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Holyoke Public Library lists holiday hours

HOLYOKE – To allow their employees to spend time with family and friends, the Holyoke Public Library, 11 Chestnut St., will observe holiday hours. The library will be open Friday, Dec. 28 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Saturday, Dec. 29 from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. The library will be closed Monday, Dec. 31 and Tuesday, Jan. 1, 2019.

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In The News

Holyoke Codes offers January workshops

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Codes plans coding and robotics workshops. The open lab has the new Scratch 3.0. It will be open Saturday, Jan. 5 from 10 a.m. to noon. The group is launching a new series of Python programming courses: Python I, Python II for more experienced children and Python for adults. Python I will be held Mondays, Jan. 16, 23, 30 and Feb. 6 and Feb. 13 from 4-5:30 p.m. In January, Holyoke Codes is starting a new series of Python workshops: Python I, Python II, and Python for adults. Python is one of the most widely used programming languages today.

During January, there is a homeschool robotics class starting on Wednesdays. There will be a SumoBot tournament on Feb. 2 with two Saturday workshops where people can build a robot for the competition. Visitors can learn to create their own robots. They will experiment with different methods for designing, building, and coding robots with Lego EV3 mindstorms and Vex robotics kits. They will have options to design robots for speed, navigating terrain, incorporating sensors, and other challenges. Or try WeDo robotics, integrating motors and sensors with Lego pieces, creating alligators that snap at fingers or monkeys that play drums.

This will be an unstructured opportunity for people to come explore, play with things, ask questions, and meet others. Open to all ages. The event is free, but donations are also accepted. Scratch 3.0 will be held Wednesday, Jan. 9 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. Scratch 3.0 is a major redesign of Scratch. There will be discussion about some of the new features while learning how to design your own games with Scratch. Using Scratch, people can program their own interactive stories, games, and animations and share their creations with others in the incredible worldwide Scratch online community. All levels of Scratch experience are welcome to attend. For ages seven and older. Cost is free, donations are accepted.

Python libraries enable you to easily write code for everything from making games and automating tasks, to creating websites and machine learning. Python has a nice syntax that makes it a good language for new programmers. This class will meet on Mondays from 7:30 to 9:00 for five sessions in January and February. The cost of $100 includes all five classes. No previous Python experience necessary. Bring your own laptop or use one from Holyoke Codes.

For ages 18 and older. Homeschool Robotics will be held Wednesdays, Jan. 16, 23, 30 and Feb. 6, 13 from 2-4 p.m. for ages 10 and over. The cost for all five sessions is $125. A 50 percent sibling discount is available. Meeting dates are Jan. 16, Jan. 23, Jan. 30, Feb. 6 and Feb. 13 for ages 10 and over.

Build Your SumoBot on Saturday, Jan. 19 and Jan. 26 from 10 a.m. to noon

Learn how to build a SumoBot and prepare for the SumoBot tournament on Feb. 2. Or just learn about robotics and have fun. Participants can come to one or both of the SumoBot workshops in January. If you’re new to EV3 robotics, the class will get you started building a robot and programming it not to fall out of the ring. If you’re a more advanced builder, come and work with others in the incredible worldwide Scratch online community. All levels of Scratch experience are welcome to attend. For ages seven and older. Cost is free or a donation.

CNA program starts Jan. 7

SPRINGFIELD – Seats are still available for the Certified Nurse Assistant (CNA) plus program that begins Jan. 7 at Springfield Technical Community College.

Classes are held four days a week, Monday through Thursday, from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The seven-week, 140-hour program takes place between Jan. 7 and Feb. 22. Students that complete the program will receive their nurse aide and CPR certificate. The training prepares students to take the state board exam to become a certified nurse aide.

Students learn to care for residents in long-term care facilities and will practice the following skills: personal patient care, patient rights, lifting and turning patients, safety, infection control, bed, bath and feeding, vital signs, record keeping, mental health care of residents and stress management.

Alyson Oggera-McNamara who has over 20 years’ experience in the medical field teaches the course. This program is approved by the state Division of Health Care Quality.

In addition to CNA training, students will receive Home Health Aide training and learn about Alzheimer’s and related neurological disorders.

For more information, people may contact the Workforce Development Center at 413-755-4225 or by email at workforcetraining@stcc.edu. People may visit www.stcc.edu/wdc for further information.
Deadgrass brings their old-school sound to Holyoke

HOLYOKE – On Jan. 26 at 8 p.m., bluegrass band with jam band influences, Deadgrass, brings their stylistic interpretations of Jerry Garcia’s most loved music to Gateway City Arts, 92 Race St. Multi-instrumentalist Matt Turk and Grammy award winner C. Langdon joined forces to form Deadgrass, a string band adventure through Jerry Garcia’s musical world. Bassist Dave Richards, banjo player Russel Gottlieb and fiddler Michael Barrett Donovan complete this group of seasoned pros exploring the life works of Jerry Garcia on the instruments that first inspired him.

Deadgrass celebrates Jerry Garcia’s musical influences, experiences and camaraderie. “I was really blown away by the generosity of the students and faculty at the college,” Martoccia talked about “L.V .” a 72-year-old woman who received a small, lightweight vacuum last year. “I didn’t even know such a wonderful machine existed,” the woman told her caregiver. “Thank you. You have made my Christmas dream a reality.”

“S.H.,” an 88-year-old woman who lives alone in Chicopee, got a toaster oven. “Mine is broken. This is a great gift and I’ll put it to good use,” she said.

For 69-year-old “B.A.” who lives in Holyoke, it was a pajama set with socks: “I love it, and it’s something I really need.”

