didn't utilize the wide row method this year. Two parallel rows with a walking row down the middle made the harvest easy.

I hope you had your share of successes this past summer, and if you are anything like me, you are already scheming next year's veggie garden.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 33 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@turley.com with “Gardening Question” in the subject line.

BIRDS, from page 4

and what I thought was a vulture turned out to be an adult Bald Eagle.”

He said, “Its stark white head and white fanned tail, along with its bright yellow feet and beak were clearly seen and it was startling to be only 25 or 30 feet away from it. The eagle's wing span was enormous. It made an attempt to recapture its prey by diving quickly back to the road and it had to widely fan out its tail feathers to slow its descent and gain flight control.”

He said, “The Bald Eagle then flew high up into a tree along the road near the pond and was waiting for me and all cars to pass before

descending on its prey. It was breath taking. We never saw such things as kids.”

Cedar waxwings

The Barre resident said on recent warm September days he also has been seeing a small flock of cedar waxwings in Gilbertville, along the Ware River, taking bugs in midair over the river and also working trees and bushes that still have some fruit on them.

Helping birds

People may also help birds by keeping their cats indoors. Many birds are killed by cats. It is safer for people's pet cats to kept indoors as they also succumb to predation. If a cat is an outdoor cat, people may put a bell collar on their cat with a quick

release mechanism if their pet's collar should get hung up on something.

Dark-eyed Juncos

An Oakham resident reported seeing a dark-eyed junco in his yard last week. I saw a small flock of juncos along the road where I live on Oct. 13. Their white tall feathers identified them as they flew up from the side of the road. It was my first sighting this fall.

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.

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CLUES ACROSS

- Remark
- Upper body part
- Expression of dismissiveness
- Alternate name
- Popular beverage
- Swiss river
- Step-shaped recess
- Rocker Stewart
- Bright shade of color
- Popular “street”
- Wrath
- Heat units
- Nocturnal omnivorous mammals
- Fall back into
- Remove from the record
- Sound a splash made
- Popular Dodge pickup model
- Jamaican event
- Notable event in Texas history
- Cool!
- Subset of Judaism
- Newly entered cadet
- Duct in urinary system
- Exterminator
- Snatch quickly
- Have already done
- Less healthy
- Therefore
- What couples say on the altar
- Mysteriously
- Look angry or sullen
- Bird's beak
- Taco ingredient
- Square measures
- Google certification (abbr.)
- Singer Hansard

CLUES DOWN

- Pubs
- Wings
- Popular BBQ dish
- Small sponge cake
- Open-roofed entrance halls
- Organize anew
- Type of wine
- Forums
- North Atlantic islands (alt. sp.)
- Pond dwellers
- Large integers
- Signaled
- Brief
- Type of student
- Tibetan monasteries
- Revolutions per minute
- NY Giants great Manning
- Local area network
- Residue from burning
- Illuminated
- Vasopressin
- Notable space station
- Wood sorrel
- Adhering to laws
- Chose
- Hovel
- Stood up
- European city
- Works ceaselessly
- Mistake
- Sun-dried brick
- Sicilian city
- A steep rugged rock or cliff
- Murder
- Other
- “Deadpool” actor Reynolds

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

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SPORTS

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Holyoke boys shut out Ware

HOLYOKE – their ninth game of the season. Last Tuesday evening, Holyoke High School boys soccer defeated Ware 6-0. Xevier Davila and Christian Piedra had two goals each to lead Holyoke's scoring. The Knights won

While Holyoke won nine games and will make the state tournament, their strength of schedule found them outside of the Western Mass. tournament this year.



Don Ampofo is pressured by an opponent.



Above, Xevier Davila guides a pass away. Left, Kerdy Laura heads up the field.



Ryan Kennedy tries to get away from an opponent.



Patrick Smith O'Connor sends a pass away.



Jean Roosier Muscadin plays a ball of his shin.



Abigail Bechard crosses the field with possession.



Emma Authier navigates through traffic.



Ishanellys Rivera sends a pass away.

Knights fall at home to Palmer

HOLYOKE – The Holyoke High School girls soccer team suffered a 5-0 shutout at home last Wednesday evening. The shutout dropped Holyoke to 3-9-3 for the season.



Kyleigh Dorman sends a throw-in back on the field.



Kyleigh Luther collect a save. Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Tigers take first matchup over Knights

HOLYOKE – With league realignment, the Holyoke High School football team will now match up South Hadley twice a season. The two teams are now in the Suburban North league for the next couple of years. The teams have also been matching up on Thanksgiving for the last several years since Chicopee shifted its holiday matchup to playing against Chicopee Comprehensive.

Holyoke faced South Hadley in conference action last Friday night, and unfortunately suffered a 48-7 loss at South Hadley. The Knights are now 1-5 on the season and they will face Taconic at home Friday, Oct. 24 at 6 p.m.



Mia Healy goes for the header.

Holyoke Community College lands \$300K 'RISE' grant

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Community College has received a \$300,000 state grant to train low-income job seekers whose primary barrier to employment is their English language skills.

The Readiness, Integration, Skills, and Employment (RISE) grant to HCC is part of a \$2.7 million package awarded recently to eight employers and organizations for English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) initiatives that also include career readiness, job training and placement services.

The RISE grants are funded by the Executive Office of Labor and Workforce Development and adminis-

tered by the Commonwealth Corporation through the state's Workforce Competitive Trust Fund. HCC was one of only two grant recipients outside the Boston area. Greenfield Community College received a \$195,000 grant to train home health aides.

Overall, the grants will support the training of more than 500 residents in the state in workforce ESOL training programs and help ease the demand for ESOL services.

"We know that language is a significant barrier to employment, which is why we have focused on connecting workers with the English and skills training they need to succeed in today's economy,"

said Governor Maura Healey. "These awards will help prepare our residents to fill open roles in one of our high-demand fields."

HCC is partnering with three Springfield-based agencies – Wayfinders, Tech Foundry, and MassHire Springfield – to provide training and career placement services for 50 individuals. HCC's employer partners include Baystate Health, Holyoke Medical Center, Adhesive Applications, the Pioneer Valley Hotel Group, and MGM Springfield, who have agreed to interview program participants.

Originally, the grant focused on people living in

emergency shelters but has been expanded to also include other low-income job seekers with children below the age of 18.

"It's focused on individuals who need ESOL language development," said Kermit Dunkelberg, assistant vice president of adult education and workforce development, "but who also might be facing barriers like inadequate housing – that's why we're partnering with Wayfinders; or digital literacy – that's why we're partnering with Tech Foundry; or basic awareness about how to apply for a job – that's why we're partnering with MassHire."

Participants will also be

connected to support services that address other basic needs, such as childcare and food insecurity.

"What's innovative about this program is that we're taking a cohesive approach to provide services that might typically be done sequentially, like, let's first get you into stable housing and then get you into an English class, and then start thinking about a career," said Dunkelberg. "Now we're trying to do that in a more integrated way to accelerate people's ability to get into jobs."

HCC is now recruiting for the program, which is expected to begin by the end of October.

