

BEYOND THE STACKS

Holyoke Public Library

www.holyokelibrary.org

April 2024

Goodbye Cheryl!

Michael Baron- longtime coworker in Reference Dept.



I enjoyed working with Cheryl on projects to improve reference and information service to our library users. The biggest challenge was in 2013 as we transitioned into the new library addition, organizing the collection and adapting to the new computer technology. Cheryl was especially adept in teaching library users who needed help writing a resume, applying for a job 'online' (among numerous other topics). Cheryl will certainly be missed.

Happy Retirement Flo!

Nancy Kocsmiersky, coworker in Finance Dept.

Florence "Flo", our Finance Assistant of over 20 years retired in January. She will be missed by all.



Flo celebrating with staff!

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For those who didn't know Flo, she worked in the basement and held many hats. She was the glue that held the financial department together! She worked hard at her job and was never hesitant to take on other jobs as needed to help make the library run efficiently. We also loved her home baked goods which she always shared! The people you work with every day can make or break a work experience. Flo always made my day bright with her kindness and helpfulness! She made working at the library a happy place to be.

I wish you all of the best as you finally get to Rest and Relax!

Flo, Happy Retirement!

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Children's Room News

Holyoke Library Children's Room



Morning story times are still here on Mondays and Afternoon Story times are here

Story times are Mondays at 10am and Tuesday afternoons at 4pm.

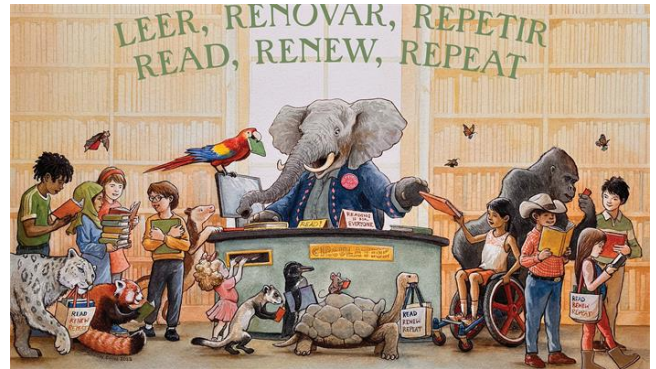
Children's Room Newsletter

Keep up to date with everything happening in the Library's Children's Room by subscribing to our newsletter, sent out every month! Fill out [this short form](#) or email nhayes@holyokelibrary.org to subscribe!

To see what we have available, please email our children's librarian **Nathan** at nhayes@holyokelibrary.org or **Rene** at rpellissier@holyokelibrary.org
Call the Children's Room at **413-420-8105!**

Summer Reading 2024

**READ, RENEW, REPEAT /
LEER, RENOVAR, REPETIR**



Our kickoff event on June 27th, will be the start of the Summer Reading program.

Our summer reading program will feature the idea and practice of conservation.

The Children's room and Teen room will have many fun activities all summer to keep everyone engaged and entertained.

This will be wonderfully diversified summer reading program that encourages reading as a restorative method of self-improvement and self-preservation. Keep checking our website for info.

We hope to see you all this summer!

Teen Room News



One of the best parts of the Holyoke Library is our Teen Room. It is a space that teens may truly call their own and express themselves.

Teen Room Homework Resources

[Gale Databases](#): Databases for your research needs

[Khan Academy](#): Free and helpful videos and lessons about a variety of academic subjects

- If you have any questions feel free to email our **teen librarian Robin** at

rsiniaho@holyokelibrary.org or call 413-420-8119.

CHECK our INSTAGRAM PAGE!