This year a selection of tags included requests for a winter coat for a teen-age boy from Enlace de Familia; a night gown for an 81-year-old woman from WestMass ElderCare, pajamas, socks, jeans, underwear, hats and gloves, a night light and Nerf toys for a 7-year-old boy from the MSPCC’s Healthy Families program; gift cards and clothes for residents of the Holyoke Soldiers’ Home and board games and school supplies for children at Homework House.

Also new this year, HCC student clubs held a variety of fundraisers to benefit the campaign, raising nearly $500 that they used to buy gifts.
get would be balanced and the tax rate could be set. Holyoke could not balance its own budget until the state certified the amount of free cash in city coffers, though it was uncertain how much would be certified and available to the city.

**February**

The School Committee voted unanimously to support naming the volleyball court at Holyoke High School in honor of the late Paul Febo, though their vote was largely symbolic as they no longer had voting authority under the state's decision to hold their district. School Superintendent and Receiver Stephen Zrike stated that, after hearing from the School Committee, the next step was to secure a design for the proposed plaque or item that honored Conway and bring it before the school committee. Zrike also added this would be the first time a female coach has been honored in this way in Holyoke.

Holyoke, one of the few cities that has embraced legalized marijuana growing and other facilities in an effort to tax the new industry, was infused with cannabis, was seeking a license to run a marijuana cultivation and manufacturing operation as well as a retail location. The city would consider whether or not to grant a special permit once recreational marijuana regulations were established by the state.

A city councilor was hoping to clear up confusion about the location of Roberts Sports Complex following an incident the previous summer when a field hockey player was injured on the field at Roberts and the new Neighborhood Development Corporation (MSBA), the architects, projected the costs of educating students include Elizabeth Warren (D – Massachusetts) students put their culinary skills to the test at the "Sodexo Future Chefs Challenge" on March 27. During this challenge five budding chefs prepared Asian inspired dishes at Dean Technical High School's cafeteria for family members and judges as part of a national initiative by the food service company Sodexo. Winners were Nyxen Potter with a lemongrass chicken recipe in first, Elizabeth Lasseret in second, with chicken with brown rice and vegetables, and Andrea Perez won third for her Thai beef wraps.

**April**

The musical legacy of the late John Walachy of Holyoke lives on as he would posthumously be inducted into the Iowa Rock 'n Roll Music Association Hall of Fame in Arnold Park, Iowa with his former bandmates of the Iowa-based band Lavendar Hill on Sept. 2. After years of lobbying the Iowa Hall of Fame on his husband's behalf, Walachy's widow, Jean Walachy, of Holyoke said she finally received word in January that her late husband and the band he founded in 1965 would earn their place in Iowa music history.

The Carlos Vega Fund for Social Justice would honor Betty Medina Lichtenstein with its fourth annual Carlos Vega Social Justice Award at a ceremony on May 18 at the Wistariahurst Museum, home of the Carlos Vega Collection of Latino History. The Carlos Vega Fund for Social Justice would also award small grants to local nonprofit organizations and individuals that foster social justice, promote empowerment, self-help and economic, political and social justice. Mayor Alex Morse said he was trying to broker a new school transportation contract as a compromise to address fears and concerns raised by parents of special needs children in the Valley School District. Details for the new contract would be hashed out, and Morse said he hoped to have a replacement chosen among internal candidates within several weeks. The deadline for applications was April 27, followed by candidate interviews, and then Morse would make a decision several weeks later and would engage in salary negotiations once the next chief was chosen.

**May**

The controversy surrounding special education transportation is nearing an end with a compromise between the city, VanPool and Durham School Services that will save an estimated $5 million per year over the next three years. The agreement brokered by Mayor Alex Morse is in the form of three contracts: one for regular big bus athletic and field trip transportation with Durham, one with VanPool, and one with VanPool for vans and wheelchairs vehicles.

At a ceremony on May 7 at City Hall, Holyoke Police Chief James M. Neiwanger and Holyoke Police Officer Capi Manuel "Manny" Fello, 47, as the city's first Latino police chief. Fello, a 20-year veteran of the Holyoke Police Department, replaces Holyoke Police Chief James M. Neiwanger, 55, who would retire July 20 after seven years as Holyoke's top cop. Fello would be sworn in on July 20 upon Neiwanger's retirement.

The city honored local historian and Holyoke School Committee member Olivia Mausel with a reception and award ceremony at City Hall earlier in the week of May 18. Mausel was a critical part of a group of community members to preserve the historic and architectural character of the city by lobbying the Holyoke public library, which was slated for demolition, officials said. Holyoke police officers shoveled Eddie Wroblewski on May 22 that he may be retired from the force, but as he celebrated his 101st birthday, he would be a Holyoke HCC Education Department volunteer. The Center for Life Sciences will honor his late husband and the band he founded with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

The 118th Holyoke High School graduation at Gateway City Church hosts "trunk to trunk." The vehicle parade begins at 8 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 2 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. and the crowd steadily grew as drives of families walk down the 2.65 mile route of the 67th Holyoke High School's Chili Bowl BBQ. Holyoke, one of the few cities that has embraced legalized marijuana growing and other facilities in an effort to tax the new industry, was infused with cannabis, was seeking a license to run a marijuana cultivation and manufacturing operation as well as a retail location. The city would consider whether or not to grant a special permit once recreational marijuana regulations were established by the state.

