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Eat, Drink and Be Holyoke closes out City's 150th anniversary celebration

By Quinn Suomala
Staff Writer

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Rotary Club hosted Eat, Drink and Be Holyoke on Thursday, Dec. 7 to close out the Holyoke 150 anniversary celebrations.

This event was filled with food and drinks and even had a silent auction for attendees to enjoy. There was also a birthday card to Holyoke that all attendees were welcome to sign as they entered.

Eat, Drink and Be Holyoke was a celebration held for many years prior to the COVID-19 pandemic. It initially started in 2007 as a wine tasting event.

"In 2007 we started it as a wine tasting and since then it grew to a wine and beer tasting, a wine, beer and spirits, and then several years ago it got changed to Eat, Drink and Be Holyoke," Co-chair of the event Rebecca MacGregor said. "We brought in more vendors and more local restaurants and it grew from there."

The event has not been held since before COVID, so the rotary club was delighted to bring the event back after so many years without it, especially for such an important celebration.

"We haven't had the event



At the Eat, Drink and Be Holyoke event they had a Happy Birthday Holyoke sign for all attendees to sign.

since 2019, so we're glad to be here and bring it back," MacGregor said.

The event was hosted in the ballroom of City Hall, which MacGregor felt was the perfect spot to hold an event wrapping up the 150 anniversary celebrations.

"We're happy to be a part of

See CELEBRATION, page 6



White Hut staff members Mike Hiller and Bryan Graham and General Manager Anthony Hough serve eggnog milkshakes to Eat, Drink and Be Holyoke attendees.

Turley photos by Quinn Suomala



Ivette Ortiz from Ortiz Family Cafe served a variety of chocolate covered strawberries.



Tom Accomando, a Rotary Club Member, represented Fame Cafe with Brazilian cheese bread.



Siana Dibenedetto and Jiuliana Dibenedetto represented Amedeo's Restaurant.

City Council funds sewer budget, does not raise rate

By Quinn Suomala
Staff Writer

HOLYOKE – The Holyoke city council has voted to subsidize the revenue of the sewer budget from the tax levy in fiscal year 2024 by \$1,039,680.

This vote was passed by the city council unanimously in order to balance the budget for FY24.

"If we fail to vote on this subsidy DOS is probably going to take action, which would include not allowing our tax rate to go forward," City Councilor Joseph McGiverin said.

However, despite the unanimous vote, this decision did not come without tensions from within the council.

Councilor Kevin Jourdain did vote to pass the rise in budget, but not without reservations. He was hesitant to raise

the sewer rate and claimed that the narrative of the sewer fund being in a large deficit was inaccurate.

He pointed out that there are several expenses put into the sewer fund that do not belong in that category. For example, he mentioned that street sweeping had been funded out of the sewer budget for many years, adding to the budget deficit.

"For a long time, approximately \$600,000 of annual expenses have been put into the sewer fund which are artificially causing the fund to be in a deficit," Jourdain said. "They took cityside expenses and buried it here."

He argued that funds like these should be removed from the sewer fund and placed into other departments.

"We have to fund this in order to balance the budget but I would encourage that in

future years that some of these expenses begin to be pulled out of sewer funds and put in the departments where they belong," he said.

Additionally, Jourdain pointed out that there were a number of one-time expenses that were funded in the last several years, which he felt should not have been taken into account for FY24's budget, as those expenses would not occur again.

Also, Jourdain said that about 10% of the people are not paying their sewer rates. This 10% lack adds up to over \$700,000 a year, according to Jourdain.

If more of this 10% were to pay their bills, it would assist in fixing the deficit.

"Whenever you hear this narrative of the city subsidize of the sewer fund, it sounds great,

See SEWER, page 10

Mildred Lefebvre to be new MASC president

By Quinn Suomala
Staff Writer

HOLYOKE – Holyoke School Committee Vice Chair Mildred Lefebvre was elected to be the new Massachusetts Association of School Committees president.

Lefebvre has been serving on the school committee since she was first elected in 2013 and has served on the MASC in a variety of positions, including as vice president, president-elect and secretary.

Now she looks forward to having her time as the president of MASC.

Every school committee in the state is allowed to be a part of the MASC and every member of a school committee that is in MASC is able to join the organization.

Each member is able to choose how active they will be within MASC. Lefebvre has been highly involved since she was elected, as she appreciates the

chance to help make changes on a state, and even national, level.

"It is important to be active not only with MASC, but on a national level, because we are addressing the issues that many are having throughout the country," Lefebvre said. "We're talking about equity across the board."

Lefebvre works to ensure that the needs for all students are addressed, within Holyoke, with MA and across the country.

It is this work ethic and ideology that has led her to becoming elected as the president of MASC for this year.

Initially, Lefebvre worked as vice chair of the Minority Caucus, which led to her also serving as secretary for the MASC. Following this, she applied to be nominated for chair of the Minority Caucus, and was elected to the position.

After completing her term as chair, she became the secretary/

See LEFEBVRE, page 10



First Night Junior returns to Holyoke

HOLYOKE – The Children’s Museum at Holyoke, in collaboration with the Holyoke Merry-Go-Round, MA State Department of Conservation and Recreation, and the International Volleyball Hall of Fame, is excited to announce the 26th annual First Night Junior celebration.

On Sunday, Dec. 31, the Holyoke Heritage State Park will once again be hosting their annual kid-friendly New Year’s Eve celebration. The event runs from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and admission includes entrance to the Children’s Museum, Volleyball Hall of Fame, unlimited Merry-Go-Round rides, and entertainment.

There will be a kids DJ at the Merry-Go-Round, and Cinderella, Belle, and Spiderman will be costumed characters. The State Park Visitors Center will host a reptile show, plus have a craft and a community New Year’s Resolution board. The Children Museum will host face painting, slime making, and a special craft project. The Volleyball Hall of Fame will have BTC Entertainment doing balloon twisting and magic. Holyoke Hummus food truck will be onsite serving food during the event. Holyoke Mayor Josh Garcia will hold the honor of dropping our very own New Year’s Eve ball in front of the Visitors Center at 1 p.m.

Tickets are available online at www.holyokemerrygoround.org/tickets and will be available the day of the event at the Merry-Go-Round and at the Children’s Museum.

Tickets are \$10 each, and a family four-pack is \$35 for everyone over the age of one. For those who order tickets online, please bring your Order Confirmation Email (printed or phone) with you to the Holyoke Merry-Go-Round or Holyoke Children’s Museum on the day of the event to receive a wristband.

Wristbands will grant entrance to each building and to the available entertainment.

Holyoke to host annual Kwanzaa celebration

HOLYOKE – The City of Holyoke will host an observance of Kwanzaa on Thursday, Dec. 28, at 1 p.m. at City Hall.

Kwanzaa, which is observed annually the last week of December, celebrates African heritage and Kwanzaa’s seven principles, including unity, self-determination, creativity, and faith.

Holyoke’s observance will be led by the Kwanzaa Collective of Western Mass and other members of the African American community. Kwanzaa Collective President Ayanna Crawford said the event will include a candle-lighting ceremony, drummers,

a poet, recognition of a community leader, and remarks by Dr. Amilcar Shabazz, professor of history and Africana Studies in the W.E.B. DuBois Department of Afro-American Studies at Amherst.

Holyoke Mayor Joshua A. Garcia will read a proclamation designating Kwanzaa Week in Holyoke.

Thursday’s observance is open to the public. Refreshments will be served.

For more information, please call Stephen Fay, Holyoke Mayor’s Office, 413-561-1600.



Inauguration to be held on Jan. 2

HOLYOKE – City Clerk Brenna McGee will administer the oaths of office to newly elected and re-elected City Councilors and School Committee members at 10 a.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 2. Holyoke’s Treasurer, Rory Casey, will also be sworn in.

The inauguration ceremony, which will be held in the upstairs auditorium, is open to the public. Doors will open at 9:30 a.m.

McGee will emcee the proceedings. Holyoke Mayor Joshua A. Garcia will make brief remarks.

Immediately after the ceremony, the City Council will convene in their chambers to elect a Council President to succeed outgoing Council President Todd McGee.

