HOLYOKE youth performs under the BIG TOP

By Colleen Montague
Staff Writer

HOLYOKE – For many people, there is just something magical about the circus. Everyone dreams during their childhood about being a performer under the big top. It might be flying gracefully through the air on a trapeze or displaying skill with balance walking across a fine tightrope. The dream might include doing a routine on the Chinese pole by never losing rhythm or dropping a single club in a juggling act.

For one Holyoke youth, that dream came true after he auditioned for the traveling youth circus Circus Smirkus and won a place with the Summer 2019 troupe, which will perform around New England this summer.

Circus Smirkus, now in its 32nd year, is a non-profit arts and education organization from Greensboro, Vermont. Its mission is to promote the culture, traditions and skills of a traveling circus; it is the only traveling “tent” youth circus in the country. Among its many New England city and town destinations, Circus Smirkus will perform in Northampton in July at the Three County Fairgrounds.

“My favorite part of being in the show is it’s really cool to perform for so many people all over New England,” Bradley Zweir said. “Performing is my favorite thing to do, so I get to spend the whole summer on an adventure of a lifetime doing my favorite thing.”

Zweir’s mother, Kathy, explained that youth looking to audition submit audition videos showing their talents during the fall before the new year. From all those videos, she says, Smirkus grants around 40 live auditions, which also include youth on the current tour. From there the youth are invited up the New England Center for Circus Arts (NECCA) in Brattleboro, Vermont in January for the audition process, including skill assessments, group work and a three- to five-minute live audition. She added that her son was excited to be part of the circus.

As part of his live audition, 18-year-old Bradley Zweir and another youth, not shown, do a duo act on the Chinese Pole.

Celebrate Holyoke to host three-day festival Aug. 23-25

By Colleen Montague
Staff Writer

HOLYOKE – The Celebrate Holyoke Planning Committee announces the 2019 dates for the three-day community event. Celebrate Holyoke will take place Friday, Saturday and Sunday, Aug. 23, 24 and 25 at Heritage State Park in downtown Holyoke.

Celebrate Holyoke is a three-day festival drawing an estimated 12,000 to 15,000 people downtown over the course of the weekend each year. This year’s festival will include live musical performances, food and beverages from local restaurants, and goods from local artists and makers.

“I am thrilled to see Celebrate Holyoke return to Downtown Holyoke this year,” said Holyoke Mayor Morse. “With three days of music, food, and entertainment, we have an opportunity to connect with one another as a community and celebrate all those things that make Holyoke exceptional.

We are happy to announce that our new Fiscal Sponsor is Holyoke Community Media, Inc. Holyoke Community Media, Inc. (DBA Holyoke Media) is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit corporation. Holyoke Media seeks to promote the culture, traditions and skills of a traveling circus; it is the only traveling “tent” youth circus in the country. Among its many New England city and town destinations, Circus Smirkus will perform in Northampton in July at the Three County Fairgrounds.

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In The News

Holyoke elementary school wins ‘Green Team’ prize

BOSTON – State environmental officials recognized students from 72 schools across the Commonwealth for outstanding environmental actions as members of the “Green Team,” a statewide environmental education program sponsored by the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) and the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection (MassDEP).

“Congratulations to the teachers and students who participated in the Green Team program during the past school year, showing that there’s a new generation of enthusiasm and environmental leadership in Massachusetts communities,” said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Kathleen Theoharides.

“Participation in Green Team activities,” said Energy and Environmental Affairs Secretary Kathleen Theoharides, “helps students take action to protect our natural resources, and brings to life the subjects they are learning in school.”

Students of any age can participate in the Green Team program, an initiative composed of students who share the goal of reducing pollution and protecting the environment. More than 82,000 students in 551 classes at 322 schools joined the Green Team this school year.

Students took part in a range of activities including: expanding school recycling programs, collecting textiles for donation and recycling, starting a compost pile using organic waste from the school cafeteria and using the compost it generates to nourish a garden to grow vegetables, making their school driveways “Idle-Free Zones,” increasing energy efficiency in their schools and communities and reducing their carbon footprint at school and at home.

These activities incorporated class- room disciplines from the fields of science, engineering and mathematics to reading, writing and art, as well as other non-classroom, interrelated projects.

“Green Team students learn environmental stewardship, bringing energy conservation, recycling, composting and pollution prevention projects to our schools and communities,” said MassDEP Commissioner Martin Suuberg. “Green Team members work to have a positive impact on our environment and to make their communities more sustainable.”

Participating teachers received a Green Team Kit containing classroom posters, lesson plans, recycling tips and access to a library of other resources.

In addition, 51 schools received recycling equipment from the Green Team to incorporate expanded school recycling programs. Fifteen schools received signs reading “Idle-Free Zone” from the Green Team that serve as a visual reminder to drivers to turn off their engines while waiting in the schoolyard.

Participating classes were entered into a drawing for prizes and 72 classes received prizes for their efforts. Lt. Governor Polito Elementary School in Holyoke received a Green Team prize of a recycling show. The teacher was Rick Haggerty.

Seventeen schools won grand prizes and will receive schoolwide performance certificates. Environmental stewards Jack Golden and Peter O’Malley or gift cards to local garden supplies to further “green” their schools.

ESCAPE TO THE COAST OF MAINE

Cozy one bedroom waterfront cottage overlooking Five Islands Harbor in Georgetown, Maine.

Walk to town wharf for lobster and ice cream

Reid State Park’s beautiful beaches are a short five minute drive

Prime summer weeks available

Call 207-371-2184 for more information

Holyoke elementary school wins ‘Green Team’ prize
Anderson graduates top in her nursing class

HOLYOKE – At first, Melissa Anderson thought, there is no way. She was too old, a high school dropout with a GED, a single mom raising three young children and taking care of her sick grandmother too.

Go to college now and then go to nursing school? There is no way.

“When I first applied, I was scared,” Anderson recalls. “I didn’t think I could do it and manage everything else.”

And yet she did. She applied. She enrolled. She excelled.

After four years, the 39-year-old Belchertown resident graduated June 1 with her associate degree in nursing from Holyoke Community College. As the student with the highest GPA in her class, a 3.8, Anderson received the 2019 HCC Nurse Faculty Award for Excellence in Academic and Clinical Nursing.

“Once I started school, I said, if I’m going to be taking time away from my children then I’m going to do the best that I can do,” she says. “I’m not just going to get by with B’s and C’s. It’s not worth it to be away from them and not do well.”

Anderson had left Belchertown High School in 10th grade and planned to get her GED right away.

“But I didn’t,” she says. “I was a teenager and I did a lot of teenage things.”

When Anderson was 18, her older sister died in a car accident and she struggled for the next several years with substance abuse. “I overcame an addiction,” she says. “I was in rehab at 21 and I’ve been sober since. I was able to make it through and I’m stronger now.”

She moved to Miami and worked in various jobs, telemarketer, gold broker at a jewelry shop, travel agent – “whatever I could get my hands on.”

After eight years in Florida, she returned to Belchertown. In 2009, when her first daughter was born, Anderson decided to get her GED, a plan she put on hold once more after she got pregnant again with twins born at 27 weeks with special needs.

For the next three years, there were a lot of doctor visits, hospital stays and early intervention therapy sessions. Finally, in 2014, she got her GED through the Valley Opportunity Council in Chicopee. A teacher there recommended HCC.

“One I had kids I knew I needed to do something more with my life,” Anderson says. “I needed to be some-body they could look up to.”

Taking care of her own children and her grandmother made her think about a career in healthcare.

“I knew I wanted to be a nurse when my grandmother got sick,” she says. “Every doctor and nurse would ask me, are you a nurse? Are you in the field? They told me I was very knowledgeable and very good at it and should pursue that. And, of course, taking care of these little itty-bitty babies that are very fragile made me realize that I can do this.”