The program will include

three cycles of 12-week classes over a year and a half, with both in person and self-paced online components.

"The curriculum is designed so that people can repeat a cycle or move up into a higher level of English and continue on," said Dunkelberg. "We will also be educating students about other industry-specific training opportunities we offer and jobs that are out there."

"One possible outcome is that they might go on to do culinary training or clean energy training, or healthcare training," he said. "For others it might be getting an entry-level position at Baystate Health, or MGM."

Harmony House hosting spaghetti dinner fundraiser

CHICOPEE – Harmony House of Western Massachusetts, a nonprofit home for hospice patients, will host their 15th Annual Spaghetti Supper on Friday, Nov. 7 from 5 to 7 p.m. at the Moose Family Center, 244 Fuller Rd., Chicopee. The community event raises funds to support the organization's mission, providing a home and compassionate, around-the-clock care.

"Community support is absolutely vital to Harmony House. Donations enable us to provide 24/7 care and companionship to those who don't have a safe or suitable place to receive hospice care and want to live out their final days in a place they can call home," said Gina Mazza, board president and executive director of Harmony House. "We're looking forward to bringing the community together to share a delicious meal and be part of our work providing the comfort and care that our residents and their loved ones deserve."

The evening will include a hearty spaghetti dinner, 50/50 drawing, and raffle baskets. Tickets can be purchased at HarmonyHouseWMA.org or from a board member and are \$15 if purchased before Thursday, Oct. 30. Tickets purchased after this date or at the door are \$20. Children six and under attend for free.

This event is made possible thanks to the generous donation of space from the Chicopee Moose Lodge and the support of our sponsors, including Westfield Bank, Egan, Flanagan and Cohen, P.C., Fedor Financial Group, LLC, Carla Santia & Associates, Pizza Lino, and Rivest Financial Associates, Inc. Additional sponsors are welcome and can learn more at the Harmony House website. Additional sponsors will be happily accepted until October 29th. Please visit HarmonyHouseWMA.org to learn more about the organization, event, volunteer opportunities, or to donate.

HCC to celebrate Dia de los Muertos Oct. 30

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Community College will celebrate Dia de los Muertos, the traditional Mexican Day of the Dead holiday, on Thursday, Oct. 30, beginning at 1:30 p.m. in the college Campus Center.

The college's El Centro program and LEA Club (Latinx Empowerment Association) are inviting members of the HCC and surrounding community to take part in the construction of an ofrenda on the second floor of the Campus Center outside room 248.

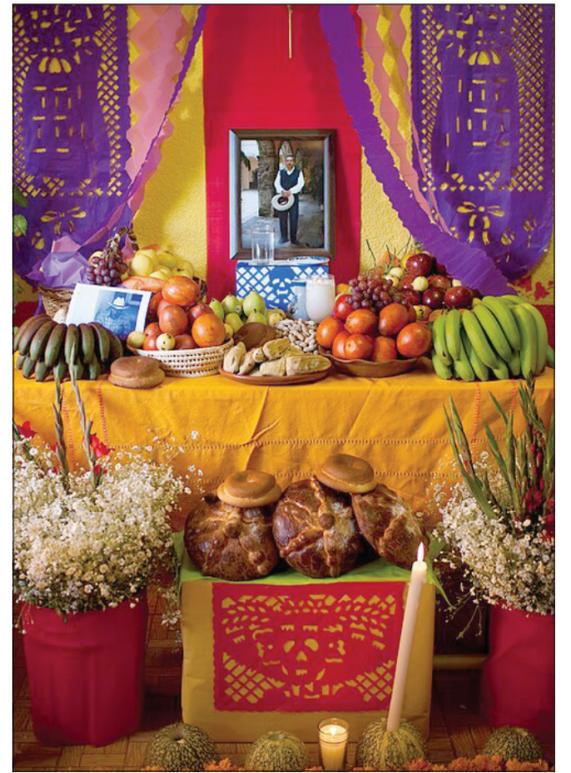
An ofrenda is a kind of altar designed as a place to celebrate indigenous, Mexican, and Latinx traditions. People are invited to bring pictures of their loved ones and any offerings they'd like to include on the community ofrenda.

Raúl Gutiérrez, HCC professor of Latinx Studies and Spanish, chair of HCC's Language and Latinx Studies department, co-advisor to the LEA club, and a native of

Mexico, will give a brief talk about the significance of the holiday.

Guests and participants will also be able to enjoy pan de muerto, bread traditionally baked in Mexico during the weeks leading up to Dia de los Muertos, and hot chocolate.

"This is an opportunity for us at HCC to come together in celebration of a beautiful and unique Mexican cultural tradition with universal notes of love, grief, and gratitude for those who we've loved and lost," said Julissa Colón, director of El Centro, HCC's bilingual student support program.



Sports

Worcester Railers suffer pair of losses in opening weekend

WORCESTER – Worcester's 5-3 loss to Adirondack Sunday afternoon made the Railers 0-2-0 for the season.

Easier said than done, perhaps, but one thing the Railers can do to improve the goals against is avoid turnovers. Sunday, they fell behind by 2-0 and battled back to forge a 3-3 tie heading into the third period. Worcester first deadlocked the score at 2-2, then surrendered the go-ahead goal to allow the Thunder to retake the lead.

It was 3-3 going into the third. Another turnover turned

into the game-winning goal for Adirondack.

Railers players have to want to play in the defensive zone, coach Nick Tuzzolino said, and so far that has not been the case. "Guys need to play it the way we want them to play it," he added. "They can't go on their own page. They have to stop and start. They have to be physical."

"D-Zone's not a pretty job, but when you don't do it you give up a lot of goals.... it's a full six-man thing, whether it's goaltending, defensemen or forwards. It's a commitment to play defense,

to kill penalties, and the last two nights we have had no commitment to play defense."

Worcester got its goals from Matt Stief, Cole Donhauser and Anthony Callin. Henrik Tikkanen stopped 24 shots in net. The Thunder scorers were Brannon McManus with two, Dylan Wendt, Justin Taylor and Brian Carrabes into the empty net.

The Railers got off to a muddy start. As a result, Adirondack had a 2-0 lead before the game was 10 minutes old.

Wendt put a wrist shot

home from about 30 feet at 2:51, then Taylor had a gimme from just outside the crease at 11:21 with the Thunder on a power play. It stayed 2-0 heading into the second period and Worcester made it a tie game before that period was half over.

Lincoln Hatten gave the offense some energy when he worked a breakaway at 3:30, although he did not convert. The Railers then went on a power play at 3:41 and Stief took only six seconds to make it 2-1. He was set up when Drew Callin made a clean faceoff win.

Stief scored from the right point as Anthony Callin also got an assist on the play. Donhauser tied it at 8:04 off a faceoff win by Ryan Miotto.

A dreadful giveaway allowed McManus to score unassisted and make it 3-2 at 14:41 but Worcester answered that goal just eight seconds later when Anthony Callin scored from in close after being set up by Matt DeMelis.

It took Callin two games to score his first goal this season. It took him 16 to score his first goal last year.

McManus scored unassisted on another turnover

three minutes into the third period and the Railers could not answer that one.