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Ancient Order of Hibernians announce 2024 award winners

HOLYOKE – The Ancient Order of Hibernians, James A. Curran, Division One and the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians of Hamden/Hampshire Counties have recently announced their award winners for 2024 at J.P.’s Restaurant in Holyoke. The award winners will march in the Holyoke St. Patrick’s Parade with the Hibernian contingent on March 17, 2024.

The Hibernian Woman of the Year 2024 Award and the Hibernian Man of the Year 2024 Award will be given at The Irish Night in Holyoke at The Log Cabin on Feb. 24, 2024. The awards are bestowed on that member who truly lives by the Hibernian Motto of Friendship, Unity, and True Christian Charity.

The Hibernian Woman of the Year 2024 goes to Patricia A. Clayton of Holyoke. The Hibernian Man of the Year 2024 goes to John M. Gaughan of Holyoke.

The Hibernian Christian Charity Award will be given at the Wyckoff Country Club in Holyoke at the annual Communion Breakfast March 10, 2024. The Christian Charity Award is given to that person “who seeks to improve the lives of the people of Hamden/Hampshire Counties.” The award goes to Polish National Credit Union CEO James P. Kelly.

For more information contact Hibernian President Joe O’Connor at 413-627-7148 or Ladies Hibernian President Paula Paoli at 413-210-6031.

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Foundation for TJO Animals surpasses goal on Giving Tuesday

Funds raised for purchase of therapeutic laser to benefit animals at the TJO Animal Control & Adoption Center

SPRINGFIELD – The Foundation for TJO Animals participated in Giving Tuesday this year with a hefty goal to raise \$25,000 for the purchase of a special therapeutic laser for the Thomas J. O'Connor Animal Control & Adoption Center vet clinic.

This vital piece of equipment promotes healing, helps with cell regeneration, reduces inflammation and much more. More importantly, it decreases recovery time and discomfort for the animals in the care of the adoption center. The laser is not limited to surgical patients; animals with chronic conditions including skin and ear infections, allergies, arthritis and wounds will benefit as well.

The Foundation for TJO Animals, the nonprofit organization that provides fundraising and granting support for animals in the care of the Thomas J. O'Connor Animal Control and Adoption Center, proudly surpassed its goal. With the support of generous donations from the community, more than \$25,000 was raised to make that effort a reality. Hundreds of animals will benefit each year from laser therapy via the therapeutic laser.

Lori Swanson, executive director of the animal control and adoption center said, "This year, the Foundation for TJO Animals' goals was quite lofty. With a goal of \$25,000, the community once again rose to the occasion to improve the lives of animals. We are grateful for each, and every donation made to the Foundation on Giving Tuesday."

Applications deadline for 2024 Grand Colleen this Tuesday, Dec. 27

HOLYOKE – The St. Patrick's Committee of Holyoke will present the 2024 Grand Colleen Pageant on Jan. 6, 2024, at Holyoke High School at 7 p.m. and are accepting applications now through Dec. 27.

Eligibility requirements are: must be female, single, (never have been married or have had a child), no less the 17 years old by March 17, 2024 and a senior in high school; no more than 24 years old by March 17, 2024 (age requirement for 2024 only and will revert back to 22 in 2025), resident of Holyoke or South Hadley, must claim Irish ancestry, completion of a resume. We look forward to receiving your application and resumes. Applications are available online at: holyokestpatricksparade.com.

Contestant Orientation and Tea is scheduled for Dec. 30 at 11 a.m. at Wyckoff Country Club. For questions or concerns contact Kathy Dulchinos, Colleen Coordinator at 413-592-4945.



Raelynn Brown

July 20, 2023

Parents: Ryan & Ashley Brown, Hampden
Grandparents: Art & Lynn Anderson, Wilbraham
Rick & Joanne Brown, Monson



Delaney Sabourin

May 14, 2023

Parents: Matthew & Amanda Sabourin, Belchertown
Grandparents: Allan & Joanne Beaugard, Belchertown
Diane Sabourin, Chicopee
Dave & Trish Sabourin, Holyoke



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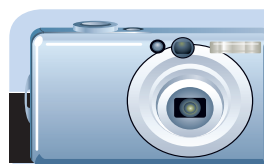
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Cottage Street Commons

Affordable Housing Opportunity: Three two bedroom apartments and two one bedroom apartments available for rent in the newly constructed Cottage Street Commons, 49 Cottage Street, Easthampton MA. Utilities are not included. One bedroom units are \$1,595.00 per month with a \$167.00 monthly utility allowance, and two bedroom units are \$1,794.00 per month with a \$215.00 monthly utility allowance. Income eligibility, as defined by HUD pursuant to section 3 of the 42 U.S.C. 1437 (the Housing Act of 1937), is as follows:

| Household Size | Maximum Income 80% AMI |
|----------------|------------------------|
| 1 | \$55,800 |
| 2 | \$63,800 |
| 3 | \$71,750 |
| 4 | \$79,700 |
| 5 | \$86,100 |
| 6 | \$92,500 |

Located in the center of Easthampton's Cultural District, with off street parking and handicapped accessible. Walk to shops, restaurants the Nashawannuck Pond Boardwalk and more. First, Last, and Security deposit required. No pets (unless a service animal) and it is a smoke free building.

All reasonable accommodations shall be offered, and all applicants shall be considered regardless of race, color, disability, religion, sex, familial status, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, genetic information, ancestry, children, marital status, or public assistance reciprocity.

Please contact: Valley Apartment Rentals at 203 Northampton Street, Easthampton, MA, 01027, (413) 203-2260, TTY/TTD number 711, or valleyapartmentrentals@gmail.com, for information and applications.

Applications may be picked up in person, emailed, or sent by mail. Applications may be submitted by mail, fax, or e-mail.

Applications can be downloaded by going to: www.NorthamptonHousing.org/CottageStreetCommons

Translation Assistance available at no cost upon request.

No preference shall be given to those who pick up applications in person.

All qualified applicants shall be selected based upon a lottery process.

Applications must be submitted by Monday, February 26, 2024

An informational meeting will be held at the Cliffview Manor Community Room, 36 Lussier Circle, Easthampton, MA 01027 on Thursday, December 28, 2023 from 5:00PM to 6:00PM for more information. Attendance at this meeting is not mandatory for participation in the lottery process.

This will also be available on zoom by going to: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86212023340?pwd=L3hVWlJoaU9BVTYzallGZWc4TWtpUT09>

Meeting ID: 862 1202 3340 Passcode: 1228

Guest Column

SOCIAL SECURITY Matters
By Russell Gloor



I'm 65 and working; can I collect ex-spouse benefits?

Dear Rusty

I turned 65 earlier this year and I still work full time.

I was divorced four years ago after 38 years of marriage, but my ex-husband has been collecting Social Security for at least 10 years now. Can I start collecting Social Security and still work full time? And can I collect my ex-husband's amount if it is more than mine and what is the best way to achieve this? When I went to my local SSA office, they said they had no way of knowing that.

Signed Working Divorcee

Dear Working Divorcee

Although you are eligible to claim Social Security at age 65, because you are working full time you may wish to wait a bit longer to do so. That's because Social Security has an "earnings test" which applies to anyone who collects benefits before Full Retirement Age and you have not yet reached yours.

The earnings test imposes a limit on how much you can earn before SS takes away some of your benefits. If you exceed the annual earnings limit (\$22,320 for 2024), Social Security will want back \$1 in benefits for every \$2 you are over the limit and you will need to repay that, usually by having future benefits withheld. If you significantly exceed the limit, you may even be temporarily ineligible to receive SS benefits until you either earn less or reach your full retirement age (FRA) of 66 years and 8 months.

So, if your earnings from working will significantly exceed the annual earnings limit, which changes yearly, it's likely that your wisest move would be to wait longer to claim your Social Security. As a bonus for doing so, your monthly payment will have grown and will be higher when you claim later. The earnings test no longer applies after you reach FRA.

Regarding benefits from your ex-husband, you cannot collect his instead of yours. What you may be able to do, when you claim your own benefit, is to get an additional amount, which brings your monthly payment up to 50% of his. In order for that to happen, you would need to satisfy the following criteria:

You are not currently married.

The personal benefit you are entitled to at your FRA must be less than 50% of your ex-husband's FRA entitlement.