Despite initial doubts, Anderson made it through her pre-requisite courses for nursing with the help of HCC’s Writing and Tutoring centers and her early success in Anatomy and Physiology with professor Jesse Lang boosted her confidence.

“She made me work really hard and gave me a good foundation for nursing,” Anderson says.

During her time at HCC, Anderson regularly made the dean’s list. She was invited to join the Phi Theta Kappa national honor society and received two HCC Foundation scholarships and the nursing achievement award.

“I’m very proud of myself for being a high school dropout who went back to get her GED later in life with three children and a family to care for,” she says. “To be able to maintain a GPA that high, I think, it’s a great accomplishment.”

She pulled it together with the help of a good study partner, her parents, who helped with child care and a strict schedule that allowed her to maintain a healthy balance of study and family time.

“As soon as the kids got off the bus and until they went to bed, four to eight o’clock, all my books went away,” she says, “then I would restart. I had the whole time to study while they were at school!”

Now that school is over, her schedule will change, at least for a while. Anderson has delayed accepting permanent nursing position until her son recovers from bladder surgery next month. Then she plans to take some per diem work as a visiting nurse with a local hospital and ultimately return to school for her master’s degree in nursing.

“My goal is to be a hospice nurse,” she says. “During her time at HCC, Anderson regularly made the dean’s list. She was invited to join the Phi Theta Kappa national honor society and received two HCC Foundation scholarships and the nursing achievement award.

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Boys & Girls Club of Greater Holyoke receives DESE grant

HOLYOKE – With grant funding awarded by the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), the Boys and Girls Club of Greater Holyoke is addressing the need to bridge summer learning for youth preparing for the transition into high school. The Summer Transitions and Education Program (STEP) will blend two Boys & Girls Club of America award-winning programs, Torch Club and Career Launch, to expose youth to age-appropriate college and career readiness, build leadership skills, introduce the importance of community service and environmental awareness.

During the eight-week program, youth will have opportunity to visit colleges and universities, learn about the college admission process, financial aid and scholarships, and academic concentrations that align with areas of interest and dream career, get hands on job experience, volunteer within the community, and engage in enrichment activities such as kayaking, non-contact boxing, rock climbing, and much more. On a weekly basis, youth will be enrolled in experiential environmental learning at Eagle Eye Institute Learn About Forest Program (LAF). LAF partnership will introduce a group of students to different aspects of the forest, such as trees, wildlife, soil, and water, and make connections back to the natural and built environments of the city.

The intentional sequence of activities, including mindfulness practices, games, hands-on learning with natural resource professionals, stewardship, group work, and self-reflection, connects youth with nature and themselves.

Summer learning loss is a phenomenon where children can lose some of the skills they gained during the previous school year, particularly in the areas of math and reading. Early summer learning losses have later life consequences, including high school curriculum placement, whether kids drop out of high school, and whether they attend college.

Boys and Girls Club of Greater Holyoke STEP is free for middle school youth who are currently enrolled as members of the Boys & Girls Club of Greater Holyoke School Age and Satellite Unit Programs and is fully sponsored by Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education.

Lung Cancer + Other Cancers

Special trusts have been set up by vendors and suppliers of the Uniroyal plant to pay asbestos victims. If you ever worked at the Uniroyal plant before 1982 you may have been exposed to asbestos and not even know it. You could be entitled to multiple cash payments without going to court, filing a lawsuit, or even leaving your house.

If you ever worked at the Uniroyal plant, and have been diagnosed with Lung Cancer, Ovarian Cancer, Colon Cancer, or have died from Cancer, call 1-800-478-9578 Today!

Birmingham, Alabama attorney Robert Norris helps injured claimants, nationwide, collect cash benefits from Asbestos Trusts. “No representation is necessary in the field? They told me I could get hands on.”

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Mt. Tom announces upcoming programs

HOLOYOKE – Mt. Tom State Reservation announces their upcoming programs beginning June 7th.

Saturday, July 6 at 10:30 a.m. enti-
titled “Life Around The Lake.” Snakes are the focus for this week’s topic. The many snakes that live in and near the lake have many adaptations to survive this watery habitat. Their survival is discussed in this 60 minute program. People should meet at Bray Lake.

Monday, July 7 at 6 p.m. is a “Hike Around Bray Lake.” This one-and-a-half to two-hour hike travels around Bray Lake on the outer loop. The terrain is mostly easy with a few moderately strenuous spots. Discussions center around the lake and its inhabitants. People should meet at Stonehouse Visitor Center and bring water and bug spray.

Sunday, July 7 at 10:30 a.m. the pro-
gram is “Birding for Beginners.” This one-hour program is meant to help begin-
ers learn the basics of birding. The use of bird guides, lists and binoculars are used to learn about these feathered creatures.

Sunday, July 7 at 1 p.m., the Sunday trucks will make up one of the first programs Adventurous Homes. Everything needs a home of some kind even animals in the wild. This pro-
gram explores where each animals choos-
es their favorite spot for a safe and comfy abode.

Monday, July 7 at 10:30 a.m. the pro-
gram is Junior Rangers. Children ages 5 and 6 are welcome to participate in this future week events. To become a certified Junior Ranger. Through exploration, crafts and games, participants can receive an official Junior Ranger patch and certifi-
cate. Each child must attend three out of four classes to qualify for this status.

Monday, July 7 at 11 a.m. is “Advanced Hike for Seniors” for seniors 55 and older. This four-week program to become a certified Junior Ranger. Through exploration, crafts and games, participants can receive an official Junior Ranger patch and certifi-
cate. Each child must attend three out of four classes to qualify for this status.

Tuesday, July 9 at 9:30 a.m., there is a senior hike that is an easy paced one hour hike. The terrain is mostly easy and the nature talk quite abundant. People should bring water and bug spray.

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FITNESS, from page 1

and up, will feature dance, games and an obstacle course. Cost is $25 and financial assistance is available; please include registration forms and check
tory, with honor the memory of the 25 men that perished.

To get to the memorial take US Route 5 north from Holyoke or south from Northampton to the Mt. Tom access road. The Mt. Tom B-17 Memorial is located at the site of the accident, 500 feet west of the Mt. Tom 300 feet below the summit. Shuttles up the access road will be pro-
voked beginning at 6 a.m. and continuing until the 10 a.m. ceremony, people should arrive no later than 9 a.m. For more infor-
mation, people may go to www.mtтомmemorial.org.

CLUB, from page 1

schedule of programs are as follows.

The Future Entrepreneurs Club will meet from July 8 through July 12 at Holyoke Business and will set up shop for their KidRun Market on Friday.

The Future Scientists Club will meet from July 15 through July 19 at Community Field. Hypothesize, experiment, observe. Don’t miss the July 15th annual Hotdog and Oven pizza challenge.

The Healthy Kids’ Club meet from July 22 through July 26 at Community Field. Picture your best you. Focusing on safety, nutrition and social emotional health.

The Future Leaders of Holyoke Club has been meeting and is looking at progressive action to clarify whether the program met the educational definition to provide various city services that the other facilities enjoyed.

In the News

Mt. Tom crash anniversary

service to be held July 20

HOLOYOKE – The 73rd anniversary service of the Mt. Tom B-17 “Flying Fortress” crash in Holyoke will take place at 10 a.m., Saturday, July 20.

Residents are encouraged to come and honor the memory of the 25 men that perished.

On July 9, 1946 at 10:21 p.m. a B-17 “Flying Fortress” bomber, converted to a transport plane, crashed into the southeastern slope of Mt. Tom out-
side of Holyoke. All 25 men that were returning home after serving their coun-
try in Greenland during World War II perished.

STATEWIDE – Everyone hates sitting in traffic. Less time commuting means more time for work, family and fun. See which area won the title of the best place to live, the study was Norfolk with 19.8 minutes. The top shortest commute was 19.8 minutes.

