

SCHOOLS & YOUTH

Culinary program hosts open house

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Community College will host an open house and free community tasting event on Wednesday, April 9 from 4-7 p.m. at the HCC MGM Culinary Arts Institute, 164 Race St.

Visitors will be able tour the state-of-the-art kitchens at the college's culinary arts facility, sample dishes prepared by culinary arts students and faculty, 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.

"We will have food in every kitchen, showcasing the work of our talented students and instructors," said Stacy Graves, the culinary arts institute coordinator. "Various HCC programs and community partners will have informational tables in the dining room so the public can learn about their pro-

grams."

Visitor will have the opportunity to talk to representatives from HCC programs and offices, including Admissions, the Marieb Adult Learner Success Center, HCC Foundation, Alumni Relations, Thrive Center and Food Pantry, El Centro, ALANA Men in Motion, and Jumpstart, as well as personnel from area community groups, including Tech Foundry/Tech Hub, United Way, Alzheimer's Organization, and Holyoke Medical Center.

The HCC Culinary Arts Truck – a.k.a. The CAT – will also be parked outside the building for visitors to explore, and the HCC Culinary Arts Club will be selling homemade ice cream as a club fundraiser.

Staff from the HCC Admissions office will be on hand to discuss enrollment options, including MassEducate, the state program for free community

college.

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, people may visit hcc.edu/culinary or send an email to CAI@hcc.edu.

Ella Mastroianni makes Dean's List

BOSTON – Ella Mastroianni of Westfield, a member of the Class of 2026, made the fall semester Dean's List at Emerson

College.

She is majoring in Writing, Literature and Publishing and is a member of the Emerson College

Class of 2026. The requirement to make the Dean's List is a grade point average of 3.7 or higher for that semester.

Valley Press Club offer scholarships

SPRINGFIELD – The Valley Press Club, based in Springfield, will award \$1,000 scholarships to high school seniors in Western Massachusetts and Northern Connecticut, who are interested in pursuing a career in journalism.

The Valley Press Club Scholarships, funded by contributions and dues to the Press Club, are for students planning careers in print, online or broadcast journalism.

The Edward J. Malley Jr. Memorial Scholarship, established in memory of a chief photographer for the Springfield Newspapers, is for students planning

careers in photojournalism.

The Rhonda Swan Memorial Scholarship, established in memory of the award-winning journalist, editor and author, is for students who are underrepresented, in the Springfield, area, planning careers in journalism.

Primary emphasis is placed on career goals, writing ability, scholastic aptitude and overall achievement as measured by an applicant's high school transcript, class rank, academic awards, SAT scores and extracurricular activities.

The deadline for submissions is Friday, April 4.

Scholarship applications are available at www.ValleyPressClub.com or high school guidance offices. Applications may be sent by mail to Noreen Tassinari, Scholarship Chair, Valley Press Club, P.O. Box 5475, Springfield, Mass. 01102 or electronically to NTassinari77@gmail.com

Over the course of six decades, The Valley Press Club has presented over \$140,000 in scholarships to eligible students. The Valley Press Club consists of active and retired journalists and public relations professionals from corporate and nonprofit organizations.

EASTHAMPTON

bankESB parent company wins top workplace award

EASTHAMPTON – Hometown Financial Group, the parent company of bankESB, bankHometown, North Shore Bank, Abington Bank, a division of North Shore Bank and Hometown Mortgage, announced it has earned the 2025 USA TODAY Top Workplaces award for the third time in four years.

Top Workplaces USA

celebrates organizations with 150 or more employees that are dedicated to building an exceptional people-first culture. Winners are chosen based solely on employee feedback gathered through an anonymous, third-party employee engagement survey, issued by Energage, a leading provider of technology-based employee engagement tools.

More than 42,000 organizations across the country were invited to participate in the Top Workplaces USA survey. Results are calculated by comparing the survey's research-based statements, including 15 Culture Drivers that are proven to predict high performance against industry benchmarks.

"We're honored to have received this trio of nation-

al awards as an employer of choice. But we're even more grateful to our employees because it's their positive feedback that earned us the honor," said Hometown Financial Group Chairman and CEO and bankESB President and CEO Matthew S. Sosik. "Our dedicated, talented, and passionate employees continually

unlocking potential for our customers, our communities and one another. And they've embraced our culture where 'Respect everyone,' 'Foster positive energy and laugh often. Have fun.' are three of our most treasured core values. They believe we're doing something right."

"Earning a Top Workplaces award is a

badge of honor for companies, especially because it comes authentically from their employees," said Eric Rubino, Energage CEO. "That's something to be proud of. In today's market, leaders must ensure they're allowing employees to have a voice and be heard. That's paramount. Top Workplaces do this and it pays dividends."

MONTGOMERY

Library to host pastel workshop on April 5

MONTGOMERY – The Grace Hall Memorial Library, 161 Main Road, will host "The Seahorse: How to Pastel Paint," with materials, for adults and teens.

Award-winning pastel artist Gregory John Maichack will present "The Seahorse," a pastel painting workshop for adults and teens 18+ hosted by the Montgomery Library on April 5 from 11a.m.-1 p.m. This is a pastel painting workshop designed for both sheer beginners to advanced participants. People may email gracehallmemoriallibrary@montgomerylibrary.com or call 413-862-3894 to pre register.

This all-new "The Seahorse: How to Pastel Paint," all draw a seahorse or

use a template that Maichack provides, both large and small seahorses. We also create bubbles and a template will be provided as well. This is fun, and has an ocean of possibilities, having instruction in expressive pastel strokes, blending, slurring and layering. Additionally emerald pastel pencils will be provided for details. All keep their 12" X 18" pastel painting of their personalized vivid seahorse.

