



## The Springfield Symphony Orchestra to Bring Their Musical Petting Zoo to The Holyoke Public Library on April 18

There will be no llamas to pet in the Holyoke Public Library Community Room on April 18. There will be no aardvarks either. There **will be** musical instruments to touch and play with. Welcome the Springfield Symphony Orchestra Musical Petting Zoo to your Holyoke Public Library Community Room on April 18, 2015, from 10:00 am to 11:00 am. The presentation is designed for children in grades K-2, but all are welcome.



Photo Courtesy of Springfield Symphony Orchestra

After an introduction to the musical instruments, participants get a chance to bow a violin, blow a horn, or tap out a rhythm on a drum. Each child participating in the program also receives an Activity Book that includes information, coloring activities, and games about orchestra instruments.

Even if you aren't a child or have no child to bring with you, drop by to see this event. We won't check IDs at the door. But, sorry, unless you are a child, you don't get the Activity Book. We are very excited to present this special event! To see other events at the Library, visit our [website calendar](#).

*We are able to present programs such as this through the support of our donors. We thank you for your continuing generosity.*



Photo Courtesy of Springfield Symphony Orchestra

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of Walter Haggerty, a volunteer who edited our newsletter. Walter was more than a volunteer; he was a fixture in this library, respected and loved by all who knew him.

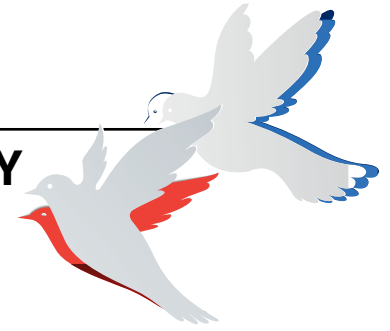
We send our condolences to his family.

He will be missed.



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## The Annual FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY Membership Drive



Join us or Renew your Membership!

Membership is open to any individual or organization. Payment of annual dues (at a level you select) keeps you on our list as an active member. Your membership contribution helps the Friends support the library and advocate for the library and library services.

Download Membership form online:

[http://www.holyokelibrary.org/holyokenew/documents/joinfriends\\_dues.pdf](http://www.holyokelibrary.org/holyokenew/documents/joinfriends_dues.pdf)

**Thank you for your support!**



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The Friends of the Holyoke Public Library is pleased to announce the Library's participation in the annual Future Begins Here Gala, held at Holyoke Mall on Sunday evening, May 3rd, at 6:30 PM. Be prepared to have a magnificent gourmet dinner with food provided by Alina's Ristorante, Chandler's Tavern, The Delaney House, Hofbrau Joe's German Steakhouse, Eastside Grill, The Whately Inn, and The Federal, serving items such as New Orleans BBQ Shrimp, Vegetarian Asparagus and Roasted Tomato Polenta Casserole, and Bananas Foster! There will also be live music, a live auction, a silent auction, cash bar, and more.

As you may know, this annual gala is our major fundraising event for the library, and the Friends are especially excited over the wonderful donations we have received from local businesses for our auction prizes. We know you'll be impressed as well!

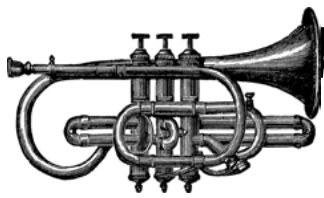
Tickets will be available at the door, but become a VIP and bypass the lines by purchasing a ticket in advance at <http://futurebeginshere.org>, or send a check for \$35.00 to The Future Begins Here, P.O. Box 6806, Holyoke MA 01041-6808 by April 24th. For groups, tables (seating for ten) are \$350.

What a marvelous way to have a great meal and a great time while supporting your public library!

SEE YOU THERE!

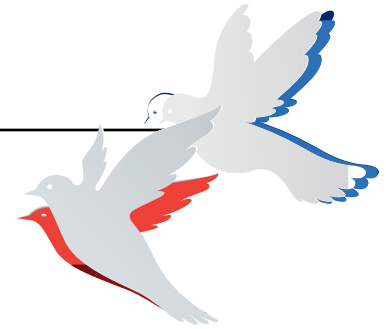


**If** you have an item you would like to donate for auction, please contact Christine Alger by April 15 at [Chrialg6@gmail.com](mailto:Chrialg6@gmail.com).



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## And Now a Word From...



### Terry Plum President, Board of Directors

We have had a tough winter in Holyoke, and it is reassuring to see signs of spring. One of the welcome marks of spring is the renewal of the Library digital newsletter, this issue created by Tom Barrett of the Library Board. Thanks, Tom.

The snow in Library Park has finally melted, and soon landscaping work on Library Park will begin. A CDBG grant (Community Development Block Grant) is funding work on the Cabot Street side of Library Park. Milone & MacBroom landscape architects have designed an exciting plan, and we look forward to the start of construction. As an added benefit, the project is working with the Greening the Gateway Cities grant program, and will be including new trees into the design, supporting urban forestry. The tree program will beautify the park and the parking lot, conserve energy in nearby buildings, including the Library, and create a mixture of new and older trees in Library Park.