The best time to work in the state of Massachusetts is 33.3 min-
utes, but it varies greatly by location.

Research was recently released a study on the Best and Worst Commutes in Massachusetts using the data from the U.S. Census Bureau. The study lists the 50 best and 50 worst commutes. Holyoke rounded out the top ten shortest commutes with 19.8 hours. The top shortest commute was 19.8 minutes.

The show will be at Sheldon Field Coop in Northampton. Zwei said that shows typically sell out. The Northampton performances local sponsor is North Star Academy.

The Best Art and Theatre Club will run Aug. 5 through Aug. 16. The Best Art and Theatre Club will run Aug. 5 through Aug. 16. It will feature several events beginning at 8 a.m. and continuing until the 10 a.m. ceremony, people should arrive no later than 9 a.m. For more information, people may visit www.413familyfitness.com.

The Northampton performances’ local sponsor is North Star Academy.

For his live audition, Kathy Zweir said, Bradley performed a duet act with another youth on the Chinese Pole, which included things like back and forth, a lot of climbing and clinging

in the pole. She also said that he also tried to show off some of his other cir-
cus skills that include juggling, unicy-
cling, partner acrobatics and low- ing to the pole. She added that he also
got in as an alternate for one of the other acts in the show.

There was a culmination of hard work and dreaming […] and it’s so thrilling for him and for us,” Kathy Zwei said, adding that he had wanted to be part of the show after his older brother joined the troupe. She also added that he had made to it the live audition for last year’s season, but he didn’t get in.

“To one of the biggest challenges that comes with my circus specialties is that I have to be in sync, physically and mentally, with my fellow performers to accomplish the tricks,” Bradley Zwei said.

“The state delegation to get guidance in terms of substance use disorder and mental health issues. Some also added they felt they had a welcoming space within the Department of Conservation and Recreation, the Northampton

Several councilors did state they had no comments about the group home, the type of care given, or the population served. It was more about the tax dollars, whether or not the zoning that precluded the city from regulating it in any way and the number of facilities in Holyoke.

Many of the residents who spoke expressed their support for group homes. The residents stated that programs sim-
lar to the one going into Yale Street help people with substance use. One woman added that to try to prevent the entry of group homes into a com-
munity actually violated the federal Fair Housing Act, continuing to state that it was amended to protect people with disabilities including those in recovery from substance use disorder and men-
tal health issues. Some also added they felt they had a welcoming space within a residential area was a burden on the community.

“People should move on from the fear of new things and come open arms with compassion, and it’s good for the evolution of humankind to have things like this because everyone can learn something from the way things are done in today’s society,” one young resident said.

One resident did speak against the Yale Street group home, stating that he didn’t believe it was a group home but that it was a 16-bed medical facility ser-
vying that community. He also added he felt Holyoke should not have such a dis-
proportionate share of the problem and that it should manage its fair share.

“If the local zoning is in place and the burden is shared, then I think it’s fair and I think it’s the right decision,” he said.

The City Council made it clear (during the previous meeting) that we think that it should be a broad span – if someone’s going to be part of it, it should be partaken in 351 cities and towns," said Councillor James Leahy. He added, he also felt the facility was a medical facility and that it didn’t belong in a residential neighborhood. “We have a lot of other without the other orders.

Reservation is located on the Holyoke/State Route 5 and 141.

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es their favorite spot for a safe and comfy abode.
WSU, HCC scholarships benefit Hispanic students

HOLYOKE – College students of Hispanic heritage who transfer from HCC to Westfield State University will have a transformative impact for Holyoke residents of Hispanic heritage who have completed a minimum of 12 credits and maintain a minimum GPA of 2.75. The Victor and Mariellen Quillard Scholarship at WSU provides scholarships to Holyoke residents of Hispanic heritage who transfer from HCC to Westfield State and have a minimum GPA of 2.75.

“arre appreciate the Quillard’s generosity and their commitment to Holyoke and the Hispanic and Latino communities,” said Erica Broman, vice president for Institutional Advancement at Westfield State University and executive director of the Westfield State Foundation. “The Quillard Scholarship will have a transformative impact for these transfer students from HCC who attend Westfield State for many years to come.”

These significant monies will support the University’s mission to offer an accessible and affordable education while supporting its commitment to a diverse and welcoming community,” said Westfield State University president Ramon S. Torrecilla.

HOLYOKE – The Holyoke Parks and Recreation Department announced that the Open Gym and Swim Programs will run from July 1 through Aug. 15. The Open Gym Program will be held Monday through Friday from 1-6 p.m. at the Holyoke High School Gym. The Open Swim Program will be held at the Holyoke High School Pool from Monday through Friday from 1-6 p.m.; the Senior Swim will be from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Children under 15 need to be accompanied by an adult. The programs are free.

Holyoke Arrests

Emmanuel J. Varela, 38, of 21 Francis Avenue, Holyoke, was arrested on June 21 on a warrant.

Jennifer Gingras, 39, of 275 Main St. Apartment 402, Holyoke, was arrested on June 21 on a warrant.

Anjali Khanna, 18, of 178 Florence Road Apartment 20, Florence, was arrested on June 22 on three warrants.

Efrain Diaz, 29, of 178 Florence Road, Florence, was arrested on June 22 for operating a motor vehicle with a suspended license, and motor vehicle not meeting RMV safety standards.

Francisco Ortiz, 36, was arrested on June 20 on two warrants.

Sarina Sweeney, 29, of 155 Wells St. Apartment 2F, Greenfield, was arrested on June 20 for failing to signal, possession of a Class A drug, possession of a Class B drug, and on a warrant.

The Open Gym and Swim Programs will be held at the Holyoke High School Pool from Monday through Friday from 1-6 p.m.; the Senior Swim will be from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Children under 15 need to be accompanied by an adult. The programs are free.

Holyoke Community College Foundations recently received a donation for scholarships for Hispanic students from Holyoke.

Victor and Mariellen Quillard Scholarship at HCC gives preference to Holyoke residents of Hispanic heritage who have completed a minimum of 12 credits and maintain a minimum GPA of 2.75. The Victor and Mariellen Quillard Scholarship at WSU provides scholarships to Holyoke residents of Hispanic heritage who transfer from HCC to Westfield State and have a minimum GPA of 2.75.

“We greatly appreciate the Quillard’s generosity and their commitment to Holyoke and the Hispanic and Latino communities,” said Erica Broman, vice president for Institutional Advancement at Westfield State University and executive director of the Westfield State Foundation. “The Quillard Scholarship will have a transformative impact for these transfer students from HCC who attend Westfield State for many years to come.”
Guest Column

Current proposal for new schools not only option

We have had a number of meetings to complete our due diligence on a matter that has a huge and long term (30 years) financial impact on our city. While the work done to develop the ideal proposal from the perspective of the educational needs is respected, it was recently learned that the only way to fund this is through a debt exclusion vote (proposition 2 1/2 override). On May 29, when presented with a one-school proposal (one included in the study), the Director of the MSBA stated the only option that would be considered is for two schools. So we are faced with an all or nothing option at this time.

The State Receiver said in one public meeting that if the project did not move forward he would develop an alternate plan. There is always more than one way to achieve a goal.

While those who have come forward to support the impact of a $132 million debt exclusion vote have been largely ignored, it does not change the reality of the situation. This project must be looked at in the context of our entire city.

The number of non-tax paying property owners in our city every year. This will place an increased burden on existing taxpayers.

We are now presented with a city budget reflecting a 5.7 percent increase. Those paying for the budget are receiving one to two percent increases if they are lucky, with many living on a fixed income trying to stay in their homes; others working two jobs to pay the rent or keep their home. Only eight of thirteen City Councilors attended the budget meeting on May 30.

