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Latest murder victim ID'd

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

HOLYOKE – In a year that has seen an increase in violence throughout the city, yet another murder occurred last week.

According to a press release by Hampden County District Attorney Spokesman James Leydon, on Wednesday, Dec. 7 at approximately 8:20 p.m., members of the Police Department responded to a reported shooting at the intersection of Pine and Sargeant Streets.

When officers arrived, they saw signs of firearms having been discharged along the road. A short time later, a victim was discovered at the rear of a building in close proximity to the Pine and Sargeant streets intersection.

Leydon said victim was rushed from the scene to Baystate Medical Center in

See VICTIM, page 10

Residents seek refuge from poor living conditions

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

HOLYOKE – Residents are calling on the City Council to help with poor living conditions and rising rents at apartment units in the city.

On Monday night, the Public Safety Committee met, and held a public hearing, and listened as a number of resi-

dents discussed substandard living conditions in many locations throughout the city.

Residents also complained about the lack of affordable housing and more protections for tenants. The residents, who petitioned the City Council for a meeting, are also seeking a tenants' bill of rights.

The meeting, held in City Council chambers, was attend-

ed by dozens of residents.

Rents have been increasing all over the country due to rising costs and inflation. It has been well-documented energy costs have skyrocketed, leading to costs being passed on to consumers, and in the case of housing costs, tenants.

Katie Talbot, who said she resides at Highland Avenue in Westfield, and was "represent-

ing" her group with a sweater that had the phrase, "rent is too damn high" on it.

"That is not by desire," she said. "I cannot find housing in Holyoke that meets my family needs that I can afford."

Talbot thanked the council for holding the meeting and said 64% of residents in the city rent.

"For far too long, we have been living in conditions that are uninhabitable," she said. "In conditions you would never want to be in. We are hoping this is the first step of a conversation that leads to a tenant bill of rights."

She also called on the city to establish an office of tenant protections to advocate for renters on a daily basis.

Some residents became emotional about their current conditions, crying as they spoke.

One resident spoke about the roach infestation in her apartment because of an upstairs neighbor who she described as a "hoarder."

"We literally have dry-wall peeling," she said. "My

See RESIDENTS, page 10



Katie Talbot, flanked by dozens of Holyoke renters, speaks at a Public Safety Committee hearing on Monday night at City Hall. Residents are pleading for help to deal with poor rental unit conditions.

Staff photo by Gregory A. Scibelli

Committee announces next St. Patrick's awardee

HOLYOKE – On Tuesday, the St. Patrick's Committee of Holyoke announced its 50th Gullivan Award winner is Jenn Voyik-Morrison.

When making the announcement, the committee defined the criteria for the award, which is that the recipient shall be a long-standing member of the association who, while not a resident of the City of Holyoke, made significant contributions to the overall success of the parade and/or the association.

The announcement was made at the Parade Committee's monthly meeting.

Voyik-Morrison has been a member of the St. Patrick's Committee of Holyoke since 2013.

During her time on the parade committee, she has chaired the Music Committee,



Jenn
Voyik-Morrison

is a member of the Road Race Committee and serves as a deputy chief of staff for Parade Coordination.

Voyik-Morrison is currently the chairperson of the Board of Directors.

Voyik-Morrison is a hard-working member of the committee and is always willing to lend a hand where needed, according to press release about her recognition.

Voyik-Morrison lives in East Longmeadow and is the assistant superintendent for Business and Finance for the South Hadley Public Schools. She is married to longtime Parade Committee member Joseph Morrison. They have three children, Daniel and Patrick Morrison, and Kelsea Voyik.

Karen Casey, 2023 Parade

President, said: "I am very happy for Jenn, she is very deserving of this recognition as she works very hard for this committee. I look forward to sharing the upcoming season with Jenn and her family. Congratulations Jenn."

Voyik-Morrison will be honored at the Holyoke Grand Colleen Coronation Ball and Awards Night along with the other 2023 Award Winners on Saturday, Feb. 18 at the Log Cabin in Holyoke.

Daniel Gullivan was from South Hadley and was a longtime member of the St. Patrick's Committee.

Please contact Kim Izquierdo, kimberlyperry126@gmail.com or Brynn Gillis, brynnfeyre@yahoo.com for more details and ticketing information.

The 70th Holyoke St. Patrick's Parade will be held on Sunday, March 19, and the 46th St. Patrick's Road Race will be held on Saturday, March 18.

Get Boosted campaign gives \$75 gift cards to get vaccinated

By Dalton Zbierski
dzbierski@turley.com

BOSTON – The Department of Public Health is giving residents a monetary incentive to get vaccinated or boosted for COVID-19 this winter.

Select clinics throughout the state are giving away \$75 gift cards to Massachusetts residents who receive a COVID-19 vaccine or booster shot.

Locally, one such clinic will occur at the Brimfield Senior Center on Main Street from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Dec. 15. Another will be held at the RiverMills Center in Chicopee on West Main Street between 11:30 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Dec. 20.

From 2-6 p.m. on Dec. 20,

another will occur at the Palmer Public Library on North Main Street.

Both children and adults are eligible for a gift card at these clinics.

DPH Chief Medical Officer Estevan Garcia said the state has been looking at ways to encourage residents to get vaccinated and boosted since the beginning of the pandemic.

This year, the department committed to making gift cards available, knowing it had potential to "sway folks into coming and getting vaccinated," Garcia said, adding that gift cards vary

per clinic. The Get Boosted campaign was launched official-

See VACCINATED, page 10



Estevan Garcia

HCC lauded for nursing program, student support services

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Community College’s associate degree program in nursing was ranked one of the best in Massachusetts by RegisteredNursing.org, an online repository of information and educational resources for registered nurses and those aspiring to enter the field.

Meanwhile, HCC also received the award for Best Student Support Services from Intelligent.com in its 2023 listings of the top community colleges in Massachusetts.

In its 2023 RN program rankings, RegisteredNursing.com listed HCC’s associate of science in nursing degree program (ADN) fifth among 41 college and university programs in Massachusetts and number one in the state west of Worcester.

To determine its rankings, RegisteredNursing.org analyzed student performance over the previous five years on the National Council Licensure Examination for Registered Nurses (NCLEX-RN). Aspiring registered nurses in the United States must pass the exam before they may begin to practice.

“We are firm believers in providing students with all the information possible to make the right choice when select-



HCC student-nurses practice their craft at the college’s Center for Health Education and Simulation. *Submitted photo*

ing a nursing school,” RegisteredNursing.org said in its introduction to the 2023 rankings. “With this in mind, we feel a great way to provide this transparency is through studying nursing programs and their students’ performance on the

NCLEX-RN exam.”

For 2023, RegisteredNursing.org gave HCC a score of 94.96, an average that gives greater weight to NCLEX-RN pass rates in the most recent exam year.

HCC’s nursing and radiologic tech-

nology programs are based at the college’s Center for Health Education & Simulation on Jarvis Avenue, near the main HCC campus on Homestead Avenue.

Also, Intelligent.com, an online guide to higher education, recently gave HCC its award for Best Student Support Services in its 2023 listings for the top community colleges in Massachusetts.

HCC prides itself on its student support services, particular in areas that address barriers outside the classroom that may hinder a student’s ability to succeed, such as its Thrive Student Resource Center and Food Pantry; its Homestead Market, a campus convenience store that accepts SNAP benefits (federal food subsidies); and its free Itsy Bitsy Child Watch program, which was singled out in Intelligent.com’s report on HCC.

HCC student Abby Lavoie, of Ludlow, has been dropping off her 18-month-old daughter at HCC’s Itsy Bitsy Child Watch Center this fall so she can attend her on-campus classes.

“It’s the only reason I’m able to come to school,” she recently said. “I wouldn’t be here without it.”



Arguments were presented by members of the Mock Trial program on Wednesday in Holyoke District Court. *Submitted photo*

Mock trial heads to court

HOLYOKE – Culminating an 11-week program in which middle schools partnered with legal mentors from area law offices, law schools, and state offices, Holyoke students presented cases about the Fourth Amendment at an in-person Mock Trial at the Holyoke District Court.

On Wednesday, Dec. 14, the Holyoke students conducted hour-long trials in front of a judge and a 12-member jury of civic leaders and community members.

This fall, 29 middle schools across the commonwealth participated in the Discovering Justice Mock Trial Program, the most schools in the program’s history.

Statewide, the program serves more than 350 students with the help of more than 150 volunteer attorneys and 40 state and federal judges.

Road Race registration now open

HOLYOKE – The Holyoke St. Patrick’s Committee has announced that registration for the 2023 Holyoke St. Patrick’s Day Road Race is now open.

