

What's happening at

# Holyoke Public Library

Spring 2011

[www.holyokelibrary.org](http://www.holyokelibrary.org)

## Welcome New Library Board!

Our Library Board of Directors is the governing body for the Holyoke Public Library. Board members are elected to office as part of the Annual meeting process. On October 2010, the HPL Corporation elected seven members and the City Council confirmed six members appointed by the Mayor. All our library board members serve as volunteers and provide an important service to the library and our community.

HPLC is pleased to welcome our new and returning board members and we thank them all in advanced for their service. Meet our current Board members listed below.

### **Terry Plum – Library Board President**

Terry Plum is the Assistant Dean at Simmons Graduate School of Library and Information Science (GSLIS), and is responsible for GSLIS technology and the satellite site campus at Mount Holyoke College in South Hadley, MA. He teaches courses in evaluation and information technology. He co-developed the MINES for Libraries® protocol with Brinley Franklin. He presents and publishes on the evaluation of electronic resources and digital libraries. He has consulted internationally in library evaluation, library science education, and information technology training, most recently in Belarus, Liberia and Vietnam.

### **Ellen B. Moriarty — Library Board Vice President**

Ellen B. Moriarty is a retired Substitute Holyoke Public Schools Teacher and Travel Agent and is well known for her long history of community involvement. She has been a member of the library board for ten years, has served as Board President and is currently the Library Board Vice President.

### **Tom Schwab — Library Board Treasurer**

Tom Schwab is a retired Attorney, who practiced law in Washington, D.C and served on Boards of many non-profit corporations in D.C. area and in the Pioneer Valley. With his financial management and legal issues expertise, Tom

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## HPL Project to Start Soon

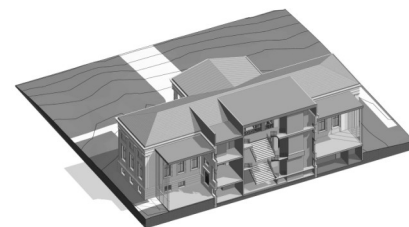
**Maria Pagan, Director**

Ground is to be broken in October 2011 on an enlarged and renovated Holyoke Public Library, and the search has begun for a site to house the facility's collection and library services during the 18-24 months of construction.

The library was built in 1902, and hasn't really changed in 109 years. It is open six days a week with library services and activities. The library staff continues to do a great job, despite the difficulty due to square footage restrictions. The library is an important component in attracting people downtown with over 100,000 library visit's a year, as reported in the library annual report.

The expansion-renovation project has been in the works for years. Conversations regarding the finding of more space for the library services, collection and technology started years earlier. In the late 1980s, library officials began reorganizing to maximize the use of available space, an activity that continued through the mid-1990s, when discussion began about a building project. In July 2005, Holyoke was added to a waiting list for a state construction grant. The city was notified in August 2008 that the grant money was available, and in 2010, the Holyoke City Council voted to approve bonding of \$5.5 million toward the project. A grant from the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners' Library Construction Program will provide approximately \$4.3 million, with the rest to be generated through fund-raising and grants.

Right now, the building is compartmentalized and does not function in the way a library should because the present layout requires visitors to wind their way through various rooms and floors in order to reach their intended destination. Once construction is completed, patrons walking in the new main



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# Holyoke Public Library History Room & Archive

Jim Massery, Archivist/Curator

## Our Staff

Library Director  
Maria Pagan

Assistant Director  
Carla Wessels

Reference Librarians  
Michael Baron & Cheryl Livengood

Computer Coordinator  
Jose Borges

Children's Librarians  
Jason LeFebvre & Nathan Hayes

Historian/Archivist  
James Massery

Financial Manager  
Luisa Neves-Jarrett

Financial Manager Assistants  
Millie Brinkman & Florence Stefancik

Technical Service/Acquisition  
Linda Kurowski

Technical Service/Cataloger  
Martha Olver

Technica; Service/Data Entry  
Meg Haley

Library Assistants/ILL  
Lucy Diaz & Anne Gorman

Evening Library Assistant  
Mayra Rivera

Custodians  
Mark Gadbourey & Tom Keeler

## Board of Directors

2010-2011

President  
Terry Plum

Vice President  
Ellen Moriarty

Treasurer  
Tom Schwab

Clerk  
Susan Carey

## Board Members

Antonio Colon, Jr.  
Manuel Frau-Ramos  
Wesley Kulig  
Cesar Lopez  
George Mettey  
Joel Patruno  
Bellamy Schmidt  
Jeremy Smith  
Sandra Ward

