

Holliston social media star, Spencer the Dog, named "Official Dog of the Boston Marathon"

Spencer has been encouraging runners for eight years

By JANE LEBAK

Spencer, a local therapy dog, was recognized at this year's Boston Marathon as its Official Dog and "Grand Barkshal."

"From 2015 on, Spencer's been at every marathon holding the 'Boston Strong' flag," said Rich Powers, owner of Spencer and Penny, a pair of Golden Retrievers based in Holliston. "Runners stop and hug him."

Spencer, age 12, has been cheering on runners for eight years. He started garnering attention in 2018, when marathon day saw high winds and pouring rain. "There was a



SPENCER
continued on page 2



New community video aims to persuade anyone relocating to the area to choose Holliston

In April, the Town of Holliston released a "Community Profile Video" that will be "included in a national campaign to attract businesses and people relocating to the area to choose Holliston," according to the town website.

"We hope that this video will help people learn more about Holliston and decide to live, visit or do business in Town," Town Administrator Travis Ahern says on the site. "This professional production also allows us to share the footage, which includes fantastic drone shots of the Town, with local businesses that are featured or that would like to use scenic images of

Holliston in their own promotional materials."

The six-minute video highlights several aspects of the town including its history, schools, recreation plus agricultural and business opportunities. It also features several quotes from Mary Greendale, a writer and host of "Just Thinking," a production of Holliston Cable Access Television; and Robert Weidknecht, Chair of the Holliston Trails Committee.

"We've managed to kind of hold onto that historic fabric,"

VIDEO
continued on page 2

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SPENCER

continued from page 1

pup there wearing a raincoat,” said Powers, not adding it was his own raincoat he had placed on Spencer so the dog would stay safe and dry.

Spencer and Penny appear frequently on Facebook’s Holliston Residents & Fans page with daily “Pupdates.” They also have their own Facebook page “Spencer & Penny” @ Spencerpowers.

Powers said the Pupdates began as a fun way to mark time during the pandemic. “Once, I dragged my trash cans to the curb on the wrong day. My dogs love to hold things in their mouth so, as a joke, I wrote ‘Today is Tuesday’ and I posted it on social media.”

The pups got a great response so, two years later, the signs continue with the dogs first telling the day and then giving a joke or good advice.

Spencer has faced cancer twice, the most recent in Dec. 2021. In Feb., he completed his fourth chemotherapy and is now in remission.

Powers believes people connect with Spencer because of that. “He inspires a lot of people because everyone knows a Spencer. Everyone knows someone who’s fighting the good fight and moving forward. That’s why he’s such a strong presence at the marathon. He’s a symbol of hope.”

On April 13, Spencer and Penny traveled to Fairmont Copley Plaza, where the Boston Athletic Association formally recognized Spencer’s efforts on behalf of the marathon runners.

The BAA announced, “For years, Spencer has served as an unofficial cheerleader for participants as they make their way from Hopkinton to Boston...For all of Spencer’s contributions that have lifted the spirit of runners far and wide, the Boston Marathon and the B.A.A. hereby name Spencer as the Official Dog of the 126th Boston Marathon.”

Spencer was presented with his own Spencer bib, and posed for photos with his Boston Strong flag.

Accent Limousine of Milford volunteered to bring Spencer to receive his award in style, in a white stretch limousine. Rick Nashawaty II, owner of Accent Limousine Service, says, “Everyone that sees Spencer during the marathon route is immediately in a good mood! He’s a survivor, an inspiration, and we’re proud to be part of Spencer’s journey to support the runners to keep going to the finish line.”

Powers says there is something special about his beloved therapy dog, who (along with Penny) is a star on social media but also in real life as they travel the area visiting schools and hospitals.

“There’s something about Spencer. He just goes to people and leans in, and then everything is okay. He’s got magic about him, just like a little angel. We’ve made it a mission to share him with the world.”



Local therapy dogs Penny and Spencer hard at work at a Boston hospital. Source: www.facebook.com/Spencerpowers

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VIDEO

continued from page 1

Greendale says over drone footage of the downtown. Other historic aspects mentioned include the Mudville area where the Irish lived in the 1840s when building the railroad, numerous area homes that date back to the 1700s, the Phipps Hill Tunnel, the Eight Arch Bridge, and historic buildings that are being saved and repurposed.

The video highlights the Holliston Public Schools (including the French immersion program), town recreation programs, and mentions “age-friendly [Council on Aging] programming.”

“Holliston is a family-centric community that values education and invests in education, and pushes sports for their kids. I mean, the kids are the center of this town, really,” Greendale says at the top of the video.

Holliston has over 25 percent open space throughout town, and also features the Upper Charles Rail Trail corridor (along which are interpretive exhibits), making the town a great place to live, work and visit.

“We have a booming agricultural economy in a tiny little town like this, it blows my mind. We have a booming agricultural community because we are a

market that’s just sitting here, ready and ripe,” says Greendale.

The town has four commercial zones plus seven industrial zones including industrial parks and cannabis cultivation and manufacturing areas.

Greendale says the town’s greatest gift is that it is a “real community.”

“New people move in and they move in because it has a feeling of being a community... Somehow it just feels like it is a community and then we live it, we really do live it. It’s a good town. It’s good people,” says Greendale, as an image of an old screen door passes by.

Weidknecht says, “Now we have the regional draw to be able to get people from all over the country, to be able to use and enjoy the trail. Getting people out, off their phones and off their computers, and getting on the rail trails and in our open spaces.”

The video is part of a VIEW-POINT series produced by Pioneer Production Services, LLC. For more information or to view the video, visit <https://bit.ly/3KY7Oxq>

According to the town website, the project is a “revitalizing initiative which qualified for use of the Town’s American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds.” The town has rights to all footage.

Open Offices For Annual Town Election May 24

Running for a Town Office can be a rewarding experience, and an opportunity to help your community. Holliston depends on its volunteers.

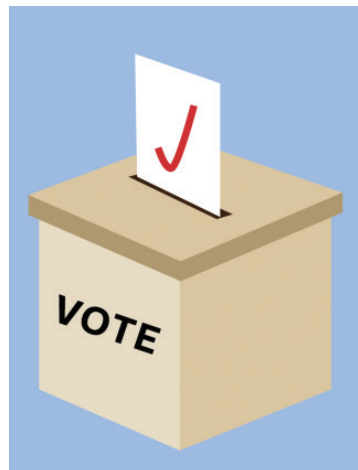
The Town Election is May 24, 2022. Town Elections are non-partisan.

Any person who is a Massachusetts resident, a United States citizen and will be 18 years old as of the next election, is eligible to register to vote. You do not need a drivers license or any other form of identification to register. However, when you sign the registration form, you must attest, under the pains and penalties of perjury, that you are legally eligible to register and that the information you provide is accurate and truthful.

If you are new to Town or just turned of age, you must register to vote at least 20 days before any Town Meeting/Election.

For the 2022 annual town election, the last day to register to vote is Wednesday, May 4. The clerk's office stays open until 8PM on the last day to register for these deadlines.

Registering to vote is very easy: you may visit the Town Clerk's Office in person and fill out an application, or you may obtain a mail -in form at any Post Office or Public Library. You must send a copy of your ID if registering by mail. Suf-



ficient ID includes a copy of a current and valid photo id, current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck or other government document showing your name and address.

The polls are open on Election Day from 7AM to 8PM for all elections and the polls for all precincts are at the High School Gym (field house), unless you are otherwise notified by mail. Check in tables in each precinct are where you go and give the name of your street, the number of your residence and your name. The voter lists are arranged by street so this is the fastest way to receive your ballot and keep the lines moving.

ABSENTEE VOTING

Voters who are unable to get to the polls to vote on election day because of physical disability, religious beliefs, away at school

or travel, may vote by absentee ballot. Absentee ballots are not available for mere inconvenience, or because of ordinary commuting-related difficulties.

Applications for absentee ballots may be obtained from the Town Clerk and may be submitted in person or by mail. The voter, or a family member, may submit an application. All applications must be signed under the pains and penalties of perjury by the voter, or a family member, before a ballot will be made available.

Applications for absentee ballots must be received by the Town Clerk before noon the day before an election. If the voter submits the application in person, he/she may obtain the ballot and vote over-the-counter at the clerks office. When the application is submitted in person by a family member, the ballot will be sent by mail or in some cases may be hand carried to the voter by the family member. A voter who is permanently disabled need not submit a request for an absentee ballot every election. If the Town Clerk receives a note from a physician indicating permanent disability, the clerk will send an application at the beginning of every year. Once this is signed and returned to the clerks office it is kept on file and an absentee ballot will be sent for each election.

The following is a list of the offices:

Moderator	3 year term	1 position
Town Clerk	3 year term	1 position
Select Board	3 year term	1 position
Board of Assessors	3 year term	1 position
School Committee	3 year term	2 positions
Board of Health	3 year term	1 position
Trustee of Public Library	3 year term	2 positions
Trustee of Public Library	1 year term	1 position
Finance Committee	3 year term	3 positions
Park Commissioner	3 year term	2 positions
Planning Board	5 year term	1 position

Annual Town Meeting starts May 9

The town of Holliston's 2022 Annual Town Meeting will commence at 7p.m. on Monday, May 9, 2022, and will continue, if necessary, on Tuesday, May 10, Wednesday, May 11, and Thursday, May 12, or to such other date as the Meeting may decide, at the High School Auditorium, 370 Hollis St.

