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A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

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Library hosts Reading Buddy workshop

HOLYOKE – Children and families are invited to celebrate Father's Day at the Holyoke Public Library, 250 Chestnut St., Saturday, June 8. Participants will be starting at around 2 p.m. with a read-aloud of "Safari, So Good!" by Bonnie Worth before cre-



Turley Publications Photos courtesy of Chris Yurko

Left, a girl enjoys an arts and craft activity. The Multimedia Arts Exploration will be held from July 29 to Aug. 2. Right, youth can participate in a variety of different programs this summer. A youngster cooks with Chef Dino. The cooking program will be held July 22 through July 29.

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Wistariahurst to hold lecture June 4

HCC to offer college experience to local youth

By Colleen Montague
Staff Writer

With local schools soon to go on summer break, many area families will look for different activities to do, from family trips to weekends at the beach to summer camps for children. For some families, the summer months also

present an opportunity for children to learn new things from education and life skills that they can use later on. Holyoke Community College (HCC) is offering a wide variety of different courses for area youth throughout the summer.

Summer Youth Program courses have been offered at HCC for 37 years and are

offered in areas requested by students and parents including culinary arts, science, technology, humanities, engineering and athletics. Each summer HCC has between 350 and 400 youth enroll in the summer programs.

"We're offering programs that are very similar to programs we offer to adult credit

students, at an age appropriate level," said Kenden White, Dean of Community Services and who also runs the Summer Youth Programs. "We provide the college experience with faculty and staff creating challenging curriculum of learning, exploring and skill building in

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a more creative atmosphere that encourages collaborative teamwork." White adds that many of the youth who enroll each summer return year after year.

Among the programs being offered for the coming summer session, White explains there are 18 returning programs due to their popularity, and several new programs including Creative Writing Through Role Playing Dungeons and Dragons, Cartooning and Illustration and

City and Community Planning through Minecraft. Some of the most popular classes offered during the summer months, White said, are their engineering programs, culinary arts and technology-based courses in Video Game Design and Website Design.

"We provide youth a college experience at a young age so when the time approaches about deciding about next steps post high school, they have a set of experiences that they can reflect back on that have been memorable and fun,"

said White. "It's also the supportive, encouraging atmosphere and our talented instructors that parents rave about most."

Students can enroll in the Summer programs by contacting Holyoke Community College at 413-552-2123, or they can download the course brochure at [www.hcc.edu/Documents/Courses-Programs/Personal%20Enrichment/SummerCamp_Mailer_2019_web\(0\).pdf](http://www.hcc.edu/Documents/Courses-Programs/Personal%20Enrichment/SummerCamp_Mailer_2019_web(0).pdf). There are no deadlines to sign up, but the summer classes are available on a first come first serve basis.