

City Council to establish decorum at meetings

By Quinn Suomala
Staff Writer

HOLYOKE – The City Council voted 8-5 to pass an amendment to their decorum rule, adding the words “or city employees” after the words “another member.”

The purpose of this amendment was to encourage the councilors to treat all city employees who approached the council with respect.

“The charter and rules committee voted 2-1 to recommend this rule change to the full body with the hope of affirming our common value of respecting city employees, many of whom are called here to present to us,” Councilor Meagan Magrath-Smith said.

Several councilors reported that city employees had said to them that they felt uncomfortable approaching the council due to the lack of respect they felt they received in council chambers.

“They [city employees] deserve to be treated with respect, they are not members of the general public and, quite frankly, they don’t love coming before us because of the way they’re treated by some councilors, so I think it’s a good thing to put those words in,” Councilor Patti Devine said.

Councilors in favor of this amendment also emphasized that this rule was not to prevent needed questioning of city employees, criticism of actions or to censor anyone.

“It was agreed that the purpose of this rule is not to silence legitimate criticism or to use decorum as a tool for censorship,” Magrath-Smith said.

However, some councilors raised doubts as to whether or not this rule could be used for censorship.

“It depends on what the definition of decorum is, some people could use that for censorship,” Councilor Howard Greaney said.

Councilor Kevin Jourdain brought up his own concerns regarding the rule. He felt the rule was a political move and meant to be divisive for the council.

Councilor Kocayne Giver, who had filed the initial order to create this amendment, replied that she had made the motion in good faith.

“I just wanted to clarify

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HHS presents ‘My Fair Lady’

By Quinn Suomala
Staff Writer

HOLYOKE – Students at Holyoke High School North performed “My Fair Lady” on Apr. 4 through Apr. 7.

The Musical Director for this show was Mark Todd and the Drama Directors/Choreographers were Lori Todd and Danielle Bedford.

They selected “My Fair Lady” for this year as Mark Todd felt the kids would be capable of performing each role, and he was correct. They all were wonderful to watch.

Additionally, this musical is important to Mark Todd.

“This is the first show that Mr. Todd did when he was 19 years old... so it’s special to him, this musical,” Lori Todd said.

To prepare for the show the Todds, the crew, some community members, and the students in the cast, worked toward this performance for eight weeks.

“It’s a lot for a professional troupe to do it in a short amount of time,” Lori Todd said. “For the kids...it’s a lot and they’re still in school with MCAS and everything else going on.”

The cast had rehearsals each week night for several hours a night so they could be prepared for this performance.

“Mr. Todd works with



Veronica Colon, playing Eliza Doolittle, performed the song “I Could Have Danced All Night.”
Turley photos by Quinn Suomala



Holyoke High School North students performed “My Fair Lady” last weekend.

them after school as the music director, so he works with them going over their songs and then at night we put the songs with the dramatic scenes and with the dances,” Lori Todd said.

Lori Todd was impressed by the work of these high schoolers and their dedication to the show. They had to dedi-

cate hours of their lives both in rehearsals and outside of it in order to pull this show together.

“I’m just so proud of the kids,” she said. “It takes so much to put this on. They have to give up things to be here every night of the week.”

Lori also mentioned how much this process helps the

kids learn teamwork and collaboration.

“They learn how to work as a team and develop characters and all of those pieces are so difficult and you have to do it as a team because everyone is important,” she said.

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Library hosts ‘campfire’ stories by Goodwin

By Quinn Suomala
Staff Writer

HOLYOKE – The library hosted campfire stories, performed by Storyteller and Song Singer Todd Goodwin, for children of all ages.

Goodwin travels around Massachusetts and performs a collection of songs and stories for children of all ages.

“For me it’s the joy of sharing stories with kids of all ages,” he said. “I do programs for kids of all ages.”

Throughout the program he will do a “name that tune” and play campfire games, such as Simon Says, to help keep children engaged.

He also introduces his FIRE rules: make Friends, gather Inspiration, give Respect, and bring Energy and Enthusiasm.

Goodwin performs different songs, both singing and playing them on the harmonica, and then peppers in stories.

“I’ve taken some old camp songs that I’ve learned from when I was a kid and then created a story around that, so it makes sense to do the songs and stories together,” Goodwin

said.

He gets his stories both by writing some of his own and gathering ones from different cultures.

“I have a bunch of differ-

“This is like the best part of teaching where you get to share stories and, also, more and more getting to know people from all walks of life,”

- Todd Goodwin

ent stories from New England traditions, from my work as a science teacher, I’ve used some Native American stories...some from fairytales, stuff like that,” he said.

He enjoys trying to gather stories from different cultures, ones that children may not have heard before.

“I’ve gathered stories from all over the world...one reason I come to the library is to read

stories from books,” Goodwin said.

Goodwin particularly loves performing at different libraries in the area.

“I’m always glad to come to libraries,” he said. “Libraries have always been a place for the community to gather...and they are also a place where people can come to share ideas. I always look for libraries when I’m traveling.”

Goodwin truly enjoys this work, finding joy in meeting new people and getting to travel to so many different areas.

“This is like the best part of teaching where you get to share stories and, also, more and more getting to know people from all walks of life,” Goodwin said.

Goodwin has long been involved in this kind of work. He grew up going to different summer camps where they would have campfire performances. From there he became a counselor in training, a counselor and a camp director.

Through all of his time spent at different camps he col-

See CAMPFIRE, page 3



Storyteller and Song Singer Todd Goodwin came to Holyoke Public Library to perform by the “campfire” for children of all ages.
urley photo by Quinn Suomala

Holyoke Gas & Electric recognized as reliable

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Gas & Electric has earned the highest Reliable Public Power Provider designation from the American Public Power Association for providing reliable and safe electric service.

The RP3 designation, which lasts for three years, recognizes public power utilities that demonstrate proficiency in four key disciplines: reliability, safety, work-

force development, and system improvement. Criteria include sound business practices and a utility-wide commitment to safe and reliable delivery of electricity. HG&E joins more than 250 public power utilities nationwide that hold the RP3 designation.

“Receiving an RP3 designation is a great honor signifying a utility has demon-

strated commitment to industry best practices,” said Jeremy Ash, chair of APPA’s RP3 Review Panel and Chief Operating Officer at Kansas City Board of Public Utilities, Kansas. “And ultimately, the culture developed from this pursuit of excellence and continued improvement through the RP3 program results in measurable value delivered to the local community.”

“This is a great honor,” said James Lavelle, manager of HG&E. “Our team takes great pride in the work they do to serve this community. We are very happy to receive this recognition again in 2024 and we remain committed to continuing to explore ways to improve our system reliability and overall service quality to our customers.”

HPL hosts mini golf and foosball

HOLYOKE – On Saturday, April 20, from 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Holyoke Public Library will be hosting 18 holes of mini golf inside the library and human foosball outside the library. For more information or questions please email nancy@holyoekelibrary.org.

Plant sale at Wistariahurst

HOLYOKE – Wistariahurst Mother’s Day plant sale is on May 11th, 2024, 10:00am-12:00pm

Planning on gifting the motherly figure in your life flowers for Mother’s Day? Support a local garden by purchasing your blossoms from Wistariahurst Museum on Saturday, May 11 from 10 a.m. to noon. The plants are perfectly adapted to the unique climate and soil, making them ideal for a New England garden. With a variety of flora, including roses, day-lilies, American wisteria, and kousa dogwood trees, there’s something for everyone. A purchase also supports the maintenance of the historical museum and gardens.