<https://www.instagram.com/holyokelibraryteens/>

Celebrate Asian Pacific American History Month 5/1 – 5/31

May is Asian/Pacific American Heritage Month – a celebration of Asians and Pacific Islanders in the United States. A rather broad term, Asian/Pacific encompasses all of the Asian continent and the Pacific islands of Melanesia (New Guinea, New Caledonia, Vanuatu, Fiji and the Solomon Islands), Micronesia (Marianas, Guam, Wake Island, Palau, Marshall Islands, Kiribati, Nauru and the Federated States of Micronesia) and Polynesia (New Zealand, Hawaiian Islands, Rotuma, Midway Islands, Samoa, American Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu, Cook Islands, French Polynesia and Easter Island).



Since 1979, May has been a dedicated time to celebrate Asian Pacific American heritage, but it wasn't until 1992 that May was officially designated Asian Pacific American Heritage Month. Selected to commemorate the immigration of the first Japanese to the U.S. in May 1843 and the completion of the transcontinental railroad in May 1859 that was made possible by thousands of Chinese laborers.

Come down to the library and be inspired to take out some books, movies and other items celebrating Asian and Pacific American history and culture!

For More info, check out these links:

- [Asian American pacific Islander History Facts](#) The History Chanel - History Facts
- [Asian American stories- library catalog](#)

Library Hours

September 2023- May 2024

Monday - Thursday - 8:30am to 8:30pm

Friday - Saturday – 8:30am-4:00pm,

(Closed: Sundays, Holidays and select Saturdays,).

Computers shut down 30 minutes before closing time.

*** IF Holyoke CITY HALL CLOSSES DUE TO INCLEMENT WEATHER THE HOLYOKE LIBRARY IS ALSO CLOSED.**

Holyoke History Room Hours

The History Room has more limited hours than the rest of the Library. Please click [here for details](#)

Don't have a Public Library Card?

Click [here](#), fill out the form and a Library Staff member will contact you to schedule a time when you may stop by and pick up your new library card.

Mobile Printing and Faxing Available

Need to print from your computer or mobile device? Don't have a printer? Use this:

- **From your computer**, email your document to holyoke-browsing@printspots.com to be printed.

- **From mobile devices**, download the **PrinterOn App** from [Google Play](#) or [Apple App Store](#). Search for Holyoke, MA. Select Holyoke Browsing Printer. Follow directions.

- **Then**, once your documents are Sent to be printed at the library, call or email to pick them up via Curbside Service. (See Above)

Need to send a Fax? From your phone or computer/tablet, go to Faxscan24.com and follow instructions to input fax number and payment.

Coronavirus- COVID 19

Helpful Links:

- [Mass.Gov/covid19](https://www.mass.gov/covid19)
- [Unemployment & COVID-19](#)
- <https://dtaconnect.eohhs.mass.gov/>
- [COVID-19 Fact Sheets \(multilingual\)](#)
- [Frequently asked questions](#)

ONLINE RESOURCES

* A library card is needed to access some of our online resources.

Don't have a Public Library Card?

Get one from the Holyoke Public Library!

Click <https://holyoke.cwmars.org/eg/opac/register> and fill out the form and a Library Staff member will contact you to schedule a time when you may stop by and pick up your new library card.

To learn what you can access with your Holyoke Public Library card, check out [re-Discover Your Public Library](#).

THE LIBRARY OFFERS MANY ONLINE RESOURCES WHICH CAN BE VIEWED ON OUR WEBSITE AT

[HTTP://HOLYOKELIBRARY.ORG/REFERENCEDATABASES.ASP](http://holyokelibrary.org/referencedatabases.asp), LIBRARY OR FOR [CHILDREN'S ONLINE RESOURCES](#)

SOME OF THESE ONLINE SITES INCLUDE:

NEWSPAPERS ONLINE

Explore our new full-color image edition of The [Springfield Republican](#)! All you need is a Holyoke library card number.

Check out other Massachusetts newspapers [here](#).