## Library Trustees

Thomas Hazen  
Patrick Lavelle  
Tom Schwab

## Newsletter Editor

Walter Haggerty

The Holyoke Public Archives recently received a Preservation Assistance Grant, of \$6,000, for Smaller Institutions from the National Endowment for the Humanities. These funds allow the History Room to execute its Long-Range Preservation Plan which guides the purchase and utilization of archival supplies and equipment. This grant award will help protect the library's historical collections for many generations to come. We would like to sincerely thank Nina, Matt, and Debra of the Capital Campaign for all their great work in raising funds for the library building and its services.



The William Stiles Loomis Scrapbook, which chronicles Loomis' life and experiences fighting for the Union Army during the Civil War, is available to view online on Flickr. Please visit the History Room's blog and click the link to check it out:

<http://holyokehistory.blogspot.com/>.

Also, coming in May 2011 will be a permanent online exhibit, "The Legacy of William Stiles Loomis," which will feature Loomis' great contributions as a builder, entrepreneur, and philanthropist of Holyoke.



The History Room is currently seeking volunteers to help with historical research and preservation projects. If you would like to have a part in saving and investigating the city's history, please contact the library's archivist at 413-552-2842. We look forward to hearing from you!

## Volunteer Needed



For several years Holyoke Public Library has provided support to the Providence Place First Friday Book Club. This service has been greatly appreciated by an ever-expanding group of readers at Providence Place and the library is most anxious to continue to provide the service, but we do need help. In the past the service has been handled by volunteers, first by Connie Kennedy and most notably and recently by Mrs. Lois Schwab, who has been a loyal and dedicated coordinator in securing and delivering books for the use of Providence Place residents for the past few years. At this time, other responsibilities make it impossible for Mrs. Schwab to continue. We all appreciate her great dedication and personal contribution to this program and will miss her cheerful involvement.

If you, as an individual, or by sharing the responsibility with another person, would be interested in contributing a few hours each month to this very worthwhile program, please contact the library at 413-322-5640, or stop at the library to speak with Maria G. Pagan, Director.

entrance on Chestnut Street will be able to continue straight through the building to the door on Maple Street.

The expanded building will also include adaptable meeting space that can be used by the community. A 130-seat community meeting room will be built that can be divided for two simultaneous events. State-of-the-art technology will be available for meetings or other events held in the room. Small conference rooms will be built for groups of up to six. Tutors, who come to the library to work with students, are among those who will be able to use these rooms.

The planned renovation and expansion calls for a major portion of the historical building to be preserved. That will preserve the front part and demolish the wing at the rear of the building as it is not feasible to retain that area. It would be prohibitively expensive, as well as impractical to attempt to adapt it to today's requirements and building codes. A variety of steps are required before those permits can be issued. For starters, the Holyoke Historical Commission has approved the necessary demolition. They have also approved the relocation of some of the murals. Woodwork in the 1902 section will be restored and a central skylight, closed since before the 1980s, will be reopened, if possible. The Indiana limestone and the glazed white brick-work on the outside of the structure will be cleaned, re-pointed and restored. If all goes according to plan, the expanded facility will open its doors to the public during the summer of 2013.

Since the 1980's, technology has changed the way libraries are used and information is disseminated. Today public-access computers are popular in Holyoke, while the fastest-growing part of the collections in circulation are DVDs and recorded books, but more traditional children's books and story hours for youngsters continue to attract sizeable numbers of patrons.