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**The Holyoke Merry-Go-Round, a regional landmark for young and old, was set to celebrate its 25th birthday on Aug. 26 with cake, games and 25 cent rides.**

Kyle Zych tried basketball and wanted to play football while growing up in South Hadley, but his disability – Spina Bifida – made it impossible for him to run and compete due to the defects to his spine. Though he endures pain on his spine the last four years those setbacks haven’t weakened his drive to excel in a sport that could take him to the 2022 Paralympic Challenge in Beijing, China: sled hockey. He learned in July he was named to the U.S. Sled Hockey team, representing the U.S. in sled hockey in tournaments throughout the world, and that he maintained his skills and remained injury-free it was likely he would compete in the 2022 Paralympics representing the United States.

David Cotton, the tireless volunteer who has spent thousands of hours at Holyoke’s 134-year-old City Hall tower clock that was broken for 30 years, was recognized on Aug. 27 by the City Council’s Public Safety Committee for his work. According to his friend Michael McManus, who has known Cotton for 30 years, throughout the month of July Cotton, who owns Cotton’s Heating and Air Conditioning, logged in hundreds of unpaid hours to resurrect the clock using expert advice from both local and national organizations. The clock was restored at midnight on July 4.

With 84 percent of the graduates having secured two church-owned parcels on Route 65 in South Hadley, but his disability – Spina Bifida – made it impossible for him to run and compete due to the defects to his spine. Though he endures pain on his spine the last four years those setbacks haven’t weakened his drive to excel in a sport that could take him to the 2022 Paralympic Challenge in Beijing, China: sled hockey. He learned in July he was named to the U.S. Sled Hockey team, representing the U.S. in sled hockey in tournaments throughout the world, and that he maintained his skills and remained injury-free it was likely he would compete in the 2022 Paralympics representing the United States.

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While some nine-year-olds collect Pokemon cards, Legos or stuffed animals, Orion Shearer spends hours each day collecting aluminum cans and plastic bottles with a goal of saving the environment. His environmental awareness began about five months before when he watched a video about removing bottles and cans that threatened turtles, and he began with collecting two trash bags full of bottles and cans that people tossed along the sidewalk and on the road. Once then he then been on a one-boy mission to save the planet, one can at a time.

### September

**It’s all the rage on Cape Cod and Eastern Massachusetts, and Pickleball has become a hit to Holyoke’s 16-year-old Kahlia McManus near her grandmother’s house on the banks of the Connecticut River near you. Holyoke General Hospital’s Dr. Carey Mattes is the head of the City Council’s Public Safety Committee that the city may add specific striping to two tennis courts for Pickleball.**

Holyoke attorney Martin J. Dunn and Holyoke School Committee member Michael J. Morrisey were honored by the St. Thomas More Society at a Red Mass given by Bishop Mitchell T. Rozanski of the Springfield Catholic Diocese of Springfield. Dunn was cited for his years of service in local and state government service as City Councilor, Mayor, State Senator, and legal counsel for Holyoke. Morrisey was named for his work as Executive Director of HolyokeOne Community Development Corporation, a service as a member of the Holyoke School Committee, and his service as a member of the State board of Elementary and Secondary Education. In an “unusual” decision, the Massachusetts School Building Authority has approved Holyoke School renovation to subsequently build two new, state-of-the- art, identical middle schools in what the Superintendent of Schools stated in a press release on July 9 that the “Flying Fortress” into Mt. Tom that ed the 72nd anniversary of the crash of the 302nd Massachusetts Nationals, which sent a team of a dozen girls from Holyoke Hall to the 1940s Paralympics representing the United States.

### October

**With potentially millions of state dollars at stake, city officials will need to secure two church-owned parcels on Route 65 in South Hadley, but his disability – Spina Bifida – made it impossible for him to run and compete due to the defects to his spine. Though he endures pain on his spine the last four years those setbacks haven’t weakened his drive to excel in a sport that could take him to the 2022 Paralympic Challenge in Beijing, China: sled hockey. He learned in July he was named to the U.S. Sled Hockey team, representing the U.S. in sled hockey in tournaments throughout the world, and that he maintained his skills and remained injury-free it was likely he would compete in the 2022 Paralympics representing the United States.

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### November

**With the arrival of Halloween comes the appearance of costumed charac- ters along the streets: monsters, super- heroes, princesses and others of many ages. Children and families in Holyoke had an opportunity to celebrate the spooky holiday during the city’s annual Trick- or-Treat event on the weekend of Oct. 27 and 28 with the Recreation Department of the city sponsoring the traditional trick-or-treating event. Children and families in Holyoke had an opportunity to celebrate the spooky holiday during the city’s annual Trick- or-Treat event on the weekend of Oct. 27 and 28 with the Recreation Department of the city sponsoring the traditional trick-or-treating event.**

**SPEED, from page 1**

throughout the city. The current speed limit for these areas is 30 mph. Thickly settled or business districts zones are generally defined as areas where buildings are located within 200 feet of each other for a distance of a quarter of a mile or over. Streets that have an existing posted speed limit will keep that existing speed limit. The City Council approved an offi-

**Theater, from page 1**

Twelve Performances are Friday, Jan. 11 and Saturday, Jan. 12 at 7:30 PM at Holyoke High School, 500 Beech St.

"Caught in the Act" is a riotous parody of the choral art and it will keep the audience on their toes. It is written by Pat Cook and is directed by Bevan Brunelle. Advanced tickets can be purchased online at www.bit.ly/ HHSPLAY, or at Holyoke High School. Tickets purchased on the door are $15 for general admission and $8 for students. Student ID holders will be checked at the door for all online purchases.
Searching for a siding

A common denominator along the freight rail line that runs the length of the state is opportunity to be found in underutilized properties in nearly every city and town along the route. This is the region is lucky enough to see the return of passenger rail, there are promising developments all along the way in Western Massachusetts that can benefit from a boost of travel and commerce – from the Maplegrove Industrial Center in Palmer to the Ludlow Mills to the industrial park in Pittsfield. In each of these communities, business and political leaders have been working hard to create a renaissance on these properties that could trigger a rebirth of economic activity.