EDUCATION

Online Courses and Continue Education Classes



[Online Non-Credit Courses Tutorial](#)

LEARN NEW SKILLS

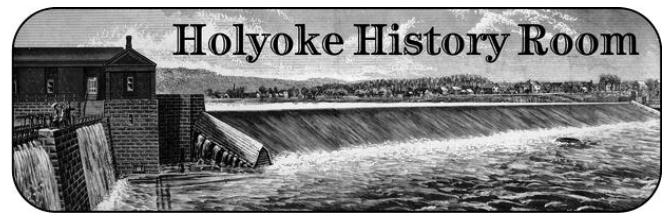
[Rocket Languages Tutorial](#)



[ArtistWorks Tutorial](#)

History Room News

Eileen Crosby, *Archivist*



Free genealogy consultations and workshops offered every month by the Holyoke History Room

HOLYOKE HISTORY ROOM DROP-IN GENEALOGY CONSULTATIONS

NEW SCHEDULE!

WEDNESDAYS, MAY 8 AND MAY 22

2:00-4:00 PM

Whether you have brick walls or breakthroughs to share, our drop-ins have something to offer: expert advice, community, and assisted access to History Room resources. Now 2nd & 4th Wednesdays every month!

Info: 413-420-8107



May Drop-in Genealogy Consultations.

Wednesdays, 5/8 and 5/22: 2-4PM

On March 26th, the History room hosted a talk.

Rescuing Richardson's Station: Holyoke's 1885 Train Depot, with Will Melton



Missed the talk? [View it here.](#) Our thanks to Holyoke Media for recording it!

[Holyoke History Room](#) Reading Room open:

Tuesdays 10-2 & 3-6; Wednesdays and Thursdays 10-4 (and by appointment)

historyroom@holyokelibrary.org (413) 420-8107

Welcome new Staff!

This year the library has welcomed three new staff members.

To the computer department, we have welcomed Omar T. who has taken on the duty of our daytime computer staff. He has jumped in to help with all aspects of the job. From direct support to patrons to



helping behind the scenes with staff and library computer issues. Thank you Omar.

Another Addition is Aria A., our new Reference Librarian. Now that I've been here a bit longer, I

realize a bit part of what I'd like to do while I am here, in addition to working on reference skills, is working on connecting communities, building community outreach, and bringing local art and artist, into the

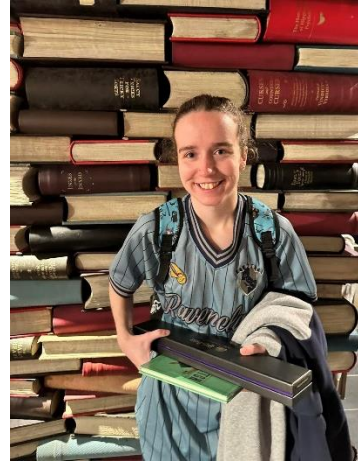


library that reflects the people of Holyoke, as well as sharing resources I collect that may be helpful for this community. I'm not from the area, but I notice similarities between San Antonio and Holyoke, and as I've seen San Antonio do it's best to uplift its history, culture, and people. I've learned too many born and raised in Holyoke seek to do the same, and I'd like to do whatever I can for Holyoke, that I can't do for my home city right now, and because Holyoke offered me a cultural sanctuary in many ways when I moved from Texas to Massachusetts.

Our most recent addition is Abbey B, also a new Reference Librarian.

Hi I am Abbey and I am the new Adult Services and Reference Librarian here. I am a recent graduate and received my Masters in Library Information and

Science. In my down time, I enjoy reading books about nonfiction about topics that interest me such as what is currently happening, WWII/Holocaust, crime, horror such as Stephen King or any other horror books that catches my eye, historical fiction, biographies, sports and more. Besides reading, I also go on hikes when it's nice out (especially when there are old places attached



to the hikes to see), hang out with my dogs who are chocolate lab named Charlie and yellow lab named Oliver, play some video games, and look online about places or people who encounter paranormal activity. My favorite holiday is Halloween so I love horror and learning about the holiday and

anything paranormal related. Another topic I do research as well is the time around WWII and the Holocaust.