The committee also announced it is now partnering with 4RUN3 Racing, who will be handling registration, timing, and a training group.

4RUN3 is based in East Longmeadow and serves the Western Mass running community with best-in-class service.

In the announcement, the committee said it is looking forward to working with 4RUN3 to offer improvements to the race for years to come.

Because of the partnership, registration will look slightly different for 2023.

More event information and registration can be found by visiting <http://runsignup.com/Race/MA/Holyoke/HolyokStPatricksRoadRace>.

The committee said the partnership will also provide additional opportunities for those who participate in the race, including:

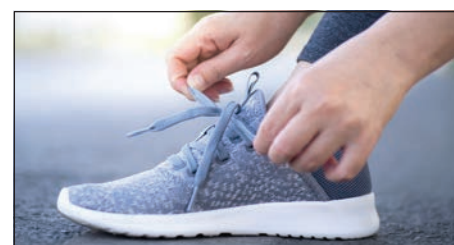
- 10K Training Program: Train together with local runners to stay motivated,

make your 2023 10K your best it can be, and enjoy exclusive perks.

- Custom neck gaiters and gloves
- Exclusive group packet pickup
- First Beer Free after the race
- Referral Program: After you register, you will receive a referral link to share. Once your referral code has been used by five friends to register for the 2023 Holyoke 10K Road Race or Walk you will receive an exclusive long sleeve top for free.

The committee also thanked everyone for their support in year’s past and hopes to see runners in March.

“We look forward to watching you cross that finish line,” according to the committee.



Celebrate Christmas with United Congregational Church

HOLYOKE – This holiday season, the United Congregational Church of Holyoke is inviting everyone in the greater Holyoke area and beyond to their special Christmas events on Dec. 24 and 25.

On Christmas Eve, the church will be holding their annual Candlelight Service at 7 p.m. in the historic Skinner Chapel. This will be followed by a Sunday Worship service on Christmas Day at 10 a.m.

Both services will be held at the United Congregational Church of Holyoke, corner Appleton (Route 141) and Maple Streets in Holyoke. All are

welcome to join in the celebration, which will include messages of hope and songs of the season.

The United Congregational Church of Holyoke is an Open and Affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ. We welcome all individuals, regardless of where they are on their journey. If you’d like to learn more about UCCH, please visit our website at www.uccholyoke.org, find us on Facebook or Instagram, or call our office at 413-532-1483 Monday through Wednesday and Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., and Thursdays 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Girl Scouts welcomes new members

HOLYOKE – Girls in first and second grades are invited to join Girl Scout Troop 65357.

The initial information and registration meeting for girls and their guardians takes place from 6-7 p.m., Monday, Dec. 19 at the Holyoke Public Library, 250 Chestnut St.

Girl membership registration fee is \$35 for the year.

Financial assistance is available. RSVP to this event at <https://bit.ly/gsholyokeinfo> by Dec. 16 to save her

spot. For questions, email Han at hlaprade@gscwm.org or call 413-584-2602.

See for yourself what Girl Scouts has to offer.

Girl Scouts is the premier organization for girls to learn about leadership, financial literacy, life skills, science and technology, the outdoors, and community service.

Previous Girl Scout experience is not necessary.

Applications available for colleen pageant

HOLYOKE – The application for the 2023 Grand Colleen Pageant by the St. Patrick’s Committee of Holyoke is now open. Applications will be accepted through Wednesday, Dec. 28.

The 2023 Grand Colleen Pageant will take place on Saturday, Jan. 7 at Holyoke High School, 300 Beech St.

Five contestants will be selected to make-up the Grand Colleen’s Court.

The Grand Colleen will be then selected from the five finalists at the Grand Colleen Ball on Feb. 18.

Eligibility requirements are:

- Female - single (never have been married or have had a child), not younger than 17 by March 17 and a senior in high school
- No more than 24 years old (for 2023 only) by March 17
- Resident of Holyoke or South Hadley
- Must claim Irish ancestry
- Must complete a resume.

Contestant orientation is scheduled at 1 p.m., Jan. 1 at The Delaney House.

For questions or concerns please call Kathy Dulchinos, Colleen Coordinator at 413-592-4945.

Tickets for the pageant are \$15 per person, \$10 for seniors and children under 12 are free, tickets are available for sale online at grandcolleenpageant.eventbrite.com or at with cash/check at the door.

Eligibility, requirement, and the application can all be found on the Committee’s website, www.holyokestpatricksparade.com or if there are questions, emailing holyokecolleenpageant@gmail.com.

The 70th Holyoke St. Patrick’s Parade will be held on Sunday, March 19, and the 46th St. Patrick’s Road Race will be held on Saturday, March 18.

For more information, please visit our website at www.holyokestpatricksparade.com.

COVID-19 testing at HCC to end Dec. 31

HOLYOKE – Curative will end its COVID-19 testing program at Holyoke Community College on Dec. 31.

HCC has been a host site for COVID-19 testing since the summer of 2020, soon after the pandemic began, initially through the state's Stop the Spread testing program. The healthcare company Curative has been offering free COVID-19 tests at HCC since April 2022 in partnership with the college and the Holyoke Board of Health.

"HCC was more than happy to provide our facilities over the last two and half years so people in the community could get tested," said Narayan Sampath, HCC vice president of Administration

and Finance. "As a community college, it is our responsibility to be there for the residents of neighboring cities and towns in any way we can. We owe a lot to our facilities and campus safety departments, who worked closely with Curative and the Holyoke Board of Health to make it happen."

HCC was informed about the program's closure in an email last month from Marlon Marte, Curative's New England manager.

"When we responded to the pandemic back in 2020, we knew we had an opportunity to serve communities and people across the U.S. with access to easy and affordable COVID-19 testing,"

Marte said. "Through on-the-ground partnerships such as ours, we made testing more accessible and helped mitigate the biggest public health crisis in our country in more than a century. We should all be proud of what we've been able to achieve in helping the country navigate through these difficult and challenging years. Now, as demand for our method of testing decreases significantly with the prevalence of other options, it's clear our job is done and we are entering a post-pandemic era. With that in mind, effective Jan. 1, 2023, Curative will conclude our COVID-19 testing services."

Until then, Curative will continue to offer testing at HCC in parking lot R,

Monday through Friday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

"We thank you again for your steadfast partnership as we navigated the uncharted waters of COVID together," Marte said. "Communities are safer and healthier because of your commitment."

Curative uses self-collected, shallow nasal PCR tests. Results are generally available in 1-2 days. Testing is free. Slots can be reserved at cur.tv/hcc. Appointments are preferred.

Testing hours may change due to inclement weather or holidays.

Additional Massachusetts testing locations can be found at: mass.gov/covid.

Volunteers set to lay wreaths at Veterans Memorial Cemetery

AGAWAM – National Wreaths Across America Day will be celebrated at The Massachusetts Veterans Memorial Cemetery at Agawam on Saturday, Dec. 17 with a ceremony honoring Veterans followed by wreath-laying by volunteers.

With an anticipated 1500 volunteers arriving at the cemetery in a two-hour period, in the interest of safety, the cemetery will be closed to vehicle traffic from 7:45 a.m. until the volunteers have exited the grounds which is estimated to be by noon.

Parking for all volunteers will be at Six Flags New England starting at 8 a.m. Volunteers will be shuttled to the cemetery on busses provided by King-Gray

Coach Lines.

Western Mass News personality Dave Madsen will serve as emcee for the ceremony which will begin promptly at 10 a.m. The ceremony will include wreath-laying for each branch of service, POWs, and Gold Star Families followed by a ceremonial rifle salute and the playing of Taps.

At the conclusion of the ceremony volunteers will place 9,200 wreaths on Veteran headstones at the cemetery. This year marks the sixth consecutive year that enough wreaths were sponsored to provide one for each headstone.

See WREATHS, page 6

Library has tickets for UMass shows

HOLYOKE – The Holyoke Public Library has partnered with University of Massachusetts Fine Arts Center (FAC) and other five libraries in providing complimentary community tickets for this season performances.

Community tickets available for performances in November 2022 through April 2023 to anyone who has a Public Library card in the Central/Western MA Automated Resource Sharing network.

Vouchers are at the front desk at first come first serve basis. We have two (2) vouchers per performance and each voucher admits two (2) individuals. Once you get your voucher,

contact UMass Fine Arts Center to redeem and reserve your tickets.

The UMass Fine Arts Center Library Ticket Program was organized with help from Amy Fagin, a local artist who sits on the Fine Arts Center's board of directors.

Click here for the list of events available with the University of Massachusetts Fine Arts Center's (FAC) Library Ticket Program

For more information, contact the Holyoke Public Library at 413-420-8101.