If the above are true, when you claim your own SS retirement benefit you will also get a "spousal boost" to bring your payment up to what you're entitled to as an ex-spouse. The amount of the spousal boost, if you claim Social Security at your FRA, will be the difference between half of his FRA entitlement and your FRA entitlement. If you claim your benefit before your FRA, not only will your own benefit be reduced for claiming early, but the amount of your spousal boost will also be reduced. Benefits claimed before FRA are always reduced.

Whenever you decide to claim Social Security, you will be automatically deemed to be filing for benefits from your ex-husband as well (you shouldn't need to apply separately). You've already satisfied the basic criteria of at least 10 years married to get benefits from an ex-spouse and, if you satisfy the above criteria as well, you will be entitled to a spousal boost when you claim.

But your current earnings from working full time will likely affect your eligibility to collect Social Security benefits at this time, so waiting until your full retirement age to claim may be your best choice.

If you will only slightly exceed the annual

See SECURITY, page 5



Guest Column

Cookies made with a familiar herb

in the
Garden
by Roberta McQuaid



This weekend was supposed to be the weekend when all four of us partook in a cookie-making marathon.

Usually, we start baking right after Thanksgiving, but this year the kids were involved in a play, then a concert, and alas, there was no time. We started out strong yesterday and then I began to feel a little funny.

By midafternoon I was definitely under the weather and that was it for my cookie-making. We got two batches in before I left the kitchen.

One is an almond covered thumb print, and the second is a coriander cookie – one of my all-time favorites. It must have been a favorite to a few other folks along the line because the recipe dates back to the early 19th century!

I tried them for the first time at Old Sturbridge Village's Christmas by Candlelight some years back and making them has been a tradition in our house ever since. Why don't we take this opportunity to learn about a very versatile plant.

Most gardeners already know that Coriander (*Coriandrum sativum*) is one of the few herbs that goes by two different names depending on the part of the plant used.

Its foliage, known as Cilantro, is used

fresh in a number of culinary delights. When the plant goes to seed, known as Coriander, it can be used in that stage as well, eaten whole, crushed or powdered.

I liken cilantro to being the "marigold" of the herb world. Either you love the smell/taste of it or you hate it.

I, for one, immensely dislike it and if given the chance to pick it out of my salsa I will certainly do it! Even in a restaurant.

I found it interesting to learn that some people possess a genetically predisposed aversion to it, according to studies by Charles J. Wysocki of the Monell Chemical Senses Center in Philadelphia. To me it has a bitter taste that I have a hard time describing beyond that. Dirty? Soil-like?

Most people that do dislike it have a similar lack of descriptive ability; they just can't put their finger on it, but they don't like the taste...or the smell of it. It's funny that when my oldest daughter received her Ancestry DNA results, she was shown not to possess the genetic aversion. Well, she didn't get that from me.

Cilantro is often used in salsa and other Mexican, Asian and Italian dishes including curries, sauces, salads and soups. If you prefer to grow the plant more for its greens and less for its seeds, manage it as you would spinach.

Sow seeds in the ground in the cool of the season and in succession every two weeks. It dislikes being transplanted but doesn't mind pot culture.

Harvest greens rather aggressively – about one-third of the plant at a time. Just like spinach, there are slow-to-bolt varieties to choose from such as aptly named "Slow Bolt" and "Longstanding". Cilantro's flowers are edible,

See GARDEN, page 5

Kissinger left complex foreign policy legacy



Comments on CONGRESS
By Lee Hamilton

Possibly no one had more influence on American foreign policy in the late 20th century than Henry Kissinger, who died last month at age 100.

In his long and active career, he advised presidents, carried out policies and initiatives, and was a highly visible figure around the world.

While it's early to pronounce judgment on his legacy, it's clear that his impact is deeply mixed. His accomplishments were both positive and negative. He was respected and he was reviled.

Kissinger is the only person to have served as national security adviser and secretary of state at the same time, positions he held in the Nixon and Ford administrations. He was brilliant and secretive, and he wasn't much focused on the human cost of his policies.

He was interested in strategy, not values.



Rep. Lee H. Hamilton is shown shaking hands with Secretary of State Henry Kissinger in this circa 1969 photo; with Rep. William Broomfield in the background. Courtesy of the Wells Library

He showed little interest in democratic governance or transparency. A creature of the executive branch, he seemed to almost scorn the idea of three separate and coequal branches of government.

You sometimes got the impression he had contempt for Congress.

I was not close to Kissinger, but our paths did cross on foreign policy matters. I served in Congress, and we approached policy from different perspectives.

Coincidentally, we were both connected

See CONGRESS, page 5

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The Holyoke Sun is published every Friday by Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069. Telephone (413) 283-8393, Fax (413) 289-1977.



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A Quote

OF NOTE

"Christmas is the season for kindling the fire of hospitality."

Washington Irving

Letters to the Editor Policy

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

Unsigned or anonymous letters will NOT be published.

We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions. Libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks or defamation of character are not allowed.

Deadline for submissions is Wednesday at noon.

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

Guest Column



Rick Hendra of Oakham took this photo of sandhill cranes foraging in a field on Stone's Road in Oakham.

In his email, he wrote, "I took this picture this morning (Sunday, Dec. 17) about halfway up Stone Road. Their call was so loud it startled me from 50 yards away. And they were large, but oddly colored."

The sandhill crane is a tall bird about 45 inches, gray colored with a dark red patch on the forehead and a black bill. They have staining of feathers on their back and tail caused by the iron rich soil on its beak when it preens feathers. The immature crane lacks the red patch and has an orange bill. It also may have more rust colored feathers on the back and tail.



Sandhill cranes

The sandhill crane summers on prairies and tundra and during winter feed on agricultural fields and roost in shallow water. For several years now, Hardwick had a pair of nesting sandhill cranes, who successfully raised chicks.

The female lays one to three olive eggs with dark marks in a mound like nest of marsh plants, grasses and weeds either placed on the ground or shallow water. Courtship displays are seen during migration and involve graceful jumps off the ground in a dancing manner.

Many years ago, Richard Jankauskas, saw some in a field on South Street in Barre. He commented about a pair jumping up and down and dancing.

Their voice is a low pitched "karoo, karoo, karoo." Rick Hendra mentioned their call in his email printed above.

Bird count

A Brimfield resident, who visits ponds in Warren, Brimfield, Holland and Sturbridge with his wife listed birds seen on Dec. 8. They included 210 Canada geese, 93 mallards, 70 hooded mergansers, three black ducks, two pied-billed grebes, one great blue heron, one bald eagle, two crows, one white-breasted nuthatch, two black-capped chickadees, three bluebirds, four house finches, one goldfinch, six white-throated sparrows, six dark-eyed juncos and three cardinals.

He also emailed in late November, "I checked the ponds in Warren and there were 14 hooded

mergansers very actively feeding and a very cold looking great blue heron that looked like it was not enjoying the 36 degree temperature.

Christmas bird count

For over 120 years the Audubon Society has been doing a Christmas bird count and this year is no different. People can participate in an organized count or just do one on their own in their backyard.

Decline in bird numbers

I received an email on Wednesday, Nov. 29 from a long time birder. He said, "[I] regularly feed them but have noticed a steep drop off of the number and type of birds since around September. Right now we have a loyal troop of blue jays and that's about it. Usually we have copious amounts of starlings, chickadees, grackles, crows, titmice, cardinals, juncos, etc."

He said he asked many people about this phenomena and "they have noticed the same thing but can't explain it either. We are all aware of some birds heading South but the sheer volume has dropped dramatically."

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.

GARDEN, from page 4

and they attract lots of beneficial insects such as lady beetles, parasitic wasps and syrphid flies.

Coriander seeds, on the other hand, have a pleasant (at least to me) fragrance once dried. The scent is easier to pin-point too; nutty and spicy (ever so slightly) come to mind.

Coriander seed is also well known in various ethnic cuisines and is a favorite in spice blends, curry being the most popular. It is also used in the making of a number of distilled spirits, herbal liqueurs and Christmas cookies as I have come to find out and favor!

The Herb Society noted that during World War II coriander seeds were coated in white or pink sugar and thrown from carnival wagons, earning the name "confections" or "confetti." When the seeds were replaced by balls of colored paper the

name confetti stuck.

Take this one to your next game of Cruise Ship Trivia!