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Cub Scouts Get Up Close And Personal With Police Station

Holliston Cub Scouts Pack 47 enjoyed a Holliston Police station tour last month.

Thanks to Officer Parent and Officer Charette, they learned about each area of the station, including where prisoners are booked and how investigations are conducted.

Dispatcher Masiello also gave the scouts a thorough tutorial on telecommunications.

One of the favorite parts of the tour was when Officer Parent brought out his motorcycle.



Photos courtesy of the Holliston Police Department Facebook page.

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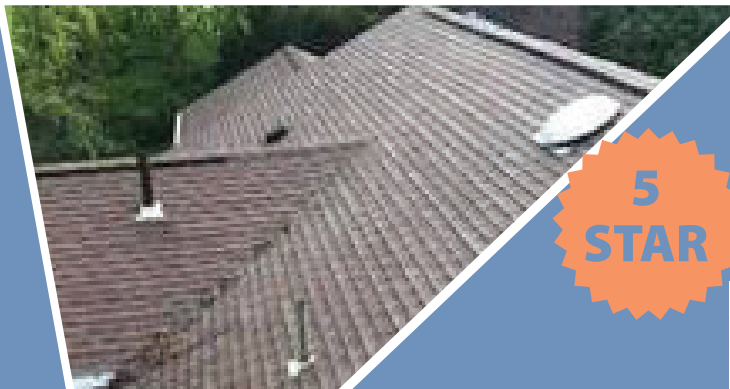
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Community Ties and a Commitment to Customer Service: Affordable Junk Removal

There are plenty of reasons to call a junk removal service. Maybe you're planning to move and need to clear out the basement and attic before your open house. Maybe you've spent way too much time at home lately and are feeling the need to declutter.

But figuring out who to call can be a pain. If you contact one of the big haulers, they route you to a phone center where they've never even heard of your town, plus their pricing seems vague and full of extra fees. No wonder you've let the stuff pile up—it's too much of a hassle to get rid of it!

Or you can call Affordable Junk Removal and let a local small business with deep community roots take care of everything.

Jay Schadler started his business in 2003. Back then, it was just him and a beat-up pickup truck taking small jobs and working nights and weekends when he could. As the years rolled on, his business grew, but his commitment to customer service never wavered. Now he's got a staff of ten, along with ten trucks, servicing eastern and central Massachusetts and northern Rhode Island.

Affordable Junk Removal specializes in house and estate cleanouts. If your garage, attic, or office is overflowing with stuff, take back your space and let the pros do the heavy lifting.

Jay and his team have handled it all. They've dismantled above-ground pools, hauled away ancient hot tubs, taken down old fencing, and stripped away worn carpeting. They'll come for a single item, or they'll clean out an entire house. And they can take almost anything. They can't accept hazardous materials, brush, dirt, or concrete, but everything else is fair game for them to take away.

Not everything ends up in a landfill—not if Jay can help it. He first tries to either recycle or donate items. Only after he tries to repurpose items do they end up at the transfer station.

Business spotlight

Working with Affordable Junk Removal is simple. First, you can load stuff yourself if you want by renting a 15-cubic-yard dumpster for a week and chucking up to a ton of your unwanted stuff. If you need to get rid of more weight, then Jay prorates that tonnage—you never pay for what you don't use.

If you don't want to be bothered with the dumpster, they've also got a driveway special where they'll take away a truckload of your unwanted things if you pile it up. Or if you don't want to lift a finger, then you can point at the items, and the team will fill up their truck and haul away your unwanted things. However you do it, you're left with more space and more peace of mind.

Jay and his team beat the big waste haulers on both price and customer service. When you call Affordable Junk Removal, you aren't connected to an anonymous call center. Your phone call goes right to Jay.

And speaking of pricing, Jay is upfront about it. His website shows the truck sizes and prices, so you can save time knowing your costs before you call for an appointment. There aren't any hidden costs or surprise fees with Affordable Junk Removal.

Affordable Junk Removal is fully licensed and fully insured, and they'll treat your property with care and respect.



They also have a thriving commercial business, working with contractors and roofers to clear away debris and keep the job site clean. They can even handle commercial and residential emergencies with same-day service.

Jay and his family are deeply involved in the community. He and his wife, Christine, run the Corner Market restaurant in Holliston as well as Resellables, a thrift store in Bellingham. It's not uncommon for someone to reach Jay at the restaurant, order a sandwich, and then schedule a junk removal appointment. Yes, the local small business really can handle everything!

For more information, contact Jay Schadler at (774) 287-1133 or visit Affordable Junk Removal online at www.takeawayjunk.com.

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Flexible Schedule

While facility-based healthcare professions come with rigid shift schedules, home health and hospice nurses have more flexibility in scheduling patient visits. At VNA Care, we provide patient care seven days a week with opportunities to work week-

Employment spotlight

days, weeknights, and weekends as well as full-time, part-time, and per diem. The variety of schedules provides nurses more flexibility for work-life balance or to continue their education. We understand that our nurses have their own responsibilities and obligations outside of work, and providing adaptable schedules makes finding that balance easier.

Independence and Autonomy

Home health and hospice nurses work independently in coordination with their multidisciplinary teams and clinical service manager as they care for patients. It's a challenging and rewarding field that allows nurses to practice at the top of their license. Seeing patients in the home setting enables VNA Care's clinicians to personalize care and develop strong relation-



ships with each of their patients and their families.

Learning and Growing Opportunities

Our nurses are never alone throughout their learning process. VNA Care's nurse specialists provide their expertise to help their colleagues learn new skills such as wound care and IVs. Nurses are also supported

by their clinical service manager and collaborate with other members of the team (such as rehab therapists, social workers, etc.) to provide the best possible patient care.

Along with exceptional team support, VNA Care's healthcare professionals also enjoy competitive benefits including HMO and PPO health insurance plans with a company-sponsored health re-



imbursement arrangement to offset deductible expenses, dental plans, vision plans, and much more. We encourage a manageable work-life balance and incorporate additional benefits to help you outside of your careers such as pet insurance and auto and homeowners' insurance. Compensation, including signing bonuses for certain positions, is just one side of the coin – room for professional growth is a priority at VNA Care, and our career opportunities aim to provide the necessary support and resources to help you meet your personal and professional goals. Founded by Massachusetts' most established home care organizations, VNA Care Network, VNA of Boston and VNA Hospice & Palliative Care, VNA Care has built a company culture of mutual trust and support that enables clinicians to deliver exceptional care.

For More Information

Interested in pursuing a career in home health or hospice nursing? Visit our website at vncare.org/careers or email us at HumanResources@vncare.org. We are here to answer any questions as you explore the next opportunity in your healthcare career.

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Momma, can I take the \$40 from grandma and grandpa to the Dollar Store?

Dada, how much does a dog cost?

Yes, a third grader and kindergarten can be curious and money conversations become more difficult as they grow older. Making kids understand how money works is a start, however financial literacy doesn't equate to understanding value or making good, responsible decisions.

A book to help create financial decisions as teaching opportunities is *The Opposite of Spoiled: Raising Kids Who Are Grounded, Generous, and Smart About Money* by Ron Lieber.

Let me share the central strategy: Allowance & Three Jars.

No allowance for chores. Lieber argues when parents tie allowance to completion of chores, they make work the primary focus, not money. Kids should do chores for the same reason we do - because they need to be done. If done poorly, there are plenty of privileges we can take away.

Allowance as a teaching tool. If your child can count and ask to buy things, start an allowance. Consider 50 cents or \$1 a week per year of age, raised each year

on birthdays. Your focus is to have them learn patience, strive for a goal and make decisions with defined resources.

Three jars: spend, save & give. They divide allowance into three clear jars each week: spending now, saving for later and giving to those who may need it more - an introduction to budgeting.

Now here is where I've come to differ from Lieber.

He pays an unrealistic interest rate each week (i.e. 20%) for "save jar" to help kids visibly see the power of savings and compounding. Once spent, less interest is paid, helping teach selective spending decisions and building of savings.

Thinking like an investor. I want them curious if something can be invested in, think why (or why not) it is a good investment and participate in risk/reward.

To execute, some investment firms allow buying slices of shares, up to 5 companies for \$50 total. Can be in a child's name via custodial account (beneficial capital gains rules) and viewed as a teaching tool rather than education savings since they'll be spending on their larger wants.

As a holiday gift, we started three companies they knew and

two I educated why they own it. Monthly we review values, if dividends were paid, total account value, if they want to add more and/or if there's a new company they want to invest in.

I've explained their favorite pizza shop is a small business that doesn't have shares. Also explained who makes a game they like, which they decided to take from their "save jar" to buy. It's down ~15% in a short time but I asked if the reason they bought is still true, if they want to buy more, still hold or sell.

Remember, it's about learning and making mistakes now, to benefit when they're older with their real earnings.

The opinions voiced in this material are for general information only and are not intended to provide specific advice or recommendations for any individual.

Glenn Brown is a Holliston resident and owner of PlanDynamic, LLC, www.PlanDynamic.com. Glenn is a fee-only Certified Financial Planner™ helping motivated people take control of their planning and investing, so they can balance kids, aging parents and financial independence.



Glenn Brown

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Garden club plant sale

The Holliston Garden Club's annual plant sale is Saturday, May 7, from 9 am to noon, at the green in front of First Congregational Church, 725 Washington St.