A full list of this year's performances at the Fine Art Center can be found at <https://fac.umass.edu/Online/default.asp>.

HCC's Wintersession term begins Dec. 29

HOLYOKE – Seats remain open for Wintersession classes at Holyoke Community College, offering new and returning students – as well as those from other colleges home for the holidays – the opportunity to earn a semester's worth of credits for one class in 11 days.

HCC's Wintersession term begins Thurs., Dec. 29, and ends Fri., Jan. 13.

Students can earn up to four transferable credits by taking Wintersession classes in a wide variety of subjects: anthropology, communications, criminal justice, economics, education, environmental science, geography, law, management, mathematics, nutrition, social science, and sociology.

Most Wintersession classes are offered entirely online.

"We're starting our Wintersession classes five days earlier than previous years, which will allow both current HCC students and guest students from other colleges to earn a few quick credits

and get a jump-start on classes before the spring semester," said Mark Hudgik, HCC director of Admissions.

The registration deadline for Wintersession classes at HCC is Wed., Dec. 28.

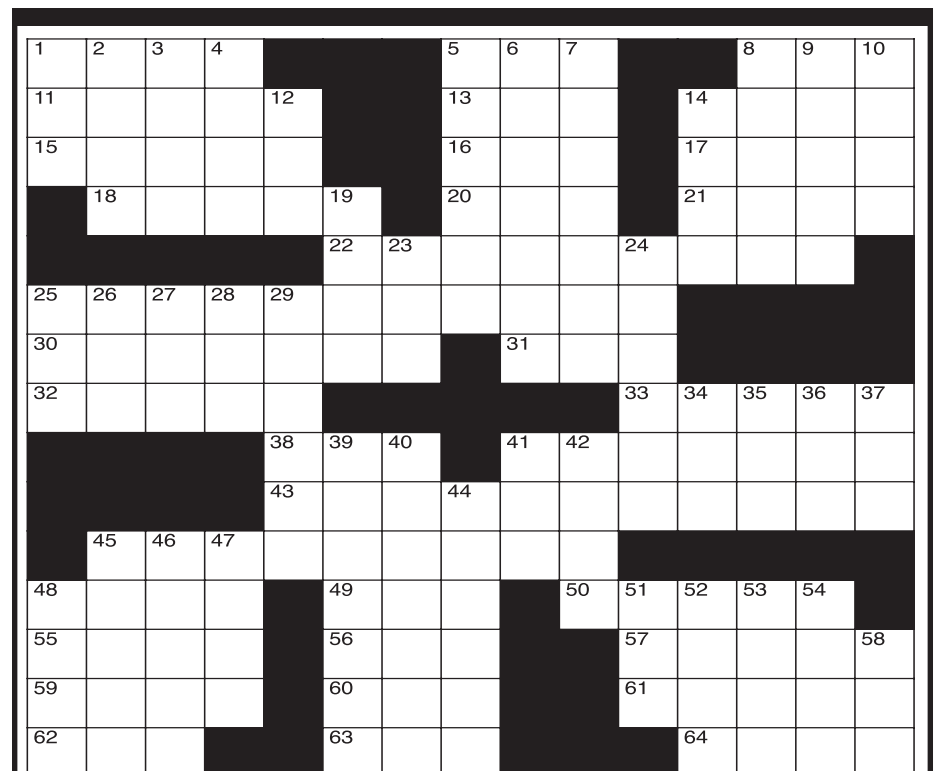
Registration is also open at HCC for spring 2023 classes.

Full semester classes (14 weeks) begin Tues., Jan. 17, with additional Flex Start dates on Feb. 6 (12-week classes) and March 20 (seven-week classes). All spring semester classes conclude by May 11.

To enroll for a Wintersession class, please visit: hcc.edu/wintersession

To enroll for Spring 2023, go to: hcc.edu/register

Please note: Students must submit proof of COVID-19 vaccinations before registering for on-campus classes. Those who plan to register only for online classes do not have to submit proof of vaccination.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. A people of Eastern Afghanistan
- 5. Supervises interstate commerce
- 8. Touch lightly
- 11. Relating to bees
- 13. Mauna ____, Hawaiian volcano
- 14. Mosuo culture religion
- 15. Italian village
- 16. Stiff bristle
- 17. Wealthy enclave in Rio
- 18. Cause to lose courage
- 20. Examines animals
- 21. Ethnic group of Laos and Thailand
- 22. Gets rid of
- 25. Having easily perceived thoughts
- 30. Removed surgically

- 31. Principle underlying the universe
- 32. Popular airline
- 33. Antelopes
- 38. Peacock network
- 41. Utter repeatedly
- 43. One from the Golden State
- 45. Photographers
- 48. Father
- 49. Popular BBQ dish
- 50. Cavalry sword
- 55. Ancient Greek sophist
- 56. Atomic mass unit
- 57. Afflicted in mind or body
- 59. Indian mythological figure
- 60. Mild expression of surprise
- 61. Jewish spiritual leader
- 62. Brew
- 63. Doctor of

CLUES DOWN

- 1. State attorneys
- 2. Imitated
- 3. Latvian capital
- 4. Irish goddess
- 5. Taste
- 6. Dried
- 7. Spanish saloon
- 8. Mother of Perseus
- 9. Evergreen coniferous trees
- 10. Refuse to comply
- 12. Negative
- 14. Hyphen
- 19. A way to record
- 23. Not good
- 24. One who tends the furnace
- 25. Small amount
- 26. Relative biological effectiveness (abbr.)
- 27. The whole quantity

- 28. __ King Cole, musician
- 29. One's opinion
- 34. Holds ashes
- 35. Stablecoin cryptocurrency
- 36. Side-blotched lizards genus
- 37. Legislator (abbr.)
- 39. Concentrated bombardment
- 40. Took for oneself
- 41. Nigerian City
- 42. Thousands of pounds
- 44. Inspired
- 45. Secret clique
- 46. Expression
- 47. Dough made from corn flour
- 48. Comedian Carvey
- 51. Swiss river
- 52. Prejudice
- 53. Actor Idris (abbr.)
- 54. Resistance fighters
- 58. Criticize

CROSSWORD ANSWER on page 9

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City must find a way to address housing crisis

By Gregory A. Scibelli

I'm not afraid to admit this, but when I was watching the residents of Holyoke go one-by-one up to the podium at Monday night's Public Safety Committee meeting, tears did indeed come down.

Never in my life, and I have rented a few times in my life, have I ever had to contend with the conditions that some of these residents described.

Now, the law is pretty clear on landlords' responsibilities, and while not paying rent, poor behavior, illegal activity can't be condoned, none of those is a reason for a landlord to allow for substandard living conditions to be allowed to happen at any rental unit or multi-unit dwelling.

Not that every person's particular situation ranks as "worse" than another, but what brought the tears to me was hearing about children who were forced to live in these conditions.

Children who are sickened and being constantly put at risk because there are mice and other rodents infesting these locations.

The people responsible for these buildings and other rental units are reprehensible for allowing other people to live in such horrible conditions.

And I would challenge any landlord whose building was spoken about at that meeting to contact thesun@turley.com and defend their rationale for allowing buildings to be unheated at this time of the year, or to have roaches or other rodents, take over apartment buildings, or for ceilings to collapse on children.

There are excuses for not having the money to pay rent.

Everyone is hurting.

There are even excuses for landlords whose buildings need repairs or equipment replaced.

But to allow these poor people to live in such utter filth and infestation, and even the presence of feces, without some kind of intervention is inexcusable.

Sadly, the people of Holyoke who are putting up with these conditions are not alone. This is an issue statewide and nationwide.

I want to applaud the courageous people who stood in front of the City Council to begin a dialogue that will hopefully lead to meaningful action.

The solution is simple -- "find a way."

The mayor, the City Council, the Health Department, and Planning and Economic Development should work in concert to find a way, any way, to provide the help these people desperately need. This is 64% of your residential community, which means, of course, it is the majority city residents you are required to provide services for.

I hope Mayor Joshua Garcia considers creating an office of tenant protection that was requested of him, because that would definitely be one place to start.

Like one of the residents said, somebody needs to step up.

Editor's note: The opinion reflected in this column is that of the writer alone and is not the stance of Holyoke Sun.

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Guest Column

Who made those ginger cookies?



Usually by now we have dozens of Christmas cookies made and in the freezer. Not this year. Life isn't as simple as it used to be, with kids getting older and schedules packed tight, and we won't bake unless the four of us are in the kitchen doing together.

My fingers are crossed that we will have the chance to do that next weekend. Maybe we will even try a new recipe or two.

Of course, we have our favorites, but once in a while you try a cookie, and you just have to add it to the mix.

This year it will be the ginger cookie that we bought from the school bake sale. Boy was it good and unlike any we've ever had before.