It is easy to harvest the seeds. Simply let the heads dry to brown right on the plant. Clip them and place inside a paper bag; as they dry further, they will open, and the seeds will pop out.

Even if you are only interested in harvesting the seeds, multiple plantings (or a big garden patch) are necessary to get a decent-sized harvest. Let a few drop their seeds and you will be blessed with a few self-sown plants next spring.

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

CONGRESS, from page 4

to the commission that investigated the 9/11 attacks. Kissinger was the original pick to chair the group, and former Sen. George Mitchell was to be vice chair.

Both stepped down because of perceived conflicts of interest. Former New Jersey Gov. Tom Kean chaired the 9/11 Commission, and I was vice chair.

Kissinger's view of the world, which he characterized as sober realism, may have been influenced by his background as Jew who spent his childhood in Nazi Germany, before his family fled and settled in New York. He was a very talented man and, wherever he went, in academic, policy circles and government, he rose to power very quickly.

In the 1970s, Kissinger was widely praised for his diplomatic work. When he was named secretary of state in 1973, a Gallup Poll found him to be the most respected man in the world.

He engineered President Richard Nixon's historic visit to China in 1972, opening the door to improved U.S.-Chinese relations and ultimately reshaping the geopolitical map.

He promoted détente with the Soviet Union, helping to reduce Cold War tensions. In the Middle East, his tireless shuttle diplomacy improved relations between Israel and its neighbors.

These were real accomplishments. Kissinger shared the 1973 Nobel Peace Prize for negotiating the agreement that ended the Vietnam War. His critics found that highly ironic.

During the war, Kissinger orchestrated the U.S. bombing and invasion

of Cambodia, which expanded the conflict and fueled a civil war that eventually brought the Khmer Rouge to power, resulting in up to three million deaths. The Cambodia disaster was Exhibit No. 1 for critics who accused Kissinger of war crimes, but he was also tied to a brutal military coup in Chile, Indonesia's bloody invasion of East Timor, a violent civil war in East Pakistan and other foreign policy disasters.

Kissinger later had a lucrative career in consulting. He clearly enjoyed being a celebrity, rubbing elbows with rich and powerful people and being photographed with glamorous women.

He became a great figure on the social circuit in Washington. Getting Kissinger to attend your dinner was a big achievement.

Henry Kissinger left quite a stamp on American foreign policy. He was a master of developing strategy and exercising power.

But American greatness isn't just about using force and gaining advantage. It also relies on our faith in democratic governance and our belief in human rights and the dignity of all people.

There's a place for sober realism, but American foreign policy should be grounded in our values.

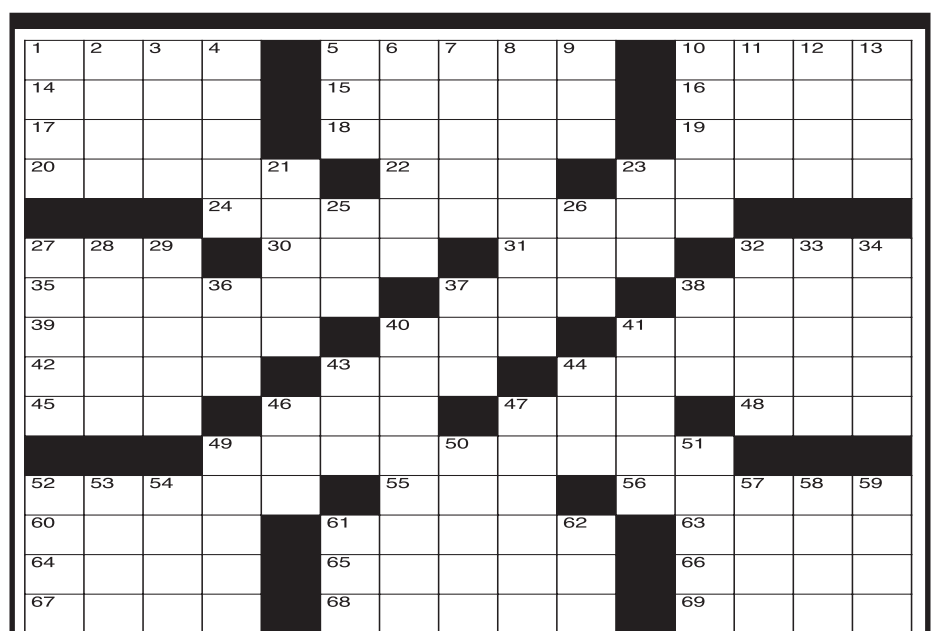
Lee Hamilton is a Senior Advisor for the Indiana University Center on Representative Government; a Distinguished Scholar at the IU Hamilton Lugar School of Global and International Studies; and a Professor of Practice at the IU O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.

SECURITY from page 4

earnings limit you can consider claiming earlier, as long as you are comfortable with receiving a permanently reduced amount, and the prospect of not getting benefits for a number of months if you exceed the earnings limit, the number of months you will go without benefits depends on how much you exceed the limit by.

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.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Droops
- 5. Subatomic particle
- 10. Not in danger
- 14. Nursemaid
- 15. Black band worn in mourning
- 16. Long song in opera
- 17. Edible seed of a Philippine tree
- 18. Chicago political family
- 19. Pursues pleasure from one place to another
- 20. Appetizer
- 22. Hill (Celtic)
- 23. Simple shoe
- 24. Songs to one you love
- 27. Secret activities
- 30. Upset
- 31. Popular hot drink
- 32. Body art (slang)
- 35. Fired
- 37. Blood relation
- 38. Identical
- 39. Porticos
- 40. Partner to cheese
- 41. Type of sword
- 42. Enough (archaic)
- 43. Surface layer of ground
- 44. Cotton fabric woven like satin
- 45. Choose for a post
- 46. Father
- 47. Tell on
- 48. Indian title of respect
- 49. Founts
- 52. Fencing sword
- 55. Mock
- 56. Vaccine developer
- 60. Atmosphere surrounding a person or place
- 61. Marten with a short tail
- 63. Chinese temple
- 64. Invests in little enterprises
- 65. Popular cut of meat
- 66. Charity
- 67. Iron-containing compound
- 68. River in Northern Europe
- 69. One point east of southeast

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Exhausts
- 2. Genus of fish related to gars
- 3. Impudent behavior
- 4. Adherents to Islam
- 5. They come after A
- 6. Spoke
- 7. Room to receive guests
- 8. About opera
- 9. End-blown flute
- 10. Heroic tales
- 11. Member of a Semitic people
- 12. Dog's name
- 13. Opposite of west
- 21. Political divisions in ancient Greece
- 23. Ocean
- 25. Cool!
- 26. Young woman about to enter society
- 27. One from central Caucasus
- 28. Indian city
- 29. A way to serve ice cream
- 32. Emaciation
- 33. Escort aircraft carrier
- 34. Italian city
- 36. Mythical settler of Kansas
- 37. Unhappy
- 38. High schoolers' test
- 40. Measured in pace
- 41. Satisfies
- 43. Gullible person
- 44. Enclosed space
- 46. Substance used to color something
- 47. Shirt type
- 49. Discover by investigation
- 50. _-Castell, makers of pens
- 51. Semitic Sun god
- 52. Grads wear one
- 53. French river
- 54. Part of a cap
- 57. Digestive fluid
- 58. Metrical foot
- 59. Body part
- 61. Very fast airplane
- 62. Supplement with difficulty

CROSSWORD ANSWER on page 9

Eat, Drink and Be Holyoke



Christine Burns from Ruby Wines Inc. handed out wine samples to Holyoke community members.



At Eat, Drink and Be Holyoke Erika and Michael Ortiz from Crave served delicious tacos.



Carol Beal and Debbie Frady from Rusty's Place had fun serving all the crowds.



Emily Rochefort served alcohol from Horizon and Martignetti on behalf of Brennan's Place.



Art Lobdell served water for Ruby Wine Inc. at Eat, Drink and Be Holyoke.



Arayha Garcia, Nate Ott and Cecelia Prieto from Hamel's Creative Catering served cranberry meatballs.



Workers from 110 Grill were busy serving their food samples to eager Eat, Drink and Be Holyoke attendees.



The ballroom at City Hall was packed with community members ready to celebrate at Eat, Drink and Be Holyoke.

CELEBRATION, from page 1

the process and to be a part of the grand finale," MacGregor said.