"We had a game plan going into the third and didn't touch it for nine minutes," Tuzzolino said.

Stief was the eighth different player to score the season's first goal in the Railers' eight seasons, the second defenseman. Nick Albano is the other.

In order, first goals have been scored by Wade Murphy, Barry Almeida, Jordan Samuels-Thomas, Albano, Brent Beaudoin, Quin Ryan and Stief.

Owls suffer defeat against Framingham

WESTFIELD – Framingham State QB Michael Marcucella completed 12-of-19 passes for 187 yards to lead the Rams to a 35-24 win over Westfield State in the Rams' homecoming game at Bowditch Field in Framingham on Saturday afternoon.

Westfield was led by a pair of touchdown runs by Aidan Patterson.

Framingham improves to 5-1 overall and sits atop the MASCAC with a 5-0 record in league play. Westfield is now 2-4 overall and 2-3 in the conference.

The Rams jumped out to a 14-0 lead on a pair of 18-yard TD passes, before Patterson got the Owls on the board with a 29-yard touchdown run, but the Owls try for the point after failed, trimming the lead to 14-6.

Framingham led 21-6 at the half, and extended that lead to 28-6 on a 64-yard TD pass from Marcucella to Stehen Gallant early in the third quarter. Westfield

answered with Patterson's second TD run of the day, a 3-yarder that capped an 11-play, 77 yard scoring drive with 7:21 left in the third quarter, cutting the Framingham lead to 28-12.

The Rams marched down the field on their next series, getting a 29-yard scoring strike from Marcucella to Alex Maia to push the lead to 35-12 with 3:35 left in the third.

A pair of odd sequences led to Westfield scoring on back-to-back safeties in the fourth quarter, pinning the Rams in their own defensive end before a bad snap led to a safety on fourth down, then the Owls drove the ball all the way to the Framingham one-yard line before a fumble on fourth down cost Westfield a touchdown, but the Owls got two points back on the second safety of the sequence,



cutting the lead to 35-16.

Westfield mustered one more drive, with Will Brewster scoring on a 19 yard run, and Patterson converting the 2-point run to trim the final score to 35-24.

Jaheim Daniels finished with 102 yards rushing and a TD for the Rams. Manny Mengata led Westfield with 48 yards on 17 carries, with Curtis Dion adding 46 yards and Patterson 43 on the ground and 33 more on three receptions. Owls QB Miles Foerster was 11-20 for 110 yards passing.

Andrew Lovell led the Owls defense with six tackles and a sack, with Dylan Zuerblis adding five stops with a sack.

The Owls come home next weekend to host Westfield State homecoming, with the Owls kicking off with Plymouth State at 2 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 25.

T-Birds come back to bash Bears

HERSHEY, PA – The Springfield Thunderbirds (1-2-0-0) rebounded in a big way from a defeat the night before as they dispatched the Hershey Bears (1-2-1-0) by a 5-1 score on Sunday inside Giant Center.

For the first time in the young season, Steve Konowalchuk's team finally vaulted to a lead at the 7:06 mark of the first period off a clean rush. Corey Schueneman carried the puck deep into the Hershey zone before slipping a perfect drop pass onto the blade of Jakob Stancl. The rookie connected off the inside of the post, beating Clay Stevenson on the stick side to give Springfield a 1-0 lead on Stancl's first professional tally.

Springfield dodged a dangerous chance from ex-Thunderbird Calle Rosen, who emerged from the penalty box and skated in on a breakaway against Vadim Zherenko, but Rosen missed the target on the blocker side.

Both teams failed to connect on power play chances, but Springfield was not done

on the offensive end. With just 24 seconds left on the clock, Hunter Skinner joined a rush, one-timing a Nikita Alexandrov pass through Stevenson to make it a 2-0 game into the intermission. Matthew Peca also picked up an assist on the play for his first point of the season. In the process, the T-Birds captain became the first player in the T-Birds' 10-year history to record 200 points as a member of the Thunderbirds.

Zherenko stood tall through the opening half of the second period, with Hershey linking lengthy shifts in the offensive zone, threatening to cut into the Springfield lead. After surviving the onslaught, Otto Stenberg alertly spotted Matt Luff coming off the T-Birds' bench, and the veteran winger roofed a breakaway snapper over Stevenson's glove to make it a 3-0 score at 11:45.

Dalibor Dvorsky joined the scoring party next at 14:11, as the 20-year-old got a fortunate bounce to cash in his first of the season. He was hoping to slip a pass to his left

side, but the puck ricocheted right back onto his stick in the low slot, giving Stevenson no chance to defend it. Alexandrov picked up his second assist on the tally.

Hershey finally broke the four-goal blitz at 15:24 as Henrik Rybinski crashed the blue paint to chip a loose puck over Zherenko for his second goal in as many nights, cutting the margin to 4-1.

Still, the T-Birds offense was not finished, and with a power play in the closing minute, Theo Lindstein rifled home his first goal in the AHL with just 23 seconds left in the frame to make it a 5-1 score. Luff picked up his second point and Alexandrov garnered his third assist on the rookie's first North American tally.

Zherenko had a sizable lead, but the fourth-year pro slammed the door shut in the third, as Hershey failed to pierce the netminder on 14 third-period offerings. Zherenko has now stopped 47 of the last 49 shots he has faced.

St. Patrick's Committee opens up Grand Colleen 2026 applications

HOLYOKE – The St. Patrick's Committee of Holyoke is proud to announce that applications are now open for the 70th Annual Holyoke Grand Colleen Pageant on Jan. 3.

For seven decades, the Grand Colleen Pageant has been a signature event of Holyoke's St. Patrick's celebrations, honoring the heritage, pride, and accomplishments of young women of Irish descent. Serving as the kickoff to Parade season, the pageant is more than a competition - it is an opportunity to represent one's community, celebrate Irish culture, and join a legacy of ambas-

sadors who have played a special role in the city's most cherished tradition.

This year, the Committee is excited to announce an expanded eligibility that opens the door for even more young women to participate! In addition to residents of Holyoke and South Hadley, contestants from Holyoke's bordering communities of Easthampton and Southampton are now eligible to enter the competition.

"Being chosen as the Grand Colleen is about so much more than wearing the crown," said Kate Caligaris, Colleen Committee Chair.

"It's about leadership, pride in one's Irish heritage, and the chance to be part of something larger than yourself. We're thrilled to welcome young women from our neighboring communities to share in this tradition."

What's new this year?

- Expanded eligibility: Young women from Holyoke, South Hadley, Easthampton and Southampton are now invited to apply.
- Broader community representation: The Committee hopes this expansion will foster regional pride and strengthen bonds

across neighboring towns.