Soft and poofy, if that makes any sense, and very gingery. Now I just have to find the baker!

What a great opportunity to learn more about this spice and different ways to use it. Most often, folks are familiar with ginger in its powdered form.

I find that like most herb and spices ginger does not keep once the jar is opened - either the flavor lessens, or it turns bitter. The latter is especially true of nutmeg, which I am convinced ruined one of my mother's delicious cheesecakes some years back.

Anyhow, ginger is one of my favorite spicy flavorings. I use it in powdered form in a number of recipes- it combines well with those that are savory and well as sweet.

In my opinion, however, the best way to capitalize on its pungency is to use it fresh.

You can purchase ginger rhizomes at the grocery store. Buy two, one to eat now and another to plant.

To use it in cooking, scrape away the skin and slice it first into circles, then into smaller pieces.

For an invigorating tea, pour one pint of boiling water over an ounce of sliced root. Allow it to steep for up to twenty minutes before straining and enjoying.

It will warm you up as well as aid in digestion.

Plagued by motion sickness? Reportedly it works wonders for some folks.

Late winter is a great time to try and

grow ginger indoors. Plant the rhizome in a large pot of well-drained, fertile garden soil.

I say well-drained, because ginger hates to be waterlogged, and fertile, because the growing root will be hungry. If you don't have that on hand, I would steer clear of typical potting mixes and would instead use equal parts sand, garden loam and compost to fill the pot.

Next, examine your rhizome for growth buds, they look like little nubs poking out. Be sure you have at least two per rhizome, and plant them facing up, just a couple of inches below the soil surface.

In warmer climates, dappled sunlight is required to grow ginger. Here feel free to place the pot of ginger in a warm spot in full sun to slightly partial shade and water regularly as needed when the plant is in active growth.

As soon as cold weather threatens, bring the ginger inside. Once its leaves die back it would normally be harvest time, but most experts agree we won't be doing a whole lot of harvesting in our part of the country.

Even still it makes a pretty (and fragrant) tropical plant and as well as a good conversation piece. Water only sparingly until new growth resumes several weeks later.

Perhaps in year two you can uproot the rhizome, cut away a portion and enjoy some tea for your effort, planting what remains in new soil.

For right now I will pass on planting and dream of the smell of fresh baked ginger cookies, poofy, soft ones. Who made those cookies?

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 30 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.



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PATRICK H. TURLEY
CEO

KEITH TURLEY
President

EDITOR
Greg Scibelli
thesun@turley.com

ADVERTISING SALES
Wendy Delcamp
wdelcamp@turley.com

SPORTS EDITOR
Greg Scibelli
sports@turley.com

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A Quote

OF NOTE

"An ounce of action is worth a ton of theory."

Ralph Waldo Emerson

Letters to the Editor Policy

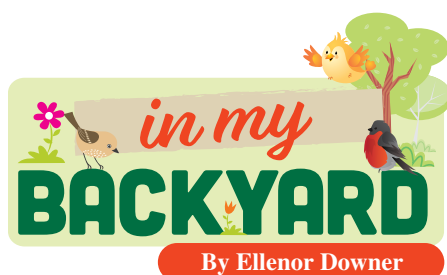
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Unsigned or anonymous letters will NOT be published.

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.



A Barre resident said he had at least a dozen evening grosbeaks at his feeders. Evening grosbeaks are an irruptive species and they often show up in large numbers at feeders.

I have not had evening grosbeaks at my feeder in years. Maybe this will be the year, they return to my yard.

Male grosbeaks have a yellow body and a dark head with a yellow eyebrow. They have black and white wings. The bill is yellow in winter and pale green during the summer.

The female grosbeaks are brownish gray overall with yellow on nape. They have black and white wings and the same color bill as the males.

Grosbeaks feed mainly on seeds of trees such as box elder, maples, pines and tulip poplars. They also eat fruits, buds, insects, tree sap and road salt.

At bird feeders, grosbeaks prefer sunflower seeds.

The female lays two to five blue or bluish green eggs in a nest of lichens, twigs, roots and moss lined with finer materials.

Their song is a halting warble and the call a ringing “peeer.” When a flock gives the “peeer” call it sounds like sleigh bells.

Other birds

The Barre resident said he puts out peanut butter and the birds especially the woodpeckers gobble it up. He said he also saw a Carolina wren.

Flocking birds

Lately, every time I travel to Spencer, I see a large flock of Canada geese in a corn field by a working farm. The flocks are large, at least 50 or more birds.

They most likely are late migrating geese from Canada.

This week I saw a flock of black birds in Oakham in an open field. They must be late migrants as well.

Birds at feeder

This year I have been mixing different bird seeds together rather than feed just black oil sunflowers. I mix black oil sunflower seeds with less expensive mixed seeds containing millet, cracked corn, nuts and some fruit.



Male and female evening grosbeaks

I also put shelled peanuts in the mix. This not only a way to save on bird feeding costs, but it also attracts a wider variety of birds.

Blue jays, tufted titmice and woodpeckers love the peanuts and of course, the gray squirrels. Smaller birds like black-capped chickadees, American goldfinches, dark-eyed juncos and various sparrows prefer the smaller seeds.

The mourning doves like the cracked corn and millet. Cardinals are about the only birds, which eat the safflower seeds.

Red crossbills

Massachusetts Audubon Society

reports sightings of red crossbills at several locations. They included Newton, Princeton, Westhampton and Woburn.

Crossbills are another irruptive species, who in winter appear in areas other than their normal range.

I also hang a suet cake out now that black bears hopefully have gone into hibernation.

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.

Recap and analysis of the week in state government by State House News Service

By Chris Lisinski
State House News Service

Maybe this was the Maura Healey we should have expected all along. More than four weeks into the governor-elect's transition and less than four weeks before she'll take the oath of office, Healey still has not made a single major personnel announcement -- no incoming Cabinet members to run executive offices, no MBTA leader to succeed General Manager Steve Poftak once he steps down on Jan. 3, no chief of staff who will weave everything together.

The antsy press corps -- us included -- is craving clear answers and wants to see Healey's starting lineup. And to be fair, we're sure there are at least some constituents who want Healey to say or announce something decisive so they can get a better sense of what will or won't change for the state after Charlie Baker.

Healey's first formal sit-down meeting with Boston Mayor Michelle Wu, after which the governor-elect said problems in the "Mass. and Cass" area are the "subject of ongoing discussion," did not yield much insight.

Her remarks to reporters on Thursday also shed little light on the staffing outlook. Healey said she and Lt. Gov.-elect Kim Driscoll are overseeing a "very intense" hiring process but did not announce any additions.

But let's consider another angle to Healey's decision-making strategy: maybe the apparent lull is itself a glimpse into how she will govern.

Healey could argue she's being deliberate and careful with her approach, working behind the scenes to get a better understanding of where everyone stands and how she might navigate competing

interests. She might prefer to gather information and analyze options in private, then go public with something more comprehensive.

That tends to be how prosecutors work, and after eight years as attorney general, Healey might feel most comfortable maintaining that pattern.

Of course, Healey is not governor yet. Dealing with, for example, the unfolding emergency shelter and migrant crisis is still the responsibility of Gov. Baker and a mostly inactive Legislature for the next month.

Baker gave Healey a bit of cover for her outward inaction by sticking in the spotlight himself. After claiming for months that he is focused on the work and not yet interested in thinking about his legacy, the governor embraced a more reflective approach this week and his schedule began to reflect a "final lap" element.

He hosted a roundtable with municipal leaders and advocates to talk about the administration's housing accomplishments and what's left unfinished. He joined Poftak and regional officials to celebrate the completion of a new Freetown commuter rail station, even though the South Coast Rail project to which it belongs won't open to MBTA passengers until next year. He sat for his final "Ask the Governor" appearance on GBH, where the bulk of the show consisted of callers heaping praise on Baker.

It wasn't just the typical batch of constituents on the line. Thursday's show featured "Bill from Canton," "Maura from Cambridge," and, as host Jim Braude put it, "can't make out the name, somebody from Dorchester."

Those callers were, respectively, former Gov. Bill Weld, Healey, and U.S.

Labor Secretary Marty Walsh, each of whom made a point to have their effusive congratulations and thanks for Baker broadcast across the state.

"I did want to call in and congratulate you on a great run," Weld, for whom Baker served as health and human services secretary and then administration and finance secretary, said. "You got an awful lot done, although, you know, in my view, you kind of did it the hard way: you worked at it all the time. It would've been so much easier if you'd only had some guy, like for example, Charlie Baker, working for you to take care of all the financial stuff and the big issues like health care."

"Next time, you want to think about that," he added.