For those attending the event there were 13 different food vendors from Holyoke giving out a wide variety of food samples, from tacos to milkshakes to chocolate covered strawberries. Brennan's Place was also available with about five different alcohol tastings.

Additionally, there was a silent auc-

tion with over 40 items and a 50/50 raffle. The Friends of Holyoke donated many items to the auction, which were leftover from the 150 Gala.

Over 300 people signed up to attend the event and before the doors even opened, the rotary club had raised \$20,000 in funds. This was just through the 16 sponsors for the evening coupled with ticket sales.

These funds will be circled back to the community through the rotary

club in a variety of ways, according to MacGregor.

"The proceeds that we make get driven back into the community," MacGregor said. "We try to do at least five \$1,000 for graduating high school seniors, we hand out peanut butter and jelly sandwiches that we hand out at Rachel's Kitchen every Friday morning."

The rotary club reaches out to the community in many other ways. For example, they recently made a donation

of \$30,000 to help support the Miracle League Playground that was just built in Holyoke.

"We like to give back to our community and help it to grow," MacGregor said.

This event was a great opportunity for the club to grow their funds and also for Holyoke community members to get out and celebrate.

"It really helps to bring people together and build community," MacGregor said.

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| | | |
|---|---|---|
| <p>HOLIDAY FAVORITES</p> <p>USDA INSP. FRESH PORK CROWN ROAST... \$3⁹⁹ lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. FRESH STORE MADE HOLIDAY ROAST BONELESS PORK LOIN STUFFED WITH HAM, CHEESE, PEPPERS, OLIVES, SPICES \$4⁴⁹ lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. FRESH SMOKED PORK SHOULDER \$2⁴⁹ lb</p> <p>HOLIDAY HAMS</p> <p>USDA INSP. KAYEM BUDDA BALL BONELESS SMOKED PIT HAM \$3⁴⁹ lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. FROZEN SKINLESS & SHANKLESS HATFIELD OLDTIME HARDWOOD SMOKED WHOLE HAM \$2⁴⁴ lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. FROZEN 1/2 SPIRAL HAM..... \$1²⁹ lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. FROZEN HAM PORTIONS..... 99^c lb</p> | <p>USDA INSP. FRESH BONE-IN RIBEYE FOR STANDING ROAST CUT FREE \$8⁸⁸ lb WHOLE OR HALF</p> <p>USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF TENDERLOIN CUT FREE \$9⁸⁹ lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. FRESH BONELESS BEEF SIRLOIN SPOON ROAST \$5⁹⁹ lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. FRESH AMERICAN LAMB LEGS \$3⁹⁹ lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. FRESH IMPORTED LAMB RACKS \$15⁹⁹ lb</p> | <p>USDA INSP. FRESH HOTEL TURKEY BREAST \$1⁹⁹ lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. FROZEN WHOLE TURKEYS 99^c lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. FROZEN CAPONS \$5⁹⁹ lb</p> <p>HOLIDAY APPETIZERS</p> <p>USDA INSP. CHICOPEE PROVISIONS BLUE SEAL KIELBASA \$4⁹⁹ lb</p> <p>USDA INSP. YANKEE TRADER CRAB RANGOON 11 OZ BOX \$4⁹⁹ ea</p> <p>USDA INSP. FROZEN CODINO'S MANICOTTI W/ RICOTTA 4 OZ PAK \$4⁹⁹ ea</p> <p>USDA INSP. YANKEE TRADER SCALLOP WRAPPED IN BACON 10 PCS BOX \$7⁹⁹ ea</p> <p>USDA INSP. IQF FROZEN COOKED SHRIMP JUMBO \$17⁹⁹ ea</p> |
|---|---|---|

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Victoria D'Amico shoots for the Knights.



Amilyan Treadwell-Mercedes passes along the perimeter.



Jaylyana Lozada starts a play.
Turley photos by David Henry



Kiara Perez dribbles around a Chicopee guard.



Cauley Evangeline takes a shot at the free throw line.



Ceceilio Sanchez locks up at 132 pounds.



Dereck Concepcion-Sanchez grapples in the 157-pound weight class.



Jonathan Rivers Marrero holds the advantage in his match.



Felix Marrero tries to get the takedown.
Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli



Steven Santiago scores the takedown to start his match at 113 pounds.

Knights fall short at Chicopee

CHICOPEE – Last Tuesday night, Chicopee girls basketball hosted in Holyoke in its season opener, and came away with a 35-31 victory. Both teams had a tough time putting points on the board for the first three quarter. But Chicopee went on a 17-10 run in that final frame in order to overtake the Knights for the win. Aubrie Jodoin had 14 points to lead the team while Giana Garcia had eight points. Holyoke was led by Amilyan Treadwell-Mercedes with 16 points and Kiara Perez with 10 points.

Knights take down Longmeadow

LONGMEADOW – Last Saturday, Holyoke took care of business at Longmeadow High School 72-40. The Knights held a big lead at halftime, limiting the Lancers to just 12 points in the entire half. The Knights got a huge offensive effort with 10 different players contributing points, including four in double-digits. Jamil Rodriguez had 16 points while Davian Diaz had 14 points. Jordan King-Perilli and Shawn Rivera had 11 points each in the win. Holyoke is 3-0 to start the season.

Holyoke places 11th at tournament

HOLYOKE – Last Saturday, Holyoke hosted its Knight-Hawk Classic. The Knights finished 11th as a team with 75.5 points. The Knights crowned one individual champion in the 19-team event. Steven Santiago took the win at 113 pounds for the home team

Worcester Railers fall short to Adirondack Thunder

GLEN FALLS, NY – The Worcester Railers HC (8-11-2-2, 20pts) fell short to the Adirondack Thunder 13-6-2-1, 29pts), on Saturday night by the final score of 4-1 in front of 3,841 fans for their Teddy Bear Night at the Cool Insuring Arena. The Thunder extended their win streak to 4 games. The Railers will head back home to face the Trois-Rivières Lions at 5:05 pm on Friday, December 23rd, as one of their three “Home for the Holidays” matchups.

The Thunder scored the first three goals of the game as Patrick Grasso (10th) and Nico Blachman (2nd, 3rd) put Adirondack ahead 3-0 after two. Joey Cipollone tallied his first professional goal on a tip-in out in front

before Ryan Smith (11th) gave the Thunder back their three goal lead, and delivered the game’s final score of 4-1.

The first period saw a lot of physicality which led to a total of 24 minutes in penalties. It all started with a Rock ‘Em Sock ‘Em fight toward center ice with Railers forward Jake Schultz (0-0-0) and Adirondack defenseman Darian Skeoch (0-1-1). Adirondack let the teddy bears fly early in the period after an odd-man rush goal by Patrick Grasso (1-0-1). Grasso received a pass by Grant Jozefek (0-1-1) from across the slot, moving left to right, to beat Henrik Tikkanen on his high glove side. The next goal didn’t come until the 16th minute when the Thunder Forward Ryan Smith (1-2-3) placed a low shot on net

from in-between the dots on the rush to give a rebound opportunity to Forward Nico Blachman (2-0-2) and beat the outstretched blocker of Henrik Tikkanen. The Thunder lead the period in shots on goal 13-5.

The second period was a lot quieter compared to the first. Henrik Tikkanen made a lot of high-quality saves throughout the period. Blachman and the Thunder would break through, however. After a failed offensive zone entry by the Railers, Adirondack’s Forward Erik Middendorf (0-1-1) entered the right half of the Railers’ defensive zone slowly and stopped at the top of the circle. He found Blachman crashing towards the net late and blasted it past Henrik Tikkanen’s low blocker side

from the high slot to make it a 3-0 game with 4:37 left in the period. The Thunder led the period with shots on goal 9-8.

The Railers finally got on the board early in the third period after a blast from the left point by Ryan Verrier (0-1-1) that was then deflected in the slot by Joey Cipollone (1-0-1) for his first professional goal. The Thunder would capitalize on a breakaway opportunity in the middle of the third after Colin Felix’s (0-1-1) minor penalty expired. Felix passed the puck up to the speedy Ryan Smith who elevated the puck upstairs where it hit the crossbar, hit a Railers back-checker, and inadvertently ended up in the back of the net to make it 4-1 Thunder. The Thunder led the period in shots on goal 11-9.