State Sen. Eric Lesser (D-Longmeadow) is, in fact, correctly when he says that a common denominator has been difficulty in finding tenants. There are certainly a variety of concerns – from startup companies to established businesses – that express interest in the promise these spaces can provide. They simply lack the transportation network to support travel for potential employees and customers.

It goes without saying that a resurgence of passenger rail would change all that. The Palmer Town Council recently appointed a steering committee to advocate for a passenger rail stop in town. There are many interests that are moving along a parallel track up and down the line, though. Representatives of many of these causes and organizations now sit in a state-appointed advisory committee for a recently commissioned east-west passenger rail study by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation, to be carried out by WSP USA, along with AECOM, Regina Villa Associations and Keville Enterprises.

CSSX, which owns much of the track, is representative of the committee, as are a variety of regional planning groups, state agencies and elected officials up and down the line from Boston to Pittsfield. The very fact that all these interests will be sitting down to talk about some of the challenges and promise that passenger rail could bring is, in and of itself, a unique opportunity that should not be squandered.

Let us not forget there are places in the world with far less resources that have made the most of their rail networks, for transit of both people and products.

It is imperative that this movement continue to build momentum, something that has taken so long for it to gain traction across the state. There are many who, for a variety of reasons, be they financial or political, wouldn’t mind seeing the project derailed. While it remains to be seen how economically viable an east-west passenger rail line could be, it might be the best shot some communities in the Pioneer Valley have at getting out of the doldrums.

By state Rep. Aaron Vega, Holyoke

Think about a recent morning you skipped breakfast and tried to concentrate on your work until lunch. Your stomach rumbling and your body looking for some substance, some nutrition.

The distraction of your hunger affects your mood, your ability to participate, as well as having negative effects on your physical well-being. Now put yourself in that situation as an elementary school student – only you didn’t skip breakfast, there was no breakfast option. Even the schools that offer a grab-and-go meal in the cafeteria are not reaching the kids most in need of a meal to start their day.

Imagine being back in elementary school and for reasons beyond your control (and perhaps for reasons you don’t fully understand) your lunch is taken from you by cafeteria staff and you are given a cheese sandwich. The food taken from you is literally thrown away - often right in front of you. This practice has been referred to as “food shaming.” It happens when a family falls behind on payments for their children’s lunch. It is clear those students most affected by this food shaming are those already with food insecurity issues and other challenges that come with living in low income or poverty neighborhoods.

One in seven children in Massachusetts lives in a food-insecure household. Nearly 300,000 children are eligible for free or reduced-price breakfast, but only half are able to participate. Hungry children can concentrate, suffer cognitive and developmental impairment, and have higher absenteeism. Knowing these facts, one has to be called to action.

Breakfast After the Bell is a program that provides breakfast in the classroom, after the starting bell, and ensures that every child has food in their stomach before they start lessons. The data is overwhelming when it comes to children’s ability to focus better in class when hungry.

A bill filed in the legislature would institute Breakfast After the Bell programs in all schools with 60 percent or more free lunch students. We are hopeful this bill will pass but beyond that we believe that when our children are in our public schools, feeding them should be part of the institution.

Schools have our children in their custody for upwards of 8 or more hours a day when sports and afterschool programs are included. The school is charged with their safety and wellbeing, they are mandated to teach our children the lessons and tools they need in life to succeed, they are there to provide our children opportunities and expand their horizon - but they are not required to make sure our children are fed while under their care? This makes no sense.

Regardless of family income there should be, there needs to be free, and healthy food options for our children when they attend public schools. We recognize our mandate to feed those that are incarcerated with the State, without forcing them to pay or work for their food. Why are we putting A Quote

“...the Pioneer Valley have at getting out of the doldrums. While it remains to be seen how economically viable an east-west passenger rail line could be, it might be the best shot some communities in the Pioneer Valley have at getting out of the doldrums.”

Amanda Melcafl, music teacher, said of the first-ever band program at Metscalf Elementary School.

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 (prefered) letters to thesunsun@turley.com. Mailed letters can be sent to The Sun, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.
### Crossword Clues

#### Across
1. Thick piece of something
5. Engine additive
8. Anticipated arrival time
11. French commune
13. Cigarette (slang)
14. Nobleman
15. Ghana capital
16. Adam’s wife
17. Most popular student
18. Where you currently are
20. Increase motor speed
21. Queen of Sparta
22. North, South and Central
25. Churchgoer
30. Russian empress
31. Female daredevils organization
32. Relating to music
33. Female body part
34. Purpose
35. Financial term (abbr.)
36. Orange is the New Black character
37. Used to cut and shape wood
38. Tyrion Lannister
39. Bullfighter
40. Top of the line
41. Hill
42. Greek mountain
43. Angola’s capital
44. Expressed pleasure
45. Expressed pleasure
46. Fermented honey beverage
47. Month in the Jewish calendar
48. Frontal is one type
49. Doctors’ group
50. Packers’ QB
51. Basics
52. Uncommon
53. Broad kimono sashes
54. European defense organization
55. Qatar capital
56. Unpleasant noise
57. Lovable elephant
58. Box score term
60. Lute
61. Weight of a liter of hydrogen
62. Crimson
63. Returned material authorization (abbr.)
64. Employee plan
65. Uncommon
66. Financial term (abbr.)
67. Female
68. Male
69. Male
70. Tongue
71. Tongue
72. Tongue
73. Tongue
74. Tongue
75. Tongue
76. Tongue
77. Tongue
78. Tongue
79. Tongue
80. Tongue
81. Tongue
82. Tongue
83. Tongue
84. Tongue