Our largest taxpayer will be hugely affected by a debt exclusion override. The GM of the Holyoke Mall has shared with us that this would cause “severe hardship.” At the budget hearing our Assessor shared that the Mall is seeking revaluation. Small businesses are sharing that they are squeezed with the new mandated benefits along with tax increases, sewer rate increases, CPA tax, and so forth. Our average income is $37,000 per year. If this was only $240 each year for each tax payer it would be affordable. The reality is the increase would range from $240 each year for a taxpayer with a house of average value to over $600 each year for our largest tax payer.

Other communities who have had these balls questions placed do not have the same demographics as we do.

In addition to this consideration are the debts we have already incurred but have not yet started to pay. We have just received some of this information on June 4. Our Auditor is working on putting a summary together so that we can better understand the costs of long-term financial commitments we have already made.

A two-thirds vote of the City Council was required for this ballot question to be placed on the ballot. This is a high hurdle required because of the serious implications it has for our city. Yet ten Councilors voted to pass the buck and place this on the ballot without understanding the current debt of our city. As your representatives it is our duty to look at any proposal to consider the community-wide implications. We have 10,100 property tax payers and 25,000 registered voters.

I disagree that the current proposal is the only option available for us to improve our city’s educational needs is respected, it was recently learned that the only way to fund this is through a debt exclusion vote (proposition 2 1/2 override). On May 29, when presented with a one-school proposal (one included in the study), the Director of the MSBA stated the only option that would be considered is for two schools. So we are faced with an all or nothing option at this time.

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Each week, The Holyoke Sun will feature a photo of a distinctive place, landmark, sculpture, sign or other recognizable object located somewhere in the city. The Holyoke Sun will feature a photo of a distinctive place, landmark, sculpture, sign or other recognizable object located somewhere in the city. The Holyoke Sun will feature a photo of a distinctive place, landmark, sculpture, sign or other recognizable object located somewhere in the city. The Holyoke Sun will feature a photo of a distinctive place, landmark, sculpture, sign or other recognizable object located somewhere in the city.

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In My Backyard

By Ellenor Downer

My brother and I took a day trip to Rhode Island last Thursday. We stopped at Point Judith Light after eating lunch at a local restaurant. We noticed four very large gulls compared to several herring gulls on the rocky shore. One of the large gulls was eating the tail of a fish and the others were hoping to steal the morsel. The large gulls were great black-backed gulls. The mature adults have a black back and white head and front, year-round. The lesser adults are completely bill yellow. Immature gulls have gray-brown speckled backs with a contrasting white belly. Immature gulls also have yellow legs and feet.

The great black-backed gull is often a coastal nester. The female lays two to three olive eggs with darker marks in a nest of seaweed and other vegetation placed on the ground or ledge. They eat a variety of food items including other birds like swallows, puffins, terns, small mammals and fish. It makes a low-pitched “crowp, crowp, crowp” and other calls.

Bald eagles, blue herons and more

I received an email from a woman who saw a pair of bald eagles near the Holyoke Dam. She said the eagles were an “awesome sight.” She spotted many blue herons. She also saw a Baltimore oriole at Mt. Tom Reservation. She reported that her daughter, who lives in Florence, has a flicker that takes dust baths in her yard. Birds take dust baths also known as dusting or sand bathing, as part of preening and plumage maintenance. It helps keep the feathers in top condition. The dust worked into the feathers absorbs excess oil to help keep the feathers from becoming greasy or maty.

Hummingbirds

I continue to have lots of hummingbirds come to the two nectar feeders I have out. They are entertaining to watch. When I walk near one of the feeders, I often hear the hummingbird wing beats before I see it. Two of my daughters have hummingbird feeders. When I visit them, I enjoy watching the hummingbirds that come to their feeders.

FOURTH, from page 6

more fireworks on the lake that night were far and evidently the town fireworks were far enough away that he did not hear them.

I wish everyone a wonderful Fourth of July. For anyone that has a dog, I hope it sleeps through the fireworks unlike Casey, the dog that hated fireworks and the dog of my daughter’s youth.

Paula Ouimet, the author’s daughter, drew this great black-backed gull.

967-3565 or emailing mybackyard88@aol.com or edowner@turley.com.

Summer gardening questions answered

Sure, start by elimin-
ating each stem. Usually, at the base of the plant, there will be some new growth. There will be tight clusters of leaves that if given the chance will grow into a new, bushy plant. Simply pinch off the leggy part down to this point. Do a few stems this week and a few next, that way the plant won’t look like a bad haircut waiting to grow out. Follow the pinch-
ing with a dose of liquid feed and you are well on your way to a great looking hanging basket once more. That is, if you keep up with deadheading. Petunias need their spent flowers removed, stem and all, every couple of days. Some folks just pull off the flowers but leave the base attached; that won’t stop the plant from making seeds and by making seeds it will think its job of flowering is done and the cycle of life is complete. So, best to deadhead often and fool the plant into flowering for the entire summer.

Once, as a novice gardener, I was tempted into trying a variety of petu-

nia that was labeled “self-deadheading.” Sure, the flowers fell off and the plant looked clean, but the seed pods remained. My mentor laughed as I went deep inside my petunia plants with scis-
sors trying to remove the seed pods! Lesson learned.

Robertta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For the last 28 years, she has held the position of instructor at the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. She teaches about raising and caring for a wide variety of plants. She has been growing flowers and vegetables for more than 30 years. She is a member of the American Horticultural Society and the Massachusetts Horticultural Society. She is also a member of the Massachusetts Horticultural Society.

Proposal, from page 6

We already have many vacancy buildings in our city and do not need any more. We are renovating Lyman Terrace to upgrade and improve our underutilized schools such as Dean. The current proposal before us represents an ideal situation if we had the money set aside or a plan to fund the projects. Having neither of these and a shrinking tax base due to increasing numbers of non-taxable entities buying properties in our city and only $500,000 in growth projected next year for our city, this is the wrong time and too expensive for all of our taxpayers. When you don’t have money for the ideal plan, you have to step back and create a realistic plan.

Linda Vacon
City Councilor, Ward 5

Crossword Answer on page 13

FOURTH, from page 6

S. African semi-

compound

39. Once-ubiquitous

3. Chemical and ammo-

41. Forth

29. English football

22. Infections

2. Give someone a job

3. Chemical and ammo-

2. Give someone a job

3. Chemical and ammo-

41. Forth

29. English football

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In The News

STCC students land internships at MIT Lincoln Laboratory

SPRINGFIELD – Two Springfield Technical Community College students this summer are working as interns at MIT Lincoln Laboratory, a U.S. Department of Defense research and development center in Lexington.

MIT Lincoln Laboratory selected Douglas Bednarczyk of West Springfield and Shane Richardson of Hebron, Connecticut students from the Optics and Photonics Technology program at STCC. They will intern at the Lexington facility through August.

Richardson earned his associate degree in May, but will return this fall to take additional classes. Bednarczyk finished his first year in the two-year Optics and Photonics Technology program and hopes to earn his associate degree in spring 2020.

Students in the Optics and Photonics Technology program learn about the practical applications of light, optics and electronics. High-tech applications include lasers, fiber optics, holography, laser materials processing, optical systems and computer vision.

Nicholas Massa, department chair for Optics and Photonics Technology, helped Richardson and Bednarczyk land the internships. They are not Massa’s first students to get hired as interns at the prestigious laboratory. A former student, Gerald Gagnon, served as an intern in the summer of 2018 and ended up getting hired full time. He was chosen as a Lockheed Martin Future Leader in Photonics. Between January and May 2019, Gagnon contributed to the creation of a lab manual for a hands-on integrat-

“Students in the Optics and Photonics Technology program at STCC train on state-of-the-art equipment used in many commercial laboratories,” Massa said. “There aren’t any other associate-degree programs like ours in the region. That’s why companies approach us. They discover our students know how to use the laser equipment and know the theory. They’re ready to go to work.”