20th annual Penguin Plunge to be held this January

WESTFIELD – Amelia Park Children’s Museum is announcing the 20th annual Penguin Plunge to be held at Hampton Ponds State Park, on Saturday, Jan. 27, 2024. Check-in begins at 11:30 a.m. and the plunging starts at 1 p.m. All proceeds from the Penguin Plunge will benefit Amelia Park Children’s Museum.

Amelia Park Children’s Museum and the Penguin Plunge have been a longstanding institution and tradition respectively in Westfield. Through the years participants and sponsors of the Plunge have helped to raise over \$350,000 to support Amelia Park Children’s Museum.

“We are striving to attract more plungers to this event,” says Diane Chambers, executive director. “It’s a fun outing for the whole family or a group of friends whether they are plunging or



watching. We’re adding new activities and entertainment, plus incentives to entice more plunge participants in 2024.”

New this year is the Petite Plunge for children ages 2 - 6. Little ones will have the opportunity to dip their toe or boot into a kiddie pool. Fun games like cornhole and a “snowball” toss will be added to the activities. S’mores and other refreshments will be available. Lively musical entertainment will be provided by Jay Pagluica of JP Lighting and Sounds.

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 registration fee for the Petite Plunge participants is \$25.

The following prizes will awarded dependent on amount of money raised per individual:

Penguin Plunge 2024 T-shirt to those adults that raise \$75 - \$149 (* \$25 for those 2 -6, \$50 for those 7 - 18); Penguin Plunge 2024 hat and T-shirt for those that raise \$150 - \$299; Penguin Plunge 2024 drinkware, hat and T-shirt for those that raise \$300 - \$499; Penguin Plunge 2024 jacket, drinkware, hat and T-shirt for those that raise \$500 or more; Monetary prizes of cash for the top 3 individuals or teams that raise the most money; 1st Place - \$300, 2nd Place - \$200, 3rd Place - \$100.

A costume contest is part of the fun, and there are prizes for Best Individual Costume and Best Team Costume.

Register in advance online or the day of the event from 11:30 am to noon. All participants will receive a free 2024 Penguin Plunge T-shirt.

Sponsorship opportunities, registration and pledge forms are available via the museum website <https://www.ameliaparkmuseum.org/penguin-plunge> or can be picked up at the museum. Penguins may also use the Fundly page to collect sponsors; <https://fundly.com/penguin-plunge-2024>.

The money raised by the Plunge goes to providing playful learning for area children and their families. 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 St. and is open 9 a.m to 4 p.m. Thursday-Tuesday. 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 on Thursday afternoons from noon 4 p.m. Call us with questions at (413) 572- 4014 or email questions to: fun@ameliaparkmuseum.org. Learn more about the museum at www.ameliaparkmuseum.org.

Shenette declares for modifieds tour

WORCESTER – Driving the No. 8, John-Michael Shenette will chase the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour Rookie of the Year honors in 2024. When the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour begins a 16-race schedule in February at New Smyrna Speedway in Florida, Shenette plans to be in attendance. It will be the first race in his quest to compete in a majority of the races on the schedule to chase the prestigious award.

Formerly based in Thompson, Connecticut, Shenette is the CEO of Eighty-Two Services, a General Contractor located in Concord, North Carolina. The team, Eighty-Two Autosport, will also contest additional SMART Modified Tour and Open Modified events when available in 2024.

Shenette made his debut on the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour at Langley Speedway in 2023 and finished 12th. He also competed in events at North-Wilkesboro Speedway and Martinsville Speedway prior to the end of the season.

“We’re excited for 2024,” John-Michael Shenette said. “Last year was about putting a car on the track. We struggled with a mechanical issue that plagued us at all three events and prevented us from logging laps. All-in-all, it

was a good year - we were able to build a great group, add a second car and square away all the bits and pieces that it takes to run. The NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour is the best of the best in modified racing, if not NASCAR as a whole. Our team is ready for the challenge. Chasing the prestigious Rookie of the Year award is on our bucket list, but we’re also looking for consistency and to chase our first career win in Modified in 2024.”

Shenette was born in Worcester, and started racing at 7-years-old at Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park’s “Little T” track in Connecticut. He’s raced on and off his entire life - running in the Pro Stocks, Thompson Modifieds, PASS Super Late Models, ARTS Trucks, Karts and now Tour-Type Modifieds 30 years later.

Shenette and his NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour team, led by crew chief Scott Morin and car chief Stephen Robinson, will open the 2024 season at New Smyrna Speedway on Saturday, February 10, as NASCAR opens their 76th season of racing. For more information on the team, fans are encouraged to follow the team on Facebook on their new page, Eighty-Two Autosport, for the latest news and information, including race day updates.

Springfield Thunderbirds suffer 1-0 shutout against Hershey Bears

HERSHEY, PA – The Springfield Thunderbirds (14-9-2-0) could not solve the top-ranked defense in the AHL, as the Hershey Bears (22-6-0-0) skated off with a narrow 1-0 triumph on Sunday inside Giant Center.

The battle of the Eastern Conference’s two best defensive teams lived up to that billing in the opening 20 minutes, as neither Springfield’s Malcolm Subban nor Hershey’s Hunter Shepard showed nerves in their goal crease. Subban had a trio of high-danger denials off odd-man rushes, including a right-pad kick out on a Jimmy Huntington breakaway. Shepard had his own sterling saves, including a point-blank snapper from Kean Washkurak.

The biggest fireworks of the period came in the form of mits dropping between former T-Bird Dylan McIlrath and Sam Bitten less than four minutes into the action. The early scrap between two of the toughest customers in the AHL added a big boost to both benches but ultimately did not lead to either team cracking into the scoresheet in the first 20 minutes.

As difficult as it was for the teams to establish in the first, it became even

more difficult in a second period that saw only seven combined shots between the two teams, with Subban stopping four Hershey attempts and Shepard blocking three Springfield offerings, forcing the scoreless draw into a final period.

The game gave every indication that the first goal would be pivotal, and at 5:31 of the third, Pierrick Dube finally got on the board for the Bears, blasting a slapper that glanced off Subban’s left shoulder and squeaked across the line just moments before a T-Birds defender could get to the goal line to save it.

The winger’s 14th of the season proved to be the only tally, as Springfield could not dent Shepard the rest of the way. Former Bear Jakub Vrana had perhaps the best chance to tie the game on a one-timer from the right circle, but Shepard slid from right to left to deny the chance, and Springfield succumbed to their first shutout defeat of the season.

The two teams will have a grudge match on Friday night inside the MassMutual Center as the T-Birds begin a seven-game homestand. Puck drop on Friday is set for 7:05 p.m. for another Deuces Wild Friday.



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Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD23P2563EA
Estate of:
Maria D Bernard
Date of Death: 09/04/2023
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 **Anna Batista 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: **Anna Batista of Holyoke, 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 01/11/2024.**

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 15, 2023
Rosemary A. Saccomani
 Register of Probate
 12/22/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Division
Docket No. HD23P2521EA
Estate of:
William S Carroll
Date of Death: 11/14/2023
INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Stephen W Carroll of Covington, WA**

a Will has been admitted to informal probate. **Stephen W Carroll of Covington, WA** 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.
 12/22/2023

City of Holyoke
Notice of Public Hearing

The Holyoke License Board will be holding a Public Hearing on **Wednesday, January 3, 2024, at 5:15 pm.** You can join via Zoom.com; ID **81480186788**; CALL IN: ***67 646 558 8656** or in person at City Hall Annex 20 Korean Veterans Plaza Room 403, regarding the application for a **Transfer of License of a All Alcohol Liquor License (Off-Premises)** from **LPS Inc. DBA Dillion's Package Store 344 High Street transferring to Gleam Global Holdings LLC DBA Dillion's Package Store 344 High Street**, pursuant to M.G.L. Ch.138.

Applicant:
Gleam Global Holdings, LLC

License Board:
Anthony Luciano,
 Chairman
 12/22, 12/29/2023

City of Holyoke
Notice of Public Hearing

The Holyoke License Board will be holding a Public Hearing on **Wednesday, January 3, 2024, at 5:15 pm.** You can join via Zoom.com; ID **81480186788**; CALL IN: ***67 646 558 8656** or in person at City Hall Annex 20 Korean Veterans Plaza Room 403, regarding the application for a **Application for multiple Amendments of a All Annual All Alcohol Liquor License (On- Premises) from 241 Whiting Farms LLC DBA Paper City Bar & Grill transferring to Fairfield Inn & Suites 229 Whiting Farms Road**, pursuant to M.G.L. Ch.138.