There will be a wide selection of annuals, perennials, container gardens and hanging baskets. The perennials are from members' gardens.

Purchases may be made by cash or check. Proceeds from this event will supplement the club's programs and plantings around town. This is a rain or shine event.



Sponsor A Hole, Help Knights Of Columbus Support Holliston Pantry Shelf



Gain business exposure and support the Holliston Pantry Shelf. The Knights of Columbus #14224 is seeking sponsors for our first annual Swing for Charity golf tournament to be held Friday, June 3, at Pinecrest Golf Club in Holliston.

The event includes an 18-hole shotgun scramble, a raffle and lunch. Donations benefit the Holliston Pantry Shelf.

Levels of sponsorship include: premium hole sponsor And hole sponsor.

Visit KofCswingforcharity.com or contact John Curran at 617-306-9835.

Town of Holliston Select Board

"Notice of 2022 Annual Town Meeting and Annual Town Election"

Notice is hereby given that the Town of Holliston's 2022 Annual Town Meeting will commence at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, May 9, 2022 and will continue, if necessary, on Tuesday May 10, Wednesday, May 11, and Thursday May 12, or to such other date as the Meeting may decide, at the High School Auditorium, 370 Hollis Street, to act on the following articles:



Art. Description

- 1 Hear Report of the Select Board
- 2 Hear Report of the Finance Committee
- 3 Establish Stabilization Fund - Cannabis Revenue
- 4 Dedication of Certain Receipts - Cannabis Revenue
- 5 Dedication of Cannabis Receipts without Further Appropriation
- 6 Delivery (Courier, Licensee, Operator) - General By-Laws
- 7 Delivery (Courier, Licensee, Operator) - Zoning By-Laws
- 8 Authorize Select Board to Notify CCC of Allowance of Delivery within Borders
- 9 Citizens Petition to Notify CCC of Allowance of Delivery
- 10 Citizens Petition - Deliver (Courier, Licensee, Operator) - Zoning By-Laws
- 11 Authorize Treasurer/Collector to Sell Foreclosed Tax Title Properties
- 12 Tax Workoff - Chapter 59, Section SK
- 13 Compensation for Elected Officials
- 14 Pay Unpaid Bills from Prior Years
- 15 Current Fiscal Year (FY22) Transfers
- 16 Amend Consolidated Personnel By-Law - Wage Classification Plan
- 17 Amend Consolidated Personnel By-Law
- 18 Authorize the Select Board to Sell Surplus Equipment
- 19 Authorize to Expend Chapter 90 (State Aid for Highways Program)
- 20 Amend Interest Rate per Annum
- 21 Amend Income Requirements
- 22 Veterans' Tax Exemptions
- 23 Increase Personal Property Exemption (\$3k to \$5k)
- 24 Establish Means-Tested Senior Citizen Property Tax Exemption
- 25 Solar PILOT - 39 Marshall Street (GL c. 59, s. 38H)
- 26 Revolving Fund Spending Limits
- 27 Fiscal Year 2023 Budget
- 28 Transfer from Available Funds to the Capital Expenditure Fund
- 29 Capital Expenditures (Budget)
- 30 Street Lights - LED Conversion
- 31 Water Main Improvements - Central to Bullard, and Fiske St Culvert
- 32 Report of the Community Preservation Committee
- 33 Report of the CLRPC (Envisioning Future Holliston)
- 34 300th Anniversary Fund (Dec. 3, 2024)
- 35 Report of the Governance Committee
- 36 Transfer from Available Funds to the Stabilization Fund - postpone to Oct.
- 37 Zoning By-Laws - Sections I-C Pre-Existing Non-Conforming Uses
- 38 Zoning By-Laws - Sections I-E Definitions and II-B (Accessory Buildings & Structures)
- 39 Zoning By-Laws - Sections I-E and III (Use Regulations)
- 40 General By-Laws - Swimming Pools
- 41 Road Acceptances - Indian Ridge Road South, Hopping Brook Road
- 42 Citizens Petition to Expand the Select Board to Five (5) Members.

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Newly expanded Platinum Physical Therapy brings relief to local residents

By CHRISTIE VOGT

Platinum Physical Therapy, which has locations in Ashland, Hopkinton and Milford, has recently expanded its Ashland office to accommodate its growing practice. The larger space at 15 West Union St. allows for its seven physical therapists to provide additional one-on-one care to patients looking for improved quality of life.

Kelsey (Britton) Hooageboom, Ashland clinic manager and physical therapist, began thinking about a career in physical therapy during her teenage years at Ashland High School when she worked for and shadowed James Cassidy, the owner of Platinum Physical Therapy. Inspired by the work she saw, Hooageboom went on to earn a doctorate degree in physical therapy. “When I got out of school,” Hooageboom recalls, “I called James and asked if he had a job for me, and he did!” Hooageboom now has nine years as a physical therapist under her belt, and she is also a certified yoga teacher.

“When people think of PT,” Hooageboom says, “they often just think, ‘Oh, they’re gonna give me exercises. But we offer more than that, and we have a lot of different specialties within the facility.” Two of their physical therapists are women’s health and pelvic floor specialists who work with prenatal and postpartum patients, as well as any person with pelvic floor issues such as constipation, pelvic floor pain, painful sex and incontinence.

The clinic also has five therapists with orthopedic specialties. “We treat everything from an ankle sprain to postoperative diagnoses such as a total knee replacement or rotator cuff repairs,” Hooageboom shares. “Also, neck pain, back pain, shoulder



pain — you name it.” They also have a therapist who specializes in lymphedema and another who specializes in vestibular treatments for patients with concerns such as dizziness and vertigo.

At Platinum Physical Therapy, patients receive one-on-one personalized care in a 40-minute model, Hooageboom explains. Therapists offer a thorough functional movement assessment and a treatment plan that may include hands-on manual work, an exercise program and educational information to manage symptoms and return to function. “We want you to be back out in the community and doing what you want to do as soon as possible,” she says.

In Massachusetts, patients have what’s called “direct access” to physical therapy, meaning they can go directly to a therapist without a referral from a doctor, although some insurance companies do require a referral in order for the evaluation and treatment to be covered.

Those without injuries or acute concerns can also benefit from the clinic’s yoga class, running assessments and strength programming, which includes a movement screen and personalized exercise program.

Platinum Physical Therapy also provides free injury screens. “We’d so much rather you get on our table at the beginning of



Platinum Physical Therapy has seven therapists at its Ashland location.

pain onset rather than waiting,” Hooageboom says. “We might say, ‘Yeah, let’s get you into the doctor, it looks like you do need PT.’ Or sometimes we’ll say, ‘You know what, it’s just X, Y and Z; try this and follow up in two weeks to make sure the pain has resolved.’”

“We’re here to support you,” Hooageboom emphasizes. “Our ultimate goal is that you have the knowledge to take care of yourself and eventually you don’t need us at all.”

“When we get to see a person achieve their goals, whether that goal is to run a marathon or to simply get down on the floor to play with their grandchildren,” Hooageboom adds, “that’s success to us. It’s truly about getting people back to the life they want to live.”

To learn more, visit Image platinumptma.com, email info@platinumptma.com or call the Ashland office at 508-881-6750.

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Milford Federal Bank appoints Jeremy Leap Senior Vice President Commercial Lending

Milford Federal Bank announced today that Jeremy Leap has joined the Bank as SVP, Commercial Lending. Mr. Leap will lead a growing team of Milford Federal's Commercial Bankers, Jeremy will join Anna Case, AVP, Commercial Credit Officer & Operations Manager, Anita Carroll, Commercial Portfolio Manager and Stephanie Saraidarian, Commercial Credit Representative.

"We couldn't be happier to welcome Jeremy to our Commercial Banking Team" said Paul Gilbody President & CEO," Jeremy's depth and experience in commercial lending expands our capabilities significantly with this important growth area for Milford Federal. He brings strong relationships and familiarity in the

communities we serve that will benefit our existing clients and future expansion of our lending portfolio"

Jeremy has 16 years' experience as a Commercial Lender most recently at Savers Bank. Jeremy is involved with the United Way & Habitat for Humanity.

Established in 1887, Milford Federal Bank has been assisting its neighbors and friends for 135 years. Serving the greater Milford and Blackstone Valley areas in Massachusetts and Northern RI, it has four conveniently located offices in Milford and Whitinsville Massachusetts and Woonsocket, RI and can also be found on the Internet at MilfordFederal.com and Facebook.



Stephanie Saraidarian, Anna Case , Jeremy Leap and Anita Carroll.

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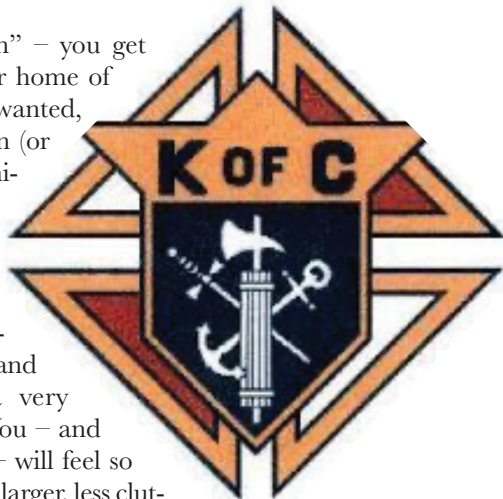
For more information, or to schedule your insert, please contact Susanne Odell Farber at 508-954-8148 or by email at sue@sodellconsult.com

“Double-Win” Recycling Event

You don't want to miss St. Mary's of Holliston Knights of Columbus Council 14224 “Double-Win” Electronic Recycling event on Saturday, May 14, in the St. Mary's Church parking lot.