Finegold, Alexander & Associates of Boston (James Alexander, Tony Hsiao, Ellen Anselone, Pat Moors, Isaac Smith, Elliot Guerrero) have been awarded the design contract for the \$14.5 million project. FAA is expected to complete the design and bidding documents for the expanded facility and hopes to award a contract by the end of this summer, in time to break ground as scheduled.

Finegold, Alexander & Associates has had many years experience in the state, and its portfolio includes institutions of higher learning as well as private commercial work. Renovations and additions to historic libraries and public projects that reinvigorate city centers are a specialty of this team.

The construction cost for the library is expected to come in at \$11 million; the remainder of the cost includes

architectural and interior design fees, furniture, equipment, collections and technology, and a temporary library site, among other expenses.

The appointed Library Renovation Committee began reviewing the 6-year-old schematic drawings for an enlarged library facility with the architects last year. The committee includes Bill Fuqua, Department of Public Works Superintendent as Chair; Terry Plum, Library President; Blaine Karr; Maria G. Pagan, Library Director; Mark Sullivan, OPM; and City Council member, Aaron Vega. City's Ex-Officio members include the Procurement Officer, Engineer, Treasurer, Auditor, and Solicitor.

The committee is working with the architects on final designs for the expansion and renovation. The current 25,064-square-foot library at 335 Maple St. will increase in size, to approximately 39,000+ square feet. Of that, more than 22,000 square feet will be new construction.

Among the traditional library features to be included in the new library will be a conveniently located community meeting room, a larger Children's Room, Young Adult space, room for technology and a separate room for the audio-visual and new materials collections. The library's Holyoke History Collection will be relocated from its temporary location at Holyoke Community College, to a specially designed space in the library building. The original Maple Street entrance will be used as an emergency exit only, and all visitors will enter from the new Chestnut Street entrance. Parking is still an issue, but the Committee is looking into several options.

In its search for an alternative temporary location, which is now underway, the Committee hopes to find a 9,000 to 12,000 square feet, handicapped-accessible site with adjacent parking within no more than 1½ miles of downtown. Its floors will need to be able to hold 150 pounds per square foot, and the facility also will also need to have the wiring capacity to handle the library computer networks.

How much of the library's collection will be moved to the temporary site has not been determined, though we expect new books, the audio-visual collection and children's programs will all remain immediately available to the public.

We are prepared to deal with the unavoidable inconvenience that accompanies any project of this scope, including the double move to and from temporary quarters, as we look forward with excitement and enthusiasm to the completion of a wonderful new library for the 21<sup>st</sup> century... a Holyoke Public Library which the people of this city deserve.

## Co-chairs Named for Capital Campaign

Alice Newton Smith and Louis Oldershaw, long-time library supporters, have agreed to serve as Honorary Co-chairpersons for the Holyoke Public Library Next 100 Years Capital Campaign for the renovation and expansion of the library. Both Mrs. Smith and Mr. Oldershaw have lengthy histories of public service to the Holyoke community and each has served as president of the Library Board of Directors in past years.

Mrs. Smith is a member of the Newton family, prominently associated with Holyoke's paper-making heritage for many years. Mrs. Smith is a graduate of Vassar College and was the wife of the late Ben Childs of the Childs Family Shoe Store until his death in 1981. Both were active supporters of Holyoke Hospital, participating in various fund-raising projects and serving on the hospital board.



Mrs. Smith recently reflected on her childhood memories as a young patron of Holyoke Public Library, a tradition which she has passed on to her daughters Susan, Katherine, Eliza and Alice, who share their mother's love for books and learning. In 1993 Mrs. Smith married William H. Smith, former president of the Holyoke Savings Bank. Mr. Smith died in 1999.

Louis Oldershaw came to Holyoke after receiving his Law Degree from the Yale University School of Law. He was attracted to Holyoke by his wife, Virginia Wakelin, a member of the family which owned the McCauslin & Wakelin Department Store. Mr. Oldershaw served in the U. S. Navy during World War II, participating in the Battle of Normandy as well as serving in the Pacific. Following the war he practiced law in Holyoke until he joined the National Blank Book Company in 1964. He rose to the position of President, retiring in 1982. He later resumed the practice of law with the firm of Buckley, Richardson and Gelinias, LLP in Springfield, retiring for a second time in 2002.