"I will keep that one in mind, boss. I really appreciate it," Baker replied.

That exchange prompted lots of laughter, but there might be a kernel of truth in the idea of "next time." At various points in his tenure, Baker has outright declared he would not be a candidate for national office, but over the course of his long goodbye, he's cracked the door open ever so slightly.

"My wife is really looking forward to having me around a little more, so I don't think I'll be a candidate in '24 for anything. I will certainly try to be involved in a positive way," Baker said.

What about after that?

"I think he really feels called to this work," First Lady Lauren Baker told MassLive. "It's not like he's driven to have another elected position, though it's the work that he really enjoys. I wouldn't be surprised if he stays engaged somehow in public service. I don't know what that means, but there's definitely no plans for us to seek any other elected office."

The leisure landscape will look pretty different when Baker returns to civilian life for the first time in eight years. By next summer, for example, Bay Staters might be able to cast a bet on the Red Sox from their phone while sunbathing topless on Nantucket.

Healey, still in her capacity as AG, approved a bylaw allowing anyone to go topless on any public or private Nantucket beach. Voters on the island approved the measure at a Town Meeting in May, and elected officials heralded the ruling as a win for gender equality.

Meanwhile, regulators took a major step toward rolling out sports betting after years of debate finally culminated in legislative approval this summer. Encore Boston Harbor secured the first sports betting license, and plans still point to in-person wagers starting early next year with mobile betting in the spring.

Even the most free-wheeling gambler might not have put money on the outcome in the Second Essex House district. Once the final mail-in ballots had been counted, five-term Republican Rep. Lenny Mirra appeared to squeak through by 10 votes over his first-time challenger, Democrat Kristin Kassner.

That's not the case any longer. A district-wide recount wrapped up on Thursday with Kassner now victorious by as small a margin as possible: one vote.

STORY OF THE WEEK: *The transition wheels continue to turn even as Baker adds stops to his farewell tour.*

SONG OF THE WEEK: *We know at least one thing Baker will do once he leaves office. "The answer," Baker declared on GBH when a caller asked if he scored tickets to the local stop on blink-182's upcoming reunion tour, "is yes."*

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In The News

**Looking for a Challenge in 2023?
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WESTFIELD - Amelia Park Children's Museum is challenging the wild, the wacky, and the just plain crazy to take THE PLUNGE into the icy, cold waters of Hampton Ponds State Park on Saturday, Jan. 28.

Check-in begins at 11:30 a.m. and participants start hitting the water at 1 p.m. All proceeds from the Penguin Plunge will benefit Amelia Park Children's Museum. Now in its 19th year, the Penguin Plunge has raised over \$325,000 to support Amelia Park Children's Museum.

Defy the seasonal temperatures and take the dare.

Join as an individual or as a team. Each participant pledges to raise a minimum of \$75 from friends and family and is encouraged to collect as many sponsors as possible. Full time students will receive a registration discount of \$25 with valid school ID and pledge to raise at least \$50.

The participant who collects the most funds will be crowned the 2023 Penguin Excelsior and win \$500 of cold hard cash. A costume contest is part of the fun, and there are prizes for Best Individual Costume and Best Team Costume.

Register in advance or the day of the event from 11:30 a.m.-noon. All participants will receive a free 2023 Penguin Plunge T-shirt.

Registration and pledge forms

are available via the museum website at www.ameliaparkmuseum.org/plunge or can be picked up at the museum. Penguins may also use the Fundly page to collect sponsors; <https://fundly.com/penguin-plunge-2023>.

Don't want to jump in the water? No worries! We need spectators to cheer on our brave participants. We will have activities and games for everyone, including a live ice sculpting demo. Hot chocolate, coffee, chili, and other refreshments will be available to keep everyone nice and warm.

The money raised by the Plunge goes to providing a safe and welcoming place for children to learn and play.

This event is crucial in supporting the work of Amelia Park Children's Museum

Amelia Park Children's Museum is located at 29 South Broad Street and is open 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Thursday-Monday. The

museum offers hands-on learning for children ages 1-7 in a safe and welcoming environment.

Cost of admission is \$8 per person; grandparents have a reduced rate of \$4. Admission is \$2 per person from 1-3 p.m. on Thursday afternoons

Call us with questions at 413-572-4014 or email questions to: fun@ameliaparkmuseum.org. Learn more about the museum at: www.ameliaparkmuseum.org.



WREATHS, from page 3

Wreaths Across America started as a simple gesture of thanks that has grown into a national movement of dedicated volunteers and communities coming together to not only remember the nation's fallen and honor their service, but to teach the next generation about the sacrifices made for us to live freely. This year, there will be more than 3,100

participating locations placing veterans' wreaths on National Wreaths Across America Day with more than two million volunteers coming together.

All Wreaths Across America Day events are non-political/religious events open to all people. For more information, to donate or to sign up to volunteer, please visit <https://www.wreath-sacrossamerica.org/pages/16181/Overview/?relatedId=0>.

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SPORTS

Slow start hurts Knights

SPRINGFIELD – The Holyoke High School boys basketball team had a tough start in their season opener, and could not come all the way back in a 60-49 loss at Pope Francis High School. Pope got out to a 15-7 lead thanks to some early turnovers, and

despite double digits in every other frame, the Knights could not hold the Cardinals offense down. Holyoke did get points from 10 different players, though no one scored in double digits. Gavier Fernandez had nine points to lead the team.



Gavier Fernandez takes a three-point attempt.



Adam Cabrera rushes toward the hoop.



Davi Diaz goes around a Pope Francis guard into the paint.



Shawn Rivera flips a pass to his right.

Staff photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com



Amilyn Treadwell eyes the hoop as she shoots.



Yasani Thompson goes for the layup.



Kylie Blaha holds the ball out before making a move to the basket.



Kiara Perez bends before making a shot.

Staff photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Knights fall in overtime

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

HOLYOKE – The Holyoke girls varsity squad outplayed Palmer during the first 29 minutes of the season opening non-league contest. The Lady Panthers, trailing 57-44 with three minutes remaining in the fourth quarter, put together a 13-0 run tying the score at 57-57 at the end of regulation.

With 1:23 remaining in the overtime session, Palmer took the lead for the

See **KNIGHTS**, page 8



Ashley Vazquez tries to avoid the defense as she head for the hoop.



Erin Gauthier plays in the Volleyball All-Star game at the end of November.



Gauthier represented the Knights at the Nov. 21 event held at Holyoke Community College.

Staff photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Gauthier makes All-Star game

HOLYOKE – Erin Gauthier was a recent representative at the International Volleyball Hall of Fame All-Star Game held on Nov. 21. The games were held at Holyoke Community College.

JDV Productions events added to 2023 racing schedule

ATTLEBORO – JDV Productions announced today two additional events for their 2023 schedule, as the organization will branch out to promote two Open Modified events for the new season. The JDV Open Modifieds will compete in a 100-lap event at Monadnock Speedway on Saturday, June 3 and a 100-lap race at Claremont Motorsports Park on Sunday, Sept. 3.

The Open Modified division will highlight some of the top Modified drivers in New England up against many local house division drivers from the respective New Hampshire short-tracks, who normally compete in the NHSTRA Modifieds.

Among the first two teams to show verbal commitments to competing in the events are former NASCAR

New Hampshire state champion Brian Robie and Open Modified team owner Stan Mertz, who will also have his car compete in select NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour events in 2023.

“We feel it’s the right time to branch out into the Open Modifieds and give ourselves a bit more involvement in a thrilling Modified environment in New England,” Josh Vanada, owner of JDV Productions, said. “On top of our scheduled NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour events, we will showcase the Open Modifieds to race fans, with a bit of a local flavor. We’re looking forward to announcing additional details about our 2023 season soon prior to the holiday season. Stay tuned, race fans.”

Robie is no stranger to run-

ning at the front of the field at both Monadnock and Claremont and is excited to have some races in his backyard.

“We’ve enjoyed spending the last few years traveling around New England and will continue to do so, but it’s always nice to have a few Open Modified races close to home,” Robie said. “Having two of them is even better. The management team involved with JDV is looking to do things a little bit different, which is always welcome. I enjoy new challenges. Having these shows on our home turf offers a slight advantage. We will be looking forward to running these events in 2023.”

Mertz is also excited to get to the track to compete in these JDV

Productions special events.

“We’ve made a living out of Open Modified races in the last few years and competing in a few promoted by Josh Vanada and the JDV team was a no brainer for us when we heard about it,” Mertz said. “We have yet to set a driver for these events, but we have had success at both tracks before and look forward to supporting these races next season. On top of our select Whelen Modified Tour races, we are going to have a busy calendar with our team.”