Contestant Eligibility

- Applicants must:
- Be 17-22 years of age as of March 17, 2026
 - Resident of Holyoke, South Hadley, Easthampton or Southampton
 - Be single (never married, not a parent)
 - Claim Irish ancestry
 - Complete a resume and application
- Awards & Opportunities
The Grand Colleen will receive:
- \$3,000 to be used as a scholarship or trip to Ireland
 - Professional portrait
 - Tiara

The Grand Colleen and Court will receive:

- Gifts from local businesses and Colleen Patrons
- A once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to serve as community ambassadors during Parade season

Important Dates

- October 1: Applications open
- December 27: Deadline to submit application to enter the Grand Colleen Pageant
- December 28: Colleen Orientation at Mrs. Mitchell's Public House, Holyoke, 2 p.m.
- January 2: Grand

Colleen Pageant Rehearsal, at Holyoke High School, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

• January 3: Grand Colleen Pageant at Holyoke High School Auditorium, 6:00-9:30 p.m.

• January 4: Colleen Tea at Donovans, Holyoke, 3:00-5:00 p.m.

• February 14: Grand Coronation Ball at The Log Cabin, Holyoke

Apply now! www.holyokestpatricksparade.com/apply. For any questions, please contact Kate Caligaris, Colleen Committee Chair at 413.627.8716 or holyokecolleens@gmail.com.

'Out of the Darkness' walk set for Saturday

AGAWAM – Suicide is a leading cause of death in the United States and the 16th leading cause of death in Massachusetts. It is also the second-leading cause of death for individuals age 15-34, yet suicide can often be prevented.

Volunteers from western Massachusetts are joining the thousands of people who are gathering this season in towns across the United States to promote suicide prevention. The annual Greater Springfield Out of the Darkness Community Walk, hosted by the American Foundation for Suicide Foundation - Massachusetts Chapter will be held on

Saturday, Oct. 25 at 10 a.m. (registration begins at 9 a.m. at School Street Park, Agawam, MA.

This gathering will support the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention's education, research and support for survivors of suicide loss. In addition to raising awareness and funds to fight suicide, the walks give those who attend a chance to connect with others and know they are not alone, whether they walk in memory or in support of a loved one or in honor of their own mental health journey.

"Suicide touches one in five families in the United States. We hope that by con-

necting with one another, we will draw attention to this issue and keep other families from experiencing a suicide loss. Our goal is to save lives and bring hope to those affected by suicide," said Lyndsey Nunes, Greater Springfield co-chair and AFSP Massachusetts Board Member.

The Greater Springfield Out of the Darkness Community Walk is one of the hundreds of events being held nationwide this year. Speakers at the Greater Springfield Out of the Darkness Walk will include local legislators and Western Mass community members who have been personally affected by suicide.

Wreaths Across America holding event at Veterans Cemetery

AGAWAM – On Saturday, Dec. 13 at 10 a.m., the Friends of the Massachusetts Veterans Memorial Cemetery at Agawam will join Wreaths Across America in our annual mission to Remember, Honor, and Teach. Together, we will lay Remembrance wreaths on the graves of our nation's heroes at the Massachusetts Veterans Memorial Cemetery, located at 1390 Main St., Agawam.

Parking will be available at Six Flags New England, with shuttles running to the cemetery beginning at 8 a.m. Please plan to arrive early to allow for shuttle transport

and seating before the ceremony begins. The Friends of the Massachusetts Veterans Memorial Cemetery at Agawam is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization dedicated to honoring those who have served, comforting their families, and enhancing the beauty and dignity of this eternal resting place.

By sponsoring a wreath through the Friends, you help ensure that every veteran resting at the cemetery is remembered with a wreath of honor and gratitude. For more information or to sponsor a wreath, please visit our website at agawamfriends.org or email us at wreathfriends@gmail.com.

Volunteers wanted Oct. 25 to flag graves

AGAWAM – The Agawam Veterans' Council is seeking volunteers for flagging veteran graves at local cemeteries in preparation of veteran's Day on Saturday, Oct. 25.

Anyone interested in participating, please meet at 8 a.m. in the Springfield Street Cemetery (across from Sacred Heart Church) in Feeding Hills.

Public Notices

IFB 2026-16SD MASONRY REPAIRS LAWRENCE SCHOOL

The Holyoke School Department invites qualified contractors to submit bid proposals for the repair of the mortar joints on the chimney and the mortar joints and cap on the retaining wall, as well as replacing bricks as needed at Lawrence School, located at 156 Cabot Street, Holyoke, MA 01040. Mortar repairs will occur on the chimney at the roof line to the top cap on all four sides. The retaining wall repairs will occur along Maple Street, along the entire length of the wall, consisting of repairing the mortar and cap while replacing bricks as needed. The work on both the chimney and retaining wall must match the original color and tooling. Bidding will take place in accordance with Ch.30B, Ch.149 and any other applicable MGL.

A non mandatory, but highly recommended pre-bid walk through will take place on 10/30/2025 at 10 am at the Lawrence School.

Documents will be available on 10/22/2025 at 10 am electronically by requesting from morrowj@holyoke.org with a CC to ssheedy@hps.holyoke.ma.us. Bids will be received until 2PM on November 13th, 2025, where they will be opened publicly. The city reserves the right to reject any and all bids.

Federal funding may be used to support this project. Respondents will be verified for their eligibility to receive Federal Funds. 10/24/2025

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. HD25P2129EA
Estate of:
Harold H. Patton, Sr.
Date of Death: 07/14/2024
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal Adjudication of Intestacy and Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Tammy Hester of Chesterfield, VA requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: Tammy Hester of Chesterfield, VA be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve Without Surety on the bond in unsupervised administration.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 11/12/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE

MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M Hyland, First Justice of this Court.
Date: October 15, 2025

Rosemary A Saccomani, Register of Probate 10/24/2025

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No. HD21P2048PM
In the matter of:
Jill M Reed of Holyoke, MA Protected Person/ Disabled Person/Respondent
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF CONSERVATOR'S ACCOUNT

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, you are hereby notified pursuant to Rule 72 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court, that the First, Second and Third account(s) of Eileen Sullivan-Boss of West Springfield, MA as

Conservator of the property of said Respondent has or have been presented to the Court for allowance.

You have the right to object to the account(s). If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this court on or before 10:00 A.M. on the return date of 11/03/2025. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to object to the account(s). If you fail to file the written appearance and objection by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you, including the allowance of the account(s).

Additionally, within thirty days after said return day (or within such other time as the Court upon motion may order), you must file a written affidavit of objections stating the specific facts and grounds upon which each objection is based and a copy shall be served upon the Conservator pursuant to Rule 3 of the Supplemental Rules of the Probate & Family Court.

You have the right to send to the Conservator, by registered or certified mail, a written request to receive a copy of the Petition and account(s) at no cost to you.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

Witness, Hon. Barbara M.

Hyland, First Justice of this Court.

Date: September 29, 2025
Rosemary A. Saccamoni
Register of Probate
10/24/2024

CITY OF HOLYOKE ROOF REPLACEMENT PROJECT TO THE HOLYOKE HIGH SCHOOL RFQ 2026-20SD PREQUALIFICATIONS ROOFING PRIME CONTRACTOR

The City of Holyoke (Awarding Authority) will prequalify roofer-as-prime contractors for the Roof Replacement to the Holyoke High School located in Holyoke, MA. The estimated construction cost for this Project is \$9,000,000. Bidders shall be DCAMM Certified as Prime Contractors and in Roofing. Electronic copies (PDF) of the RFQ and Bid Forms may be requested from the City's OPM via email to Mike Ulichney, PCA360 mulichney@pca360.com using the subject line 'Holyoke HS RFQ Request'. Documents will be available starting on 10/22/2025 @ 10AM EST.