The Board is committed to increasing early childhood literacy in Holyoke, and Library staff have had several meetings with HELI, the Holyoke Early Literacy Initiative (<http://www.hps.holyoke.ma.us/heli.html>). The Library is now a full partner in HELI, and Jason and Nathan, the children's librarians, have created programs to encourage reading in children and to support reading in the family. The Library is fully committed to the Holyoke Public School's goals of increasing literacy among young children. We want children to read, and Jason, Nathan, and other library staff are helping children and their families to get there.

Maria Pagan, the Library Director, is taking an active role in the SPARK, (<http://sparkholyokey.com/>). As the website says, "SPARK helps people turn their business concepts into reality, by linking them to the right local resources to get on the path to success." The Library is committed to supporting efforts to grow businesses and help local entrepreneurs succeed. Need a resource for your business? Come check out the resources in the Library and talk with the librarians and staff about what you need to succeed.

As spring comes to Holyoke, come down to see the still new building, use the computers and charge out books. Maria and the staff are putting together a great series of programs, some of which are mentioned in this newsletter. I hope to see you there.

Terry  
President, HPLC



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# LOST RADIO ROUNDERS



An acoustic Americana duo, performing classic songs, ballads, and singalongs

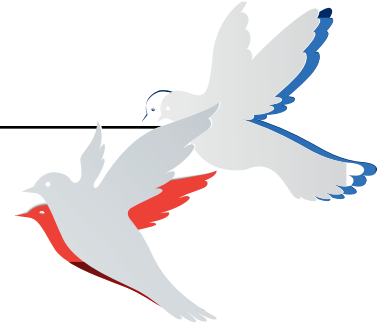


# *Lincoln and Liberty!*

## Songs from the Time of Honest Abe

A selection of spirituals, abolitionist anthems, Stephen Foster classics, parlor songs and battle songs of North & South. The Albany Times Union says the show features the music "Abraham Lincoln would have had on his iPod." Selections range from the "Blue Tail Fly" and "Aura Lee" to "The Battle Hymn of the Republic" and "Marching Through Georgia."

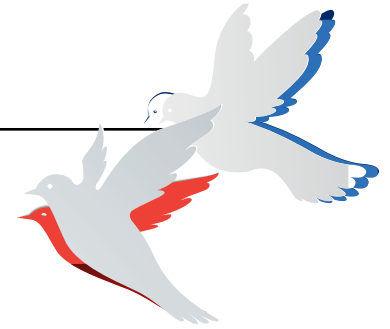
**Holyoke Public Library, April 18, 2015, 1 pm to 3 pm**



# THE URBAN FOREST

COMING SOON





## Partnership Between Holyoke Public Library and CENTRO

By Manuel Frau Ramos

The Holyoke Public Library and the Center for Puerto Rican Studies (CENTRO) at Hunter College of the City University of New York reached an institutional partnership. The Memorandum of Understanding, signed on March 20, creates an educational-cultural alliance between the most important academic organization on the Puerto Rican diaspora and a public library located in a city with the highest concentration of Puerto Ricans outside the island. The agreement was signed by Edwin Meléndez, Director of the Centro and Terry Plum, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Holyoke Public Library Corporation. Through this agreement, Centro and the Holyoke Public Library, “agree to plan, promote and co-sponsor documentary screenings, talks, exhibits, and possible new projects on the Puerto Rican experience, challenges and legacy in the United States.” “We are delighted about this partnership with the Holyoke Public Library. We see this as an important step in our efforts towards collecting and preserving the experience, challenges, and legacy of Puerto Ricans in the United States. We look forward to many future collaborations,” said Edwin Meléndez.

The objectives of this collaboration are: “1) to provide Holyoke’s communities with educational tools (such as the Puerto Rican legacy posters series, traveling exhibits, conferences) and events that portray and preserve the Puerto Rican legacy in the US and; 2) to expand the Centro’s network of policymakers, researchers and students to broaden the conversation and investigation on the Puerto Rican experience in the US.”

In a written statement, Terry Plum indicated that, “This is a wonderful opportunity for Holyoke to take advantage of programming and services provided by the partnership of the Library and Centro: The Center for Puerto Rican Studies at Hunter College, part of the CUNY system. Hunter College is an excellent CUNY school in urban Manhattan and is committed to the values of learning liberal arts and sciences for a more just and inclusive society. Centro’s mission is to collect data, graphic art, library and archival resources that document the history of Puerto Ricans in the US, certainly a mission that is aligned with the Holyoke Library and with the citizens of Holyoke. The Library is proud to partner with Centro, and we look forward working together to bringing programs and talks to Holyoke, and to provide a venue for Centro outreach.”

One example of this emerging collaboration initiative was the activity held on October 2014 (before the agreement was signed) when the Puerto Rican Cultural Project (PRCP) and the Holyoke Public Library hosted a presentation by Edwin Meléndez, co-editor of the new book, *Puerto Ricans at the Dawn of the New Millennium*, published by the Center for Puerto Rican Studies at Hunter College (CENTRO).