What's a “Double-Win” event?

First “win” – you get to clear your home of all those unwanted, dusty, broken (or not) PC monitors, CPUs, printers, faxes, flat-screen tvs, old gaming systems, and more for a very small fee. You – and your home – will feel so much better, larger, less cluttered, and ready for the beautiful months ahead.



Electronics being collected:

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- Power Supplies
- Printers and faxes
- Cell phones
- Flatscreen TVs
- Keyboards
- Gaming systems
- Amplifiers
- Routers
- Air conditioners (separate \$15 fee)

The event is being held on Saturday, May 14, from 10 AM to 1 PM, at Saint Mary's Church. All proceeds go to the Knights of Columbus of Holliston to help support local community needs. The cost is \$10 for the first three items, and \$5 for every item after.

Second “win” – The proceeds the council receives will be used to help them with their projects which help Holliston and the surrounding area. Just one example: The council helps the Senior Center committee set up for their Fall Fair and assists again on the day of the fair. Their fundraising events help support the Senior Center programs, the Holliston Pantry Shelf, veterans groups, and more.

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Sports

Miccile, Kuharich Aim To Keep HHS Softball On Upswing

By KEN HAMWEY
STAFF SPORTS WRITER

Holliston High's softball team recorded its first winning campaign in coach Don Quindley's brief tenure when the Panthers finished with an 11-5 record last year before losing to Apponoquet in the playoffs.

In his other two years at the helm, Quindley's team struggled. In 2019 the Panthers managed only four triumphs in 20 outings. And in 2020, there were no spring sports because state officials canceled the season when the coronavirus developed into a pandemic.

All the signs this year point to the Panthers compiling a second straight winning season. As Quindley says: "We lost only three seniors to graduation and if we stay healthy, we should qualify for the tourney."

Besides experience, Holliston's pitching, hitting and defense are strengths. And, Quindley lists athleticism, speed and a high softball IQ as additional assets.

So, if the Panthers are going to provide their coach with his second consecutive winning season, the pieces to the puzzle must fit and specific situations will need positive results.

And, that's what's occurring in a dynamic way. At Local Town Pages deadline, Holliston was off to superb start — unbeaten at 4-0.

Two of Quindley's senior captains — Sydney Miccile and Jordyn Kuharich — played key roles in last year's success and they offer their opinions on what's necessary for a return to post-

season play. Miccile is a catcher but can play any of the other infield positions and Kuharich is a fixture in centerfield.

SYDNEY MICCILE

The 17-year-old Miccile, who also was a captain in volleyball, firmly believes there are two key elements that must take hold to produce another winning season — a strong bond and an inner drive.

"Bonding must occur," said Miccile. "Team chemistry is necessary, both at the varsity and the jayvee level. As varsity players, we have to reach out to the jayvees and ensure that we're all about being close-knit. Also, every individual must have an inner drive to be successful and to contribute to a positive team environment."

If those two facets are in the mix, then Miccile is optimistic her goals for 2022 will be realized. "My goals are to qualify for the tourney and go deeper than last year when we were eliminated in the first round," she noted. "And, my second goal is for everyone to be fully focused so the team does well."

A captain whose style is "to advocate for teammates, to lead by example and be vocal when needed," Miccile lists three players she believes will be strong contributors this year. They are senior captain Phoebe Drohan (second baseman), junior Emma Wood (pitcher), and sophomore Vanessa DeSimone (outfield, third base).

"Phoebe is a four-year veteran who's consistent," Miccile said.

"She's got confidence and energy and that helps elevate her teammates. A good contact hitter, she's got terrific speed on the basepaths. Emma is very skilled and her fastball, change-up and drop are an effective assortment. A Tri Valley League honorable-mention last year, she hits for power. Vanessa has good range and speed in the outfield and displays lots of natural ability at third base. She played for both the varsity and jayvees last year."

Miccile's stats last year were impressive. She hit .440, knocked in 12 runs, had 25 hits and scored 16 runs. Her strengths are a high softball IQ, versatility, athleticism, an instinctive nature and a strong arm. She also hits for power and many of her hits are well-placed.

"Sydney was a TVL all-star last year," Quindley said. "Her ability to play five positions is such a plus. She's a quiet leader who's able to teach the game to our younger players."

The 5-foot-6 Miccile has been playing softball for 12 years and she's competed at the club level for seven seasons.

"I'm optimistic we can play well this year because 13 players have returned and they know the importance of bonding," she emphasized. And, our coach is another plus. His insight is good and he's objective, able to see other points of view. He's a fine motivator and he strives to improve as a coach."

Miccile labels last year's 6-3 win over Medway on Senior Night as a very memorable game. "Our lineup had a lot of changes to accommodate playing all the seniors," she recalled. Players were out of position but everyone competed hard and played well."

Miccile's top thrill in softball was being selected a captain. "It shows that the players and the coaches have trust in me," she noted.

An honor student, Miccile plans to major in civil engineering in college.



Jordyn Kuharich, left, and Sydney Miccile hope to lead Holliston's softball team to success in post-season play.

JORDYN KUCHARICH

The 18-year-old Kuharich's views on the keys for added success this season basically coincide with Miccile's but she includes a few other features.

"Our foundation must be solid," she emphasized. "And, to have a strong foundation means trusting one another and to be mentally tough. Mental toughness helps players to be resilient and able to bounce back from adversity."

Kuharich, who also played field hockey and ran track, says her goals are similar to Miccile's. "The varsity and the jayvees must stay connected," she offered. "That objective is all about working to build a strong foundation. And, I want to qualify for the tourney. That will happen if we all strive to be the best we can be. That's what will lead to us finishing on a high note."

Three players Kuharich believes will be prime contributors for Holliston are senior captain Lauren Kampersal (outfield, infield), junior Lucy Maurao (pitcher, first base), and junior Amelia Harris (outfield, first base).

"Lauren is versatile, she's got a high softball IQ and she's

hits for power," Kuharich said. "Lucy is an effective pitcher who relies on a fastball, change-up and a drop. She's also a capable hitter and fielder. Amelia can be an impact player. A left-handed hitter, she's got speed, she gets on base consistently and she's a good contact hitter."

Kuharich has played softball for 12 years and has competed at the club level for five. Her strengths include a high softball IQ, athleticism, good instincts, speed and hitting.

Quindley calls her "a gifted athlete."

"Jordyn was our leadoff hitter last year," he said. "A spectacular fielder, she covers a lot of ground. She's very athletic and she's a strong, vocal leader."

Playing centerfield is where she's comfortable.

"I like playing centerfield because there's a need to communicate," she said. "You see the entire field and that helps in anticipating what might happen next. It's a read-and-react position. As a captain, I'm vocal and always communicating. I also strive to be supportive."

The 5-foot-3 Kuharich, who's a daring base-runner, hit .300 and scored 19 runs last year. She says her best game came against Medfield last year and her top thrill in softball occurred as a freshman against Westwood.

"I went 4-for-5 against Medfield, drove in some runs and that helped us to beat them by a considerable margin," she recalled. "As a freshman, I hit a home run that enabled us to beat Westwood. We trailed, 7-6, but the homer gave us a 9-7 victory."

A fan of her coach, Kuharich admires Quindley's motivating style. "Our coach is objective and he's also caring and understanding."

Kuharich is also a fan of her teammates. She knows the Panthers are experienced and they've got all the ingredients to be successful. "Experience is a plus but it can still be developed and improved," she emphasized. "And, it can help us make an impact this season."

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Red Auerbach International Basketball School seeks youngsters who love the game

By CHRISTIE VOGT

Business spotlight

“We’ve never chased superstars,” says Steve Curley, director of the Red Auerbach International Basketball School. “Red’s philosophy was: ‘All I want is kids who really want to play, learn and get better.’ That’s who we are.” Red Auerbach, a former Boston Celtics coach, founded the school in 1960. In 1982, after working at the camp since its beginnings, Curley became Auerbach’s partner until his passing in 2006.

The Red Auerbach Basketball School offers boys ages 11 through 18 a chance to hone their basketball skills during a week-long stay at Nichols College in Dudley. From July 24-29, participants stay in air-conditioned dorms and play 10-12 games over the course of the week.

The overnight aspect of the camp is a bonus, Curley says, because it allows for more activity time and also fosters camaraderie among the players. “From 7:30 in the morning to 9:30 at night, they’re playing together, rooming together, eating together,” Curley says. “There are tremendous social advantages to attending an overnight camp versus a day camp.” He also hears from parents who say that when their sons went off to college, they felt much more secure because they had already gotten a taste of the college atmosphere.

“The teachings at Red Auerbach Basketball School go beyond sports,” Curley says. Each day’s schedule includes a lecture period, and the topic is not always game-related. “My coaches and I think that there are a lot more things in this world that we need to teach kids besides basketball,” he explains. On the last day of camp, scholar athletes are awarded for bringing their honor roll report to camp. “A comes before B: academics before basketball,” Curley says.