“This is such a great gift for your mom or your garden that helps support our community space and we hope to see you there,” raves Megan Seiler, Wistariahurst’s Museum director.

Celebrate Mother’s Day by bringing mom or motherly figure to Wistariahurst Museum during our Mother’s Day Plant Sale. Take a stroll through the enchanted garden and find the perfect gift to spruce up mom’s garden. Show mom some floral love by snagging her a selection of plants from our site. Don’t miss this chance to shower your awesome mom with blooming affection.

There are some plants that can be pre-purchase online here: <https://wistariahurstgiftshop.square.site/>.

Library hosts acclaimed storyteller

HOLYOKE – Stories of Zen and Now is an evening for adults filled with humor, charm, and elegance as Motoko exquisitely blends ancient lore and personal narrative being hosted by the Holyoke Public Library, on Tuesday, June 18, from 3:30 to 5 p.m.

Motoko is an acclaimed storyteller of Asian folktales, Rakugo and Zen tales, ghost stories, mime vignettes, and oral memoirs from her childhood in Osaka and her life as an immigrant in the U.S. She has appeared on PBS’ Mr. Rodger’s Neighborhood, toured in Miyazaki, and has been featured in festivals and theaters across the country. In addition to storytelling Motoko is a teaching artist renowned for her contributions to classrooms.

Tales of Now and Zen is the first event in Motoko’s series: A Journey to Japan hosted here at Holyoke Public Library. Stay tuned for future events of the series including a family program and teen program.



Motoko is an acclaimed storyteller of Asian folktales, Rakugo and Zen tales, ghost stories, mime vignettes, and oral memoirs from her childhood in Osaka and her life as an immigrant in the U.S. *Submitted photo*

Learn more about Motoko’s work at <http://folktales.net>.

Get Hired Job Fair set for April 17

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Mall will host its spring job fair on Wednesday, April 17, from 2 to 5 p.m. on the lower level near Macy’s. The Get Hired Job Fair is a convenient opportunity for Western Mass employers to interview and hire workers, and to help job seekers connect with businesses who need their skills. Employers from a variety of industries will be in attendance looking for candidates at all skill levels. The event is free to attend for all job seekers. Employers that have already signed up to staff a table include Baystate Health, PeoplesBank, Holyoke Community College, YMCA Greater Springfield, and more.

Last year, the September job fair drew more than 40 employers, representing over 10 industries, and nearly 400 candidates.

Employers interested in participating in the upcoming job fair should contact Jim Geraghty, Advertising Representative for Holyoke Mall, at 617-840-2998 or JamesGeraghty@pyramidmg.com. For full details regarding the Holyoke Mall Job Fair event, please visit <https://www.holyokemall.com/event/get-hired-job-fair-3/>.

MEETINGS, from page 1

that I had no divisive intentions. It’s not political,” she said. “It was in good faith just to say, ‘hey let’s be a little more conscious of how we’re treating people.’”

Additionally, Jourdain was concerned this rule could prevent councilors from asking important questions of city employees.

“As a watchdog organization of this entire government we, by nature, make people uncomfortable,” he said. “We ask, and we go there, when things aren’t right...In the future we need to ask tough questions and direct questions and get to the bottom of things and matters because if we don’t, who does?”

Councilor Juan Anderson Burgos replied that this rule was not focused on preventing those “tough questions,” but rather on ensuring that city employees would be treated with respect in council chambers.

“I do ask hard questions...which we should, we should be asking those hard questions because that’s the position

we’re in,” he said. “That’s one thing. But then I look at this order and what it’s telling me is I know that I would go in good faith and I would never rip down someone, disrespect, talk to them in a way that would make them feel extremely uncomfortable and I’m not talking about asking hard questions...I think what we need to look at is respectful decorum, and that’s it.”

Councilor Linda Vacon felt that adding this to the rules would ultimately not make a difference in council behavior.

“No selective choosing of a group of people is going to cause anyone to behave differently,” she said. “I believe the rule is adequate, I believe it says how we want to conduct ourselves and I think if we simply commit to following the rule as it exists we wouldn’t have any need to add any further language to it.”

Councilors Greaney, Jourdain, Vacon, David Bartley and Carmen Occasio voted against this amendment. The vote was 8-5 in favor of the amendment, so the change was made to the council rules.

Rummage sale to be held at St. Paul’s

HOLYOKE – St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, 485 Appleton St., will hold their annual rummage sale on Saturday, April 20 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the auditorium.

There will be bargains for everyone: clothing, housewares, bedding, towels, books, toys, and holiday and craft supplies. Free ample parking is located behind the Church and all are welcome.

For more information, please call the Church Office at 413-532-5060.

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Keep mental health in mind during April vacation week

HOLYOKE – Breaks during the school year are meant to benefit students' mental and physical health, providing time to rest and relax and, with April Vacation set to begin the week of the 14th, opportunities to enjoy outdoor fun as New England welcomes warmer stretches of weather.

However, less structured days and less contact with school supports can make some students feel isolated and disconnected. Parents and other caregivers are encouraged to plan ahead, possibly incorporating some new experiences into the break, and talking about other possibilities for socialization and boredom prevention.

It can be a good time, too, to ask a

child about any prolonged changes in mood or behavior and consider a call to their pediatrician.

"Breaks in routine can be challenging for students who find emotional support in their day-to-day interactions," said Khadene Harry-Stoby, Adolescent Unit Nurse manager for MiraVista Behavioral Health Center. "It is good to be aware and ask as early intervention is the best treatment."

MiraVista includes inpatient, individualized treatment from a multi-disciplinary team of providers that includes medication, counseling, emotional regulation, and self-care.

"Mental health care never goes on

break," Harry-Stoby said. "We are here 24/7 for accessible, continuous care."

MiraVista cites several reasons why mental health support is critical during school breaks:

Routine Disruption: The break from school routines can destabilize children and adolescents who rely on structure for their mental well-being.

Increased Stress: Vacations can introduce new stressors, such as changes in routine, social dynamics, or family dynamics, which may exacerbate existing mental health concerns.

Isolation: For some children, vacation periods can be isolating, especially if they lack access to social support networks or

structured activities.

Throughout the April school vacation, Miravista remains fully operational for adolescents (13-17, 18 if still attending high school) who need inpatient behavioral health treatment. Our dedicated team of mental health professionals is committed to offering comprehensive care to support the well-being of the young patients.

Referrals to MiraVista are simple and most insurances are accepted. Please reach out to our admissions team at 413-264-0819 or admissions@miravistabhcare and we will assist you with the referral process. We accept referrals from health-care providers, schools, community organizations, and families.

Artists needed for City Space's 'Pay It Forward' program

EASTHAMPTON – CitySpace is thrilled to announce the launch of its 2024 Pay It Forward program, aimed at supporting artists and organizations across Hampden, Hampshire, and Franklin counties. This initiative provides free access to CitySpace's Blue Room, a dynamic performance and incubator space situated in the historic Old Town Hall of Easthampton.

Interested applicants can submit their proposals via cityspaceeasthampton.org/pif until May 6, at 11:59 p.m.

Pay It Forward offers artists short-term residencies and access to the venue for public performances and rehearsals between July and December 2024. Selected artists will receive a stipend of up to \$1,000, along with proceeds from ticket sales generated by their public

performances. Moreover, recipients will benefit from workshops, peer-learning cohorts, and personalized coaching sessions aimed at enhancing their artistic practice, fostering new skills, connections, and innovative ideas.