Massa said there are not enough trained candidates to meet the demand for jobs in the optics and photonics industry.

“I get calls every day from compa-

nies asking about candidates for intern-

ships and full-time positions. Nearly all of my students who graduate from the program get hired and they often get multiple job offers,” he said. “STCC also is one of the most affordable pathways to a career and we are a point of entry for many first-time college students who come from low-income families. We provide one of the best values in high-

er education. After you get a degree in Optics and Photonics Technology, you can land a job that pays between $40,000 and $60,000 a year to start, and you go from there.”

Massa recommended both Bednarczyk and Richardson for the MIT Lincoln Laboratory internship, noting they are serious and hard-working stu-

dents.

The internship was created through a collaboration between MIT Lincoln Laboratory, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and AIM Photonics (American Insitute for Manufacturing). See STUDENTS, page 13
HOLYOKE – On Tuesday night, the Holyoke High School girls summer soccer team re-emerged onto the Pioneer Valley Summer Soccer League scene. The Knights did not have a boys or girls soccer entrant last summer. Both are back this season as the two teams seek to get ready for the fall season. The girls faced Ludlow Ideal C on Tuesday evening at Donahue School in Holyoke. Their schedule continued this week at Granby before they enjoy the Fourth of July week off.

Bankers looking to win seventh straight title

League president passes away

By Gregory A. Scibelli gscibelli@turley.com

Unfortunately, rain came down too much on Tuesday to get the Tri-County DiFranco Realty-PeoplesBank game in on Tuesday, but the Bankers will be back in action later this week as they look to repeat as league champions for the regular season and playoffs again.

The Bankers don’t have a fully new look, but there are two names they are not seeing anymore. Ryan Franczek, the long-time shortstop of the team, and Fred Perry, their coach for the past few years, have departed.

But taking Perry’s place is the very capable baseball mind of Joe Ferry, who has been the starting left fielder for the team for several years. The Palmer native is also one of the fastest players in the league and has become a player-manager for the Bankers this season.

“Fred handed the team down to me,” he said. “I’m still playing, yes. No young kid has showed up yet to take my spot.”

The Bankers have evolved at times over the past few years, while still sporting many of the same veterans.

Joe Popielarczyk remains a part of the pitching rotation. He has been one of their aces for several years. Danny Gaines, Andy Gaines, Matt Kirk also have returned. Recent additions to the staff in the past couple of years have included Hunter Salem, D.J. Lavallee, Jake Graveline, Garrett Baker, and Zach Handzel.

Ferry also said the team has brought Tom Weldon aboard. Weldon is a Division 3 college pitcher at Elms. The Palmer native is also one of the fastest players in the league and has become a player-manager for the Bankers this season.

The lineup still includes Rey Rivera, Pete Hogan, Sam Allen, Dave Clark, Tom Bouvier, Ted Lerud, and Ferry. Last year, Ludlow’s Alex Lafayette joined the team and Sweany was a bright spot for the Blue Sox on a disappointing evening, throwing two innings of relief and giving up no earned runs. Riley Sorenson, who replaced Shaffer in the fifth, let up two earned runs in 0.1 innings. Shortstop Isaac Alexander added two hits to the Blue Sox cause, and designated hitter Dakota Mulcay drove in Valley’s only score on a second-inning double.

HOLYOKE – The Upper Valley Nighthawks defeated Valley Tuesday night 7-1, extending the Blue Sox losing streak to three. While starting pitcher Trey Shaffer had a solid first few innings, a two-run single in the third by Anthony Quirion began a stretch of seven unanswered that the Blue Sox were unable to compete with.

Upper Valley starting pitcher William Carnley continued his impressive start to the season, throwing nine strikeouts in 4.1 innings pitched while letting up just one earned run. On the other side of the ball, seven Nighthawks recorded a hit, while six of them batted in a run in an insurmountable team effort.

Bullpen pitcher Lucas See BANKERS, page 10

Blue Sox suffer pair of losses

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Bullpen pitcher Lucas Sweany was a bright spot for the Blue Sox on a disappointing evening, throwing two innings of relief and giving up no earned runs. Riley Sorenson, who replaced Shaffer in the fifth, let up two earned runs in 0.1 innings. Shortstop Isaac Alexander added two hits to the Blue Sox cause, and designated hitter Dakota Mulcay drove in Valley’s only score on a second-inning double.

Outside of that, that Blue Sox offense failed to match the Nighthawks’ third and seventh-inning scoring bursts.

Valley, who came into this weekend at 7-2 and were prying for North Adams’s top spot in the Northern
Annual Paul Hamel Golf Tournament slated for Aug. 17

LUDLOW – The annual Paul G. Hamel Golf Tournament will be held this summer on Aug. 17 at East Mountain Country Club in Westfield. The shotgun start will begin at 8 a.m. rain or shine. A $100 fee to play are use of a cart, a coffee and doughnut breakfast, a buffet lunch, and gift bags for participants. Tickets will be sold for closest to the pin contest. Registration is now open. For more information, call Pam Bednar at 413-283-8393.

Pioneers remained undefeated in United Soccer League

NORTH ADAMS — A wild affair is probably the best way to describe the second meeting of the regular season between Western Mass. Pioneers and Black Rock FC.

The Pioneers remained the only undefeated team in the USL-2 Northeast Division by posting a 2-0 victory over Black Rock FC before a small crowd at Ron Shewcraft Field located on the MCLA campus in North Adams, last Wednesday night.

“Tonight’s a wild game tonight, but we’re very happy to come away with the victory,” said Western Mass. midfielder and Pioneers captain Federico Ucár. “It was a hard-fought battle and it’s a very good win for us.”

The contest almost turned into a win for Black Rock as there was a shot-on-target match between the two coaching staffs during the second half.

Referee Anthony Pedolzky also handed out four red cards during the second half.

“It’s a big win, but we did lose a lot of players tonight,” said Pioneers head coach Federico Molinari. “We had a couple of injuries and a couple of players got red cards, which I’m not very happy about.”

The Pioneers players, who received straight red cards for coming onto the field during the second half altercation, were Maxi Viera and James Slattery, the back-up goalkeeper. Black Rock’s Ilunyanchi Achara, who started the incident by making a hard tackle that injured Romero, was also given a straight red.

Pioneers forward Guzman Diaz also received a straight red following a hard tackle in the 85’

The three Pioneers players also sat out the Black Rock's second half game against the Boston Bolts.

Mauricio “Toto” Coimbra, Alexandre Frank, and Romero were forced to leave last Wednesday’s game with injuries.

Pioneers goalkeeper Blake Mullen only had to make a couple of saves in posting his seventh shutout of the season.

“It was a very rough game, but we still managed to come away with the result that we wanted,” Molinari said.

“Both teams really wanted to win tonight. It’s a very important win for us.”

A little more than ten minutes into the opening half, Mullen made an outstanding save with his left leg keeping the match scoreless.

A couple of minutes later, the first scuffle of the evening took place between the two teams.

The Pioneers had several scoring opportunities before Romero finally broke the ice with five minutes remaining in the opening half by scoring an unassisted goal.

“Their goalkeeper tried to clear the ball away, but I was able to control it with my chest,” Romero said. “It felt very good when I saw the ball go into the net. I also scored a goal earlier in the season, but it was disallowed by the referee. I’m very happy to score my first goal in tonight’s game.”

The Pioneers would take a 2-0 advantage 15 minutes into the second half.

The scoring play began with Viera sending a crossing pass to Sebastian Rosano, who fired a shot into the net past Black Rock goalie Jamie Fite.

A couple of minutes later, Jeremy Fricker entered the game for Viera, who’s the Pioneers captain.

Shortly after that, Achara slid hard into Romero and the players from both teams got into a pushing match in front of the Pioneers bench.