Curley was an educator for 20 years, and the majority of that time was spent working in Holliston as a teacher and assistant football coach. He then spent another 20 years in the sporting goods industry. His camp coaches are also committed to teaching, he says. “No coach

comes here to get a feather in his cap,” Curley says. “My guys are highly qualified and committed to working with young people.”

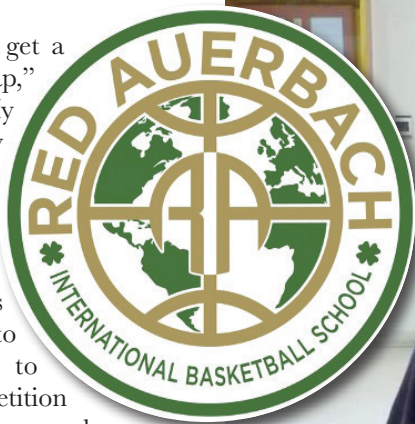
The school’s commitment to teaching and to fostering competition without putting undue stress on young athletes is what sets it apart from other camps, Curley says. “We get some very, very talented kids, and we get other kids that just want to play and get better,” he explains. Curley says the ideal participant is someone who “really wants to play and wants to be committed. I tell kids, ‘If you don’t have passion for this, then find another sport, because you’ve got to want to play and be the best you can.’”

One of the benefits of basketball is that you can play “forever,” Curley says. “If you don’t make your high school team, you can play in the league in town, maybe a church or synagogue league. In college, there are club sports, and when you’re older, there are many outlets.”

At age 83, Curley is a testament to how basketball can be a lifelong activity. “At this point in my life, I enjoy just being able to get up in the morning and put on a pair of sneakers,” Curley laughs. “I love being with the kids. You work with kids, you stay a kid. I really enjoy working with young people and seeing them grow.”

“Believe me, a number is just a number,” Curley adds. “I get enough energy at camp to feel like I’m 16 years old.”

To learn more and register for the Red Auerbach International Basketball School, visit redaballschool.com, call 617-899-5433 or email sportscurl2@comcast.net.



Steve Curley (left), director of the Red Auerbach International Basketball School, with sports commentator Michael Holley.



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Holliston Resident Helps Quilters Raise Funds For Ukrainian Refugees

“Hope for Ukraine,” a queen size blue and yellow quilt made by members of Yankee Quilters Guild, will be raffled to support efforts to resettle Ukrainian refugee families arriving in Massachusetts.

The approximately 80” x 80” quilt features a central sunflower, the national flower of Ukraine, and 24 large Log Cabin blocks in the bright colors of the nation’s flag.

Holliston resident Diana Hatch created the sunflower at the center of the quilt. Two of

her daughters also helped on the quilt project.

The proceeds from the fundraiser will be donated to Ascendria Care Alliance, a Worcester nonprofit organization which will offer housing and other assistance to refugees arriving from Ukraine. Tickets are \$5 each or 5 for \$20. Raffle tickets are available at Emma’s Quilt Cupboard in Franklin; through Yankee Quilters’ Facebook page; or by emailing yankeequilters11@gmail.com. Checks may also be mailed to Yankee



Quilters at PO Box 53, Franklin MA 02038. The winner will be drawn June 14, in Franklin.

The quilt was created by members of the Guild to reflect their concern for the health and safety of the millions of Ukrainian citizens whose lives and homes have been threatened by the current invasion. The “Log Cabin” quilt block is a traditional design symbolizing the importance of the hearth at the center of the home. For this quilt, Yankee members made the center square white, a symbol of peace, rather than the conventional red. The quilt was on display at Emma’s Quilt Cupboard beginning last month.

“I am very proud to be affiliated with this guild. The members are very generous with their time and creativity,” said Cindy Lynch, Vice President. “To the Ukrainian people, may God be your guide through this stressful time.”

Quilters all over the world are using their talents to support relief efforts for Ukraine. “There is a long tradition among quilters and other crafters to support those in need and Yankee members immediately answered the call when the idea was proposed in March,” said Susan Speers, a member from Franklin.

The quilt has been custom quilted by Jim Lynch, of Bumblebee Quilting Service in Monson. The Guild greatly appreciates Jim’s donation of time and materials to this project.

The back of the quilt is a yellow sunflower print, with a central label surrounded by yellow and blue hearts, using a pattern by quilt designer Bonnie Hunter, of Kentucky. The label is machine embroidered by Beth Brosnahan of Palmer.

Fabrics for the quilt were generously donated by members of the Guild and Cathy Racine, of The Charlton Sewing Center in Charlton, MA. Creative energy

and materials were contributed by members of Yankee including Diana Hatch of Holliston, who hand-applied the sunflower; Pat Mulhall, of Sherborn, who donated the batting; Cindy Lynch, of Bumblebee Quilting Service, who combined the blocks and prepared the back; and more than a dozen members who donated their time, talent and supplies in support of Ukraine.

Yankee Quilters Guild is a 501-c-3 charitable organization based in Franklin with members throughout the region. The Guild makes comfort quilts for those in need, supports other charitable work, and provides educational programs on the art and craft of quilt making. The Guild meets monthly at Emma’s Quilt Cupboard in Franklin, in space generously donated by the store. Donations to the Guild are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by current law.



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The b.LUXE *beauty beat*

Idea to Execution: Starting our own beauty brand

BY GINA WOELFEL

b.LUXE is thrilled to announce the launch of our first ever beauty product! We took our idea (and a leap of faith) for a much-needed hair treatment and made it a reality.

Enter b.LUXE BEFORE Oil! We dreamt of creating our own retail brand for a long time. Our hair salon carries some of the most well-made and targeted hair and skin care products in the industry. So while we weren't lacking in luxury products, we did see a niche in the market that wasn't filled. Most products get to work after you shampoo and condition, but we believe hair protection starts before you cleanse.

b.LUXE BEFORE Oil, is a preventative, pre-shampoo, treatment oil that's designed to be your first line of defense against hair damage. It's made with organic sunflower and prickly pear oil and our powerhouse ingredient - broccoli seed oil, an essential element that protects like nothing you've ever used before!

Hair is porous and can be easily stripped of its moisture and vitality. Even the best shampoos that are formulated to remove oil, dirt and buildup can, sometimes, rob hair of bounce and shine. Here's where we felt our industry was lacking.

A few summers ago, we were researching a blog post about blonde hair and how copper found in hard water reacts with the chlorine from swimming pools. Your hair takes in whatever it comes in contact with and when copper is absorbed into

your hair, the chemical reaction with chlorine can give your hair a greenish hue. We learned that by applying a thin coat of olive oil to your hair before swimming, it creates a barrier that blocks chemicals and hard metals from being absorbed. This research inspired us to create a more preventative oil, packed with nutrients to protect your hair and support scalp health.

Using our BEFORE Oil, pre-shampoo, allows you to wash and clean your hair without drying it out or stripping away sebum, the natural oil your scalp produces to lubricate the hair follicle. Our BEFORE Oil penetrates the hair shaft and scalp, depositing just the right amount of hydration to keep hair smooth, healthy and well protected.

BEFORE Oil also feeds your hair AND scalp the nutrition it needs! Broccoli seed oil (BSO), is rich in calming antioxidants, like vitamin A, a key component to all cell growth. Chemically derived vitamin A has a reputation for being irritating. The natural version in broccoli seed oil is anything but! In fact, the BSO in our BEFORE OIL can deliver many of the same benefits a topical retinol cream can, like accelerated cell turnover, minus the irritation. With its collagen-boosting benefits, it's one veggie you'll never avoid again! It has a huge 62.5% Omega-9 content and is gentle, hydrating and easily absorbed into your scalp and hair shaft. As an antioxidant, vitamin A neutralizes free radicals, the pollution particles created by industrial emissions that can harm



scan for more info

skin cells (and remember, your scalp is your skin)! Broccoli seed oil's essential fatty acids deliver intense hydration without clogging pores and has been shown to help calm inflammatory scalp conditions like eczema, dandruff and dry skin.

Right now, while supplies last, we're offering a 2 ounce trial size for just \$39. That's 30 shampoos! Once these samples are gone, they're gone! And for those of you who would like to try before you buy, grab a single shampoo BEFORE Oil sample at our Medway studio. Our new 1 oz. packaging will be available this June/2022.

We can't wait for you to try our new BEFORE Oil. This endeavor was two years in the making and to finally be able to bring our new product to you is a dream come true!

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And let's not forget, this month is Mother's Day and, of course, we've got something special for Mom!

Check out our May Specials, available online and in-studio!

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Come Touch A Truck On May 21

Holliston Newcomers & Neighbors (HNN) and the Holliston Police Association invite children of all ages to climb aboard a variety of trucks and vehicles at this year's "Touch-a-Truck" Fundraiser on Saturday, May 21.

The event will run from 10am to 2pm, rain or shine, at the Sam Placentino Elementary School, 235 Woodland St. (off Route 16) in Holliston. The event will be horn-free for the first hour (10-11am), which is ideal for younger children and children with special needs.

To date, we have confirmed trucks and equipment will be provided by The National Guard, Hometown Automotive, Holliston Oil Service, Milford Stone, Grover Excavation, R&R Landscaping, Eversource, and



Tyler's Landscape Construction. And of course, children will be able to explore the Holliston Fire Department's fire truck, and a Holliston Police Department police car and motorcycle.