Open to performers of all disciplines, Pay It Forward seeks to empower the vibrant artistic community within Hampden, Hampshire, and Franklin counties. While open to all artists and creative organizations in the three counties, Pay It Forward focuses on supporting under-resourced artists and encourages BIPOC artists, LGBTQ+ artists, artists living with disabilities, and organizations that serve such artists, to apply.

Having piloted the Pay It Forward program alongside the unveiling of the Blue Room,

Officially launching the program in 2023, Pay It Forward offered over 1250 complementary hours last year to artists for theater performances, concerts, rehearsals and more. Queer Community Theatre founders and 2023 Pay It Forward recipients, Emily Fuller and Erin F., attest to its significance to their sold out production of Bar Dykes, stating, "Without the Pay It Forward program, we absolutely would not have been able to make this production the success that it was."

Pay It Forward 2024 is made possible by the generous funding from the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts' Valley Creates, Greenfield Saving Bank, Peak Performance Roofing, Massachusetts Cultural Council, Delap Real Estate, Finck and Perras, and Tandem Bagel.



Alex Paquin, Falling in Love During a Pandemic and Waking Up to Reality, 2023 Pay It Forward Recipient. Submitted photo

CAMPFIRE, from page 1


lected a wide variety of songs and stories. Additionally, he was an accredited visitor for the American Camp Association, where he was able to visit many camps in the area. From that experience he has collected many different campfire songs.

"Most of my songs came from the various camps that I've worked at over

the years," Goodwin said. "Just about every camp I have visited has two, three or even seven songs they like to sing at that camp."

Goodwin tries through his work to share these tales and allow people to have their own campfire story experiences. He performs at libraries, camps, assisted living centers and other community events.

To learn more about Goodwin's work, go to <http://www.good41.com/>.



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DAZED CANNABIS MENTORSHIP PROGRAM

Dazed Cannabis is a local dispensary that is offering a mentorship program to a select number of residents from Holyoke, MA and surrounding areas. Applicants must be at least 21 years old. Preferred applicants either reside in the City of Holyoke or Springfield, or have a past drug conviction, but all applications are accepted.

The program will provide training across one or more of the following topics: job readiness and skill development, resume development and interviewing, cannabis retail business training, and compliance with MA cannabis regulations.

Dazed will assess the area/skill-set that would best assist each candidate. The program will last 90 days, and would require the candidate to meet with their mentor at least twice per month.

Qualified candidates who complete the mentoring program have the ability to apply for available job positions either the Holyoke or Monson dispensaries, or Dazed will provide references for candidates looking for employment with other MA marijuana establishments. Candidate slots are limited, so please inquire quickly by contacting: rich@dazed.fun.

Guest Column

in the Garden

by Roberta McQuaid

Transplanting your homegrown seedlings

I bet there are a few garden enthusiasts out there with seedlings up and growing indoors.

My tomatoes are just poking through, but my peppers are ready for transplanting. Why transplant you ask? It's important that we give our young plants room to spread out!

If seeds were sown in rows, chances are that several seedlings have sprouted and are now growing within a close proximity to one another. They are competing for nutrients and moisture.

Even if two seeds were sown in a single cell of a six-pack and both germinated, they too are competing with one another in that tiny of a space. So, if we want garden center quality seedlings, we must transplant them to their own cell or small pot.

You know a seedling is ready for transplant when it has its "true leaves," not the cotyledon leaves that were first to sprout from the seed, but those that come right after. At this point in growth plant roots aren't tangled up and therefore transplant shock can be kept to a minimum.

Although the seedlings may be tiny and appear fragile, transplanting them is quite simple.

First, take a wooden plant label or dull butter knife and "cut" into the row of seedlings. Then, use your implement "spatula-style" to remove a small cluster of plants from the bottom up.

I always tell folks to "think brownies!" Be careful to get as many roots as you can.

Once you've done this it is time to separate them from one another. Gently pull on a leaf, not the stem, to pry them apart.

Think of it this way: the plant has two leaves but only one stem. If it should snap, that's it! Leaves on the other hand, can and will be replaced if accidentally torn off.

Individual seedlings can be planted in small containers or cell packs filled with soil-less growing medium. We steer clear of garden soil because of the pathogens and weed seeds it may contain as well as its tendency not to drain very well.

Soilless mix is sterile, and has the ability to retain moisture yet drain freely- just what the young seedling needs as it grows additional roots and top growth.

Make a hole in the moistened growing medium with your finger, a pencil or wooden dibble. Insert the seedling to the correct depth then firm around it with your fingers.

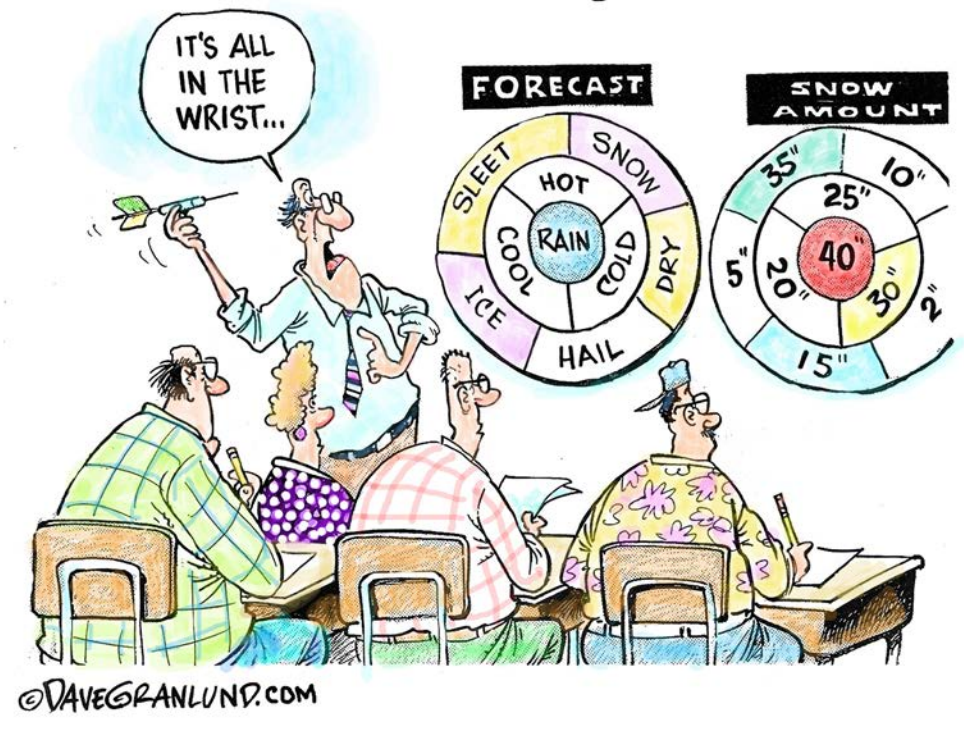
Most are transplanted to the same depth they were growing in the pack.

One exception is tomatoes; they can be buried deeper than they started out. This is because tomatoes have the ability to make roots along the length of their stem.

Another exception are marigolds. More roots mean healthier shoots!

See GARDEN, page 11

Refresher course for meteorologists...



Guest Column

When should my wife claim her Social Security benefit?



Dear Rusty

I just saw an article which said that certain spousal options were going away, but there are still good options for when a spouse can claim. I am filing for my Social Security to start in October when I turn 70. My wife's Full Retirement Age is in December, and she now plans to file then for half of what my FRA benefit would have been (our original plan was for both to file in August). My wife's main reason for delaying until her FRA is to lock her into my maximum benefit if she has to someday change to Survivor's Benefit. Will this be gone for us? Neither of us was born before Jan. 1, 1954. Please advise.