JDV Productions is excited to announce additional details about the 2023 schedule prior to the end of the 2022 calendar year. Stay tuned to the JDV Productions social media channels for more information.

Springfield Thunderbirds score shutout of Milwaukee Admirals

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds (9-10-1-4) got their first shutout victory of the year behind 25 Joel Hofer saves in a 2-0 win over the Milwaukee Admirals (15-7-0-1) on Saturday night before a sold-out crowd of 6,793 on Teddy Bear Toss night at the MassMutual Center.

Springfield came out of the gates swinging in the opening period, outshooting the Admirals by a 13-3 margin in the opening 20 minutes. Matthew Highmore brought the teddy bears down from every corner of the arena when he tapped in a back-door pass from Nikita Alexandrov on a power play at 6:07 of the period, making it 1-0.

There would not be another goal in the contest until the final period, but it was not for a lack of chances. Anthony Angello narrowly missed a goal on a breakaway coming out of the penalty box in the second, as he rang a shot off the inside of the post behind Milwaukee netminder Devin Cooley’s glove.

At the other end, the Admirals power play had seven

chances throughout the night to try to dent Hofer, but each time, the Springfield penalty kill and their netminder turned away Milwaukee’s bids for goals.

On one such penalty kill in the final period, rookie Jake Neighbours put the game away when he stole the puck from Cooley near the goal line and beat the diving netminder to the opposite side of the net to tuck home a wraparound backhand at 6:30 of the third. Neighbours’ first goal in the AHL made it 2-0, and Hofer and the defense locked down the net front from that point onward.

Through his first 17 games this season, Hofer finds himself fifth in the AHL in save percentage (.927) and goals-against average (2.28). Saturday’s 25-save effort was Hofer’s fourth career AHL shutout and second as a Thunderbird.

The T-Birds, who have earned five of a possible six points over their last three games, embark on a four-game road trip that began Wednesday night at Total Mortgage Arena against the Bridgeport Islanders.

HoopHall makes presence overseas

SPRINGFIELD – The Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame recently held a pair of events in London, a two-day HoopHall International high school tournament at Copper Box Arena (Dec. 2 and 3) and the London Showcase at The O2 Arena (Dec. 4), a double-header of college basketball games: Maine vs. Marist (aired on ESPN) and Kentucky vs. Michigan (ABC).

“The goal of this inaugural event was not only to bring the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame brand from the birthplace of basketball to the international stage, but to expose London to elite college basketball and grow the appreciation of the sport overseas, said John L. Doleva, President and CEO of the Basketball Hall of Fame. “We certainly feel we accomplished that.”

On Dec. 2, Chelsea Football Club welcomed Kentucky and Michigan to

Stamford Bridge. Coach John Calipari and Coach Juwan Howard participated in a jersey exchange with Chelsea President of Business Tom Glick and Doleva. Both schools toured the facility, including stopping in Chelsea’s dressing room, where the players were able to hoist one of soccer’s most sought-after prizes, the UEFA Champions League trophy.

In addition to the scheduled games and tour, the Hall of Fame hosted a pair of basketball clinics for the London community at East London University and Copper Box.

“It was extremely important for the Basketball Hall of Fame to embed itself in the London community while we were overseas,” said Doleva. “We hope our trip to London left as many memories for the English basketball fans as we took back home.”

Follow Turley Sports on Instagram

Turley Publications sports department has recently joined Instagram. You can find our account by searching “turleysports.” We will regularly feature samples of photos that you will see in our publications on a weekly basis. Please

follow and share with your friends and loved ones. We will be featuring photos from all 11 of our sports sections, but as always, you can see all the photos that appear by subscribing to your local paper or picking up a copy in your community.

KNIGHTS, from page 7

first time at 64-62 following two made free throws by sophomore guard Jayda Pardo, who joined the varsity basketball team as an eighth grader.

Palmer hung on for an exciting 65-63 victory at John ‘Jinx’ O’Connor Gymnasium, last Thursday night.

“It just feels amazing to win our first game of the regular season, especially against a team like Holyoke, who we’ve never beaten before,” said Pardo, who scored 14 of her 16 points during the second half. “We knew that we could make a fourth quarter comeback. This is one of the biggest wins so far in my high school basketball career.”

The Palmer players and coaches celebrated the two-point victory like they had just won a Western Mass. title.

“We were down by 21 points in the first half. We told the girls at halftime that they just needed to play one possession at a time and play well defensively in the second half for us to make a comeback,” said Palmer co-head coach Amanda Theriault. “The girls never gave up and they just played an amazing game tonight. This is a great team win. We’ll need contributions from everyone to have another successful season.”

Theriault, who’s a member of the Westfield State University Athletic Hall of Fame, shares the coaching duties with Denise Levasseur.

While the Western Mass. tourna-

ment is still a couple of months away, the season opening victory should help the Lady Panthers, a Division 5 team in the MIAA power rankings.

The Purple Knights, who are a Division 2 team, did celebrate a 74-55 home victory over the Lady Panthers two years ago. They also posted a 48-32 road win when the two teams faced each other last December.

Holyoke couldn’t complete the job in last Thursday’s match-up.

“I told the girls that I’ll take the blame for this loss,” said Holyoke head coach Andrea Enright. “We tried to work on something in the fourth quarter that we thought would help us in the future, but it backfired. I saw a lot of good things from my players in tonight’s game.”

Holyoke senior guard Bianca Ortiz scored her 1,000-career point in the Purple Knights Division 2 round of 32 state tournament home loss to Worcester South last March. She didn’t play in the season opener because of an injury.

Yamaya Perez, who was one of the Holyoke seniors last year, also accomplished the elite milestone.

Palmer freshman guard Charlotte Theriault, who’s older sister, Maddy, finished her outstanding high school basketball career with more than 1,000 career points, scored 17 of her team-leading 21 points after halftime against the Purple Knights.

Theriault began the Lady Panthers fourth quarter comeback with a lay-up

basket following a steal by senior guard Gwen Duggan.

Duggan and Giamorya McTier, who’s a forward, are the only two seniors listed on the Lady Panthers varsity roster. McTier finished the contest with 8 points.

With 1:37 remaining in regulation, the Holyoke head coach decided to take out senior guard Ashley Vazquez, who was the best player on the court during the first three quarters. Vazquez, who’s a returning varsity player, scored 19 of her game-high 25 points in the first half.

“Ashley played a phenomenal game tonight,” Enright said. “We took her out in the fourth quarter because she had played a lot of minutes and it was our first game of the season. I wish that I had put her back in the game a little bit sooner.”

With less than twenty seconds remaining in the fourth quarter, back-to-back steals by Theriault and Duggan (5 points) led to lay-up baskets closing the gap to 57-55.

Following a turnover, Palmer junior guard Vanessa Baer (8 points) was fouled while attempting a 3-point shot from in front of the Lady Panthers bench with 0.4 seconds showing on the scoreboard clock.

Baer made two of her three foul shots sending the game into overtime.

At the start of the four-minute overtime period, the home team retook the lead at 60-57 following a layup by sophomore guard Evangeline Cauley (7

points) and a free throw from Vazquez.

With 1:37 left in overtime, Pardo buried her fourth 3-pointer of the game from the right corner tying the score again at 62-62. She then gave her team the lead for the first time by making two foul shots.

Holyoke missed seven of their eight free throw attempts during the final minute. A Theriault free throw gave the Lady Panthers a two-point advantage in the final seconds.

With two minutes remaining in the first quarter, a 3-pointer by freshman guard Yasani Thompson pushed the Purple Knights lead into double digits (16-6). Thompson finished her first varsity basketball game with 9 points.

Then Vazquez took over the spotlight. She scored her team’s next 12 points. Her 3-pointer gave Holyoke a 29-8 advantage with 5:20 left in the second half.

The Lady Panthers then switched to a box and one defense to try to slow Vazquez down offensively.

“When we went to a box and one right before halftime, (Sophomore forward) Maddy Rathbone shut Vazquez down,” Levasseur said. “She just did a great job.”

The Purple Knights, who held a 35-18 halftime lead, were able to keep the double-digit lead until late in the fourth quarter.

Holyoke junior forward Amilyan Treadwell scored 12 of her 16 points in the second half.

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD98P0994EP1**
Estate of:
Dorothy A Donoghue
Date of Death:
05/15/1998

CITATION ON GENERAL PROBATE PETITION
To all interested persons:
A Petition has been filed by: **Noah LaPierre of Holyoke, MA** requesting to Ratify and Confirm a Doubtful Act.

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 01/04/2023.

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 with in thirty (30) days of the return date, action may be taken without further notice to you.