The Board of Directors of Holyoke Public Library is most grateful to Mrs. Smith and Mr. Oldershaw for their acceptance of this vital role in the Capital Campaign. In recognition of their dedication, the circulation desk in the new library will be named in honor of each of them and their families. "We can think of no better tribute to two families with so much dedication to Holyoke," said Library Board President, Terry Plum. "We are extremely grateful to both Mr. Oldershaw and Mrs. Smith."

## C.R.U.S.H. Previewed Library Plans

The members of C.R.U.S.H. recently received an advance look at "work-in-progress" designs for the expansion and renovation of Holyoke's 109 year old library. The presentation by architects James Finegold and Tony Hsaio, of Finegold, Alexander & Associates, met with enthusiastic approval from the majority of C.R.U.S.H. members who attended the March meeting at the Bungalow.

Attendees were pleased with the respect which the architects had demonstrated in their aim to preserve the current library's classical exterior design, facing Maple Street, while adapting the interior to 21<sup>st</sup> Century requirements. They also welcomed the dramatic glass facade that will showcase the building's northwest wall and will house the, greatly needed, expanded space. Plans call for the removal of a "substantial" portion of the existing rear wing to allow for a unified three level addition extending to the ends of the present building.

The new modern wing will allow for "universal access" without impediments, resulting in the creation of a new main entrance at ground level. The proposed wing will allow for a considerably expanded children's and young adult section, a "café style" seating area, relocation of the circulation desk, plus all areas designed for flexibility, where community programs and a variety of library activities can be held.



Terry Plum, chairperson of the library board, pointed out that construction must begin by October in order for the library to be eligible for the \$4.4 million construction grant which it has secured from the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners. President Plum noted that the Board is committed to contribute up to \$4.6 million through a combination of fund-raising, tax credits and the library's endowment fund. The City of Holyoke's financial participation is set at \$5.5 million. Terry reported that, to date, the library has raised approximately \$900,000, including a "substantial" gift. A separate capital fund-raising campaign committee is currently pursuing grants and other major gifts.

has been an asset to the library.

He was elected Library Board President in October 1995 and has been the Library Board Treasurer since 2000. Other current volunteer commitments includes Providence Ministries for Needy; Musicorda; Holyoke Civic Symphony; Hybrid Vigor Music Inc.; Pioneer Valley Capella; Children's Museum at Holyoke; Holyoke Health Center.

**Susan Carey — Library Board Clerk**

Susan Carey is a retired Holyoke Public Schools Teacher and Administrator. As an educator, she understands the benefits of a public library to the families of Holyoke. Other current volunteer commitments include the Community Education Project—an organization helping adult learners.

**Antonio Colon, Jr.**

Antonio Colon is employed by Marcotte Ford Sales. He provides customer service to the public on a daily basis and hopes to bring and expose people to our library services.

**Manuel Frau-Ramos**

Manuel Frau-Ramos, publisher and editor of a bilingual newspaper, has supported local community-based initiatives and has worked closely with community Latino organizations. Since 2006, in association with Salsarengue Restaurant, they have held a successful monthly poetry night event. He wants to see our library move forward in reflecting the diversity, meeting the needs and expectations of our changing demographic community. As a bilingual (Spanish/English) educator and journalist he believes he can serve as cultural, linguistic and educational liaison between the library and the growing Hispanic population. Other current volunteer commitments include the Hispanic Family Festival, the Puerto Rican Parade in Holyoke, the summer Latino softball league, and the dominó tournaments.

**Wesley Kulig**

Wesley Kulig as a Developer/Builder brings construction experience. He is interested in technology/robotics and enjoys a challenge in obtaining donations and fundraising. Other current volunteer commitments include Rotary International.

**Cesar A. Lopez**

Cesar A. Lopez is currently a Holyoke Public Schools Committee member and a United Veterans War Memorial Commissioner. He wants to be involved in Holyoke's future. Other current volunteer commitments include New Horizon Community Centers.