The deadline for questions is October 31, 2025 at 2:00PM. If the City chooses to respond to questions they will be sent out via Addendum to all planholders no later than 48hrs before the submission deadline. The Procurement is being conducted under M.G.L. c. 149 sections 44A-44J.

The deadline for submitting qualifications is November 5, 2025 at 2:00PM.

Only prequalified prime contractors will be invited to bid on the project. Filed Sub-Bids to be advertised separately. Electronic submissions will be sent to mulichney@pca360.com NO

LATER THAN 11/5/2025 @ 2PM. Late submissions will be rejected. The City reserves the right to reject any and all submissions if in the cities best interest to do so. 10/24/2025

City of Holyoke Legal Notice

The Holyoke License Board will be holding a Public Hearing on **Wednesday, November 5, 2025, at 5:15 pm.** You can join via Zoom.com; ID 83974921923; CALL IN: *67 646 558 8656, or in person at City Hall 536 Dwight in the Old Tax Collector office regarding the application for a New Seasonal of an **Off-Premise All Alcohol License for 787 Min Mart LLC at 399 Hillside Avenue**, pursuant to M.G.L. Ch.138.

Applicant: 787 Mini Mart LLC
License Board: Jose Correa, Chairman
10/24, 10/31/2025

City of Holyoke Legal Notice

The Holyoke License Board will be holding a Public Hearing on **Wednesday, November 5, 2025, at 5:15 pm.** You can join via Zoom.com; ID 83974921923; CALL IN: *67 646 558 8656, or in person at City Hall 536 Dwight in the Old Tax Collector office regarding the application for a **New On-Premises Malt & Distilled Spirits License for Los Masters Social Club Inc. at 65 Commercial**, pursuant to M.G.L. Ch.138.

Applicant: Los Masters Social Club Inc.
License Board: Jose Correa, Chairman
10/24, 10/31/2025

See NOTICES, page 9

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 \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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

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PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

- 1 Email all notices to 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

**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. HD24P1418EA
Estate of:
Denise M Donovan
Date of Death: 02/20/2024
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:
A Petition for S/A - **Formal Probate of Will** has been filed by **Jeffrey G Donovan of Holyoke, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Jeffrey G Donovan of Holyoke, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 11/17/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: October 20, 2025
Rosemary A Saccomani, Register of Probate
10/24/2025

CITY OF HOLYOKE PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The: Holyoke Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on **Wednesday November 5, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.**, in the City Hall Annex, Room 403, Holyoke MA to hear the petition of William F. Sullivan Company, Inc / Woodeast Realty, LLC, who is requesting an appeal from the zoning official's, Notice of Violations letter dated, September 19, 2025, at a property known as 1-3 Jed Days Landing (084-00-002).

A complete copy of the application may be seen in the Office of Planning & Economic Development, 20 Korean Veterans Plaza, Rm 401, 8:30-4:30, M-F.

Applicant:
William F. Sullivan Company, Inc and Woodeast Realty, LLC
Board of Appeals: Josh Knox
10/17, 10/24/2025

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 with the Registry 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 7th day of November, 2025**

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 Northeasterly by said passageway forty-nine (49) feet to said Hampden Street; THENCE Northwesterly by said Hampden Street eight (8) feet to the point of the beginning.

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

Address: 156 High Street, Holyoke, Massachusetts 01040
Parcel ID: 013-03-005

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.

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
10/10, 10/17, 10/24/2025

CITY OF HOLYOKE PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Holyoke Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on **Wednesday, November 5, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.**, in the City Hall Annex, Room 403, Holyoke MA to hear the petition of Rafael and Sheila Rivera, who are requesting an appeal from the zoning official's, Notice of Violations letter dated, September 19, 2025, at a property known as 230-232 Beech Street (061-03-009).

A complete copy of the application may be seen in the Office of Planning & Economic Development, 20 Korean Veterans Plaza, Rm 401, 8:30-4:30, M-F.

Applicant:
Rafael & Sheila Rivera
Board of Appeals: Josh Knox
10/17, 10/24/2025

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 with the Registry 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 7th day of November, 2025** 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.

Address: 0 High Street, Holyoke, Massachusetts 01040
Parcel ID: 011-07-007

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.

Address: 445 High Street, Holyoke, Massachusetts 01040
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, improve-

ments, 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.

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
10/10, 10/17, 10/24/2025

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No. HD25P2093GD
In the matter of:
Oscar Baillargeon
Of: Holyoke, MA
RESPONDENT
Alleged Incapacitated Person
CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L.c. 190B, §5-304**

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Mission Care at Holyoke** of Holyoke, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that **Oscar Baillargeon** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that **Kimberly Camp** of Westfield, MA (or

some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of **11/06/2025**.

This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person's right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both. The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense.

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

Date: October 09, 2025
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
10/24/2025

**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. HD25P2109EA
Estate of:
Katherine Burke
Date of Death: 08/25/2025
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **John D. Burke of West Barnstable, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **John D. Burke of West Barnstable, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 11/07/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: October 16, 2025
Rosemary A Saccomani, Register of Probate
10/24/2025

M Hyland, First Justice of this Court.

Date: October 10, 2025
Rosemary A Saccomani, Register of Probate
10/24/2025

**LEGAL NOTICE
CITY OF HOLYOKE
GAS & ELECTRIC
DEPARTMENT
2025 ELECTRIC
DISTRIBUTION
TRANSFORMERS**

Sealed bids for the above-named contract will be received by Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept until **2:30 p.m. November 10, 2025**, at the Office of the Manager, 99 Suffolk St, Holyoke, MA 01040, at which time proposals will be publicly opened and read.

Additional information may be obtained from:

Chi Wong
Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept
99 Suffolk St
Holyoke, MA 01040
cwong@hged.com
(413) 335-0148

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

Please mark sealed envelopes "Bid for 2025 Electric Distribution Transformers" and address them to:

James M. Lavelle, Manager
Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept
99 Suffolk St
Holyoke, MA 01040
10/24/2025

**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. HD25P2144EA
Estate of:
Robert Dean Mashia
Also known as:
Robert D Mashia
Date of Death: 02/10/2025
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION**

To all interested persons:
A Petition for **Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative** has been filed by **Daniel J Mashla of Chicopee, MA** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Daniel J Mashla of Chicopee, MA** be appointed as Personal Representative(s) of said estate to serve **Without Surety** on the bond in **unsupervised administration**.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 11/13/2025. This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection if you object to this proceeding. If you fail to file a timely written appearance and objection followed by an affidavit of objections within thirty (30) days of the return day, action may be taken without further notice to you.