#### Down
1. Helps little firms
2. Type of curtain
3. Online stock exchange
4. Irish castle
5. Audio-system
6. Places to grab a drink
7. What’s coming
8. Designed chairs
9. Stepped on
10. Genus of birds
12. Consume
14. Ancient Syrian city
19. Australian brewery
23. Not present
24. Necktie
26. Type of compound
27. Jogged quickly
28. Roth is one type
29. Mineral
30. French commune
31. Female
32. Purpose
33. Female body part
34. Purpose
35. Financial term (abbr.)
36. Orange is the New Black character
37. Used to cut and shape wood
38. Tyrolean Lannister
39. Bullfighter
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54. European defense organization
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56. Unpleasant noise
57. Lovable elephant
58. Box score term
59. Sleeping
60. Lute
61. Weight of a liter

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**2018 A Year in Photos**

Left, Carolyn Smith of Holyoke Community College’s student accounts office signs her name to the final girder of the school’s renovated Campus Center, which was raised on Feb. 28. Right, Susan Kelley, executive director of the Children’s Museum at Holyoke stands next to the museum’s prize possession, a PEZ collection.

Preschool and kindergarten students in costume pose by the Joseph E. Metcalf Elementary School Halloween parade around the school.

Holyoke High School’s Class of 2018 process at graduation.

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#### Menu

**Breakfast at the Knights**

First Sunday of the Month –

January 6, 2019, 8:30am-10:30am

$7 Adults $5 Seniors Kids Under 10 Free

**MENU**

Scrambled Eggs, Sausage Links, Hash Browns, Belgian Waffles, Coffee

**Every Thursday Night is Burger Knight!!!**

5:30pm-7:30pm

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**Early Deadline**

for all PUBLIC NOTICES to run the week of JANUARY 1, 2019

- **Wednesday, December 26 at NOON for** The Register, The Wilbraham-Hampden Times, Sentinel and Chicopee Register
- **Friday, December 28 at NOON for** Agawam Advertiser News, Quaboag Current, Barre Gazette, Country Journal, The Journal Register, Ware River News, Town Reminder and The Holyoke Sun

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**CROSSWORD ANSWER** on page 13
Awesome: In stores now.

Visit your local Xfinity Store to test-drive the latest products and learn more about Xfinity Mobile, a new wireless network designed to save you money.

Come see how we’re making things simple, easy, awesome.

**Xfinity Retail Store**
Holyoke Mall, 50 Holyoke Street, Holyoke, MA 01040
Monday-Saturday, 10am-9:30pm | Sunday, 11am-6pm
BARRE -- Looking for something new for kids to do in January? Registration is open for any area boy or girl from grade two through six for the 2019 Quabbin Panthers Youth Wrestling Club.

“I had this idea for a few years now, but was unable to get the help needed to attempt this,” Quabbin wrestling coach, Mike Adams said. “I finally decided to put this together and get the ball rolling.”

The brand-new club will be running hour long sessions from 5:30 p.m. to 6:30 p.m., on Tuesday evenings from Jan. 8 through Feb. 19, in the Quabbin High School cafeteria.

A final night of registration is being held this evening, December 20, in the high school cafeteria, from 5:15 p.m. to 6 p.m.

“If a person misses registration, they can walk in on a day offered and fill out the paperwork necessary for the session,” said Adams.

And as far as the cost,

See WRESTLING, page 10

Prior to the holiday break, the Holyoke High School girls basketball team took care of East Longmeadow 47-38. Holyoke started slow and trailed early, but a strong fourth quarter keyed the win for the Knights. Yamaya Perez had a great game with 18 points. Taryn Ryan and Destiny Calederon had eight points each. Left, Destiny Calderon makes her way down the court. Middle, Morgan Sheehan sprints past mid-court. Right, Teniyah Morales reads a pass to her right. See more photos on page 10.

The Holyoke High School’s Unified Basketball team got to participate in another contest as the team was showcased between the junior varsity and varsity games in early December. Holyoke played Chicopee in a short exhibition contest. Left, Manny Rivera makes a move for a layup. Middle, Angel Roman starts his way down the court. Right, Brian Nosmadin jumps for a shot. See more photos on page 10.

Wrestling club to open at Quabbin

By Karen A. Lewis
Sports Correspondent

BARRE -- Looking for something new for kids to do in January?

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SPORTS

Hunt leads Springfield Thunderbirds over Crunch

SPRINGFIELD — After being shut out in the first meeting, the Springfield Thunderbirds (15-8-2-3) rode a two-goal performance by Dryden Hunt, including one late in the third period, to a 3-2 victory over the Syracuse Crunch (15-8-2-0) in a midweek showdown at MassMutual Center. The win is the seventh straight game in which Springfield has earned at least one point inside the Thunderdome.

Goalie Sam Montembeault finished with 27 saves and picked up his second period with the score still 1-0.

The physicality carried over into the second period as the teams amassed 18 penalty minutes between them. In the midst of the physical play, the Thunderbirds pulled even at the 4:23 mark of the second. After Ludwig Bystrom sent a right point shot to the goal, it caromed to Bobby Farnham at the left post. The winger slid it into the paint where Jake Horton pushed it over the line to tie the game, 1-1.

Almost three minutes later at the 7:23 mark, with a power play advantage, Dryden Hunt wristed home his first power play goal since being loaned back to Springfield. Hunt’s ninth AHL goal of the season gave Springfield a 2-1 lead, with Matt Mangene and Bystrom getting the helpers.