**George Mettey**

George Mettey is the Contracts Director for the Defense Contracts Management Agency and is committed to serving the City of Holyoke. Other current volunteer

commitments include Second Baptist Church in South Hadley.

**Joel Patruno**

Joel Patruno is a licensed electrician, a UMass graduate and presently working as a consultant electrical engineer. He believes his experience and expertise will help with the library project.

**Bellamy Schmidt**

Bellamy Schmidt has a long track record of community involvement and many years of experience in corporate professional education and in managing financial planning and budgeting. He has managed two major educational facility design and construction projects and is experienced in development of long-range strategy.

**Jeremy Smith**

Jeremy Smith is an Archivist at UMass. He has been involved in local election campaigns and is interested in facilitating the building of a 21st century library. Other current volunteer commitments include Flywheel Community Arts Board in Easthampton.

**Sandra N. Ward — Liaison to the Friends of HPL**

Sandra N. Ward is a retired Mount Holyoke College Reference Librarian. She is interested in the renovation of our historic building, the expansion of our children's library and the creation of a dedicated space for young adults. She enjoys documenting community events in photographs and sharing them online. She is a columnist for the monthly The Danvers Herald, as well as a drummer in the Panharmonium Folk Dance Band and the Expandable Brass Band. Other current volunteer commitments include Friends of the Holyoke Public Library; member of the Steering Committee and the Speaker Bureau for the Library Capital Campaign; President of the Funeral Consumers Alliance of Western Massachusetts.



## Library Digital Collection

Maria Pagan, Director

With downloadable media available from libraries 24/7, your library is always open!

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## Friends Notes & News

Tim Damon, President

The Friends of the Holyoke Public Library recently participated with the Children's Museum in "For Love of Stories," a special event and a great evening for youngsters and their families. The



children were given the opportunity to create books, explore musical instruments thanks to the Holyoke Civic Symphony, hear stories from Roger Tincknell, and enjoy a rousing musical finale, thanks to the Expandable Brass Band.

The Friends voted at their March Board Meeting to name the children's story-telling space in the new library.

The Friends are currently soliciting items for the annual Future Begins Here Gala to be held May 1st starting at 6:30 pm at the Holyoke Mall. Donations of new or "gently" used items may be dropped off at the library. This year marks the 20th anniversary of the Future Begins Here and the event will be celebrated in great style! The Friends suggest that everyone gather a group of friends or business associates to reserve a full table. Highlights include the customary silent and live auctions plus a special hole-in-one raffle to win a new Subaru. A specialty beer bar and additional musical entertainment will also add to the evening's enjoyment.

Friends of Holyoke Public Library meet regularly on the second Wednesday of each month at 5:30 PM in the community room of the library. Everyone is welcome to attend. The Annual Meeting will be on May 11.



## Naming Opportunities

Nina Mankin

The *Next 100 Years* Capital Campaign to raise \$2.5 million toward the renovation/expansion of our library has already raised nearly \$800,000 toward our goal. As a way of recognizing those who give over \$1,000 to the campaign, the campaign steering committee has created a large number of naming opportunities – donor and commemorative plaques - in the renewed facility.

When your library is restored and expanded the names of the hundreds of community members who have made the building possible will be seen throughout the building, both at the new entrance and at the individual “naming opportunity” they have chosen with which to honor their family or business or loved one. Nearly 40 businesses, families and individuals have already given to the campaign at this level, naming some of the most visible areas in the library. Some of the areas that have already been named include the Main Lobby, the Children’s Media Area, the Parenting Area, the New Materials Display Area, both the Children’s Circulation and the Main Circulation Desks and the Microfilm Area. A number of naming opportunities, like chairs and seating areas, are available to multiple donors (as there are multiple items to name.) For instance, to date, only one of the ten “comfy reading areas”, one of the twenty large library tables and one of the five outdoor benches have been named.