Photo references of various pastel seahorses are supplied for ideas allowing unfathomable possibilities. Maichack's own pastel painted seahorses will unveil the process. All will be entertained by lively anecdotes on the mystery of seahorses.

Maichack, is an

award-winning artist, twice Mass. Cultural Council Gold Star Award Program nominee, a seasoned pro from instructing at the Museum of Fine Arts Boston, colleges, to 100s of libraries.

Maichack lives in the Berkshires and is a portraitist and painter working primarily in pastels. Maichack was commissioned by Westfield State College to paint the pastel portrait of the past president of Westfield State University, Doctor Frederick Woodward, which was unveiled at the dedication of the Woodward Center; and pastel painted dictionary great Charles Merriam, unveiled by Merriam-Webster Co. at Merriam-Gilbert Library.

Maichack has been a fac-

ulty member of the Museum Studio School in the Fine Arts Museum Quadrangle in Springfield and taught at Holyoke and Greenfield Community Colleges, Westfield State University, East Works, the MFA, Boston, and The Guild, Northampton. Maichack's pastel paintings have been selected twice for the Annual National Exhibition of the Academic Artists Association and as a result Maichack was invited to be a member of this prestigious organization.

This project is supported in part from a grant from the Montgomery Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.

MUSIC

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Skyline, Sure Shot and Liquid Floyd. Saxophonist Joe Nerney studied music education at Boston Conservatory and is also seen performing throughout the area with the likes of Seth Glier and as part of the duo the West Hill Two and his larger ensemble, West Hill Groove. He also hosts "Podcast from Joe" on apple podcasts.

This monthly series is co-hosted by the Montgomery Public Library and by Gray Catbird Pottery Studio.

Attendees are invited to bring baked goods to share. Donations are accepted for the refreshments with money split between the Montgomery Volunteer Firemen's Association and the Town Library. Donations are also accepted to tip and thank the fabulous musicians who perform each week.

This event is open to all who are interested. For more information, people may call Dale Rogers at 413-875-5205.

SEND US YOUR PHOTOS
countryjournal@turley.com

PUBLIC NOTICES

TOWN OF WORTHINGTON SCHOOL COMMITTEE PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to MGL 71 section 38N, the Worthington School Committee will hold a public hearing on Thursday, April 10, 2025 at 6:30 PM at R.H. Conwell Elementary School, 147 Huntington Road, Worthington and via Google Meet to consider the proposed school district budget for Fiscal Year 2026.

School Committee Meeting via google meet
Thursday, April 10, 2025
6:30-10:00pm
Time zone: America/New York
Google Meet joining info
meet.google.com/xho-xahh-dgk
Or dial:
(US) +1 678-769-4479
PIN: 343357737

Copies of the proposed budget are available in the main office of the R. H. Conwell Elementary School and will be available below on March 27, 2024:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/17eMuVIL_mwJXme6AF0Opf-4mjLFW9BVW?usp=share_link
03/27/2025

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. HD25P0393EA
Estate of:
Martha Louise Hoynoski
Date of Death: 11/28/2024
CITATION ON PETITION FOR FORMAL ADJUDICATION

To all interested persons:
A Petition for Formal Probate of Will with Appointment of Personal Representative has been filed by Robert J Guz, Jr. of Austin, TX requesting that the Court enter a formal Decree and Order and for such other relief as requested in the Petition.

The Petitioner requests that: Robert J Guz, Jr. of Austin, TX 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 04/15/2025. 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: March 18, 2025
Rosemary A Saccomani,
Register of Probate
03/27/2025

REQUEST FOR SERVICES (RFS) Porter Memorial Library Design Services

The Town of Blandford is soliciting qualifications for the MPLCP Level of design services for the Porter Memorial Library design services. The MPLCP Level of Design services will be a negotiated fee. The Town may negotiate with the same designer for additional design services such as design development, surveys plans, specifications, bid phase, and construction phase services, FF&E, and close out services, etc.

Designer Selection Services are being procured under M.G.L

c. 7c §§44-57

A **Mandatory** briefing and walkthrough will be held at Porter Memorial Library, 87 Main Street Blandford, MA, 01008 on March 25th, 2025 at 9:00am.

Request for Services documents are available from the Town of Blandford OPM, Aaron Singer, via email - aaron.singer@skanska.com.

Forward any questions by 2pm April 1st 2025, as instructed in the RFS document to the Town of Blandford OPM, Aaron Singer, via email aaron.singer@skanska.com. As mandated by Massachusetts General Law, c. 7C ss44 the applicant principal designer shall be a Massachusetts registered Architect or Engineer.

Sealed proposals should be delivered to the Porter Memorial Library and will be received until the RFS proposal deadline of **Wednesday, April 9th, 2025 at 2:00pm.**

Late qualifications will be rejected. Proposal submissions should be in an envelope labeled 'RFS - Porter Memorial Library Design Services', along with the complete contact information of

the proposer. The proposal submission should include six (6) hard copies of the proposal and one (1) thumb drive containing the submission in a PDF.

The Town of Blandford, reserves the right to reject any and all proposals, waive informalities, and to award contracts in the best interest of the Town.
03/20, 03/27/2025

BLANDFORD NOTICE OF TOWN MEETING PUBLIC HEARING

On Monday, March 31, 2025 at 6pm at Town Hall the Blandford Select Board will hold a public hearing to discuss the following

1. Petition order from Ever-source for joint or identical pole locations.

2. Certificate of Announcement pursuant to 301 CMR 51.07(2) The Department of Conservation and Recreation may acquire an interest in a parcel of land located in Blandford.

The documentation is available for inspection at the Select Board Office, Library and Post Office.
03/27/2025