Signed: Planning for Both

Dear Planning

I expect that the article you refer to was speaking of the option to claim only a spousal benefit first and allow one's personal SS retirement benefit to grow. That option was available only to those who were born before 1954 and had reached full retirement age. As you now know that option is not available to you.

Assuming your wife's highest benefit entitlement will be as your spouse, your current strategy - you claim your maximum benefit to start in October at age 70 and your wife starts her benefit in December at her FRA is a good one which will yield the maximum possible monthly benefit for both of you. But for clarity, your wife's survivor benefit as your widow has nothing to do with when she claims her spouse benefits now.

The only thing which will affect your wife's benefit as your surviving spouse is her

age when she claims the survivor benefit. If she has already reached her FRA of 66 years and 8 months when you pass, she will get 100% of the amount you were receiving when you died, instead of the smaller spousal amount she was receiving while you were living. Her survivor benefit would only be less than 100% of yours if she claimed it before reaching her full retirement age (which, of course, we hope would not be the case).

Just so you have the complete picture, your wife could, if desired, claim her Social Security to start at the same time as you in October but, since that would be earlier than her FRA, the amount she would get would be less than 50% of your FRA entitlement. Her spouse benefit would be reduced by 0.694% for each month earlier than her FRA it starts.

For example, if your wife starts her spousal benefit in October when your benefit starts, she will get about 98.6% of the amount she would get if she waited until December to start her benefits. That's a permanent reduction, so if your wife's life expectancy is at least average about 87, it's likely still wisest for her to wait until her FRA to start benefits. But in any case, when your wife claims her spousal benefit now will have no effect on the survivor benefit she will get as your future widow.

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 informational 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 ssadvisory@amacfoundation.org. Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

Election letters to the editor welcome

The Holyoke Sun welcomes readers to participate in this year's election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to The Holyoke Sun, care of Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 or emailed to thesun@turley.com. Please include a daytime telephone number for verification purposes (it will not be printed). Letters must be received by noon Monday to be considered

for that Friday's newspaper. No attack letters will be printed. No letters written by candidates supporting their own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper, or if the letters become repetitive, the newspaper reserves the right to print a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election.

For more information, call 413-283-8393.

Campaign news

As part of its election coverage, the news-

paper plans to print stories about contested races for Congress, state Senate, state House, district attorney and Governor's Council during the weeks leading up to the election, as well as a question-and-answer voters guide. In order to ensure fairness to all candidates, no political press releases will be printed, nor will reporters cover political rallies or fundraisers.

Candidates who wish to further publicize their candidacy, beliefs and events may contact advertising, 413-283-8393 about paid advertising in The Holyoke Sun.

the Sun TEAM



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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 thesun@turley.com. Mailed letters can be sent to The Sun, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.



Eliza Doolittle, played by Veronica Colon, met Colonel Pickering, played by Cian Callahan.



Miguel Dailey, playing Alfred P. Doolittle performed the song "With a Little Bit of Luck."



Aidan Fontanez-Courchesne, playing Professor Henry Higgins discusses Eliza Doolittle, played by Veronica Colon, with Colonel Pickering, played by Cian Callahan.



Veronica Colon, playing Eliza Doolittle, performed the song "Wouldn't It Be Lovely."



Veronica Colon, playing Eliza Doolittle, Aidan Fontanez-Courchesne, playing Professor Henry Higgins, and Cian Callahan, playing Colonel Pickering, performed the song "The Rain In Spain."



Professor Henry Higgins, played by Aidan Fontanez-Courchesne, performed the song "I'm An Ordinary Man."

MY FAIR LADY, from page 1

These skills of collaboration and dedication, Lori says, can help the kids later in their life as they go out into the workforce or even in other aspects of schools.

More than anything Lori Todd loves seeing the looks on the students' faces as they come off stage after a performance.

"When they get off the stage on their first night, I get so emotional," she said. "They have big smiles, they did it!...it's the best."

Lori is also grateful to the HHS North administration for all of their sup-

port in putting together this show. "The administration is very supportive in getting what we need to do this," she said. "The guys are here on Saturday building the set and some of the kids in the show are building too."

In the future, Lori hopes to see more support from the community for these performances. According to her, it has been difficult getting audiences back into theater since COVID and she hopes to see crowds increase in future years.

"I'd like the community to come and support it more, come and support the kids," she said. "This is such a great project for them."



Eliza Doolittle, played by Veronica Colon, arrived at Professor Henry Higgins' house (Higgins played by Aidan Fontanez-Courchesne) to ask him to give her lessons on how to speak with "proper" English accent.

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- Any 8" Grinder with French Fries & a Can of Soda\$11.75
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CVFSJ now accepting grant applications

HOLYOKE – For more than forty years, Carlos Vega fought for social justice in the Greater Holyoke area. In 2010, a small group of family and friends started the Fund to support the kind of social justice initiatives that were important to Carlos.

Local non-profits and individuals are invited to apply for funding between March 19 and the April 19 at 5 p.m. deadline, by completing the application form available at www.carlosvegafund.org. All applicants must have either 501(c)(3) status or be fiscally sponsored by a 501(c)(3) organization.

This year, the Carlos Vega Fund for Social Justice has increased the grant amount to up to \$2,000, used for a specific, one-time program or project that focuses on the fundamental primary causes of injustice, fosters change, and promotes self-help and empowerment.

The purpose of the grants is to support the efforts of those who are addressing issues of poverty and oppression and involve people who are socially and economically marginalized in the greater

Holyoke area.

The CVFSJ has funded a wide variety of organizations and projects over the years. Here are just a few examples of the projects they have supported: The purchase of educational materials for migrants and refugees learning English at The Gray House in Springfield; The creation of a Puerto Rican and Latinx History, Culture, and Social Movements collection at the Holyoke Public Library; Holyoke Safe Neighborhood Initiative's Back To School event, which provides backpacks and school supplies to Holyoke youth; Plunge Arts, an arts summer camp for girls involved with Girls, Inc; Granby-To-Go, a food pantry for students in the Granby Public Schools; Support for a community garden remodeling project for Nuestras Raíces.

Previous mini grants have supported a variety of other organizations including: Clinical and Support Options, Enchanted Circle Theater, Girls Inc. of the Valley and Plunge Arts, First Shift Productions, Granby Public Schools, The Gray House, Holyoke Public Schools,

Holyoke Safe Neighborhood Initiative, Holyoke Senior Center and Western Mass Elder Care, Home City Development, OneHolyoke CDC, The Performance Project, Lorraine's Kitchen in Chicopee, Treehouse, Seeds of a Father, and Wistariahurst Museum.

The Carlos Vega Fund for Social Justice is administered through the Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts and is overseen by an advisory committee. Since 2012, the Fund has awarded over \$63,000 to fifty-two organizations in the greater Holyoke area.

In addition to our spring grant cycle, the Carlos Vega Fund advisory board is looking to the fall of 2024 to name our 10th Carlos Vega Social Justice Award.

The expected date to award grant funding is May 12. Grantees are expected to participate in the awards ceremony.

For further information and/or to obtain an application, please visit the Carlos Vega Fund for Social Justice website at <http://www.carlosvegafund.org/> or contact Aaron Vega at carlosvegafund.413@gmail.com.

Culinary arts free tasting event offered April 24

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Community College will host an open house and free community tasting event on Wednesday, April 24, from 4 to 7 p.m. at the HCC MGM Culinary Arts Institute located at 164 Race St. The event is free and open to the public.