Bring your appetites because food will be available from several food trucks, including The Dogfather, Zaaki Mediterranean, and Uncle Joey's Cannoli!

We have additional entertainment planned as well. For an additional fee, the popular

Roaming Railroad will take children on a train ride around the event and Imagine That will offer face painting.

The cost of the event is \$10 per child. Proceeds from the event will support Holliston Newcomers & Neighbors' Community Grant Fund and the Holliston Police Association. The HNN Community Grant Fund provides funding for important Holliston events and services, including the Holliston Parks & Recreation Summer Concert Series, Holliston Town Library free museum passes, Holliston in



Bloom, Holliston Rail Trail, as well as equipment purchases for the Holliston Police & Fire Departments. Funds raised for the Holliston Police Association will support its mission to care for officers in their time of need.

We are still adding trucks! Stay up to date with future announcements on the Holliston Newcomers & Neighbors Facebook page @HollistonNewcomersAndNeighbors and our website www.HollistonNewcomers.org.

The Holliston Newcomers & Neighbors is a nonprofit organization. The group coordinates charitable, civic, educational, and recreational events and activities in the town of Holliston. The goal is to encourage association among community members and to foster community spirit. Membership is open to both residents and non-residents of Holliston. If you are interested in joining HNN, visit the website at www.hollistonnewcomers.org.

Have you read the Town Administrator's newsletter?

The Town Administrator Newsletter recently debuted under the moniker, "Holliston Hometown Newsletter."

Town Administrator Travis Ahern told the Select Board at its March 7 meeting that the quarterly newsletter already had 857 people subscribe as of that date.

The eight-page electronic document includes information for town meeting, updates on town projects, important deadlines, lists seasonal jobs, and much more. To subscribe, visit www.townof-holliston.us/subscribe



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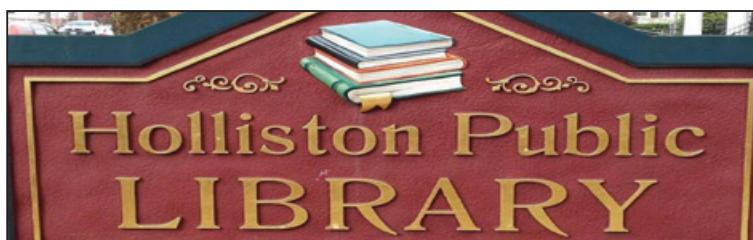
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Holliston Public Library News

A virtual conversation with Michaelen Douclev, the author of *Hunt, Gather, Parent* will take place on Thursday, May 12 at 7:30 pm. The book is about what modern parents can learn from ancient cultures in raising their children. The free program is sponsored by Aesop's Fable book store and local public libraries including Holliston. Sign up online at www.hollistonlibrary.org.

The Morning Book Club at the Holliston Library will discuss *Hidden Valley Road* by Robert Kolker on Monday, May 2 at 11 am and the Mystery Book Club will read *In the Morning I'll Be Gone* by Adrian McKinty on Tuesday, 10 at 11 am. The History Book Club meets on Monday, April 25 at 10:30 am to discuss *Leadership in Turbulent Times* by Doris Kearns Goodwin. All three groups offer both in-person and virtual attendance simultaneously and welcome new members. Register to receive a Zoom invitation.

The 2021 version of *West Side Story*, directed by Steven Spielberg, will be the selected film for Movie Mondays on Monday, May 9 at 12:30 pm. The film was nominated for multiple Academy Awards including Best Picture and won a Best Supporting Actress Oscar for Ariana DeBose. The film is viewed in person at the library.

Holliston residents are reminded that the library has discounted passes to local museums, attractions and parks. Venues include the Science Museum, the Children's Museum, the Museum of Fine Arts, the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, the New England Aquarium, the Ecoterium, the Tower Hill Botanical Garden and the Mass State Parks. Visit www.hollistonlibrary.org for a full list and to reserve a pass.

The library offers multiple streaming services for films and television series. Kanopy is available to Holliston residents and includes mainstream, independent and documentary films. The service also has a children's collection and access to the Great Courses, college-level courses for adult learning. Hoopla has films and TV series and is available to anyone with a Holliston Library card. The library also circulates Roku and Amazon Fire Sticks which include access to HBO Max, Apple TV, Netflix, Acorn, Hulu and Disney Plus. For more info call 508-429-0617 or email Lmcdonnell@minlib.net.

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Help those in need with the Lions Club

Throughout 2022, the Holliston Lions Club will be collecting knitted and crocheted squares. They will be making blankets to donate to homeless shelters and others in need. Any pattern is acceptable and appreciated. Color does not matter as "diversity blankets" is the theme. Squares should be 8" X 8" and have an approximately 12" tail on them to join them to the next set of squares. They would prefer acrylic yarn versus wool for ease of washing/drying. Squares may be dropped off at the Holliston Senior Center.

The Lions Club will also continue collecting used eyeglasses. It does not matter if they are prescription or non-prescription, all are accepted. Please no eyeglass cases! The glasses are cleaned, sorted, and distributed to people abroad who are unable to afford them. There is a drop box at the Senior Center.

Did you know the Lions also collect hearing aids? These hearing aids are repurposed and given at repair costs or a minor

fee to those who need them most. They may be placed in the Lion's eyeglass collection box at the Senior Center.

The Holliston Leo Club will be collecting can tabs —these are the tabs found on the tops of canned soups, vegetables and soda. The tabs are donated to Ronald McDonald House to help defray their operating costs so they are able to provide free housing to families of children who are being treated in children's hospitals. These tabs may be collected in bags, small boxes, or jars and left at the Senior

Center.

ADDITIONALLY: The Holliston Lions Club has two magnifiers available to lend. These are designed for anyone having issues reading mail, newspapers, or books without magnification. You can contact the Holliston Lions Club at president@hollistonmalions.org to borrow one. There is NO restriction on how long you may keep it. We only ask that if you are no longer using it that it is returned to the Senior Center so we can pass it on to the next person who needs it.

Local Town Pages Is Looking for Writers!

Our Town Publishing is currently seeking freelance writers local to the Metrowest area to cover stories for our nine publications which cover the towns of **Ashland, Bellingham, Franklin, Holliston, Hopedale, Natick, Norfolk, Norwood, Medway, Millis, and Wrentham.**

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Holliston’s Rosie Beard sees success at Nike Indoor Nationals

Montrose Mavericks have wrapped up their winter sports season, and as they prepared to kick off spring team practices, both athletes and their coaches looked back on a memorable and highly successful series of winter achievements.

On the heels of an unprecedented fall sports season, which saw record-high student athlete participation, Montrose winter teams took the baton and made strides toward one win after another.

In its first year as an official varsity sport, indoor track team members participated in five meets this season, with several athletes reaching personal records. During the final meet at the Billy Brockmueller Invitational, held at Brown University, the three Montrose relay teams finished first for the 4x200, 4x400 and 4x800. One athlete, Holliston’s Rosie Beard ‘25, even



qualified for Nike Indoor Nationals this season and placed 5th in the freshman 400m in Staten Island, NY.

“Coaches Jill Kerr and Madeleine Lechner did an incredible job this season,” said Montrose Athletic Director Julie Boynton. With 30 girls taking part in the indoor track program, the team is well-positioned to perform in the 2022-23 season.



LGBTQIA Aging Project

LGBTQIA+ Bereavement Support Groups

The LGBTQIA+ Bereavement Support Group is the first statewide initiative to address loss in the LGBTQIA+ community.

The program is funded by the Department of Public Health and it is facilitated by The LGBTQIA+ Aging Project.

All groups require pre-regis-

tration. For more information on the LGBTQIA+ Bereavement Program contact Bob Linscott at 857.313.6578 or blinscott@fenwayhealth.org

Weekly Zoom Drop-in Group for LGBTQIA+ Older Adults

Since the very beginning of the pandemic, the Aging Project has offered a weekly Zoom drop in group for LGBTQIA+ older

adults. These are informal discussion groups that keep people feeling connected during these challenging times. One group meets on Mondays from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM, and for those who like a smaller group, there is a second drop in on Thursdays from 11:30 AM to 12:30 PM.

New members are always welcome and can be matched with a current member to talk before their first group if that feels more supportive.

Register in advance for this meeting:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEufGggjks-GdIWEGkJJiudSGhF9O9f-FRRWL7](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEufGggjks-GdIWEGkJJiudSGhF9O9f-FRRWL7)



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Holliston Senior Center Monday and Wednesday Lunch Menu May

Monday, May 2nd

PARMESAN-CRUSTED CHICKEN, Caesar Salad, Rice Pilaf, Corn, Chocolate Cake

Wednesday, May 4th

SHEPHERD'S PIE, Chicken Soup, Carrots, Tapioca Pudding

Monday, May 9th

LASAGNA, House Salad, Peas, Garlic Bread, Cheesecake

Wednesday, May 11th

SWEET AND SOUR PORK, Miso Soup, Vegetable Fried Rice, Broccoli, Brownie

Monday, May 16th

FINGER SANDWICHES (Egg Salad, Tuna, Ham & Cheese), Potato Salad, Pickles, Cookies

Wednesday, May 18th

SUMMER KICKOFF COOKOUT — Burgers, Hotdogs, Fresh Salads, Dessert (Suggested donation: \$4.00)

Monday, May 23rd

CHICKEN A LA KING OVER BISCUITS, Tossed Salad, Mixed Vegetables, Apple Pie

Wednesday, May 25th

BAKED HADDOCK, Clam Chowder, Oyster Crackers, Carrots, Banana Bread

Monday, May 30th — CLOSED for Memorial Day

PLEASE SIGN UP AT LEAST 2 BUSINESS DAYS IN ADVANCE -

Call the Center at 508-429-0622 for reservations.