Syracuse battled back, and at the 15:02 mark, their league-best power play unit tied the score 2-2 on a close range one-time slapper by Alex Barre-Boulet from the right faceoff dot, creating a 2-2 tie heading into the final period.

The two teams traded shots in the third period, but Montembeault and Eddie Pasquale held tough to take the final minutes. Then at the 16:25 mark of the third period, Bystrom squeaked a shot from the left point off Pasquale and near the goal line, where Hunt redirected it over the line for his second goal of the game and 10th of the season.

The physicality carried over into the physicality carried over into the

WRESTLING, from page 9

the entire session is free, with donations accepted and forwarded to the American Registry for Athletes with Intellectual Disabilities. The program is geared towards youth ages 12-18 and is led by Adams. For more information, visit www.AmericanInternationalCollege.org.

The clinic is also supported by Quabbin Athletics and the athletic department. "This youth clinic is vital to keep our kids, it is more about getting exposed to the sport, learn some technique and have fun," stated Adams. "For the younger kids, it is about getting exposure to the basics and also making sure that they enjoy their experience.

The wins, the losses and everything that comes with the program will also be helping, as well as other wrestling alumni from Quabbin.

"It will be a fun and instructional program where youth can get exposure to the sport, learn some technique and have fun," stated Adams. "For the younger kids, it is about more about getting exposure to the basics and also making sure that they enjoy their experience.

The wins, the losses and everything that comes with it will come much later.

Wrestling teaches that working hard and focusing on developing your skills reaps rewards," added Huntington. "It teaches self-discipline by requiring the individual to improve weak areas in their training in order to strengthen their performance on the mat.

Adams is hoping to have about 15 to 25 registered and mentioned when the program concludes; he will be offering other options outside of Quabbin as well as ideas for competitions.

Gear required includes the basic t-shirt, gym shorts, socks and sneakers. Wrestling shoes and headgear are encouraged, but not mandatory.

Girls are also invited to register, as wrestling is not solely a male sport.

“I encourage girls to get involved,” Adams said. “Massachusetts has now established an all-girls state tournament for high school. They will wrestle co-ed throughout the year, but will have their own post-season tournament starting this year.

The new club is also supported by Quabbin and the athletic department. "This youth clinic is vital to keep our sport viable,” Quabbin Athletic Director, Mark Miville said. “It allows our students the chance to introduce the sport to younger kids before entering middle school. We are trying to bolster numbers moving forward."

For more information, please contact Coach Adams at scpride50@yahoo.com.
HOLYOKE – In Puerto Rico, before Hurricane Maria forced thousands to flee the devastated island, Maria Crespo Santos had been working as a medical technician in a pathology laboratory and blood bank. “I like to work with people,” she said recently. “I like to work in the medical field.”

The storm, however, had caused too much damage and, like so many others, she left. “It was horrible,” she said, “I don’t live in Puerto Rico; I survive in Puerto Rico.”

Crespo Santos, 58, moved to western Massachusetts about a year ago. She now lives with her sister in Chicopee and works in retail, but thanks to a special Holyoke Community College ESOL program for Puerto Rican evacuees like her, she is on the road back to a career in the medical field.

She was one of more than two dozen students recognized for completing the five-month, English for Speakers of Other Languages program.

With her improved English skills, Crespo Santos has already been accepted into a medical assistant training program at HCC that begins in February.

“It’s a pleasure and an honor to be part of this group,” she said at a Dec. 20 celebration that included a feast of traditional Puerto Rican food. “The teachers and advisers have a commitment to us, and I don’t quit. I have to follow my dreams. Follow my goals. I have challenges, but I try very hard. The Puerto Rican New Arrivals Program started July 23 and concluded Dec. 20 with a recognition ceremony and feast at HCC’s Pickettly Adult and Family Education Center (PAFEC) in downtown Holyoke. The HCC division of Business and Community Services offered the free ESOL program specifically for residents of Puerto Rico who left the island after Hurricane Maria and relocated to western Massachusetts.

Classes were held Mondays through Thursdays, 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., and funded through a National Dislocated Worker program administered by the MassHire Hampden County Workforce Board in partnership with the MassHire Holyoke and MassHire Springfield career centers.

The program focused on much more than just English language skills, however. Students received lessons in computer literacy at the Gill Technology Center on the first floor of PAFEC, and they received job search and resume development support from advisers at HCC and counselors at the MassHire career centers.

Community integration and civic engagement was also part of the curriculum, Dunkelberg said. Guest lecturers included state Rep. Aaron Vega and Holyoke mayor Alex Morse, who provided lessons on state and local government. Classes took field trips to the Holyoke Public Library, Nuestras Raices farm and Springfield museums.

The students came in with different levels of English language skills and they are heading in different directions, Dunkelberg said. Some have found jobs; others will continue to participate in HCC’s regular, free ESOL classes; some, like Crespo Santos, have enrolled in one of HCC’s workforce training programs. Many have expressed an interest in continuing their education as students at HCC.
HOLYOKE & BEYOND

CALendAR PoLicy Our calendar section is intended to only promote free events or those directly benefiting a non-profit organization. Events charging the public do not qualify. Listings should only include time, date, location, brief activity explanation and contact information. Submit entries at least one week in advance of the event. The deadline to submit calendar items is Wednesday at noon. Email entries to thesun@turley.com.