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

Date: December 07, 2022
Rosemary A Saccomani, Register of Probate
12/16/2022

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
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Docket No. HD22P1982EA

Estate of:
William Roland Hubbard
Date of Death: 12/26/2020
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION
A Petition for S/A - Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by **Phillip C Flynn of Hudson FL** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 01/10/2023.

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: December 09, 2022
Rosemary A. Saccomani, Register of Probate
12/16/2022

**LEGAL NOTICE
CITY OF HOLYOKE
GAS & ELECTRIC
DEPARTMENT
RECONSTRUCTION OF
MANHOLE NO. 128**

Sealed bids for the above will be received by Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept. until 2:30 p.m., January 25, 2023 at the Office of the Manager, 99 Suffolk St., Holyoke, MA 01040, at which time bids will be publicly opened and read.

Bid Deposit:
A Bid Deposit equal to 5% of the total value of the bid must accompany all bids and may be in the form of a certified, treasurer's, or cashier's check payable to HG&E from a responsible bank or trust company; cash; or a bid bond from a licensed surety payable to HG&E.

Prevailing Wage Rates:
Prevailing Wage Rates set by the Mass. Dept of Labor & Industries shall be paid to all people engaged in work under this contract.

Mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting:
A mandatory pre-bid meeting is scheduled to convene promptly at 11:00 a.m. (EST) on Friday, January 4, 2023 onsite at the corner of Appleton St and Walnut St., Holyoke, MA.

Additional information may be obtained from:
Chi Wong
Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept.
99 Suffolk St.
Holyoke, MA 01040
(413) 536-9308
cwong@hged.com

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

Please mark sealed envelopes "Bid for Reconstruction of Manhole No. 128" and address them to:

James Lavelle, Manager
Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept.
99 Suffolk St.
Holyoke, MA 01040
12/16/2022

**LEGAL NOTICE
CITY OF HOLYOKE
GAS & ELECTRIC
DEPARTMENT
RECONSTRUCTION OF**

MANHOLE NO. 209

Sealed bids for the above will be received by Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept. until 2:00 p.m., January 25, 2023 at the Office of the Manager, 99 Suffolk St., Holyoke, MA 01040, at which time bids will be publicly opened and read.

Bid Deposit:
A Bid Deposit equal to 5% of the total value of the bid must accompany all bids and may be in the form of a certified, treasurer's, or cashier's check payable to HG&E from a responsible bank or trust company; cash; or a bid bond from a licensed surety payable to HG&E.

Prevailing Wage Rates:
Prevailing Wage Rates set by the Mass. Dept of Labor & Industries shall be paid to all people engaged in work under this contract.

Mandatory Pre-Bid Meeting:

A mandatory pre-bid meeting is scheduled to convene promptly at 10:00 a.m. (EST) on Friday, January 4, 2023 onsite at the corner of Pleasant St and Forestdale Ave., Holyoke, MA.

Additional information may be obtained from:

Chi Wong
Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept.
99 Suffolk St.
Holyoke, MA 01040
(413) 536-9308
cwong@hged.com

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

Please mark sealed envelopes "Bid for Reconstruction of Manhole No. 209" and address them to:

James Lavelle, Manager
Holyoke Gas & Electric
99 Suffolk Street
Holyoke, MA 01040
12/16/2022

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-8600**
Docket No. HD22P2578EA

Estate of:
Duncan C Miles
Date of Death: 06/10/2022
INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **John J Driscoll of Holyoke, MA** a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

John J Driscoll of Holyoke, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve without surety on the bond.

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

Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
12/16/2022

NOTICE TO CONTRACTORS - CLASSIFIED LEGAL ADVERTISEMENT MASSACHUSETTS EXECUTIVE OFFICE FOR ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE DIVISION OF CAPITAL ASSET MANAGEMENT & MAINTENANCE

Electronic Bids submitted in the format furnished by the Division of Capital Asset Management & Maintenance (DCAMM) and clearly identified as a bid will be received through DCAMM's E-Bid Room at www.bidexpress.com/businesses/10279/home no later than the date and time specified and will forthwith be publicly opened remotely by DCAMM Bid Room personnel and read aloud over a conference call line. Persons interested in accessing the remote bid opening can do so by using the following phone number: Audio Conferencing Dial-In Number (617)-315-0704, Meeting Number 2333 916 4237#. If prompted for attendee ID, please press #.

General Bids at 2:00 PM: January 12, 2023

Every General Bidder must be certified by DCAMM for the category of work listed below and for no less than the bid price plus all add alternates of this project, if applicable.

This notice is for three contracts bid in accordance with

Chapter 9, Section 49 of the Acts of 2011, as amended by Chapter 119, Sections 23 and 24 of the Acts of 2015, by Chapter 113, Sections 22 through 24 of the Acts of 2018 and by Section 63 of Chapter 42 of the Acts of 2022 (collectively, the "Act").

The Category of Work is: General Building Construction Mass. State Project No. JOCAD-2

Job Order Contract for General Contractor Services, Central and Western MA Region

Job Order projects under this Contract may include alteration, conversion, maintenance, and/or repair (as defined in the Contract Documents) of state buildings and facilities located in the following counties: Berkshire County; Hampden County; Hampshire County; Franklin County; Worcester County. All municipalities within each county are included.

Each Job Order project will have an estimated cost of construction of not more than \$150,000. Total of all Job Orders performed by a Contractor under an awarded Contract may not exceed \$1,000,000 subject to terms of the Contract Documents. Job Orders will be priced based on Bidder's Contractor's Coefficient(s) multiplied by applicable Unit Prices in the Contract Documents.

Contract term is two years with three one-year options to renew.

A Pre-Bid/Site Visit will be held online, on December 19, 2022 @ 10:00 AM using the following link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85763092332?pwd=enNMWnZTN3c5U1FsRzIzldVnVQUZ6QT09>.

Minimum rates of wages to be paid on the project have been determined by the Commissioner of the Department of Labor Standards. These rates are incorporated into the bid documents.

uments.

Bid documents for this project may be accessed or downloaded at no cost to potential bidders exclusively through DCAMM's E-Bid Room <https://www.bidexpress.com/businesses/10279/home>. A hard copy set can be made available for viewing in DCAMM's Bid Room located at One Ashburton Place, 15th Floor, Boston, MA during normal business hours by appointment only by contacting DCAMM's Bid Room.

In order to access bid documents and submit bids through DCAMM's E-Bid Room potential bidders must first be verified by DCAMM's Bid Room and then register with the E-Bid Room vendor. Instructions on the processes can be found on DCAMM's website www.mass.gov/dcammbids or contact DCAMM's Bid Room at (617) 727-4003 or bidroom.dcammm@mass.gov.

Carol W. Gladstone
COMMISSIONER
12/16/2022

NOTICE

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

Early Deadlines
for all LEGAL NOTICES...

All Papers Will Deadline Thursday, Dec. 22 at Noon for Publication Dec. 27-30

Happy Holidays!

Happy New Year!

All Papers Will Deadline Thursday, Dec. 29 at Noon for Publication Jan. 3-6

The 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 \$120, 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

In The News

VICTIM, from page 1

Springfield, where he was pronounced deceased a short time later.

Later in the week, Hampden County District Attorney announced the victim was Luis Ramos, 49, a resident of the city.

Leydon said the investigation is ongoing and being treated as a homicide

RESIDENTS, from page 1

husband has cancer and we are trying to keep him healthy. We went 24 hours without heat. We fight to keep the heat going constantly.”

She said her building does not have smoke or carbon monoxide detectors, or any type of fire escapes.

Cleopatra Pledger talked about her inability to secure housing due to previous evictions. She said the evictions were out of her control because of the higher rent.

“Every year it seems like I’m jumping from house to house,” she said. “We need a solution where we don’t have to worry about the rent going up because of greed.”

April Gagnon, a Maple Street resident, spoke about having to fix her own toilet, an illegal heating system, and ceilings that are caving in on residents in her building.

being conducted by the Holyoke Police Department, the Massachusetts State Police Detective Unit assigned to the Hampden District Attorney’s Office and the Hampden District Attorney’s Office’s Murder Unit.

Gulluni extended his sympathies to Ramos’s family.

This is the latest in a line of several murders that have occurred in the city in 2022.

“I have mice droppings everywhere,” she said. “I have thrown away food. My children are physically and mentally sick from living in this building.”

She added a security door is not functioning and she is forced to use a baseball bat to protect the hallways in her building.

“Something has got to be done,” Gagnon said. “Somebody has got to stand up. We need support. We need lower housing costs.”

Another speaker was Daniel Ordorica, a lawyer representing many low-income residents in the city. He called on the council to help bring change to the city.

Public Safety Committee Chairman Israel Rivera praised the residents for coming forward and said it was a good first step. He conceded many things were out of the council’s direct control, and pledged to support the residents.