Both teams finished the contest with only ten men on the field.

The Pioneers took over sole possession of first place in the USL-2 Northeast Division standings with a 2-1 victory over the Boston Bolts at historic Lusitano Stadium, last Saturday night.

The home team took a 1-0 lead in the 28th on a goal by Rosano, which was assisted by Alex Frank.

The Bolts tied the score four minutes later.

The Pioneers would retake the lead in the 69th when Ciro Damante converted a penalty kick.

The Western Mass. squad is scheduled to host the Westchester Flames on Wednesday and the Seacoast United Phantoms on Saturday night. Their final regular season home match is against Manhattan SC on July 6. The Pioneers will be making a trip to the Big Apple to close out the regular season against Manhattan on July 13.

The Pioneers, who are looking to clinch a playoff berth for the first time since 2016, do control their own destiny in the Northeast Division, now sit at 7-5, do control their own destiny.

“Both teams really wanted to win tonight. It’s a very important win for us.”

The Pioneers, who are looking to clinch a playoff berth for the first time since 2016, do control their own destiny.
SOLVAY, N.Y. — Following a 5-0 home victory over the Inferno on June 15, New England Mutiny owner Joe Ferrara Jr said that the rematch at Syracuse would probably be a lot more difficult for his squad and it certainly was.

The Mutiny, who held a 1-0 halftime lead, gave up a goal 10 minutes into the second half and were forced to settle for a 1-1 draw at Al Merefa Field, which is located on the Solvay High School campus, last Saturday night.

“A played well against this team wasn’t enough tonight,” said Mutiny General Manager/assistant coach Jiri Serafin. “They slowed the game down, strictly to conserve their energy, so they could get a boost forward. It’s a very frustrating result because we have a very tough schedule coming up.”

Serafin coached the Mutiny because head coach Jeb Booth was unable to make the four hour trip to Syracuse for personal reasons.

All of the Mutiny players were a little bit frustrated following the road match, which was played on a beautiful early summer evening in upstate New York.

“It wasn’t a loss, but it definitely doesn’t feel like one,” said defender Megan Cunningham, who’s the Mutiny longest tenured player. “I was away from this team for a couple of years and it feels like it is back again.”

The Mutiny (5-0-2), who needs at least one more win in order to qualify for the playoffs for the first time since 2015, will enter the final three matches of the regular season tied for first place with the Connecticut Fusion. The top four teams in the East Conference qualify for the playoffs.

“We’re hoping to host a playoff game this year,” Serafin said. “We’ll need to finish in the top two spots in order to do that.”

The Mutiny will be hosting the Lancaster Inferno (5-1-0) in the final regular-season match at historic Lusitano Stadium on Friday night.

Cunningham played for the Inferno last year, which lost to the Houston Aces 1-0 in extra time in the USWS National Championship Game, which was held in Grandville, Michigan. Cunningham was selected to the All-Championship team.

“I’m really looking forward to Friday’s home match against Lancaster and I want to beat them,” said Cunningham, who first joined the Mutiny ten years ago. “I moved back to the Boston area this year and Joe invited me to play for the Mutiny again. We’re having an outstanding season so far and it’s a great organization. Joe has done a ton for this team over the years and it’s something that people want to be a part of.”

The Mutiny can’t afford to make very many mistakes if they want to come out on top against the Inferno.

“It’s going to be one of our toughest matches of the season,” Serafin said. “Hopefully, we can be fueled by our fans at Lusitano Stadium. It’s always a great atmosphere whenever we play there.”

The Mutiny will be making another visit to upstate New York on Sunday afternoon when they face the Rochester Lady Lancers. They’ll also be making a trip to Pennsylvania to face Lancaster on July 6 in the regular-season finale.

Both Syracuse and the Mutiny had several very good scoring chances during the first twenty minutes of the match.

The Mutiny struck first in the 27th when Kate Howarth loasted a shot into the left corner past Syracuse goalkeeper Mackenzie Hanna for her team-leading 11th goal of the season. It was assisted by Zoe Steck, who also leads the team with four assists.

The score was still 1-1 at halftime, but the Mutiny could’ve easily scored two or three more goals during the first 45 minutes of the match. They also out-shot Syracuse 6-1.

A couple of minutes into the second half, a wide open shot by Roma McLaughlin was saved by Hanna.

Syracuse managed to tie the score at 1-1 in the 56th when Taylor Bennett fired a low shot into left corner past Mutiny goalie Kelsey Kohler.

The Mutiny had posted a shutout in the previous three matches.

With about 10 minutes remaining in the match, a shot by Howarth deflected off a Syracuse player in the box. Syracuse also had a chance to take the lead in the final minute of the match, but the score remained tied.

The Mutiny players will be looking to get back into the win column in front of their home fans on Friday night.

Syracuse bucks down to earn tie with Mutiny

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

Agawam’s Cormier wins mini-stock race

Winchester, NH – Thunderstorms and hail teased the Monadnock Region of New Hampshire early in the day Saturday. The residual electricity riddled through the competition that night at Monadnock Speedway.

If the electricity was static, it affected the Sportsman Modified division the most. Their 50-lap feature was slowed by eight cautions. Alyssa Rivera of Claremont, NH, took the field to the green and ran her best start of the year leading the first fourteen laps in spite of having to survive six of the eight restarts.

Mini Stock rookie Kevin Cormier of Agawam, MA, showed why his previous experience racing Go-Karts was important preparation for full-sized racers, as he rolled into victory lane for his second consecutive win.

Cormier held off a strong challenge from Agawam’s Tim Wenzel.

Sportsman Modified Results:

Kevin Cormier, Tim Wenzel, Gordon Farnum, Ethan Marsh, Kevin McKnight, Shelby Avery, Louis Maher II, Kevin Clayton, Matt Croteau, Haydon Grenier, Nathan Wenzel, Cory Plummer, Jonathan Alden

Pure Stock Results:

Taylor Striebel, Chris Davis, Seth Melcher, Jim Decroucy, Rich Hammann, Carter Chamberlain, Joe Brittain, Bruce Canatara

Young Gun Results:

Jake Puchalski, Chris Phelps, JD Stockwell

Registration still open for over-30 Murphy League

HOLYOKE – Registrations for the John Murphy youth baseball leagues with games in Holyoke are still being accepted. The league has three divisions. The younger division for players born between Sept 1, 2007 and Jan 1, 2010; the middle division for players born between Sept 1, 2005 and Sept 1, 2007, and the older division for players born between Sept 1, 2001 and Sept 1, 2005.

Games take place at Springfield Park on Main Street in Holyoke, with the exception of two older division games which will take place at Maclezie Stadium.

The registration fee for Holyoke residents is $30 and for non-residents is $45. To register, please contact former Holyoke Community College coach Terry Murphy at tmurphy1h cc@comcast.net.

The first practice for the younger division is Monday, June 24 from 5:30 p.m. to 6 p.m. The 12-13 division has its first practice on Friday, June 28 also from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. Games start July 1 and run through Aug 9.

Again this year, the league would like to thank our sponsors. The 9-11 division is sponsored by Holyoke Gas & Electric Phillips and the Murphy Baseball Pirates. The 12-13 division is sponsored by the Mount View Landscape A’s and the Murphy Baseball Giants. The high school division is sponsored by the Mercerite Ford Dodgers and the Holyoke Parks and Recreation Nationals.

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

SOLVAY, N.Y. — Following a 5-0 home victory over the Inferno on June 15, New England Mutiny owner Joe Ferrara Jr said that the rematch at Syracuse would probably be a lot more difficult for his squad and it certainly was.

The Mutiny, who held a 1-0 halftime lead, gave up a goal 10 minutes into the second half and were forced to settle for a 1-1 draw at Al Merefa Field, which is located on the Solvay High School campus, last Saturday night.