Applicant:
241 Whiting Farms LLC
 License Board:
Anthony Luciano,
 Chairman
 12/22, 12/29/2023

COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
HAMPDEN, ss.
SUPERIOR COURT
DEPARTMENT OF THE TRIAL COURT
CIVIL ACTION NO.
2279CV00631

HEATHER LEMRISE
 Plaintiff

v.
JILL G. DONOVAN,
PAMELA M. HUNTER,
PAULA M. McDONOUGH
 and the heirs or legal representatives of
JOSEPH S. TENCZAR,
PAUL A. McDONOUGH and
DONALD J. TENCZAR and persons claiming under
Joseph S. Tenczar, Paul A. McDonough and
Donald J. Tenczar who may

claim an interest in certain land in Holyoke, Hampden County, Massachusetts by purchase, descent or otherwise

Defendants
ORDER OF NOTICE

TO: the Defendants, the heirs or legal representatives of **Joseph S. Tenczar, Paul A. McDonough** and **Donald J. Tenczar** and persons claiming under **Joseph S. Tenczar, Paul A. McDonough** and **Donald J. Tenczar** who may claim an interest in **78 Belvidere Avenue, Holyoke, Hampden County, Massachusetts** (the "Premises") by purchase, descent or otherwise.

HEATHER LEMRISE claiming to have an interest in the Premises by virtue of that certain Warranty Deed dated June 30, 2022 and recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds at Book 24622, page 438 has filed with this Court a Complaint and First Amended Complaint to Quiet Title pursuant to M.G.L. C. 240, §§ 6 to 10 due to the fact that Defendants have an adverse claim clouding the Plaintiffs' record title to said Premises arising out of and related to that certain deed with warranty covenants dated October 28, 1999 and recorded in the Hampden County Registry of Deeds at Book 10980, page 91, which deed had an improper granting clause, the Attorney in Fact did not execute it correctly and the notary acknowledgement of the signature of the Attorney in Fact was not made correctly.

If you object to the Plaintiffs' Complaint, then you or your attorney must

file a written appearance and answer or other responsive pleading with this court at 50 State Street, Springfield, MA 01103 on or before December 31, 2023 (the "Return Date"), or you may be forever barred from objecting to the Plaintiffs' claims.

Witness: (Callan, J.)
 Justice of the Superior Court.
 Attest: **Laura S. Gentile,**
 Clerk, Hampden County Superior Court.
 12/08, 12/15, 12/22/2023

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield MA, 01103
Docket No. HD23P1080PM
In the matter of:
Annirene Gianni
Of: Wallingford, CT
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 and Final account(s) of **Celeste Gianni of Wallingford, CT** 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 **01/17/2023.**

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: December 12, 2023
Rosemary A. Saccomani
 Register of Probate
 12/22/2023

COTTAGE STREET COMMONS

AFFORDABLE HOUSING OPPORTUNITY:

Three two bedroom apartments and two one bedroom apartments available for rent in the newly constructed Cottage Street Commons, 49 Cottage Street, Easthampton MA. Utilities are not included. One bedroom units are \$1,595.00 per month with a \$167.00 monthly utility allowance, and two bedroom units are \$1,794.00 per month with a \$215.00 monthly utility allowance. Income eligibility, as defined by HUD pursuant to section 3 of the 42 U.S.C. 1437 (the Housing Act of 1937), is as follows:

| Household Size | Maximum Income 80% AMI |
|----------------|------------------------|
| 1 | \$55,800 |
| 2 | \$63,800 |
| 3 | \$71,750 |
| 4 | \$79,700 |
| 5 | \$86,100 |
| 6 | \$92,500 |

Located in the center of Easthampton's Cultural District, with off street parking and handicapped accessible. Walk to shops, restaurants the Nashawannuck Pond Boardwalk and more. First, Last, and Security deposit required. No pets (unless a service animal) and it is a smoke free building.

All reasonable accommodations shall be offered, and all applicants shall be considered regardless of race, color, dis-

ability, religion, sex, familial status, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, genetic information, ancestry, children, marital status, or public assistance reciprocity.

Please contact: Valley Apartment Rentals at 203 Northampton Street, Easthampton, MA, 01027, (413) 203-2260, TTY/TTD number 711, or valleyapartmentrentals@gmail.com, for information and applications.

Applications may be picked up in person, emailed, or sent by mail. Applications may be submitted by mail, fax, or e-mail.

Applications can be downloaded by going to: www.NorthamptonHousing.org/CottageStreetCommons

Translation Assistance available at no cost upon request.

No preference shall be given to those who pick up applications in person.

All qualified applicants shall be selected based upon a lottery process.

Applications must be submitted by Monday, February 26, 2024

An informational meeting will be held at the Cliffview Manor Community Room, 36 Lussier Circle, Easthampton, MA 01027 on **Thursday, December 28, 2023 from 5:00PM to 6:00PM** for more information.

Attendance at this meeting is not mandatory for participation in the lottery process.

This will also be available on zoom by going to: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86212023340?pwd=L3hVWlJoaU9B-VTYzallGZWc4TWtpUT09>

Meeting ID: 862 1202 3340 Passcode: 1228
 12/22/2023

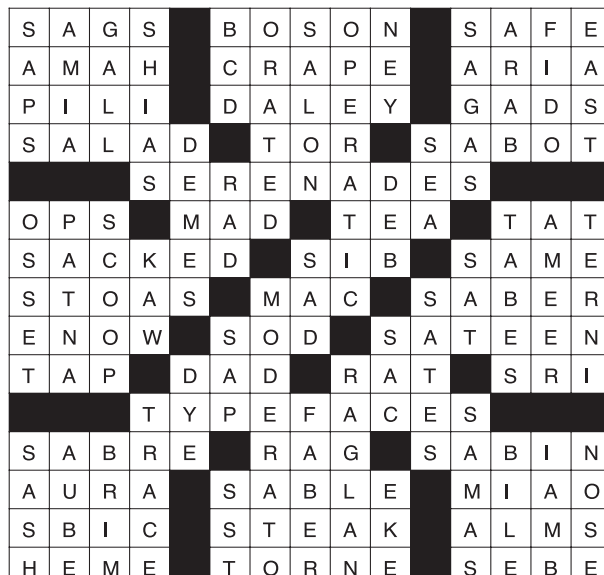
The Holyoke Sun
OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$225, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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



Sustaining sobriety and thriving in the Holidays

HOLYOKE – Sara Harpin, a clinician in MiraVista Behavioral Health Center’s Opioid Treatment Program, counsels her clients that staying on the path of recovery during the holiday season, especially for those early in recovery, can be particularly challenging.

This is because the days between Thanksgiving and the New Year usher in activities that can be triggers for those in recovery with substance use. These range from parties with an abundance of alcohol, as well as access to other drugs to family gatherings where old conflicts may surface.

Harpin says they don’t have to serve as triggers. She advises those in recovery to think ahead and have an exit plan for events. This may mean taking a friend along with an agreement to leave after a certain period of time. Also, reflecting on who else may be present and a likely person to compromise one’s recovery. In both scenarios, it is

advised to think out in advance what you will say when you want to leave and how you will refuse offers of alcohol or other drugs.

Harpin reminds that it is OK to say no as preventing relapse is the priority in recovery. Declining an invitation by saying you are grateful to be included, but have a prior obligation is one option.

Clinicians such as Harpin remind those in recovery that recovery is all about staying connected to one’s supports outside family and friends during the holidays and beyond to prevent relapse. Tips for managing recovery and preventing relapse during times of holiday stress and indulgence include:

Make new memories that involve supportive connections and sobriety.

- Don’t isolate as holidays can be lonely and trigger thoughts of loved ones no longer here. Consider extra

therapy sessions and more time with friends in recovery to avoid relapse.

- Limit contact where encounters are likely to be toxic for you.

- Be realistic and grateful for how you can positively connect to the joy of the holidays without overspending, overindulging, and overindulging.