Visitors will be able tour the state-of-the-art kitchens at the college's culinary arts facility, meet HCC culinary arts faculty and staff, learn about the college's culinary arts certificate and associate degree programs, noncredit job training, and personal enrichment classes, and play "Food Bash Bingo" for a chance to win prizes. Various HCC programs and community partners will have informational tables in the dining room so the public can learn about their programs.

At 4 p.m., representatives from HCC and the Holyoke Chamber of Commerce will celebrate the launch of the college's new culinary arts truck with a ribbon-cutting ceremony in the parking lot outside.

The culinary arts truck, purchased and equipped with funds from a Massachusetts Skills Capital Grant, will be used as a mobile kitchen for both community outreach and education.

Staff from the HCC Admissions office will also be on hand to discuss enrollment options.

In 2021, HCC placed 50th among the best culinary schools in America, a list that also includes such esteemed schools as the Culinary Institute of America. HCC's culinary program ranked third in New England after Johnson & Wales in Providence, R.I. and Southern Maine Community College in Portland. Best Choice Schools cited HCC for the quality of its one-year certificate and two-year associate of arts in science degree programs in culinary arts, as well as its 20,000 square-foot culinary arts facility, which opened in downtown Holyoke in 2018.

The HCC MGM Culinary Arts Institute is equipped with four modern kitchens, a bakery, hotel lab, and student-run dining room.

For more information about HCC's Culinary Arts program, please visit hcc.edu/culinary.

HCC announces events for Inauguration week

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Community College will celebrate the inauguration of President George Timmons with three days of special events leading up to his investiture on Friday, April 19.

Following the Patriot's Day holiday, Inauguration week at HCC will begin on Tuesday, April 16, as President Timmons reads to children of HCC students, faculty and staff in the college's Itsy Bitsy Child Watch center (9 to 10:30 a.m., first floor, Marieb Building).

From 12:30 to 2 p.m., The Campus Activities Team for Students is sponsoring a community crafting event of HCC-inspired crafts, including string art and origami.

Tuesday through Thursday, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m., members of the HCC community are invited to participate in the creation of a mural on the second floor of the Campus Center led by artist Betsy Casañas, who designed and painted three other campus murals last summer. The theme of the new mural is "Our Values on Display."

On Wednesday, from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., in the campus courtyard, the HCC Culinary Arts Truck will be serving free light bites created by HCC culinary arts faculty and students. At the same time, inside the Campus Center, HCC will host a 413 Business Expo, featuring tables and displays from businesses in western Massachusetts.

On Thursday, from noon to 1:30 p.m. in the Campus Center, Derek Estella, an academic counselor with the college's TRIO Support Services program, will moderate a panel of students and alumni talking about their HCC experiences. From 3 to 4:30 p.m., President Timmons will host "The Foundation of Our Values," a reception recognizing the work of HCC faculty and staff.

Throughout the entire week, the college radio station, WCCH-103.5 FM, will be playing a selection of President Timmons' favorite songs, and the college community is invited to pick up free HCC green bow ties to wear in honor of President Timmons' unique personal style

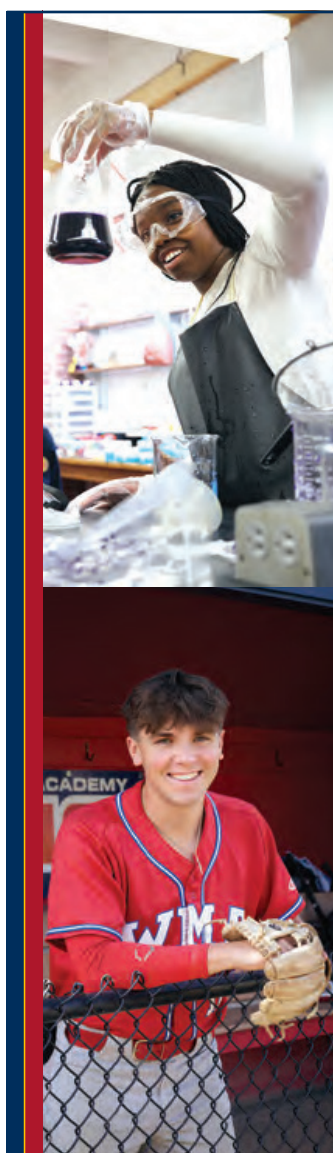
(third floor lobby, Frost building).


The investiture ceremony will begin Friday at 11 a.m. in the Leslie Phillips Theater on the second floor of the HCC Fine & Performing Arts building. Timmons, who lives in Amherst, started working at HCC in July. He is the fifth president in the 78-year history of the college and the first African-American man to serve in that position.

The ceremony will start in the theater lobby of HCC's Fine & Performing Arts building with a procession of faculty, staff, and distinguished guests, including presidents or their delegates representing 29 other colleges and universities.

Vanessa Smith, interim chair of the HCC Board of Trustees, will present the presidential medallion to President Timmons, who will give a special address.

A community reception will immediately follow the inauguration ceremony in the HCC Campus Center. For those interested in attending, please visit hcc.edu/inauguration24 and follow the link to RSVP.





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PREVIEW
NIGHT

Tuesday, April 30
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For families interested in Grades 6-12, PG.

MIDDLE SCHOOL PREVIEW
 Middle School building

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 Mattern Science Center

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Holyoke shuts out Southwick

HOLYOKE – Last Friday, Holyoke improved to 3-1 on the season with a 3-0 win over Southwick Regional. In the win, Jeduas Colon had 11 kills, four blocks, and 12 assists. Adrian Centeno-Feliciano had 10 kills and four assists. Michael Melendez contributed 16 assists and five kills in the three-set match.



Michael Melendez sets up a spike.



Adrian Centeno-Feliciano goes straight up with a set.
Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com



Abinadab Garay Cintron goes for a bump near the sideline.



Above, Daniel Rodriguez reacts to a serve with a set to the front line. Left, Javier Maldonado Rivera passes to a teammate.

Runners' Hall of Fame inducts new class

HOLYOKE – Last month, the Western Mass. Runners' Hall of Fame inducted its third class.

The 3rd Class inductees are:

- Ric Bourie, Longmeadow, MA
- Mary Cobb, Pittsfield, MA
- Howard Drew, Springfield, MA
- Sue Haryasz, Longmeadow, MA
- Rich Larsen, Shelburne, MA
- Nicole McGilpin, Westfield, MA
- Bob Neil, Holyoke, MA
- Bill Romito, Leeds, MA
- Ed Sandifer, Springfield, MA
- John Stifler, Florence, MA

In addition to these distinguished individuals, the charity organization Griffin's

Friends, who have supported children with cancer and their families for decades in the Springfield area by running and raising funds, will be inducted. Also, Neal Lamberton, a Springfield resident and runner who has volunteered his time to the running community for years, will receive the "Brian Goddu Volunteer of the Year" Award, founded in memory of Goddu, a founding board member of the Western Mass Runners Hall of Fame.

The induction ceremony was held at the Holyoke Elks Lodge. Bob Hodge, the 3rd place finisher in the 1979 Boston Marathon, multiple Mount Washington Road Race Champion, 40 year course

record holder on the DH Jones/Amherst 10 Mile Course, and author of "Tales of the Time," was the guest speaker.

For those who were unable to attend, but wishing to support the WMRHoF mission, donations are welcome via the RunReg website.

Established in 2019, the WMRHoF recognizes and honors the rich history and significant contributions of individuals and teams in road racing, cross country, and track in Western Mass.