“A played well against this team wasn’t enough tonight,” said Mutiny General Manager/assistant coach Jiri Serafin. “They slowed the game down, strictly to conserve their energy, so they could get a boost forward. It’s a very frustrating result because we have a very tough schedule coming up.”

Serafin coached the Mutiny because head coach Jeb Booth was unable to make the four hour trip to Syracuse for personal reasons.

All of the Mutiny players were a little bit frustrated following the road match, which was played on a beautiful early summer evening in upstate New York.

“It wasn’t a loss, but it definitely doesn’t feel like one,” said defender Megan Cunningham, who’s the Mutiny longest tenured player. “I was away from this team for a couple of years and it feels like it is back again.”

The Mutiny (5-0-2), who needs at least one more win in order to qualify for the playoffs for the first time since 2015, will enter the final three matches of the regular season tied for first place with the Connecticut Fusion. The top four teams in the East Conference qualify for the playoffs.

“We’re hoping to host a playoff game this year,” Serafin said. “We’ll need to finish in the top two spots in order to do that.”

The Mutiny will be hosting the Lancaster Inferno (5-1-0) in the final regular-season match at historic Lusitano Stadium on Friday night.

Cunningham played for the Inferno last year, which lost to the Houston Aces 1-0 in extra time in the USWS National Championship Game, which was held in Grandville, Michigan. Cunningham was selected to the All-Championship team.

“I’m really looking forward to Friday’s home match against Lancaster and I want to beat them,” said Cunningham, who first joined the Mutiny ten years ago. “I moved back to the Boston area this year and Joe invited me to play for the Mutiny again. We’re having an outstanding season so far and it’s a great organization. Joe has done a ton for this team over the years and it’s something that people want to be a part of.”

The Mutiny can’t afford to make very many mistakes if they want to come out on top against the Inferno.

“It’s going to be one of our toughest matches of the season,” Serafin said. “Hopefully, we can be fueled by our fans at Lusitano Stadium. It’s always a great atmosphere whenever we play there.”

The Mutiny will be making another visit to upstate New York on Sunday afternoon when they face the Rochester Lady Lancers. They’ll also be making a trip to Pennsylvania to face Lancaster on July 6 in the regular-season finale.

Both Syracuse and the Mutiny had several very good scoring chances during the first twenty minutes of the match.

The Mutiny struck first in the 27th when Kate Howarth loasted a shot into the left corner past Syracuse goalkeeper Mackenzie Hanna for her team-leading 11th goal of the season. It was assisted by Zoe Steck, who also leads the team with four assists.

The score was still 1-1 at halftime, but the Mutiny could’ve easily scored two or three more goals during the first 45 minutes of the match. They also out-shot Syracuse 6-1.

A couple of minutes into the second half, a wide open shot by Roma McLaughlin was saved by Hanna.

Syracuse managed to tie the score at 1-1 in the 56th when Taylor Bennett fired a low shot into left corner past Mutiny goalie Kelsey Kohler.

The Mutiny had posted a shutout in the previous three matches.

With about 10 minutes remaining in the match, a shot by Howarth deflected off a Syracuse player in the box. Syracuse also had a chance to take the lead in the final minute of the match, but the score remained tied.

The Mutiny players will be looking to get back into the win column in front of their home fans on Friday night.
SUNDAY, JUNE 30

BIRDING FOR BEGINNERS: The Mt. Tom State Park program Birding for Beginners will be held on Sunday, June 30 beginning at 10:30 a.m. This one-hour program is meant to help beginners learn the basics of birding. The use of bird guides, lists and binoculars are used to learn about these feathered creatures. This program starts at the Stone House Visitor Center.

Patriotic Chalk Drawing: Patriotic Chalk Drawing will be held at Mt. Tom State Park on June 30 beginning at 1 p.m. July 4 is only a few days away and this is your chance to express your patriotism with artwork. Sidewalk chalk will be provided for anyone who would like to draw their favorite patriotic symbol on our designated spot. This program starts at the Stone House Visitor Center.

MONDAY, JULY 1

NATURE STORY TIME: Nature Story Time will be held at Mt. Tom State Park at 10:30 a.m. on Monday, July 1. This one-hour program provides the opportunity for children and adults to hear some of their favorite nature stories read out loud. Also bring one of your favorite books and see that story read to all. This program starts at the Stone House Visitor Center.

ADVANCED HIKE FOR SENIORS: There will be an advanced hike for Seniors on July 1 beginning at 1 p.m. Seniors and others who want more of a challenging hike can join in on this one-two hour hike up one of the more strenuous trails. The hike on these trails is at a slower pace to accommodate this age bracket. Bring water. This program starts at the Stone House Visitor Center.

TUESDAY, JULY 2

SENIOR HIKE: There will be a Senior HIKE on July 2 beginning at 10:30 a.m. Seniors can join in on this easy paced one hour hike. The terrain is mostly easy and the nature talk quite abundant. Bring water and bug spray. This program starts at the Stone House Visitor Center.

EXPLORE CLUBS: Explorers Club will meet on July 2 at 2 p.m. at Mt. Tom State Park. This weekly one-to-two hour program lets children ages 10-14 learn map reading skills, trail markings and proper hiking techniques as they travel on all the trails at Mt. Tom. Plus of course nature is observed closely. Bring water and bug spray. This program starts at the Stone House Visitor Center.

SATURDAY, JULY 6

LIFE AROUND THE LAKE: Snakes are the focus for “Life Around the Lake” on Saturday, July 6 beginning at 10:30 a.m. The many snakes that live in and near the lake have many adaptations to survive this watery habitat. Their survival are discussed in this 60-minute program. Meet at Bray Lake.

HIKE AROUND BRAY LAKE: The Hike around Bray Lake will take place on July 6 at 1 p.m. This hike travels around Bray Lake on the outer loop. The terrain is mostly easy with a few moderately strenuous spots. Discussions center around the lake and its inhabitants. Meet at Stonehouse Visitor Center. Bring water and bug spray.

SUNDAY, JULY 7

RA RA RIOT AT GCA: On Sunday, July 7 Ra Ra Riot comes to Gateway City Arts, located at 92 Race St. in Holyoke. Fire Letters will open up the night. This show is presented by DSP Shows. Tickets are $16 in advance and $18 at the door. The show starts at 8 p.m., with doors opening at 6 p.m.

BIRDING FOR BEGINNERS: Birding for Beginners at Mt. Tom State Reservation will be held on Sunday, July 7 at 10:30 a.m. This one-hour program is meant to help beginners learn the basics of birding. The use of bird guides, lists and binoculars are used to learn about these feathered creatures.

SATURDAY, JUNE 29

‘BIRDING FOR BEGINNERS’: The title for the July 7 Sunday Afternoon Family Program at Mt. Tom will be “Animal Homes.” Everything needs a home of some kind even animals in the wild. This program explores where each animals chooses their favorite spot for a safe and comfy abode. The program begins at 1 p.m.

A SERVANT’S PERSPECTIVE TOUR: On Sunday, July 7 at 1 p.m. and 3 p.m., Wistariahurst will host “A Servant’s Perspective Tour: Chauffeur Charles Linderman,” a guided tour of Wistariahurst Museum. On this special tour, hear from one of the most significant people in the history of Wistariahurst as he travels around the house in character as chauffeur Charles Linderman. Listen as Charlie recalls his time attending to the woman he affectionately called “The Countess” of the Wistariahurst’s last Skinner resident. Learn about the behind-the-scenes workings of the Skinner Estate. Early evanescence package is encouraged. Tickets can be purchased online at www.Wistariahurst.org. Tickets are $10 and $7 for seniors, residents, and Wistariahurst Museum members.