UNSUPERVISED ADMINISTRATION UNDER THE MASSACHUSETTS UNIFORM PROBATE CODE (MUPC)

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

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: October 16, 2025
Rosemary A Saccomani, Register of Probate
10/24/2025

Connected and online program deadline is Nov. 7

BOSTON – The Healey-Driscoll administration and Massachusetts Technology Collaborative's Massachusetts Broadband Institute launched the Connected & Online Program, a \$23 million initiative to close the digital device gap across Massachusetts.

The program will distribute approximately 27,000 internet-connected devices such as laptops, desktops, tablets, assistive technology and supportive equipment to eligible organizations across the state.

Funded by the U.S. Treasury Capital Projects Fund, the Connected and Online Program is part of

the state's broader digital empowerment strategy and aims to increase access to education, expand workforce training and support access to health care services, especially in Gateway Cities and rural communities. Devices will be preloaded with security and accessibility software and distributed at no cost to approved applicants.

"Access to the internet is no longer a luxury it's a necessity for work, learning and health," said Governor Maura Healey. "Through this program, we are making sure that communities across Massachusetts have the tools they need to succeed in the digital economy. Closing the digital divide is essential to

building an economy that works for everyone, no matter their zip code."

"From rural towns to our largest cities, residents deserve the chance to log on and connect with opportunity," said Lieutenant Governor Kim Driscoll. "These devices will help families access telehealth, students complete their homework, and job seekers apply for new opportunities. This investment is about removing barriers so that everyone in Massachusetts can fully participate in our economy."

"MBI is proud to partner with organizations across the state to support telehealth, remote patient

monitoring, online learning opportunities and workforce development," said MBI Program Executive Jody Jones. "The first step to accessing critical services in today's world depends on a reliable device that is connected to the internet. The goal of this program is to increase access to these devices and ensure that all residents, regardless of where they live, are able to fully participate in the digital economy."

Eligible applicants to the Connected and Online Program include municipalities, libraries, health care providers, workforce centers, educational institutions and nonprofits. Each organi-

zation may request a minimum of 30 and a maximum of 500 devices.

Applicants will demonstrate how the supplied devices will be accessible to the public, either through lending programs or on-site use and how expanded access to devices aligns with the needs of the communities they serve. Applicants must also include a strategy for measuring usage and outcomes and outline a plan for ongoing end-user support and device management.

The deadline to apply for the Connected and Online Program is Friday, Nov. 7.

A division of the Massachusetts

Technology Collaborative, Massachusetts Broadband Institute (MBI) is working to extend high-speed internet access and availability across the state. To achieve this, MBI uses state and federal funding to launch infrastructure expansion programs that target areas of the state that lack high-speed internet access as well as programs that tackle barriers to internet adoption and increase availability, addressing critical issues around affordability, enhanced public Wi-Fi, the need for internet-enabled devices and digital literacy training. People will learn more by visiting <https://broadband.masstech.org>.

Dimming lights boosts bird migration success

People offer migrating birds a big boost simply by dimming outside lights according to the Allen Bird Club.

Millions of birds migrate through Massachusetts each fall and spring, and the majority fly at night. Unfortunately, outdoor lighting can distort birds' vision, causing needless fatalities as they blindly fly into lit buildings. Light overflow also disorients birds' navigational senses, making their arduous journey harder. According to the National Audubon Society, "While lights can throw birds off their migration paths, bird fatalities are more directly caused by the amount of energy the birds waste flying around and calling out in confusion. The exhaustion can then leave them vulnerable to other urban threats."

Fortunately, there are four simple steps people can take to make a positive difference. As a bonus, many of these tips save money, improve sleep quality and restore the

ecosystem's essential circadian cycles.

Turn off unnecessary lights. "When not in use, turn off the juice" is a 1970s jingle that rings true today. It's a great way to remember to save energy, money and birds.

Use motion-activated outdoor lighting or timers. Motion-sensitive lights are often a better choice for home security because they offer an element of surprise, while lighting a building all night can unintentionally highlight every point of access. Timers work well for family members who arrive home after dark but don't need a light all night.

Cap outdoor lighting so illumination points down. Theaters, where the entire stage is lit while the audience sits in darkness, are a great example of how lighting can be directed only to where it's needed. Use lights that have solid lids pointing light down.

If people work in a large office or industrial building, they could ask if night lighting can be reduced. Upper story light-

ing on tall buildings can be particularly tragic for flocks of migrating birds. Boston, Connecticut, and New York all have "Lights Out" programs during peak bird migration, Aug. 15 to Nov. 15 and April 1 to May 31. Make a company a migration champion by joining the trend.

Those who want to track Massachusetts's nightly migration can do so for free by visiting the website BirdCast.info. Created by the Cornell Lab of Ornithology, UMass Amherst and Colorado State University, this online migration tool offers area-specific migration forecasts and shares live or day-after migration data. Glimpsing data from the remarkable, nighttime migration of birds will shine a light on the importance of flicking the switch on blazing skies.

The Allen Bird Club is a nonprofit organization dedicated to bringing Greater Springfield area birders together since 1912. For more information, people may visit www.AllenBirdClub.org.

Re-procurement for service plazas contract

BOSTON – The Massachusetts Department of Transportation announces they are preparing to re-procure the contract to rehabilitate, operate and maintain the 18 service plazas across the state.

"These service plazas play a critical role for our residents, visitors, workers and economy. MassDOT's focus has always been on delivering the highest-quality service plazas that offer the best value for taxpayers," said Highway Administrator Jonathan Gulliver, who will oversee the process. "After careful consideration, we have determined that the best path forward to ensure the success of this project is to reprocure the contract."

MassDOT will also

work with the current lease holders to ensure that travelers and workers do not experience disruptions to essential services.

Earlier this year, after a lengthy, multi-stage procurement process, the MassDOT Board authorized Secretary Monica Tibbitts-Nutt to award the Transition and Lease Agreements for the service plazas to Applegreen. After signing a Transition Agreement and during the lease negotiation process, Applegreen made the decision to withdraw.

After careful evaluation of all options, MassDOT is preparing to re-procure the service plaza contract in order to deliver the highest quality facilities and services for travelers while ensuring

the best value for taxpayers and toll payers. MassDOT will begin negotiations with the current leaseholders for extensions immediately to ensure continuity of service and labor at the plazas.

MassDOT has been reviewing the original procurement and will seek feedback from the industry to develop recommendations for a revised Request for Proposals that will best ensure robust interest from high-quality bidders and set the project up for success.

Day-to-day management of the service plazas is being transferred to the MassDOT Highway Division to ensure structured performance oversight, regular inspections and centralized corrective action.

Driver's ed returns to in person format

BOSTON – The Massachusetts Registry of Motor Vehicles announced that, starting Monday, Sept. 22, all classroom instruction provided by professional driving schools will transition back to an in-person format.

The RMV has been in communication with driving schools, customers and other stakeholders, explaining how this change will result in enhanced student engage-

ment, stronger learning outcomes, equal opportunities for all schools and improved road safety.

The option of remote (virtual) classes was introduced as an accommodation during the pandemic. Effective Sept. 22, a live instructor will be required to teach all classes including the parent class. There will be a maximum of 30 students per class for a student/teacher

ratio of 30:1. Research supports that in-person learning fosters better focus, higher engagement and more effective preparation for safe driving.