Ongoing

Pokenom FAN Club: Join the Holyoke Public Library, 250 Chestnut Street in Holyoke, for the Pokemon Fan Club, which meets every Tuesday from 4-15:30 p.m. in the Teen Room. The group will offer Pokemon cards, games and Pokemon Go as well as offer other card games like Yu-Gi-Oh and Magic the Gathering; tournaments for prizes, trading, drawing Pokemon art, and snacks. For more information or to register for this program, call the library at 413-420-8101.

grand Colleen PageT: The 2019 Colleen Pageant will be held on Jan. 5, 2019 at Holyoke High School, where five contestants will be selected to make up the Grand Colleen’s Court. The Grand Colleen will be selected from the five Colleen Pageant finalists at the Grand Colleen Ball on Feb. 16. Tickets for the Pageant are $15 per person, $10 for seniors and children under 12 are free. Please contact Kathy McColloon Coordinator, at 413-592-4945 for any questions.

First Thursday of Every Month:
The Food Bank of Western Massachusetts is working with the Trinity Episcopal Church’s Jubilee Cupboard to help individuals and families stretch their budget and buy healthy food by applying for SNAP - Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, formerly known as Food Stamps. A SNAP Outreach Coordinator from the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts will be providing assistance to anyone that would like to apply for SNAP benefits on the first Thursday of every month from 9 a.m. to noon at the Jubilee Food Cupboard, located at 20 Park Street, in Ware, MA next to the Trinity Episcopal Church.

Through Jan. 6, 2019

Christmas nativity exhibit: The Polish Center of Discovery and Learning has announced that it will host the viewing of Christmas Nativities from the Bernard R. Pajewski Collection through Jan. 6. The exhibit will run from noon through Jan. 6 from 1-5 p.m., including Saturdays and Sundays. The exhibit will be closed over the holidays from Dec. 23 to Jan. 1. Admission is free, but there is a suggested donation of $10. Parking for the event is free. For more information please visit the Polish Center of Discovery and Learning please visit http://www.poliscenter.net or call 413-592-0001.

Through Monday, Dec. 31

Special services during the Christmas season: St. Peter’s Luthean Church (ELCA) will be offering a New Years Eve service and all are welcome to join them. The New Year’s Eve service will be held on Monday, Dec. 31 at 4 p.m. The church is located at 34 Jarvis Ave. in Holyoke, and is handicapped accessible. There is plenty of parking. Please feel free to call 413-536-3369 if you have any questions, or visit www.stpeteholyoke.org.

Monday, Dec. 31

Strange ones ball: On Dec. 31, Bella’s Bartok once again calls on The Strange Ones of the Valley to commence for their annual “Strange Ones Ball.” This year the performance is presented by Signature Sounds and the Valley’s own And The Keys, and begins at 9 p.m., doors open at 6 p.m. Tickets are $22.50 in advance and $27.50 at the door.

Monday, Dec. 31

Hampshire Mall to host American Red Cross Blood Drive: The Hospth mall in Hadley will be hosting the American Red Cross for a blood drive on Monday, Dec. 31 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Target wind, next to Autohalm Indoor Speedway. Walk-ins are welcome: Positive ID is required. To schedule an appointment or for more information please call 1-800-REDCROSS or visit redcrossblood.org. For more information and updates, please visit www.hampshiremall.com.

Wednesday, Jan. 2, 2019

South Hadley chorale to resume rehearsals: The South Hadley Chorale will resume rehearsals for its annual March concert on Wednesday, Jan. 2, 2019 from 7-9 p.m. at the First Congregational Church, One Church Street, South Hadley. Rehearsals will continue on Wednesday evenings until the concert on Sunday, March 10. New singers are welcome to join them. There are no auditions.

HOLYoKe arsenTs


- Luis M. Nieves, 37, of 569 High St., Apartment #1, Holyoke, was arrested on Dec. 19 for possession of a Class B drug.
- Daraymond Luciano, 18, of 81 Jackson St. Apartment 4, Holyoke, was arrested on Dec. 19 for threatening to commit a crime and threatened use or possession of a deadly weapon.
- Kevin Corcoran, 50, of 33 Elmwood Avenue, Holyoke, was arrested on Dec. 20 for possession of a Class B drug.
- Clisanto J. Rivera, 19, of 151 Sargeant St., Holyoke, was arrested on Dec. 20 for disorderly conduct.
- Raymond Cortes, 25, of 116 Waldo St., Holyoke, was arrested on Dec. 20 for possession of Class A fours.
- Justin Welvaert, 27, of 16 Maple St. Apartment 2, Holyoke, was arrested on Dec. 20 for possession of a Class A drug.
- Josue Garcia, 31, of 86 Tokeneke Road, Holyoke, was arrested on Dec. 20 on two warrants.
- Joseph Torres, 22, of 554 South Summer St. Apartment 2L, Holyoke, was arrested on Dec. 22 for disorderly conduct.
- Raymond Cortes, 25, of 116 Waldo St., Holyoke, was arrested on Dec. 24 on two warrants.
- Joysee Garcia, 31, of 86 Tokeneke Road, Holyoke, was arrested on Dec. 24 for breaking and entering for a misdemeanor and a warrant.
- Joseph Torres, 22, of 554 South Summer St. Apartment 2L, Holyoke, was arrested on Dec. 22 for disorderly conduct.
- Demetri T. Guiltmier, 25, of 50 Craig St., Orange, was arrested on Dec. 22 on two warrants, for shoplifting by asporation.
- Justin Whelvaert, 27, of 16 Maple St. Apartment 2, Manchester, New Hampshire was arrested on Dec. 22 on two warrants.
- Stacie Aulio, 49, of Pittsfield, was arrested on Dec. 22 for larceny over $1,200.
- Jonathan Bermudez, 26, of 154 Oak Street Apartment 2H, Holyoke, was arrested on Dec. 23 on a warrant.
- Raymond Cortes, 25, of 116 Waldo St., Holyoke, was arrested on Dec. 24 on two warrants.
- Jose Gonzalez, 45, of 177 Walnut St., Holyoke, was arrested on Dec. 25 on a probation warrant.