Monday & Wednesday meals are a \$3 donation and include a drink and dessert (unless noted).

Envisioning Future Holliston

Envisioning Future Holliston was created from a Citizen's Petition at the May 2021 Spring Town Meeting. We look forward to working with you to create a vision developed from active participation of all Hollistonians and Holliston stakeholders.

Our charge leading up to the Spring 2022 Town Meeting:

Look at our current data: this includes strategic plans, studies 2020 Census data, mission statements from Town committees and boards, and reports;

Hear from every resident in Holliston via surveys, events, and forums;

Compile all of the aforementioned data and present a Vision Statement and recommendations for moving the vision forward at Spring Town Meeting.

Here's where you come in; We want to hear from you! Use a Smart Phone to scan the QR Code above (open your camera, hover your phone over the QR Code, click on the link that appears on your screen). There you can complete our survey. Feel free to reach any member with questions, comments, or feedback to envisioningholliston@holliston.k12.ma.us!



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For 2022, all the 21 Medicare drug plans have preferred pharmacies as do several Medicare Advantage plans. You should check that the pharmacy

you currently use is the best one to use with your plan; plans can change their preferred pharmacies from year to year. By using a preferred pharmacy, you may save money!

Trained SHINE volunteers offer free, confidential counseling on all aspects of Medicare and related health insurance programs. To schedule a SHINE appointment, call our Senior Center at 508-429-0622. For other SHINE related matters, call 1-800-243-4636. Once you get the SHINE answering machine, leave your name, number and town. A volunteer will call you back, as soon as possible.

Would you like to receive your Holliston

Senior Center newsletter digitally?

The Senior Center is happy to send you our newsletter to your email inbox, if you prefer. It is good for the environment and you will receive it sooner since you do not need to wait on the mail!

If you would like to join our email list, please email our Assistant Director, Amanda at boralessaa@holliston.k12.ma.us or call us at 508-429-0622



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NEW INSTALLATIONS

Arcadian Farms Awarded State Grant

The Baker-Polito Administration announced \$22.5 million in funding to food producers across the Commonwealth, continuing ongoing efforts to address food insecurity issues exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. During an event at the Worcester Regional Food Hub, Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito, Energy and Environmental Affairs (EEA) Secretary Kathleen Theoharides, and Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources (MDAR) Commissioner John Lebeaux joined with U.S. Sen. Ed Markey and Congressman Jim McGovern to announce the funding of 147 total projects through the Food Security Infrastructure Grant Program. Grants from the program, which was created to ensure individuals and families have equitable access to healthy, local food products, will directly benefit people in every region of the state.

“Through the Food Security Infrastructure Grant Program, our Administration has been able to foster stronger partnerships with foodbanks, pantries, farms and other organizations throughout the Commonwealth to meet the demand of so many living with food insecurity,” said Gov. Charlie Baker. “Importantly, this \$22.5 million in funding will go towards impactful projects that will increase operations of our food producers and suppliers and better serve the individuals who truly need their assistance.”

“Ensuring children, their families, and all individuals have access to healthy, local food products is critical, particularly as so many continue to be detrimentally impacted by the pandemic,” said Polito. “Our Administration is proud to work so closely with the Commonwealth’s farmers, food distributors, non-profit orga-

nizations, and others as we partner to strengthen the state’s food supply chains.”

“The Food Security Infrastructure Grant Program has become a catalyst for the Baker-Polito Administration in our efforts to make a more resilient food supply system,” said Theoharides. “Since the program’s inception during the early months of the COVID-19 public health emergency, we have funded over 507 projects throughout Massachusetts, greatly aiding those in need.”

The Food Security Infrastructure Grant Program seeks to ensure local food producers are better connected to a robust and resilient food supply system in order to mitigate future food supply and distribution disruption issues. This year’s recipients of grant funding represent a variety of sectors, including farms, fisheries, schools, nonprofits, for profits, food pantries, municipalities, distributors/suppliers, and other entities. Additionally, during the event, Markey and McGovern announced \$3 million in federal funds for the Worcester Regional Food Hub’s new facility at Union Station.

“The Worcester Regional Food Hub plays a critical role in addressing food insecurity in Massachusetts,” said Markey (D-Massachusetts). “I am proud to have helped secure \$3 million in federal funding for the remodeling of the lower-level of Union Station to become the Foods Hub’s new permanent location. Worcester is the heart of the Commonwealth and Union Station is the heart of Worcester, making it the perfect location for this integral piece in the regional food system in central Massachusetts.”

“This is a huge day for Worcester. The \$3,000,000 investment that Senator Markey and I secured for the Worcester Regional Food Hub is going to kick this project into high gear—bringing local farmers, entrepreneurs, and community partners together to bolster a more robust food system, promote healthy eating, strengthen sustainable agriculture, and fuel economic development throughout the region,” said McGovern (D-Massachusetts). “In addition to the \$1,000,000 in funding I helped secure for the Food Hub in the American Rescue Plan, and the major statewide investments being announced today by Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito, I am confident that we are building a more just, healthy, and sustainable commonwealth.”

The Baker-Polito Administration announced the Food Security Infrastructure Grant Program in May 2020 as part of a \$56 million investment to combat urgent food insecurity for many Massachusetts families and individuals as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. The program implements the recommendations of the Food Security Task Force, comprised of public and private members charged with ensuring food insecurity and food supply needs are addressed during the COVID-19 public health emergency, which was convened by the Massachusetts COVID-19 Command Center in response to increased demands for food assistance.

“The Baker-Polito Administration’s unprecedented commitment to building a more resilient, sustainable food system has helped Massachusetts agriculture invest in long-term and impactful solutions to address



food security for our consumers,” said Massachusetts Department of Agricultural Resources Commissioner John Lebeaux. “With the latest round of funding for the Food Security Infrastructure Grant program, farms and producers will be able to update aging infrastructure while making improvements for their businesses to help ensure more residents have access to local, fresh products.”

“When the Food Security Task Force first conceived of the FSIG program, there was a nation-wide protein shortage, spiking food insecurity rates, and significant supply chain disruptions,” said State Senator Jo Comerford (D-Northampton). “Now, almost two years later, the Commonwealth’s food system infrastructure has been strengthened permanently, thanks in large part to FSIG grants. Because of FSIG investment in food system infrastructure, the Commonwealth will be able to produce and distribute more food, feed more people, and fight hunger and food insecurity now and for years to come. I thank my colleagues in the legislature for their steadfast commitment to funding this program and to fighting food insecurity and I offer heartfelt thanks to everyone at EEA and MDAR who work every day to make this program more and more successful.”

“Food insecurity is a complex problem existing at the nexus of economic opportunity, transportation, regional planning, environmental sustainability, and of course, COVID-19,” said State Senator Becca Rausch (D-Needham). “Far too many Bay Staters are struggling to keep food on the table through these difficult economic times. As my colleagues and I continue to assist constituents with food access, it is critical that we also work systemically and equitably to bolster our Commonwealth’s food supply chains to promote the well-being of Massachusetts’ children and families.”

“The Food Security Infrastructure Grant Program is a tremendously valuable investment in our local food system and a critical component in increasing the supply of healthy food to our residents in need,” said State Representative Hannah Kane (R-Shrewsbury). “While the Program was developed in response to the initial urgent challenges of lack of access and supply of food during the pandemic, the overwhelming, ongoing demand and measurable impact clearly illustrates the necessity of continued funding. I am grateful to the Baker-Polito Administration for their strong partnership in addressing food insecurity and supporting local producers.”

“The Food Security Infrastructure Grant Program is a great investment by the Commonwealth in cities and towns facing food insecurity like Worcester,” said Worcester Regional Food Hub Director Shon Rainford. “The capital grant we received from the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs will help tremendously in advancing this important opportunity to connect Worcester families with accessible, local, and healthy food by bringing together the region’s food hub with the region’s transportation hub.”

In the first year of the program, awardees have been able to make local, fresh food production more efficient and accessible, lower the production cost, and increase distributors’ ability to partner with SNAP, EBT, and other organizations. The awardees for this round of grants include:

Arcadian Farms, Inc. (Holliston, MA): \$34,893

Since 2020, the Baker-Polito Administration has awarded over \$58 million in grants to 507 projects across the Commonwealth through the grant program. For more information regarding the Food Security Infrastructure Grant Program, please visit the program’s webpage.

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Senate Passes \$1.65 Billion Supplemental Budget

The Massachusetts State Senate on Thursday passed a \$1.65 billion supplemental budget for Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22). The legislation makes investments in the state's long-term COVID-19 response; addresses staffing shortages in schools; provides support for home and community-based services, assistance and protections for families experiencing housing and energy insecurity; funds winter road improvements; extends outdoor dining services as well as beer, wine and cocktails to-go, and provides for the resettlement of Ukrainian refugees in Massachusetts. Notably, the bill also would divest the state pension fund from Russian assets in response to the Russian war in Ukraine.