The Puerto Rican Cultural Project is an Ad Hoc committee formed to assist the Latino outreach efforts of the Holyoke Public Library. “I would especially like to recognize the work of Manuel Frau-Ramos, member of the Board of the Library, and María Pagán, Director of the Library, for making this partnership possible,” said Terry Plum.



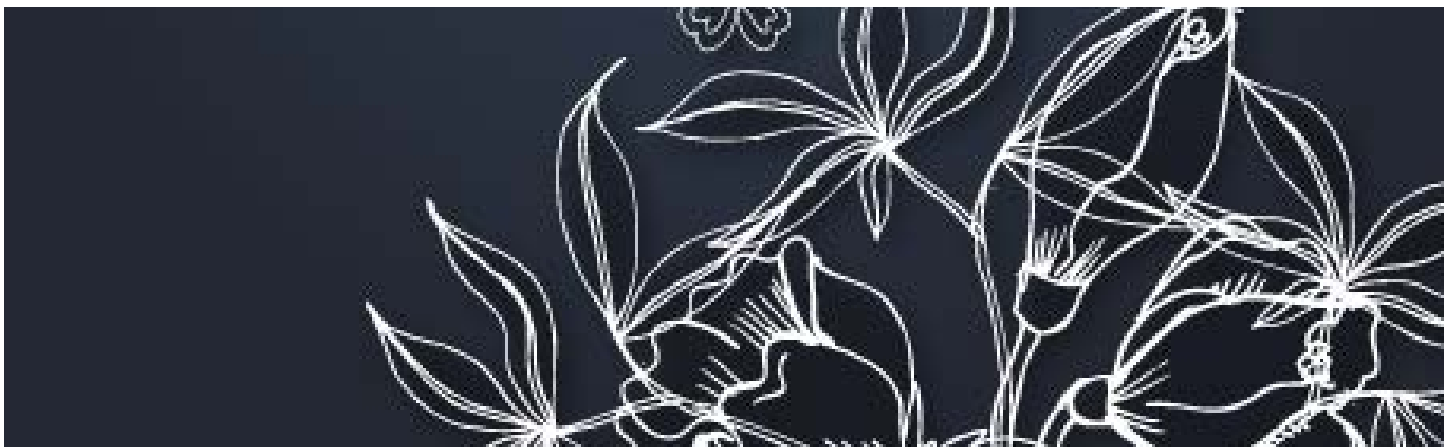
## **Organic Gardening With John Root**

Holyoke Library

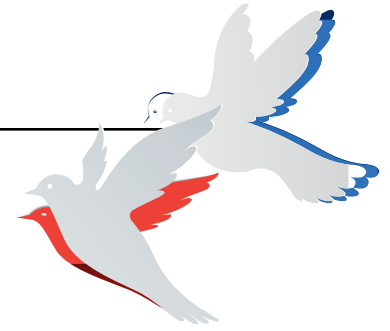
April 18, 2015

11:00 AM - 12:30 PM

“Organic Gardening for Everyone” is a power point presentation that provides practical advice and inspiration to gardeners of all ages and physical conditions on growing fresh and flavorful vegetables, fruits, herbs, and flowers. Participants learn and share their knowledge about a range of topics, including composting and mulching to promote healthy soil, using space efficiently, growing plants from seed, succession planting, inviting beneficial wildlife (including butterflies and hummingbirds), controlling weeds and pests naturally, and preserving home-grown produce. Questions are welcome throughout the presentation, and handouts with recommended books and websites are made available to participants.







## A Tip of The Hat To Our Library Staff

### Thank You For Your Hard Work!

Library Director:	Maria G. Pagan
Assistant Director:	Carla Wessels
Reference Librarians:	Michael Baron & Cheryl Livengood
Computer Coordinator:	Jose Figueroa & Jose Cartegena-Ortiz
Children's Librarians:	Jason Lefebvre & Nathan Hayes
History Room Archivist:	Eileen Crosby
Financial Manager:	R. Andrew Parker
Financial Assistant:	Florence Stefancik
Development Associate:	Nancy Kocsmiersky
Technical Service/Acquisition:	Linda Kurowski
Technical Service/Cataloger	Martha Olver
Technical Service/Data Entry:	Meg Haley
Library Assistants/ILL:	Lucy Diaz, Anne Gorman, Jane Frankel & Mayra Rivera
Custodians:	Mark Gadboury & Tom Keeler

### Library Hours of Operation

School Year Hours  
September—May  
Monday thru Thursday  
8:30 am—8:30 pm  
Friday and Saturday  
8:30 am—4:00 pm

Summer Hours  
June—August  
Monday thru Wednesday  
8:30 am—6:00 pm  
Thursday and Friday  
8:30 am—5:00 pm  
Closed Saturday

Holyoke Public Library  
250 Chestnut Street  
Holyoke, MA 01040  
(413) 420-8101