- Find the holiday spirit by looking beyond the traditions of the season and rediscover the real purpose and joy of the holidays.

For further information, visit: <https://www.health.harvard.edu/blog/navigating-holidays-recovery-2017121412931>. If you or someone you know needs support now, you can contact the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline. Call or text 988.

For information on MiraVista Behavioral Health Center, visit <https://www.miravistabhc.care/>.

LEFEBVRE, from page 1

treasurer for MASC. Then the vice president, and then the president-elect.

“Then by virtue of being president-elect, you automatically become president the following year,” Lefebvre explained.

The MASC saw her dedication to the organization and to the students and the schools, and so Lefebvre has earned her way to president of the committee.

Now, as president she hopes to improve communication between all of the school committees in MA so that they can work together to ensure everyone’s needs are being met.

“I really want to connect with board members across the state,” Lefebvre said. “I want to hear from each and every one of them about what are the issues that are concerning them, to their district, and making sure that we as an organization are here to support them and provide

them the resources necessary to make sure that their students are able to succeed.”

Lefebvre hopes to also listen to their concerns and advocate for a change, if change is needed.

“We’d be happy to go over to their school board meetings or even just sit down and listen to some of the concerns they have within their district,” Lefebvre said.

One specific change she hopes to make is easing the process of ending receiverships for communities under them. This idea was brought about from seeing Holyoke’s own path to get out from under receivership.

“We have to look at how districts that are in receivership get out of receivership,” Lefebvre said. “We have to have clear set goals.”

In order to make this change, Lefebvre and the MASC will have to work to make a change in the state law.

She plans to speak with other districts under receivership to see what ideas they have for how this process


could be improved.

Then she and the districts will bring those ideas as part of the MASC resolutions and reach out to the state representatives and senators to get them to help advocate for change.

Additionally, Lefebvre hopes to improve communication with the Massachusetts Association of Student Representatives.

Overall, Lefebvre plans to ensure that students and their families are able to get the support they need from within their districts, especially those who struggle with disabilities.


“The reason why I do what I do is for the students and for the families,” Lefebvre said. “I know the struggles that many have experienced, especially when you have children with mental health disabilities. So, my goal has always been to prevent them from having to struggle with what I did and to help them to be able to navigate the system more easily.”





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The 2024 Career & Education edition publishes **the week of January 10th-12th**
Space reservation deadline is January 3rd.

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SEWER, from page 1

it’s not true,” Jourdain said. “I want to debunk that myth.”

Jourdain felt that councilors were failing to take these claims into account when voting to increase the sewer budget and the sewer rate.

Councilor David Bartley agreed. Bartley specifically focused on the issue brought up by Jourdain of people not paying their bills.

He claims that the ordinance passed by the city council a few years ago to turn off the water of people who did not pay their sewer rate was the only reason that 10% of the people did not pay their bills. Without the ordinance, he felt it would have been even more.

Bartley felt many councilors were being “willfully ignorant” about the state of affairs in the city.

“In terms of willful ignorance,” he said. “Most of us are coming back next year. There are two brand new councilors and I know they have both been to multiple meetings, so I’m very excited about their perspective coming forward...they’re coming in here listening and paying attention, I wish I could have said that about the councilors that came in last term.”

Councilor Kocayne Givner pointed out that the council had funded a study to look into the sewer fund and pick out inaccurate expenses, such as the street sweeping expense, from the budget.

“We just appropriated a hundred grand for a study of this that will be completed in May 2024, so we are working on it, it’s coming up,” she said. “The willful ignorance, that comment is a lot inappropriate...this is the 18-year of a 20-year contract, so if you’re telling me that it’s the last two years of councilors fault that we’re in this position, that’s just not true.”

This study will help to address many of the issues Jourdain pointed out in the sewer fund in an organized manner.

Councilor Israel Rivera also responded to the comment concerning the “willful ignorance” of the newer councilors.

“I must be one of these uninformed or ignorant councilors, but I just wanted to say that I have only been on this council for two years and a lot of the things we’ve been facing are based on things that have been going on for longer than two years,” he said.

Rivera and Givner both felt that casting the blame for the sewer fund and other issues on the more recent city councilors disregarded the fact that many of the problems had been going on long-term.

“The issue with the sewer has been going on for a decade, probably even more, and it is only now that it is being unraveled,” Rivera said. “Not because of the city councilors, but because we have a mayor that’s working in collaboration with the councilors to make sure that this is happening.”

Despite these tensions, all councilors did vote to pass the motion, for fear of being prevented from setting the tax rate for FY24.

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

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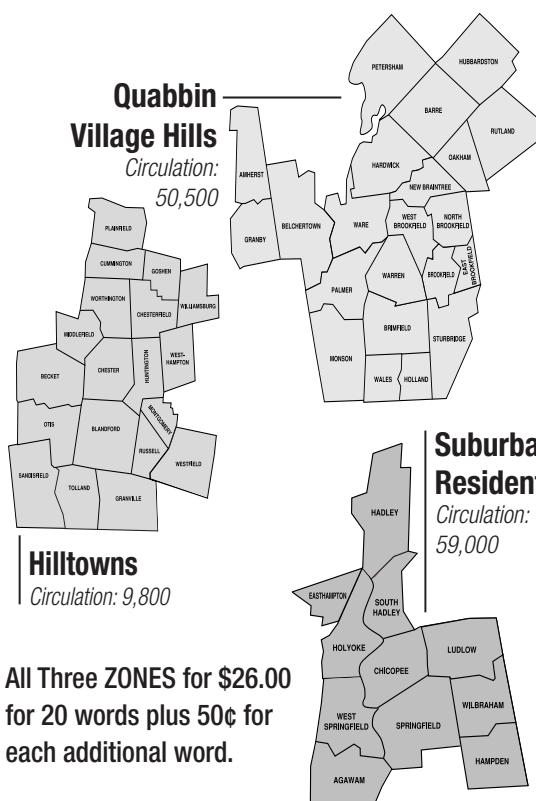
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| 24 | Base Price \$29.50 | Base Price \$30.00 | Base Price \$30.50 |
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| 26 | Base Price \$31.50 | Base Price \$32.00 | Base Price \$32.50 |
| 27 | Base Price \$32.50 | Base Price \$33.00 | Base Price \$33.50 |
| 28 | Base Price \$33.50 | Base Price \$34.00 | Base Price \$34.50 |
| 29 | Base Price \$34.50 | Base Price \$35.00 | Base Price \$35.50 |
| 30 | Base Price \$35.50 | Base Price \$36.00 | Base Price \$36.50 |
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| 32 | Base Price \$37.50 | Base Price \$38.00 | Base Price \$38.50 |
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| 35 | Base Price \$40.50 | Base Price \$41.00 | Base Price \$41.50 |
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| 38 | Base Price \$43.50 | Base Price \$44.00 | Base Price \$44.50 |
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In The News

Students participate in mock trials at courthouse

HOLYOKE – The Pioneer Valley Performing Arts Charter Public School’s middle school students were transformed into trial lawyers recently as they presented their case before Judge Nielsen at the Holyoke Juvenile Courthouse.

Following ten weeks of participating in the Discovering Justice Program, where they studied the justice system and learned about legal advocacy and their rights, students acted out the roles of prosecution and defense in a fictional case involving a student suspension, TikTok and a school’s anti-bullying policy. A volunteer jury composed of PVPA family members, faculty and staff decided the case based on the presentation of facts, and the group celebrated afterwards with a pizza party for participants and family.

The Discovering Justice’s Mock Trial Program at PVPA was mentored by PVPA History Teacher and Mock Trial Coach Gary Huggett, with support from volunteer Judge MaryLou Rup. The participants met after school for 10 weeks to explore the judicial system, analyze a legal case, and practice the civic skills needed to persuasively argue their case



PVPA students were able to act out roles in the justice system.

Submitted Photo

in court. They were also supported by high school students who are currently on PVPA’s Mock Trial team, including two alumni of the Discovering Justice Program.

PVPA’s Mock Trial team has a strong winning history, having won the western region of the statewide competition every year since 2000, continuing on to states every year and placing second

statewide for the past two years. PVPA students can audition for the Mock Trial Team beginning in 9th grade.

For more information, go to www.pvpa.org.



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