For information, people may visit <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/drivers-education-programs>. For the latest RMV updates and information, people may follow the RMV at MassRMV on X, formerly Twitter.

Country Bank grants \$20k to revitalize CDC

Country Bank, a full-service financial institution serving Central and Western Massachusetts, supports Revitalize CDC in Springfield.

The CDC performs free critical repairs, modifications and rehabilitation on the homes of low-income families with children, the elderly, veterans and individuals with disabilities; helps bridge food insecurity gaps through delivery of fresh foods; and positions community members toward healthier lives through education and support for chronic conditions like asthma and diabetes.

"Over the last decade of working with Revitalize CDC, I have seen the organization grow into a vital pillar of support for the housing, health, and nutrition needs of our community. Since their founding in 1992, Revitalize CDC has served 30,000 individuals, investing over \$52 Million into Western Massachusetts. Especially during this time of uncertainty in the funding coming from Federal and State sources, Country Bank is proud to continue our support of Revitalize CDC with an additional

donation of \$20,000. It is our sincere hope that this contribution inspires others to be generous in their support of Revitalize CDC and the critical services they provide," stated Ben Leonard, Senior Vice President, Commercial Banking Team Leader at Country Bank and Vice Chair of the Revitalize CDC Board.

"We are incredibly grateful to Country Bank for their generous support and hands-on involvement in our #GreenNFit Neighborhood Rebuild program. Together, we're not just repairing homes, we're rebuilding hope and creating healthier, safer communities," stated Coleen Shanley-Loveless, President & CEO of Revitalize Community Development Corporation.

Established in 1850, Country Bank is a full-service \$2 billion mutual community bank serving Central and Western Massachusetts with 15 banking centers and two business offices in Ware, Palmer, West Brookfield, Brimfield, Belchertown, Wilbraham, Ludlow, Longmeadow, Leicester, Paxton, Charlton, Springfield, Uxbridge and Worcester.

DOER awards \$911,000 for local clean energy projects

BOSTON – The Healey-Driscoll Administration announces \$911,000 in grants to support clean energy initiatives across Massachusetts.

This funding, administered by the Department of Energy Resources through the Regional Energy Planning Assistance program, will allow eleven regional planning agencies to provide essential technical assistance to 143 cities and towns to plan and implement clean energy projects. Grants awards include: the Berkshire Regional Planning Commission, \$79,000;

Franklin Regional Council of Governments, \$81,000 and Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, \$140,700.

"When we invest in local clean energy projects, we help our communities lower energy bills and reduce pollution," said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Rebecca Tepper. "This program gives cities and towns the tools they need to plan and act. That means cleaner air, lower costs, and stronger neighborhoods across Massachusetts."

"This funding provides valuable support to under-re-

sourced municipalities, and catalyzes regional projects," said DOER Commissioner Elizabeth Mahony. "We're proud to help our cities and towns build the knowledge and expertise they need to plan and complete clean energy projects. These projects boost local economies, lower energy costs and create healthier, more resilient communities."

This funding is designed to help communities achieve Green Communities Program designation and assist current Green Communities with the management and expansion

of their clean energy efforts. Local clean energy projects cut energy use and save taxpayer dollars by reducing the cost of local government. The grants will also enable municipalities to collaborate on regional clean energy projects and improve emissions reduction planning.

An important part of the program is training for local energy managers and volunteer committees. By enhancing local expertise, communities will be better equipped to propose and review energy projects tailored to their needs.

ACAA to host Donna Carmel Nov. 12

AGAWAM – On Wednesday, Nov. 12, the Agawam Community Artists and Artisans will host Donna Carmel, who will be demonstrating the fine art printmaking process.

This demonstration will take place at the Agawam Public Library, 750 Cooper Street, Agawam, beginning at 6 p.m.

Donna Carmel is a resident of Westfield. Growing up in an agricultural family, she learned to observe and appreciate nature, and creates landscapes from memories that express these feelings. She finds skies,

water, and fog to be dramatic, but also soothing.

Natural landscapes evoke a calmness and splendor through her paintings and printmaking.

Her art has been shown in Florida, Boston, New York City, and regionally in New England.

Donna, a graduate of the University of Florida with an art and printmaking degree, has worked as a recreational therapist. She conducts workshops in printmaking, painting and watercolor.

Through real life experiences some of the workshops include thera-

peutic methods.

Donna currently is a member of the Agawam Community Artists and Artisans, Monotype Guild of New England, Artworks Westfield and Westfield on Weekends.

The meeting is free and open to the public. For further information please contact Ceil Rossi (413) 207-1247.

Trunk-or-Treat with first responders

GRANBY – Ganby Public Schools, Police, and Fire will be hosting their annual Trunk-or-Treat in the East Meadow Parking lot again on Thursday, October 30 from 3:30 to 5 p.m. Get your costumes and candy buckets ready for a night of fun!

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In The News

5K, from page 1

raffles donated through the generosity of over 350 sponsors, along with various food trucks from local businesses, providing food and beverages, and an official merchandise stand was offered, with all proceeds going to the non-profit, rounding out the experience.

During the event the news broke that the non-profit foundation of the same name 'Magic for Maddie', which was formed in honor and remembrance of eight-year-old Madeline "Maddie" Schmidt, who lost her battle with a rare type of pediatric brain cancer called DIPG (Diffuse Intrinsic Pontine Glioma) in 2022, by her mother, Nora Schmidt, and her two aunts, had officially raised over \$1.3 million over the course of four years, which was when the non-profit was first established. Now the funds will be allocated and redistributed to support DIPG research, while also assisting other families battling pediatric cancer, and among those in attendance and on stage to partake in the announcement were 20 families who are currently affected with some form of pediatric cancer, along with

some angel families as well, invited by the Schmidt family, as way to show a sense of shared unity and team support, while a point of burgeoning optimism and hope took shape among all in attendance, something that Maddie's aunt and executive director of 'Magic for Magic', Jennifer Capshaw highlighted.

"I want it known for all who attended, your presence being here means so much to those families affected, and we as an organization are just so grateful for all the support we continue to receive," Capshaw said.

In addition, the fundraiser drew some notable names, such as Holyoke Mayor Joshua A. Garcia, West Springfield Mayor Will Reichelt, and major sponsor, Gary Rome, the head of Hyundai Hope on Wheels took a moment to reflect on the monumental achievement.

"This is amazing, and we feel so honored that we can support an event like this, and I want to add, it's insane that they reached this number right here in Holyoke," Rome said. "And this team does such a great job; they have 150 volunteers, 16 on the board, and they are so well organized,

but I feel we also need to keep in mind that every 36 minutes a child is diagnosed with Cancer. So it's important we continue to keep the fight alive by creating awareness, and raising necessary funds to find a cure for cancer."

"So with the funds that we raise each year, we give back locally to families affected by pediatric cancer in Massachusetts and Connecticut, we fuel research for pediatric cancer and DIPG, and for DIPG specifically, we help those families nationwide,"

- Nora Schmidt

A little background information about the event is that the fundraiser is an established, yearly, traditional all-day carnival featuring all of Maddie's favorite things, and was first started during her diagnosis. And after her passing, her family decided to keep the tradition going as a way to preserve the legacy of Maddie's name, and to pay it forward, something Maddie's mom discussed.