Here are some of the naming opportunities still available. The dollar amount is the level at which a donor gives in order to secure that naming opportunity, it does not represent the actual cost of the object named. For instance, a chair can be named for a pledge of \$1,000 but it doesn’t cost that much to purchase a chair. Pledges to the campaign can be made over a period of up to five years. Have a million dollars to spare? We’ll name the entire new Children’s library after you!

### Some Naming Opportunities Still Available:

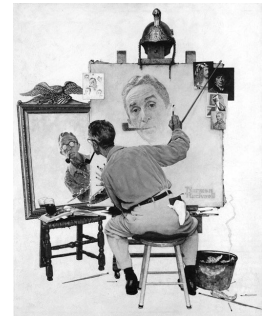
- Children’s Library (Entire Area): \$1,000,000
- Main Computer Room: \$250,000
- Community Room Lobby: \$75,000
- Group Study Room: \$25,000
- Comfy Ready Areas: \$10,000
- Book Return: \$3,500
- Outdoor Benches: \$3,500
- Library Tables: \$2,000
- Adult Comfy Chairs: \$2,000
- Straight-back Chairs: \$1,000

If you would like to know more about how the campaign is progressing or get involved as a donor or a volunteer, feel free to contact the Campaign Office at 322-5636 or at [hplcampaign@gmail.com](mailto:hplcampaign@gmail.com).

## Rockwell and Mass. MoCA Museum Passes Contributed to Library

Patron passes to the Norman Rockwell Museum and Mass. MoCA (Museum of Contemporary Art), have been added to the Holyoke Public Library collection of free, or reduced admission, passes to area museums.

The Rockwell and MoCA passes have been donated for the use of Holyoke Library card holders by Holyoke City Councilor At Large, Rebecca Lisi in honor of the graduation of her husband, Damian Cote, from Rhode Island School of Design (RISD) with a Master of Fine Arts Degree in Printmaking. Ms. Lisi also commented that the gift seemed to be an appropriate addition to the library’s collection of passes given all the other work going into restoring and updating Holyoke’s Public Library.



“Damian and I are real art enthusiasts and I wanted to make sure that the city’s residents could easily access and enjoy art to the extent that we do. Other area libraries carry free passes to these museums and it seemed to be the perfect time to gift them to the library,” she said.

The Norman Rockwell Museum is located in Stockbridge, Massachusetts. That pass is good through November 1, 2011. Mass. MoCA is located in a series of old mill buildings that have been converted to a museum of contemporary art in North Adams, Massachusetts. That pass, runs through February 2012.



Holyoke Public Library also offers passes to the Springfield Quadrangle group of five art, history, and science museums. Passes are also available for the Holyoke Children’s Museum, Wisteriahurst Museum and the Holyoke Merry-Go-Round. For details and availability, please check at the library’s circulation desk.



## Tell Us What You Think - Digital Books



Did you get a new eReader for the holidays or are you thinking about investing in one for yourself or for someone else? Are you listening to an audiobook that you downloaded to your MP3 Player or iPod? What kinds of books do you like to read/listen to from the library? C/W MARS is

evaluating the use of our Digital Catalog to plan future title purchases and support for our libraries. We need your input to help.

Take CWMARS brief survey and let us know! Just log on to <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/RV9Z7FV> to answer our questions.

This survey will also be available on the Digital Catalog site soon. If you have any questions about this survey, please contact C/W MARS Digital Catalog Support at [digitalbooks@cw mars.org](mailto:digitalbooks@cw mars.org).

## Grant Awards

Library Campaign Co-Chairs Tom Schwab and Susan Carey are pleased to announce that the Springfield-based Community Foundation of Western Massachusetts (CFWM) has made a \$30,000 capital grant to the library in support of the renovation and expansion and the Davis Foundation has made a \$100,000 capital grant award.

“We are very grateful that CFWM and Irene & George Davis Foundation have chosen to support our project with these generous grants,” said Mr. Schwab. “Their grants will make a real difference in our efforts both within and beyond the Holyoke community to attract additional donors to the campaign.” Another grant of \$100,000 came from the Institution of Museum and Library Services.



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