For more information, please contact us at WMRRunnersHoF@gmail.com or visit <https://www.westernmassrunner-shalloffame.com>

Tough start for Knights

HOLYOKE – Earlier this week, Holyoke suffered its third defeat of the season 10-2 against West Springfield High School. The Knights were tied 1-1 after two innings before West Springfield scored three in the fourth and six in the fifth to put the game out of reach. Holyoke got an RBI double from Jaden Diaz. Aiden Robinson pitched 1-3 of an inning in relief. Holyoke is 0-3 to start the season.

Registration now open to take part in Bay State Games

WOBURN – Registration for the 42nd annual Bay State Summer Games is now open. The 2024 Summer Games will include thirty sports with competitions from May 11 – July 27 at venues throughout eastern and central Massachusetts including Game On in Fitchburg, Boston Sports Institute in Wellesley, Union Point Sports Complex in Weymouth, and North Star Ice Sports in Westborough. Bay State Games participants range in age from 5 to over age 75 and represent more than 300 Massachusetts communities as well as surrounding New England States in some

sports. From grassroots participants to accomplished amateur athletes, the Bay State Games provide opportunities for the athlete in all of us.

Seven high school showcase sports will take place for a variety of sports, including baseball, basketball, field hockey, ice hockey, soccer, softball, and volleyball. Athletes currently in grade 8-11 who live or go to school in Massachusetts are eligible to attend regional tryouts during the month of June. These tryouts will determine teams representing the various regions of the Commonwealth that will compete

against each other in July. Check each sport page for specific eligibility requirements.

The Summer Games include a wide variety of individual sports including swimming, track & field, figure skating, pickleball, wrestling, weightlifting, badminton, and more. These sports are open to a wide range of ages and skill levels from youth participants to masters-aged athletes. Adaptive sport divisions in archery, swimming, and track & field are offered, as well. Bay State Games also organizes tournaments for pre-existing teams in rugby, and 6v6 field hockey.

Returning in 2024, Table Tennis will take place on June 1 at PingPod in Boston after a 5-year hiatus from the Summer Games sport lineup. New venues include Babson College, which will host the Girls Basketball Showcase, and NorthStar Ice Sports, which will host Figure Skating and the Girls Ice Hockey Showcase. Game On in Fitchburg will serve as a hub venue for eight sports. Bay State Games expects 1,500 athletes and their families to attend competitions at Game On during the second week of July. For questions, email info@baystate-games.org or call 781-932-6555.

Public Notices

City of Holyoke PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Holyoke Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, April 23, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom.com** ID: 836 3939 8493i Call in *67 646 558 8656 to hear a Special Permit to exceed fence height (Sec 4.6.3.2) for a temporary fence for construction purposes around all lots and 6.0' permanent fencing in the areas as Indicated in the plans as received for 163 & 193 Clemente St, 45 Sargeant, 654 & 650 South East Street, and 4 lots without addresses (028-04-001,-005,-006,-007,-008) (029-08-009,-010,-011,-012); submitted by Holyoke Housing Authority (2024-12)

APPLICANT: Holyoke Housing Authority
PLANNING BOARD:
Mimi Panitch
04/05, 04/12/2024

Notice of Public Hearing

The DGR Committee of the Holyoke City Council will hold a public hearing on **Monday, April 22, 2024 at 6:30pm** to hear a special permit application for a home occupation at 42 Arnodale Ave (124-00-077) for a driveway sealcoating business (Homeowner: Dylan Bradford, business owner: Florin Muradian). Meeting will take place at Holyoke City Hall 536 Dwight St and can be accessed remotely via www.zoom.us Meeting ID 816 7539 5534 Meeting Passcode 315704 or by call in at 1-646-558-8656 with same Meeting ID and Passcode. For an electronic copy of this application or to provide comments for the public hearing, please contact City Council Admin Asst Jeffery Anderson-Burgos at Anderson-BurgosJ@holyoke.org or by phone 413-322-5525.

DGR Chair Kocayne Givner
04/05, 04/12/2024

City of Holyoke PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Holyoke Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, April 23, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom.com**; ID: 836 3939 8493; CALL IN 1 646 558 8656 to hear, pursuant to the Holyoke Zoning Ordinance, a Special Permit for Dimensional Regulations in a DR District (Section 8.8.4), submitted by Holyoke Housing Authority (2024-11), for 45 Sargeant, 654 & 650 South East St, and 1 lot without address (029-08-009,-010,-011,-012).

For a complete copy of the application and site plan, contact the Planning Department at (413) 322-5575.

APPLICANT: Holyoke Housing Authority

PLANNING BOARD:
Mimi Panitch
04/05, 04/12/2024

City of Holyoke PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Holyoke Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, April 23, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom.com**; ID: 83639398493; CALL IN 1 646 558 8656 to hear, pursuant to the Holyoke Zoning Ordinance, a Special Permit for Dimensional Regulations in a DR District (Section 8.8.4), submitted by Holyoke Housing Authority (2024-09), for 163 Clemente St (028-04-001).

For a complete copy of the

application and site plan, contact the Planning Department at (413) 322-5575.

APPLICANT: Holyoke Housing Authority

PLANNING BOARD:
Mimi Panitch
04/05, 04/12/2024

City of Holyoke PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Holyoke Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, April 23, 2024, at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom.com**; ID: 836 3939 8493; CALL IN 1 646 558 8656 to hear, pursuant to the Holyoke Zoning Ordinance, a Special Permit for Dimensional Regulations in a DR District (Section 8.8.4), submitted by Holyoke Housing Authority (2024-10), for 193 Clemente St, and 3 lots without addresses (028-04-005,-006,-007,-008).

For a complete copy of the application and site plan, contact the Planning Department at (413) 322-5575.

APPLICANT: Holyoke Housing Authority

PLANNING BOARD:
Mimi Panitch
04/05, 04/12/2024

City of Holyoke PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Holyoke Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, April 23, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom.com**; ID: 836-3939-8493; CALL IN *67 646 558 8656 to hear, pursuant to the Holyoke Zoning Ordinance, a Site Plan Review petition (Sec 10.0); and Special Permits for Multiple Structures (Sec 5.4) and Parking Reduction (Sec 6.1.7); South Street Plaza Coffee Shop/Drive-Thru Restaurant (File 158), submitted by Salmar Realty, Inc., to be located at 209 South St (080-00-039).

A complete copy of the application may be seen in the Office of Planning and Economic Development at 20 Korean Veterans Plaza, 8:30 am-4:30 pm, M-F.

APPLICANT:
Salmar Realty, Inc..

PLANNING BOARD:
Mimi Panitch, Chair
04/05, 04/12/2024

Notice of Public Hearing

The DGR Committee of the Holyoke City Council will hold a public hearing on **Monday, April 22, 2024 at 6:30pm** to hear a special permit application of Hasan Kuruca at 263 Hampden Street (006-04-013) for an outdoor vehicle sales lot. Meeting will take place at Holyoke City Hall 536 Dwight St and can be accessed remotely via www.zoom.us Meeting ID 816 7539 5534 Meeting Passcode 315704 or by call in at 1-646-558-8656 with same Meeting ID and Passcode. For an electronic copy of this application or to provide comments for the public hearing, please contact City Council Admin Asst Jeffery Anderson-Burgos at Anderson-BurgosJ@holyoke.org or by phone 413-322-5525.