"Massachusetts has avoided the worst of the financial downside from this pandemic and its effects thanks to a history of careful financial planning and consistent investment in those programs and services which support public health and build resiliency in our communities and our Commonwealth," said Senate President Karen E. Spilka (D-Ashland). "Today's supplemental budget continues this trend by providing targeted funding to healthcare, housing, education, and transportation needs. Importantly, this budget ensures that Massachusetts can continue to offer sanctuary to refugees fleeing from violence abroad even as war continues in Ukraine. Thanks to an amendment championed by Senator Comerford, we are also

investing crucial funding to the Massachusetts Office of Victim Assistance to continue providing victim services, including children's advocacy centers and sexual assault programs. I want to thank Chair Rodrigues and his staff, the members of the Senate Ways and Means Committee, and my colleagues for their work to ensure that the needs of Massachusetts residents are met."

"The passage of this supplemental budget today addresses a number of time sensitive needs as we look to simultaneously support our ongoing response to COVID-19, while continuing our Commonwealth's recovery," said Senator Michael J. Rodrigues (D-Westport), Chair of the Senate Committee on Ways and Means. "Thanks to Senate President Spilka's leadership and the overwhelming support of the Senate membership, we made clear with the passage of this supplemental spending plan that we will always prioritize protecting our most vulnerable populations, supporting our health care and education workforce, investing in local infrastructure needs and taking the necessary steps to ensure vital public services will be available and accessible to all who need them across the Commonwealth as we recover from the impacts of the pandemic."

Responding to COVID-19

To mitigate the spread of COVID-19 and ensure robust preparation in the event of a future variant outbreak, the bill in-



vests \$700 million for the state's COVID-19 response. This funding would ensure the continued no-cost availability of crucial services offered to residents during the pandemic, including on-site testing, vaccinations, and treatment, as well as public health staffing needs resulting from COVID-19.

To further protect families facing housing challenges, the supplemental budget extends through March 2023 several protections for tenants experiencing COVID-19-related financial hardship, including extending the requirement that a court grant a continuance in an eviction case for nonpayment of rent when the tenant has a pending rental assistance application.

The supplemental budget also extends popular pandemic-

related provisions including outdoor dining services, and beer, wine and cocktails to-go through April 2023. The legislation also extends COVID-19 related bonuses for members of the Massachusetts National Guard.

Responding to Russia's Invasion of Ukraine

The supplemental budget responds to the Russian Federation's February 2022 invasion of Ukraine and the subsequent violence against Ukrainian civilians. An amendment unanimously adopted on the floor of the Senate requires the Commonwealth's Pension Reserves Investment Management (PRIM) Board to divest any holdings from companies officially sanctioned by the Biden administration or incorporated in Russia. The supplemental budget also allocates \$10 million for the Office of Immigrants and Refugees to support the resettlement of international evacuees, including Ukrainian evacuees.

Housing and Energy Assistance

The supplemental budget includes several provisions relating to housing stability and support for individuals currently experiencing or near homelessness. The Senate proposal includes

\$100 million for the Residential Assistance for Families in Transition (RAFT) program which provides eligible families with funds that they can use to keep their housing or obtain new housing. One amendment added to the budget on the Senate floor would increase the cap of the RAFT program to \$10,000 for the remainder of the fiscal year. Another amendment clarifies existing law to ensure that in all eviction cases where the only valid reason for the eviction is nonpayment of rent, that the tenant has access to protections. The supplemental budget also dedicates \$20 million to the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP), which provides crucial assistance to families facing high utility bills. To increase oversight, the bill also directs the department of housing and community development to make detailed quarterly reports on the state's eviction diversion initiative.

The supplemental budget allocates \$2.8 million for rates at shelters for homeless individuals and also ensures that down payment assistance funds received from the Massachusetts Housing Finance Agency or the Mas-

SPILKA

continued on page 22

Women Take Aim

event at Fin, Fur and Feather Club in Millis

June 4, 2022 from 8:30 - 4:30
(rain date June 11)

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Real Estate Corner

SPIILKA

continued from page 21

sachusetts Housing Partnership will not be considered taxable income.

Health Care & Mental Health

The bill allocates \$346 million in federal American Rescue Plan funding for Home- and Community-Based Services (HCBS) resources to ensure that eligible Medicaid users throughout the Commonwealth are able to receive health care and medical services in their own homes or local communities. Alongside this investment, the bill also appropriates \$55 million in state resources to support reimbursement rates for human and social service providers that have also been doing crucial work during the pandemic. To address the crisis of mental health care, the bill also dedicates \$10 million to suicide prevention and intervention services, focused on staffing and other resources at crisis centers, and the establishment of a statewide 988 suicide prevention hotline.

An amendment adopted to the supplemental budget allocates \$24 million of the state's American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds specifically for the creation of new behavioral health and substance use disorder treatment beds.

Education

In response to reports of staffing shortages in public schools, the supplemental budget includes a provision authorizing the Commissioner of Elementary and Secondary Education to issue emergency educator licenses until 180 days after the end of the public health emergency. For private special education schools operating under Chapter 766, the budget allocates \$140 million to fill immediate staffing needs.

Other funding items of note include:

- \$100 million for a new Winter Road Recovery Assistance Program for cities and towns to repair potholes and roads and bridges worn down by adverse weather conditions.
- \$20 million for Victim of Crime Act (VOCA) funding which supports no-cost

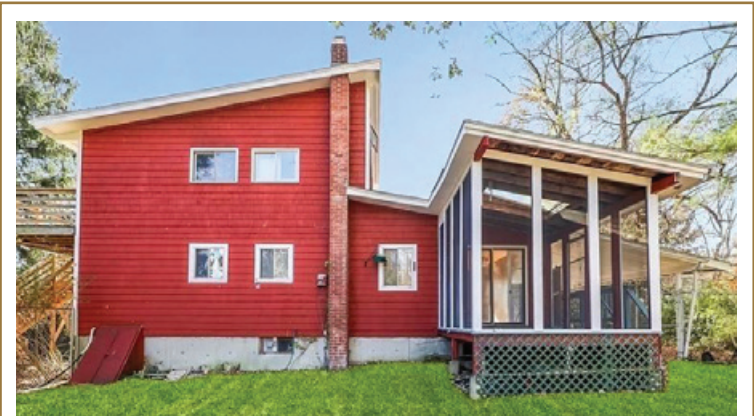
counseling, advocacy, and intervention services to victims of crime, thereby covering the immediate needs of the Victim and Witness Assistance Board as they are experiencing a shortage of federal funding

- \$10 million for Emergency Aid to the Elderly, Disabled and Children (EAEDC)
- \$8.4 million for Department of Children and Families foster family rates
- \$8 million for Early Intervention staff stabilization supports
- \$5 million for state election costs
- \$5 million for the Department of Mental Health to expand clientele housing supports
- \$1.8 million for mental health services for international evacuees resettled in the Commonwealth
- \$1.7 million for state park investments, including water safety initiatives
- \$609,000 for additional staffing to implement the Next Generation Roadmap

for Massachusetts Climate Policy legislation, which was passed early in the session

- \$500,000 to expand the capacity of the Commission on the Status of Women

A version of this legislation having previously passed the House of Representatives, the differences will need to be worked out by the branches before advancing to the Governor's desk.



21 Carlton Drive in Holliston recently sold for \$480,000.
Image credit: www.zillow.com

Recent Home Sales

Date	Holliston	Amount
4/12/2022	21 Carlton Drive	\$480,000
4/11/2022	167 High Street	\$640,000
4/07.2922	33 Regency Drive	\$270,000
4/07/2022	61 Louis Street	\$845,000
4/01/2022	49 Windsor Drive #105	\$192,500
3/31/2022	147 N Mill Street	\$787,000
3/31/2022	36 Christopher Road	\$550,000
3/31/2022	80 Baker Street	\$617,000
3/30/2022	1881 Washington Street	\$510,000
3/30/2022	129 Marked Tree Road	\$665,000
3/30/2022	219 Woodland Street	\$640,000
3/30/2022	8 Fiske Pond Road	\$950,000
3/30/2022	229 Underwood Street	\$1.42 mil
3/28/2022	254 Gorwin Drive	\$886,000
3/28/2022	20 Maple Street	\$378,000
3/25/2022	1002 Washington Street	\$665,000
3/24/2022	217 Marked Tree Road	\$725,000
3/22/2022	91 Dunster Road	\$595,000
3/18/2022	12 Kathryn Lane #3	\$100,000

Source: www.zillow.com / Compiled by Local Town Pages

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lynn@lynnrossini.com



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Lydia Rajunas
617-901-1275
thedevee@remaxexec.com



Melissa Kaspert
508-333-4670
melissakaspert@gmail.com



Katie McBride
508-277-9600
katemcbride@remaxexec.com



Kerry Peterson
508-380-3595
kerry@remaxexec.com

20 Charles River Road Medway
\$400,000



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KATIE MCBRIDE

475 Underwood Street Holliston
\$975,000



MELISSA KASPERN

138 Willowgate Rise Holliston



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LYNN ROSSINI

20 Nicholas Road Hopkinton



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KATIE MCBRIDE

166R Holliston Street Medway



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TEAM RICE

72 Ferry Street Grafton



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141 Dalton Road Holliston



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72 Prescott Street Framingham



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39 Mechanic Street Holliston



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138 Prospect Street Acton



SOLD

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84 Prentice Street Holliston



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