“This is the first step, and we hope to follow up,” Rivera said.

VACCINATED, from page 1

ly in October, and the “initial clinic” occurred on Nov. 26 at Lorraine’s Soup Kitchen & Pantry in Chicopee.

“The response has been tremendous. We’ve had almost 24,000 doses that have been administered during this time, and the vast majority are doses that are booster doses,” Garcia said.

The campaign will run through the end of the calendar year. Residents are encouraged to search “COVID-19 Vaccine Equity Initiative” on mass.gov to discover when and where additional clinics are occurring.

The campaign has several weeks left, but Garcia is excited to observe that already “it is really making a difference.”

This isn’t the first time DPH has thought outside the box to draw residents to vaccine clinics. The state also partnered with Six Flags New England, offering free access to the park for those who were vaccinated.

Garcia said the campaign is providing DPH with a great opportunity to engage communities. The gift card giveaway is prioritizing communities that are underrepresented or that have low vaccine percentages.

In coordinating the clinics, the state is looking to partner with organizations that are trusted in the community such as senior centers and libraries. Garcia said that frequently visited community pillars were targeted.

“If they’re going to be there anyways for an activity, wouldn’t be great to get a gift card and get your booster at the same time,” he said. “We appreciate their willingness to intervene in this way and to say it’s important.”

Garcia said it is reassuring to see the campaign play out in the manner in which it was intended and again deflected credit to DPH’s community partners for its success.

“The state has the vaccines, the state has the gift cards, but we need those partners in the community working with us to be able to get folks vaccinated and boosted,” Garcia said.

While not all will supply gift cards, Garcia said that at on any given day there are more than 200 clinics operational in the state. He emphasized that the effectiveness of the vaccine has been proven.

“These are free vaccines, they’re readily available, they’ve been proven to support and protect folks from COVID so we want to be clear that these are very effective vaccines,” he said.

As winter approaches, Garcia also advised residents to get their flu shots. Viruses are out there, and sometimes there is no way to avoid them so it helps to be prepared.

“It’s going to be a difficult time moving into the winter. We’re going to have flu, we’re going to have COVID, we have lots of other circulating viruses so protect yourselves,” Garcia said.

SEEKING STAFF WRITER

Award-winning, family-owned Turley Publications, based in Palmer, is seeking a storyteller who is curious about everything, and who understands how town government works to join our team of weekly reporters.

Experience in covering town government is a huge plus, and any experience in community journalism is as well. Staff writers cover all aspects of communities from features to municipal meetings to crimes and fires. Successful candidates must have people skills, plenty of curiosity and able to tell a story.

If you’re a self-starter who enjoys community journalism and who can envision themselves connecting with our communities, we encourage you to apply for this position.

Qualifications should include:

- Bachelor’s degree or equivalent experience
- A determination to get the story, whatever it might be
- Equally comfortable writing hard news, features and event coverage
- Ability to write clean copy in a fast-paced, deadline-driven environment
- Proficiency in Associated Press style

Please tell us in a cover letter why you would be a good fit for our editor’s position and send it along with a resume and three writing samples to Executive Editor Cliff Clark at cclark@turley.com.



NEWSPAPER EDITOR

Turley Publications is seeking an energetic candidate who loves telling stories to be the editor for its weekly publication: the Country Journal. This full-time position is based in our Palmer office at 24 Water St. The successful candidate will have strong community journalism skills. They must also be able to manage a staff writer, copy edit submitted items and staff stories, and guide coverage. The editor is also expected to gather news and write stories for the two papers as well as for other occasional companywide publications.

This is a job for a self-starter who has a vision for growing and connecting with our valued readers, and who thoroughly enjoys community journalism.

Qualifications should include:

- Bachelor’s degree or equivalent experience
- Willingness to mentor a staff writer and correspondents
- Own camera and have some photography experience
- Editing experience and ability to write clean copy in a fast-paced, deadline-driven environment
- Proficiency in Associated Press style
- Management experience and/or experience managing content for a print publication.

Please send resume and writing examples to Cliff Clark, Executive Editor at cclark@turley.com.

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the Sun HOLYOKE

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

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LEAD SUPPORT STAFF Local agency is seeking a dependable person who has excellent leadership qualities, and who is self driven, and very dependable to provide planning activities, and who has the ability to support a young woman in the Palmer area, so she can continue to live independently in her own apartment. She requires assistance with: General Life Skills this innovative service model is driven by using a common sense approach, and being able to be self creative. Also, daily activity agency logs must be kept to accommodate State requirements. Meetings will be held from time to time with the agency and family. A CORI, driving record, and fingerprinting test are performed to meet all State Guidelines. Position part time 21 hours per week. Starting rate \$19.50 per hr. Applicant must be a responsible and dependable individual with reliable transportation. If interested please call Ed at (413)813-7226 or email usmarine1834@gmail.com

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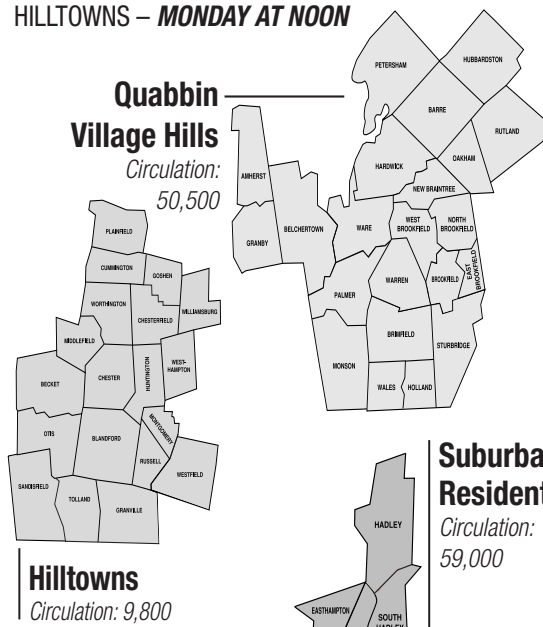
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Run my ad in the following ZONE(s):
 Quabbin
 Suburban
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OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!



Saturday, Dec. 17

Lou Barlow will perform at Gateway City Arts at 8 p.m. is an American alternative rock musician and songwriter. A founding member of the groups Dinosaur Jr., Sebadoh and The Folk Implosion, Barlow is credited with helping to pioneer the lo-fi style of rock music in the late 1980s and early 1990s.

Indie-rock songwriter and comix artist Jeffrey Lewis began recording homemade cassettes in New York City in 1998; his critically acclaimed, unusual and word-dense songs lead to Jeffrey signing to Rough Trade Records in 2001 (record label of The Smiths, The Strokes, Belle & Sebastian, The Fall, The Moldy Peaches, etc.). Many albums and comic books later, Jeffrey still lives in NYC and has played hundreds of gigs all over the world, both solo and with bandmates, habitually assembling different set lists for each night to weave in old songs, new songs, artwork, stories and surprises.

Sunday, Dec. 18

There will be a Menorah Lighting at Holyoke City Hall at 5:30 p.m. Participating will be Mayor Joshua A. Garcia, Rabbi Saul Perlmutter and members of the area Jewish community. The public is invited. The event is being organized by Congregation Sons of Zion, Holyoke Parks and Recreation Department, Department of Public Works and the Mayor's Office.

Saturday, Dec. 31

First Night Junior returns to Holyoke Heritage

The Pulse is a community calendar for Holyoke and neighboring communities. Free listings are available for non-commercial, non-political entertainment or educational events that are free to attend, or fundraisers that benefit a non-profit organization. Only events in Holyoke or one of its immediate bordering towns, or events that benefit an organization based in Holyoke, will be listed. Submitted items should be brief, with only time, date, location, activity explanation, and contact information, and may be edited for length and style. Items may be sent to thesun@turley.com, fax to 413-283-7107 or mail to The Holyoke Sun, c/o Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069. The deadline for calendar listings is noon Monday for that Friday's newspaper.

State Park. Join us from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 31 with unlimited rides on the Merry-Go-Round, entrance to the Children's Museum, crafts, live entertainment, and more. Tickets must be purchased online at <https://www.holyokemerrygoround.org/tickets>.

Saturday, Jan. 7

Holyoke St. Patrick's Grand Colleen Pageant will be held at 7 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 7 at Holyoke High School. See eligibility requirements and apply at holyokestpatrickscmte.com.

The application deadline is Dec. 28

For questions, contact Kathy Dulchinos, Colleen Coordinator, at 413-592-4945.

Tickets for the Pageant are \$15 per person, \$10 for seniors and children under 12 are free, tickets are available for sale online at grandcolleenpageant.eventbrite.com or at with cash/check at the door.

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