DGR Chair Kocayne Givner
04/05, 04/12/2024

City of Holyoke PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Holyoke Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, April 23, 2024 at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom.com**; ID: 836-3939-8493; CALL IN *67 646 558

8656 to hear, pursuant to the Holyoke Zoning Ordinance, a Site Plan Review petition (Sec 10.0) and Special Permit to Increase Fence Height (Sec 4.6.3.2); Self-Storage Facility (File 162), submitted by JLL Real Estate, LLC, to be located at 679/689 Main Street and Beaulieu Street (055-00-009.2; -009; - 009.1).

A complete copy of the application may be seen in the Office of Planning and Economic Development at 20 Korean Veterans Plaza, 8:30 am-4:30 pm, M-F.

APPLICANT:
JLL Real Estate, LLC.

PLANNING BOARD:
Mimi Panitch, Chair
04/05, 04/12/2024

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD23P1660EA Estate of: Michael J Abel, Jr. Date of Death: 07/02/2023 CITATION ON PETITION FOR ORDER OF COMPLETE SETTLEMENT

A Petition for **Order of Complete Settlement** has been filed by **John J Ferriter of Holyoke, MA** requesting that the court enter a formal Decree of Complete Settlement including the allowance of a final account and other such relief as may be requested in the Petition.

IMPORTANT NOTICE
You have the right to obtain a copy of the Petition from the Petitioner or at the Court. You have a right to object to this proceeding. To do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance and objection at this Court before: 10:00 a.m. on the return day of 05/07/2024.

This is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline by which you must file a written appearance and objection 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.

WITNESS, Hon. **Barbara M. Hyland**, First Justice of this Court.
Date: April 01, 2024

Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
04/12/2024

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Division Docket No. HD24P0604EA Estate of: Walter William Cady Also Known As: Walter W. Cady Date of Death: November 4, 2023 INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Danyelle Cady of Springfield, MA.**

Danyelle Cady of Springfield, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without surety** on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal

Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
04/12/2024

Notice of Public Hearing

The Ordinance Committee of the Holyoke City Council will hold a public hearing to hear a zoning ordinance change proposal to allow cannabis businesses beyond the IG zone and allow priority for social equity applicants and those negatively impacted by war on drugs. Meeting will take place on **Wednesday, April 24, 2024 at 6:30 pm** at Holyoke City Hall 536 Dwight St and can be accessed remotely via www.zoom.us Meeting ID 825 8479 1259 Meeting Passcode 530195 or by call in at 1-646-558-8656 with same Meeting ID and Passcode. To provide comments to the Ordinance Committee, please contact City Council Admin Asst Jeffery Anderson-Burgos at Anderson-BurgosJ@holyoke.org or by phone 413-322-5525

Hearing continued from
February 28, 2024

Ordinance Chair
Israel Rivera
04/05, 04/12/2024

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 (413)748-7758 Docket No. HD24P0688EA Estate of: Loren Bennett Fox Date of Death: 04/01/2021 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 **Savannah Fox of Palm Bay, FL** requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: **Savannah Fox of Palm Bay, FL** 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 04/26/2024.

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 MASSACHU- SETTS UNIFORM PRO- BATE 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: March 29, 2024
Rosemary A Saccomani
Register of Probate
04/12/2024 (*Holyoke Sun*)

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Division Docket No. HD24P0348EA Estate of: James Gerald Gagne Date of Death: 06/15/2023 INFORMAL PROBATE PUBLICATION NOTICE

To all persons interested in the above captioned estate, by Petition of Petitioner **Kathleen Gagne of Springfield, MA**

a Will has been admitted to informal probate.

Kathleen Gagne of Springfield, MA has been informally appointed as the Personal Representative of the estate to serve **without surety** on the bond.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure by the Personal Representative under the Massachusetts Uniform Probate Code without supervision by the Court. Inventory and accounts are not required to be filed with the Court, but interested parties are entitled to notice regarding the administration from the Personal Representative and can petition the Court in any matter relating to the estate, including distribution of assets and expenses of administration. Interested parties are entitled to petition the Court to institute formal proceedings and to obtain orders terminating or restricting the powers of Personal Representatives appointed under informal procedure. A copy of the Petition and Will, if any, can be obtained from the Petitioner.
04/12/2024

Notice of Public Hearing

The Ordinance Committee of the Holyoke City Council and the Planning Board will hold separate public hearings to hear a zoning change application from IG to DR for Holyoke Housing Authority at 662, 666, 674, 680, 702, and 710 South East Street (029-09-009 through 019) to build rental and homeownership units. Ordinance Committee hearing will take place on **Wednesday, April 24th at 6:30 pm** at Holyoke City Hall 536 Dwight St and can be accessed remotely via www.zoom.us Meeting ID 825 8479 1259 Meeting Passcode 530195 or by call in at 1-646-558-8656 with same Meeting ID and Passcode.

Planning Board meeting

will take place on **Tuesday, April 23, 2024 at 5:30 pm via www.zoom.us** Meeting ID: 836 3939 8493 or by call in at 1-646-558-8656 with same meeting ID. For a copy of the application or to provide comments to the Ordinance Committee, please contact City Council Admin Asst Jeffery Anderson-Burgos at Anderson-BurgosJ@holyoke.org or by phone 413-322-5525. To provide comments to the Planning Board, please contact Brianna Tejada at tejadab@holyoke.org

Ordinance Chair
Israel Rivera,
Planning Chair
Mimi Panitch

04/05, 04/12/2024

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

The Holyoke Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on **Wednesday, April 24, 2024, at 5:30 p.m.**, in the City Hall Annex, Room 403, Holyoke MA to hear the petition of Nilsa Laboy, who is requesting a variance from Section 4.4.6 (2) for an accessory structure nearer than 8 feet of a principal structure for the property located at 475 Northampton Street, Holyoke, MA. (223-00-012).

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

APPLICANT:
Nilsa Laboy

BOARD OF APPEALS:
Josh Knox, Chair
04/05, 04/12/2024

Notice of Public Hearing

The Ordinance Committee of the Holyoke City Council and the Planning Board will hold separate public hearings to hear a zoning ordinance change to amend Section 8.1.9: "Notification of water-course alteration." Ordinance Committee hearing will take place on **Wednesday, April 24th at 6:30 pm** at Holyoke City Hall 536 Dwight St and can be accessed remotely via www.zoom.us Meeting ID 825 8479 1259 Meeting Passcode 530195 or by call in at 1-646-558-8656 with same Meeting ID and Passcode.

Planning Board meeting will take place on **Tuesday, April 23, 2024 at 5:30 pm via www.zoom.us** Meeting ID: 836 3939 8493 or by call in at 1-646-558-8656 with same meeting ID. To provide comments to the Ordinance Committee, please contact City Council Admin Asst Jeffery Anderson-Burgos at Anderson-BurgosJ@holyoke.org or by phone 413-322-5525. To provide comments to the Planning Board, please contact Brianna Tejada at tejadab@holyoke.org

Ordinance Chair
Israel Rivera,
Planning Chair
Mimi Panitch

04/05, 04/12/2024

Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No. HD24P0662GD
In the interests of
Jyzeah Perez
of Holyoke, MA
Minor**

**NOTICE AND ORDER:
Petition for Appointment
of Guardian of a Minor
NOTICE TO ALL
INTERESTED PARTIES**

1. Hearing Date/Time:
A hearing on a Petition for Appointment of Guardian of a Minor filed on 03/26/2024 by Jorge L Perez-Alvarez of Holyoke, MA will be held 04/29/2024 08:30 AM Guardianship of Minor Hearing. Located: Hampden Probate & Family Court, 50 State Street, 4th Floor, Springfield, MA 01103.