MONDAY, JULY 8

SUMMER LEARNING AND EXTENDED SCHOOL YEAR PROGRAMMING: Holyoke Public Schools has announced their free, high-quality summer learning opportunities for HPS students who will be entering grades 1 through 9 in Fall 2019. The programs run from July 6 through July 31, with a focus on academic, arts and enrichment as well as field trips and fun Friday activities. Visit the summer learning webpage for program information and online application.

JUNIOR RANGERS: Children ages 5 and 6 are welcome to participate in the four-week Junior Rangers program to become a certified Junior Ranger. Through exploration, crafts and games, participants can receive an official Junior Ranger patch and certificate. Each child must attend three out of four classes to qualify for this status. The July 8 program will begin at 10:30 a.m.

ADVANCED HIKE FOR SENIORS: There will be an advanced hike for seniors on July 8 at 1 p.m. at Mt. Tom State Reservation. Seniors and others who want more of a challenging hike can join in on this one-two hour hike up one of the more strenuous trails. The hike on these trails is at a slower pace to accommodate this age bracket. Bring water.

TUESDAY, JULY 9

SENIOR HIKE: There will be a senior hike on July 9 at 10:30 a.m. Seniors can join in on this easy paced one hour hike. The terrain is mostly easy and the nature talk quite abundant. Bring water and bug spray.

EXPLORE CLUB: The explorers Club will meet on July 9 at 2 p.m. at Mt. Tom State Park. This weekly one-to-two hour program lets children ages 10-14 learn map reading skills, trail markings and proper hiking techniques as they travel on all the trails at Mt. Tom. Plus of course nature is observed closely. Bring water and bug spray. This program starts at the Stone House Visitor Center.

SUNDAY, JULY 14

‘BIRDING FOR BEGINNERS’: Birding for Beginners at Mt. Tom State Reservation will be held on Sunday, July 14 starting at 8 a.m. This one-hour program is meant to help beginners learn the basics of birding. The use of bird guides, lists and binoculars are used to learn about these feathered creatures.

SUNRISE SUNDAY: 2019 FAMILY PROGRAM: The title for the July 14 Sunrise Sunday Program at Mt. Tom will be “Watching Wildlife.” This program will explore the world of wildlife here at Mt. Tom. Wildlife will be observed closely. Bring water and bug spray.

SATURDAY, JUNE 29

PANGOLIN RIVER: The Pangolin River will be held at Mt. Tom State Park on June 29 beginning at 1 p.m. to 3 p.m. This guided hike is a part of the Nature at Noon program. The hike will be focused on a natural river shoreline and the animals that call it home. This hike is open to all ages. Bring your own water bottle and bug spray. Meet at the Stone House Visitor Center.
stated by the Executive Office of Housing and Economic Development.

Before he started hands-on work in May, Benczczuk, 19, said he was excited about the opportunity. “Thrilled and nervous,” he said. “I’m definitely not from the city, but I can’t wait for the experience.”

Benczczuk is a third-generation STCC student. His grandfather studied electrical engineering technology. His father graduated from a biomedical technology program. Benczczuk looked into the Optical and Photonic Technology after reading an article about STCC’s programs. “I enjoy the programs and hands-on. I’m not the type of kid that was meant to sit behind a computer all day,” he said. “To use the laser etching and marking systems we have, I think that’s a blast.”

Richardson, 32, the other student who is interning at MIT Lincoln Laboratory, came to STCC for the Photonics Technology program with bachelor’s degree in theater from a university in California.

“I always had a predisposition for science,” Richardson said. “My dad’s an electrical engineer. I used to watch him work with schools with a program ... I checked out the program here and fell in love with it. I liked the idea that I could go to work for two years, start working in the field and then continue on with my education.”

While studying in Orlando, Florida, Richardson had the opportunity to study with a mentor, Eric Richardson, who holds a doctorate in electrical engineering from Stanford University.

“Being a living manager, I’ve been impressed with the quality of students who came out of this program,” said Richardson.

Limi, who worked at a laser technology company, “It was exciting to find a student who was interested in laser physics, something I had trained in for my graduate days. So I was very happy to mentor Shane.”

For his class project at STCC, Richardson experimented with converting visible orange light into visible green light.

“In order to change light to interact with anything, we have to change the wavelength, and that is what this whole experiment was about,” he said.

“I realize how much I was going to enjoy the program or how beneficial it was to me,” Limi said.

“Was a nice fit. I like the people here and I like the atmosphere. Not many other places have the resources in the field of Photonics Technology. It’s like a little hidden gem inside of STC.”

Commonwealth of Massachusetts
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(413)748-8600

Docket No. HD19P1242EA
State of:
Hazel Ormsby Bresnahan
Also Known As:
Hazel Ormsby Bresnahan
Hazel O. Bresnahan

Date of Death:
July 28, 2017

Date of Probate:
July 28, 2017

Probate of Will

Without administration.

The estate is being administered under informal procedure.

The estate of Hazel Ormsby Bresnahan, also known as Hazel Ormsby Bresnahan, Hazel O. Bresnahan, date of death: July 28, 2017, and as the law demands. Thank you.

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In The News

STUDENTS, page 8

Integrated Photonics, a Manufacturing USA institute established to promote the manufacturing of photonic integrated circuits in the United States for academic, commercial and governmental applications.

A key component of AIM Photonics is AIM Academy, which is dedicated to educating and training scientists, engineers and technicians who will constitute the workforce needed for the photonic integrated circuit manufacturing ecosystem.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts is supporting several Manufacturing USA institutes, including AIM Photonics, through the $100 million Massachusetts Manufacturing Innovation Initiative (M2I2) administered by the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

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Custodian

The Town of Granby is seeking qualified candidates for the position of Full-time Custodian. Qualified candidates must possess a high school diploma and one to three years of building maintenance experience.

Job description is available at Town of Granby Selectboard Office, 10-B W State St., Granby, MA 01033. Salary dependent upon qualifications. Applications will be accepted until the position is filled. Please submit resume and cover letter to application to Christopher Martin, Town Administrator, Town of Granby, Selectboard’s Office, 10-B W State St., Granby, MA 01033.

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For more information, please contact the Equal Housing Opportunity Hotline at 1-800-669-9777.
College for Kids at STCC offers fun, educational experiences

SPRINGFIELD – The College for Kids at Springfield Technical Community College (STCC) is a summer program that exposes participants between 11 and 17 to learning opportunities available in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields. Some of the available programs focus on arts and sports.

The “Summer of STEM” will give young people the chance to learn about architecture, lasers, fidget spinners and more.

The College for Kids at STCC programs on tap through August are as follows:

- Rock-It Science from July 22 to July 26 for ages 11 through 14. Have fun doing innovative, hands-on science. Activities include using a giant cata- pult to predict and project objects’ path through the air, designing and building rockets, seeing and hearing “sound waves” while playing musical instruments, building and racing solar cars, and observing rainbows in the sky to explore the nature of light. Activities are coordinated with the Springfield Science Museum. Cost is $270.
- Forensics from July 29 to Aug. 2 for ages 11 through 14: Forensic science is the study of crime scenes and criminal identities. This course will provide students with hands-on experience in forensic science and investigative skills. Cost is $270.
- The Play’s The Thing from July 29 to Aug. 2 for ages 11 through 14: A week of theater immersion that includes theater games, improvisation, and an adaptive short play performed at the end of the week for family and friends. This week of theater builds social skills, confidence, and self-esteem. Cost is $270.
- Basketball from July 29 to Aug. 2 for ages 11 through 14. Cost is $169.
- Keyboarding from July 29 to Aug. 2 for ages 11 through 14: Build necessary keyboarding skills through the use of interactive games and a keyboarding software program. The lessons are fun and help to build a strong typing foundation. Cost is $199.
- More information and to sign up online, people may visit stcc.edu/explore/summer-programs. For questions, people may contact Lidya Rivera-Early, director of Community Engagement, at (413) 755-4787 or email lmearly@stcc.edu.