NEWS & FEATURES

As a paper of record, we attempt to cover all general news, personality profiles, and community features that we know about. This includes all selectmen and school committee meetings, planning board, board of health, finance, and other town meetings determined by the issue’s relevance to our readers. There are the annual town meetings and the board of selectmen meetings that we should always cover, but we are more open to suggestions of other features to celebrate the fabric of our communities and their many interesting occupants. Our loyal advertisers provide funding for this paid staff coverage.

For more information on news or community features for The Sun, please email thesun@turley.com.

the Sun
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The Sun

OBITUARY POLICY

Turlery Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, thirty-day Death Notice listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place. The other is a Paid Obituary, costing $89, which allows families to add more information about the deceased, including notification of their own choice and may include a photograph. Death Notices & Paid Obituaries should be submitted through a multi-langual online form at turley.com.

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

Public Notices

City of Holyoke Conservation Commission Notice of Public Meeting

The City of Holyoke Conservation Commission will hold a public meeting on Thursday, January 10, 2019 at 6:15 p.m. in the 4th Floor Conference Room of the City Hall Annex, located at 20 Korean Veterans Plaza, Holyoke, MA 01040 on a Request for Determination of Applicability filed by CIL Realty of Massachusetts to determine whether or not the construction of a single-family house on a parcel located on Rock Valley Road (RVR 57-01) will be subject to the MA Wetlands Protection Act or the Holyoke Wetlands Protection Ordinance. The Applicant has explicitly requested a determination for whether or not “the work” is subject to the MA Wetlands Protection Act and whether or not the “area and/or work” is subject to the Holyoke Wetlands Protection Ordinance.

Project File No. 608790

The Jamaica Greenway Extension Project is being planned by the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (MassDOT) in the above-captioned area and is intended to add curb ramps, a dedicated bicycle lane, and parking and site improvements to Appleton Street railroad underpass at the intersection of Appleton Street, Holyoke Senior Center Park, Holyoke Stormwater District, and the MUPC parking lot.

The purpose of this hearing is to determine whether or not the property described above is located at

1. Can answer all of your questions regarding these notices.
2. Send notices@turley.com regarding coverage area, procedures or cost, please call Jamie directly at 413-283-8393.
3. Contact Massachusetts Department of Transportation for all requests regarding coverage area, procedures or cost, please call 1-800-TALK-MA.

May have the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor.

The Petitioner requests that Holly A. Pond, of Holyoke, MA be appointed as Personal Representative of the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of the estate, including the distribution of assets and expenses of the estate.

Holly A. Pond

Certainly, I can answer all of your questions regarding these notices.

Can answer all of your questions regarding these notices.
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that kind of unnecessary burden and pressure on the youngest and most vulnera-
ble segment of our society. We hear stories from our teach-
ers about kids asking for food to take home on Friday afternoon and how
hungry they are when those kids return on Monday mornings. We have seen
in action programs like Breakfast After
the Bell and all the positive impact it
has in the classroom.

Breakfast and lunch, two basic
meals needed to get through the day.
We all know this.

We, with the help of our
School of Health
STCC’s director of nursing Lisa
Christopher Scott, dean of the
College offers an (associate degree in
nursing) program with a rigorous curric-
ulum of classroom lecture, nursing skills
laboratory and patient simulation in the
school’s nationally recognized SIMS
Medical Center. Clinical rotations take
place each semester in a variety of hos-
pitals and healthcare facilities through-
out Springfield and the Pioneer Valley
region of Western Massachusetts.”

STCC’s director of nursing Lisa
Fugiel said, “The talented faculty and
staff go the distance for our nursing stu-
dents. Their commitment is a big part
of our success as a program.”

Christopher Scott, dean of the
School of Health and Patient Simula-
tion, said, “Our nursing program is highly
competitive. We challenge our students
to do their very best. When they grad-
uate, they are prepared to start their
careers as registered nurses or transfer
to a four-year institution to continue
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Scott said the school offers students
the opportunity to work on patient simu-
lations in the SIMS Medical Center at
STCC, a unique program in the region.

This past fall the School of Health
and Patient Simulation started offering
a new health science degree program
that exposes students to a range of health
care careers in an immersive and rich
learning environment. Those who are interested in apply-
ing to one of health programs for the
spring semester, which begins Jan. 22,
can make the admissions office at 413-
755-3333 or visit www.stcc.edu/apply.

Please recycle this newspaper

Springfield Technical Community College
was named one of the top 75 nursing schools in New England.
The research team at Nursing
Schools Almanac conducted a detailed
assessment of more than 3,000 schools
nationwide, and only 15 percent made
its list of the top nursing school in each
geographical region. The New England
rankings include Connecticut, Maine,
Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode
Island and Vermont.

Nursing Schools Almanac evalua-
ted each nursing school in the region
on three dimensions: The institution’s aca-
ademic prestige and perceived value; the
breadth and depth of nursing programs
offered; and student success, particularly
on the NCLEX national licensure exam

STCC’s nursing program was
ranked No. 70. According to Nursing
Schools Almanac:

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Community College
offers an associate degree
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rigorous curriculum of class-
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CLOSED Tuesday, January 1st
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Boston based Jakals come to rock Holyoke

HOLYOKE – On Jan. 18 at 8 p.m., Boston-based “Alternative-rock but not quite” band Jakals comes to Gateway City Arts, 92 Race St. Joined by valley locals, The Greys and Ex-Temper, this line-up promises a night of hard-hitting unique and original sounds. Tickets are $10 in advance and $12 at the door.

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