I look forward to working at the Holyoke Public Library and getting to know everyone.

* Monthly Movie night

Join us for a monthly All Ages movie night where families can enjoy a movie and a snack in the Community room.

Coming to the Holyoke Public Library In

May 22 @ 6pm	June 25 @ 2pm
	
Monsters Inc.	The Goonies
July 25 @ 1pm	
	
How to train your Dragon: The Hidden World	

Movies are voted on from a list created by the front desk staff. Keep checking our website for the schedule at [Holyoke Library Calendar](#). You can also call the front desk at 413-420-8101.

We Will Miss you Flo and Cheryl!

Continued from pg. 1

Dear Flo and Cheryl,

Retirement -- an opportunity to transition from the structured routines of the workplace to a more relaxed and flexible lifestyle. Retirement marks a significant milestone in an employee's life, symbolizing the culmination of years of dedication, hard work, and achievement. It's a time for reflection, celebration, and embarking on a new chapter filled with possibilities.



However, retirement is not just about bidding farewell to the daily grind; it's

also about leaving behind a legacy. Throughout their careers, employees make lasting contributions to their organizations, leaving an indelible mark on colleagues, clients, and the community at large. Whether it's through innovative projects, mentorship of junior staff, or acts of kindness and camaraderie, retirees leave behind a rich tapestry of memories and accomplishments that continue to inspire others.

**It is with mixed emotions that we bid farewell to our valued colleagues,
Florence "Flo" Stefancik and Cheryl Livengood.**

They have been an integral part of our Holyoke Public Library Team for 18 years for Cheryl and over 20 years for Flo, and their presence is sorely missed.

Flo has been more than just a colleague; she has been a mentor, a friend, and an invaluable member of our Holyoke Public Library family. Her dedication, professionalism, and expertise have left an indelible mark on our team, and her contributions will continue to inspire us.

Throughout Flo's tenure, she has exemplified the highest standards of a strong work ethic and of being a Team player. Her unwavering commitment to excellence has served as a guiding light for us all. Flo has been a source of wisdom, guidance, and

encouragement, and we are immensely grateful for the wealth of knowledge and experience she shared with us.

During Cheryl's tenure, as our Reference librarian, she played a crucial role in the world of information and knowledge dissemination. Her contribution was multifaceted and essential in helping individuals navigate the vast sea of information available today.



In essence, Cheryl was an indispensable resource for individuals seeking information, knowledge, and guidance. Her expertise, dedication, and commitment to service enriched the lives of patrons and contributed to the overall mission of the library as a hub of learning, discovery, and community engagement.

As Cheryl and Flo embark on this new chapter of their lives, we want to express our heartfelt gratitude for their years of service and dedication. While their presence in the Library will be greatly missed, we take solace in knowing that they will now have the opportunity to enjoy their well-deserved retirement.

Flo and Cheryl, as you transition into this next phase of your lives, we wish you nothing but happiness, health, and fulfillment. May your retirement be filled with joy, relaxation, and countless new adventures. Please know that you will always have a special place in our hearts, and your legacy will continue to inspire us for years to come. Although you may no longer be a part of our day-to-day operations, your impact on our Team will endure.

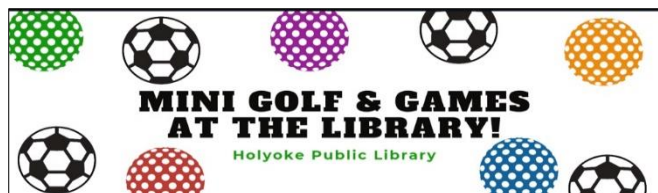
We hope that you will stay in touch and visit us often, as your presence will always be welcomed with open arms.

Once again, thank you for your years of dedicated service and friendship. May your retirement be everything you've ever dreamed of and more.