"It started four years ago, we had a carnival, family walk, and 5K and it

featured all of her favorite things, such as a dunk tank, bounce houses, face painting, magicians, and tons of other activities, and it was built upon finding a way to garner support for our family, allow Maddie feel the love during a tough time and

radiation, and then you are told to go home and make memories." Schmidt then noted that the funds raised from the first carnival were used for travel to discover various new trials and therapies around the country.

"The money raised during the first event then went to our family so we could take Maddie to different trials in Philadelphia, Boston," she said. Before revealing that the non-profit she started with her family carries the value and mission statement centered around raising awareness and funds to go towards DIPG research and support other families who are battling pediatric cancer.

"So with the funds that we raise each year, we give back locally to families affected by pediatric cancer in Massachusetts and Connecticut, we fuel research for pediatric cancer and DIPG, and for DIPG specifically, we help those families nationwide," Schmidt said.

To close, reflecting on Maddie's legacy were both members of her family, her aunt and mother, Capshaw and Schmidt, who both admitted that, "Maddie was the most amazing little girl, having the ability to host

these events keeps her spirit alive, and forever in our hearts," the Schmidt family said. "I think if Maddie were here right now, she would be so proud of this community, her family, and all the people that are showing up for her, and all for those who continue to show up."

It was reported that the carnival was a resounding success, and now the Schmidt family continues to look forward, carrying a sense of hope and love, anchored by the mission statement dedicated to Maddie's legacy, ensuring she is never forgotten by making sure all merchandise comes attached with a yellow ribbon, with the tag "1 million reasons to believe", and on the back "She brought the sparkle, we keep it shining, in loving memory of Maddie Schmidt." A message acting as a foundation for keeping the simple promise of a bright and beautiful soul forever alive in the hearts of many, as the achievement of finding a cure one day carries on, and it was revealed that earlier this year, the FDA approved ONC-201 (Modeyso), the first-ever therapy for DIPG, a treatment that Maddie herself helped pioneer through a clinical trial.

ALUMNI, from page 1

HCC, a hope that Phillips mentioned prior. She also revealed that the gathering also featured a second core reason, which was to allow the culinary program a chance at being in a situation to garner real-life workplace experience, and her comments ring true as the event was catered by a few members of the college's culinary program, who served a plethora of appetizers and various beverages.

As mentioned prior by Phillips as being one of the main architects on getting the event off the ground, Castagno also took a moment to reflect on the overall success of all parties involved.

"It's such a great event, and been a pleasure to hear the variety and depth of stories of what the various alumni have accomplished since departing HCC," Castagno said.

Also to note, the event provided the chance for the alumni to partake in professional photo ops, which drew a massive crowd throughout the evening, along with other eye-catching opportunities present, such as a photo booth and a roundtable discussion, all of which were included to provide a sense of community, something that Castagno discussed as well.

"The main theme tonight, from what I've gathered, has been centered around the element of community," Castagno said. "I think the sense of trust is built upon the relation-

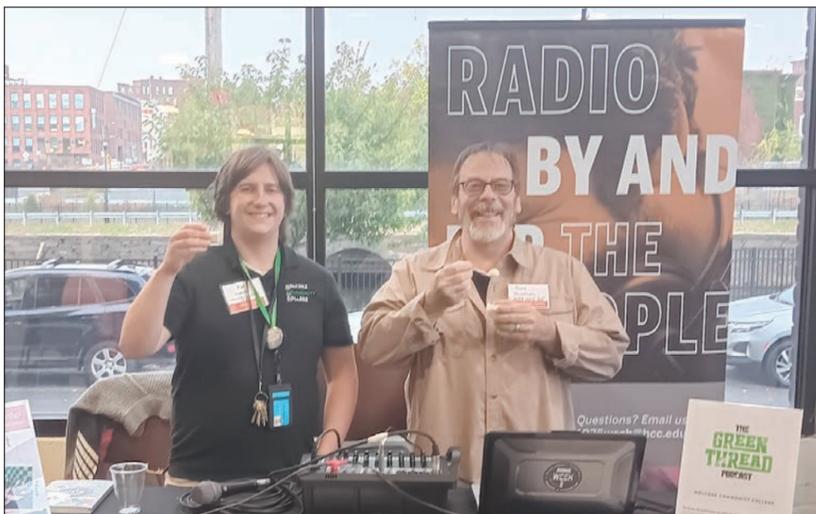
ship among the students and the various professors they had, that knowing college is a point of transition for some, and estab-

lishing friendships is vital, as part of the networking experience, while understanding the importance of connections and I feel

it's also nice for the alums to see how the programs they once were part of have evolved and will continue to grow over time."



Many look into the various programs offered and updated.



HCC Radio WCCH 103.5 keep the fun going at the event. Turley photos by Brendan Rooney

SOTO, from page 1

deal of reflection.

"I feel incredibly fortunate to have been able to serve my hometown in this capacity for nearly five years," Mr. Soto said in announcing his decision. "I am immensely proud of the work we have been able to do together, on behalf of our students, and I am grateful for the personal connections and professional growth that this position has given me. I wish the School Committee the best of luck in their



Anthony Soto

search for the next superintendent, and I am committed to supporting a successful transition. I want to thank all of the HPS staff and community for working together and putting Holyoke Public Schools on a strong path forward. I also want

to thank my wife and son for supporting me and allowing me to pour my heart into this role. Our work together has been the highlight of my career, and I will carry this experience with me always."

Together in Motion: A performance project of inclusion and creativity

SOUTH HADLEY – Join us for an evening that redefines performance art through the power of inclusion, creativity, and connection. Together in Motion: A Performance Project of Inclusion & Creativity takes the stage on Friday, October 24 at 7:00 p.m. at Berkshire Hills Music Academy in South Hadley.

This isn't just a performance—it's a shared journey. Performers with differing abilities—have come together in a collaborative process, learning from one another, honoring their differences,

and co-creating a powerful dance piece that reflects their collective creativity, diversity, and human connection. From rehearsal to stage, this project has been a celebration of community and collaboration, reminding us all that movement speaks louder than words.

Tickets are offered on a donation basis, with suggested contributions ranging from \$5 to \$25. All are welcome, and every donation supports Together In Motion's inclusive programming and future performance opportunities.

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Free diabetes prevention program

SOUTH HADLEY – The South Hadley Health Department will be hosting a free diabetes prevention program on Thursday, November 20 from 1 to 3 p.m. at the South Hadley Senior Center at 45 Dayton Street.

You will learn in the program what type 2 diabetes is, how environmental factors play a part in developing diabetes, how to eat healthy, stay active, and change your lifestyle, how diabetes affects vision, and foot care for diabetes.

The program is for ages 18 and up, and will include a foot care presentation by Dr. Wolf from Valley Podiatry Associates. You can register by calling Jennifer at 413-538-5030 ext. 6107.

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