2. Response to Petition:
You may respond by filing a written response to the Petition or by appearing in person at the hearing. If you choose to file a written response, you need to:

File the original with the Court; and

Mail a copy to all interested parties at least five (5) business days before the hearing.

3. Counsel for the Minor: The minor (or an adult on behalf of the minor) has the right to request that counsel be appointed for the minor.

4. Counsel for Parents: If you are a parent of the minor child who is the subject of this proceeding you have a right to be represented by an attorney. If you want an attorney and cannot afford to pay for one and if you give proof that you are indigent, an attorney will be assigned to you. Your request for an attorney should be made immediately by filling out the Application of Appointment of Counsel form in person or by mail at the court location where your case is going to be heard.

5. Presence of the Minor at Hearing: A minor over age 14 has the right to be present at any hearing, unless the Court finds that it is not in the minor's best interests.
Date: March 26, 2024
Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
04/12/2024

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
Docket No. HD24P0658GD
In the matter of:
Ramon Rosario
Of: Holyoke, MA
RESPONDENT
Alleged Incapacitated Person**

**CITATION GIVING
NOTICE OF PETITION
FOR APPOINTMENT OF
GUARDIAN FOR
INCAPACITATED
PERSON PURSUANT TO
G.L. c. 190B, §5-304**

To the named Respondent and all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by Holyoke Medical Center of Holyoke, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that Ramon Rosario is in need of a Guardian and requesting that Kimberly A. Camp of Westfield, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to

serve Without Surety on the bond.

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

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of 04/23/2024. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

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

WITNESS, Hon. Barbara M. Hyland, First Justice of this Court.
Date: March 26, 2024

Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
04/12/2024

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD23P2301EA
Estate of:
Michelle Lee Schipper
Date of Death: 09/27/2023**

**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 Crystal Alyse Santiago of Springfield, 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: Crystal Alyse Santiago of Springfield, 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 05/01/2024. 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: April 09, 2024

Rosemary A. Saccomani,
Register of Probate
04/12/2024

**Commonwealth of Massachusetts
The Trial Court
Probate and Family Court
Hampden Probate and Family Court
50 State Street
Springfield, MA 01103
(413)748-7758
Docket No. HD24P0749EA
Estate of:
Emmanuel Suarez
Date of Death: 12/31/2022**

**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 Jennifer Suarez 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: Jennifer Suarez 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 05/06/2024.

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: April 08, 2024

Rosemary A. Saccomani
Register of Probate
04/12/2024

**PUBLIC HEARING
NOTICE**

The Holyoke Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, April 24, 2024 at 5:30 p.m., in City Hall Annex, Room 403, Holyoke, MA to hear the petition of Volta Charging, LLC who is requesting a variance from Section 6.4.3.6 (Electric Signs) and Section 6.4.6.8 (a) (Off-Premises Signs) for the property located at 28 Lincoln Street, Holyoke, MA (073-00-034).

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

APPLICANT:
Volta Charging, LLC
BOARD OF APPEALS:
Josh Knox, Chair
04/05, 04/12/2024

**LEGAL NOTICE
CITY OF HOLYOKE
GAS & ELECTRIC
DEPARTMENT
WHITNEY AVE
BRIDGE GAS MAIN
REMEDICATION**

Sealed bids for the above contract will be received by Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept. until 2:00 p.m. May 2, 2024, at the Office of the Manager, 99 Suffolk St., Holyoke, MA, at which time bids will be publicly opened and read.

Bid Deposit

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

Prevailing Wage Rates

Rates, which are to apply to the work, are set by the Mass. Dept. of Labor & Industries.

Additional information may be obtained from:

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

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

Please mark sealed envelopes, "Bid for Whitney Ave Bridge Gas Main Remediation" and address them to:

James M. Lavelle, Manager
Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept.
99 Suffolk St.
Holyoke, MA 01040
04/12/2024

Agawam Advertiser News

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

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HELP WANTED

BROOKFIELD HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT seeks two additional full-time employees to fill **Operator/Laborer** vacancies (Operator II). Full-time 40 hours per week. This is a fully benefited position. For questions, or to submit letter of interest and resume, please email Lindsey at **Highway@brookfieldma.us**. Applications will be accepted until positions have been filled.

CLASS A DRIVER. Triaxle dump trailer work. Local deliveries, minimum 40 hours, rate based on experience. **RB Enterprises, Ludlow, MA. 413-583-8393.**

HELP WANTED

GRANT WRITER/FACILITATOR

The Town of Brookfield is seeking qualified applicants for a part-time (15 hours per week) Grant Writer/Facilitator. See job description at **brookfieldma.us**. Salary is commensurate with experience. Current appropriation is \$30.28 per hour. Please submit a resume and cover letter to **selectmen@brookfieldma.us** Open until filled. *Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer*

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Construction equipment and trucks. Experience required, full time. **RB Enterprises, Ludlow, MA. 413-583-8393.**

PART-TIME, 15 to 20 hours per week. Must be dependable and have flexible schedule. Podiatry office. Portuguese or Spanish speaking helpful. If interested send CV to **podbill@aol.com** or pickup application at **77 Winsor St., Ludlow, MA; 413-589-7287.**

TOWN TREASURER:

The Town of Brookfield is seeking qualified applicants for the full-time (40-hour week) position of Town Treasurer. Full job description at **brookfieldma.us**. Salary commensurate with experience. Current appropriation is \$80,498.62. Submit cover letter and resume to: **selectmen@brookfieldma.us**. Reviews begin week of April 15th. Open until filled. *The Town of Brookfield is an Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer.*

HELP WANTED

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ALL REAL ESTATE advertised herein is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act, which makes it illegal to advertise "any preference, limitation, or discrimination because of race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status, or national origin, or intention to make any such preference, limitation, or discrimination." We will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate which is in violation of the law. All persons are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised are available on an equal opportunity basis.

FOR RENT



All real estate advertising in this newspaper is subject to the Federal Fair Housing Act of 1968, which makes it illegal to advertise any preference, limitation or discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex, handicap, familial status (number of children and or pregnancy), national origin, ancestry, age, marital status, or any intention to make any such preference, limitation or discrimination.

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.

GARDEN, from page 4

Water the transplants well with a gentle spray. They can now be put back under the artificial lights you've rigged up.

Continue to keep the lights within inches of the plants for the stockiest growth. Or, if you're lucky enough to have a sunroom or hobby greenhouse, the seedlings will thrive there!

Shade them from direct sun for a few days after transplant to prevent wilting. Soon the roots will recover from the shock of transplant and will again be able to sustain the plant.

Night time temperatures can dip as low as 50 degrees for most plants. In fact, lower night temps will help to ensure the stocky specimen we desire.

Fertilize with half-strength liquid plant food every 10 days to two weeks. Begin to "harden-off" your transplants a couple of weeks prior to putting in the ground.

Thus far they have been kept in a carefully controlled environment. Planting them without a period of acclimatization may mean disaster!

Place them outdoors in a shady spot protected from the wind for only a few hours each day. As the days progress keep them out longer and increase their exposure to bright sun and wind.

Don't forget to water during this process, but forgo all fertilizer.

With less than two months to go until the danger of frost is officially passed, our home grown seedlings won't have long to wait, and neither will we!

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.

Send Us Your Summer Event Information

Turley Publications will print your summer calendar listings FREE OF CHARGE in our SUMMERFEST Supplement which publishes May 22.

Deadline for submissions is April 22.

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Event Should Be Non-Profit & Open to the Public

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Location _____

Description _____

Cost _____

Contact name & phone number for more information _____

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