With warmest regards,
Maria Pagan,
Library Director

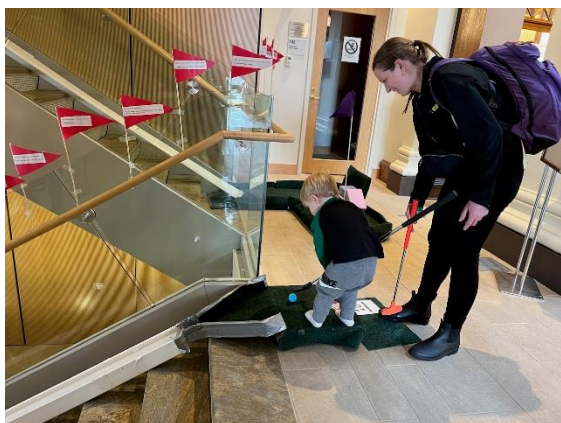
Mini Golf and Games at the Library!

Nancy Kocsmiersky, Development Office



“Mini Golf and Games at the Library!” – was held inside and outside of the Holyoke Public Library on **Saturday, April 20.** - Mini Golf in the Library, for all ages (under 5 free), 9:30 am - 3:30 pm, 18 holes of miniature golf inside the building!

Little Golfer putting.



Little Golfer trying a tricky shot!

This event was a great success! Fun was had by all. Many Holes were decorated with special themes and were had funny and unique designs.

Sparky the fire Dog keeping watch!



We wish many THANKS to our Volunteers and Sponsors who made this happen!

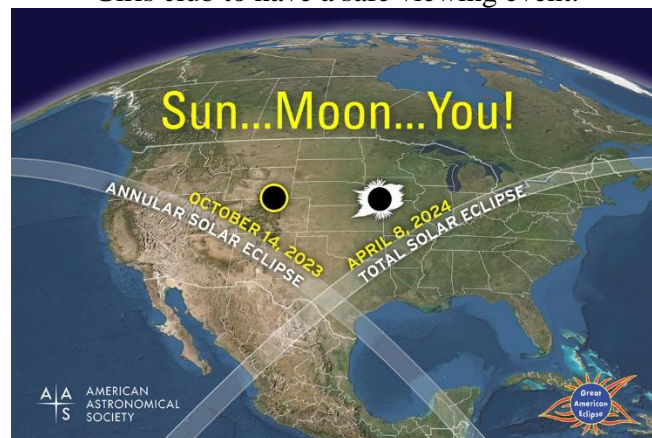


For more information or more pictures check out our website at Holyoke library Mini golf. Or scan code.



Eclipse Glasses

For the April Total solar Eclipse, the Holyoke Public Library, gave away 700 free Solar Glasses and partnered with Lawrence school and the Boys and Girls club to have a safe viewing event.



***The Library is collecting at the front desk the solar glasses to be donated to other countries to be distributed for free so they can watch the next eclipse safely. Collection ends on July 5. Contact us for more information at 413-420-8101.**

STAY IN TOUCH!

HOLYOKE PUBLIC LIBRARY

250 Chestnut St, Holyoke, MA 01040

413-420-8101, library@holyoke.org

Website: www.holyokelibrary.org/

Facebook: www.facebook.com/holyokepubliclibrary/

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/HolyokeLibrary>

DEPARTMENT CONTACTS:

Main Desk: 413-420-8101

Reference Dept.: 413-420-8106

Children's Dept.: 413-420-8105

Teen Dept.: 413-420-8119/

<http://www.facebook.com/hplteenroom/>

History Room: 413-420-8107

www.facebook.com/holyokehistoryroom/

Computer Room: 413-420-8118

Fundraising: 413-420-8109

Looking for a New book, Music or to Keep Learning?

Wowbrary

The newest stuff at your library

Wowbrary regularly informs you by email about your public library's newest books, movies and music. **This is a free user service** supported by grants, donations, and volunteers. To receive a copy of Wowbrary via your e-mail, [click here](#) to subscribe.

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