

RACE, from page 1

millions of workers, and make sure retirees receive the Social Security benefits they’ve earned by repealing the Windfall Elimination Provision,” Neal said.

Milleron countered that the incumbent has historically stood in the way of structural reform, pointing to stalled inflation adjustments for Social Security and noting that Neal opposed the Social Security Fairness Act until a bipartisan discharge petition forced a floor vote.

“Richard Neal could have done so many things,” Milleron said, pointing to proposals like Rep. John Larson’s bill to adjust Social Security for inflation. “If you do not compensate for inflation, then Social Security is not covering your needs... Richard Neal did not push that. He blocked it. You can make Social Security solvent by putting a deduction onto income over \$184,000. Richard Neal has not made that happen.” Milleron also criticized Neal’s record on the Social Security Fairness Act. “Richard Neal opposed the Social Security Fairness Act until it came down to a vote,” she said, referencing the bipartisan discharge petition used to bypass committee leadership. “This is Social Security that was stripped from municipal employees—firefighters, teachers, and police officers—who earned those benefits through other work.”

Retorting to the claims, Neal highlighted tangible investments secured under his watch to help landmark anchors throughout the district.

“I’ve also helped secure hundreds of millions of dollars in federal funding for projects like Barnes Air National Guard Base and the Holyoke Soldiers’ Home,” Neal said. “My priority has always been to show up for the people I represent... I’ll continue fighting to lower costs for middle-class families by cutting their taxes, ending Trump’s tariffs, and protecting the programs that working families and retirees depend on.” Milleron pushed back on those federal claims, arguing, “He does support the district, but there are people and agencies inside the district that wrote those requests for proposals. They wrote those grants, and he signed on to it and said, ‘Sure, I support.’ Any representative can support, and I am a worker.”

Offering a solution to help working families, Milleron remained steadfast in her proposal to eliminate federal income tax for families earning under \$100,000, while Neal emphasized protecting healthcare subsidies and reforming long-term care to prevent families from facing financial ruin.

The candidates agreed on the immense importance of MA-01, noting its vast geographic footprint and unique economic diversity.

“MA-01 is the largest congressional district in Massachusetts, covering nearly a third of the state,” Neal noted, highlighting the region’s rich industrial history, cultural institutions from MASS MoCA to the Dr. Seuss Museum, and ongoing development challenges in transportation, housing, and healthcare.

Milleron echoed the

We need to continue working to increase supply and bring down costs.”

- Richard Neal

district’s broad scope: “MA-01 is a very diverse district... and we can unite all the people in the district to get material gains, material improvements for our lives. Everybody is for that, and everybody will galvanize around that.”

The debate narrowed down sharply to surging living costs and contrasting economic visions. Neal pointed to inflation and tariffs as primary drivers of financial strain for middle-class households, citing Federal Reserve reports linking tariffs to inflationary pressures, asserting, “The issue I hear about most is the rising cost of living... Whether it’s gas prices, groceries, housing, utilities, or health care, people are feeling squeezed. My opponent said it’s ‘FALSE’ that Trump’s tariffs are driving up prices. It’s not just every economist who will tell you she’s wrong; it’s every person in Massachusetts paying more for everything.”

Milleron defended tariffs as a potential tool for domestic manufacturing. “Tariffs can be a financial incentive for manufacturers, because it’s a way of saying, you can produce the item

Richard Neal is the worst Ways and Means Committee Chairman in our nation’s history.”

- Nadia Milleron

here in our country and then employ people, and provide good wages here,” she said. However, she laid blame on the incumbent for job losses: “Richard Neal is the worst Ways and Means Committee Chairman in our nation’s history. He has lost thousands of jobs... under his watch, all of these jobs have just disappeared from our country.”

Closing out their policy visions, the candidates addressed domestic production, supply chains, and local resource burdens.

Milleron proposed establishing local manufacturing hubs in regional centers like Springfield, Pittsfield, Sheffield, and Southbridge to produce essential generic drugs and secure supply chains.

“We could start producing generic drugs here in our country, and I’m just looking at the facilities in Sheffield, in Springfield, in Southbridge, and in Pittsfield, for where such a facility could exist,” Milleron said. “What we need to do is incentivize people to make the products that we use, that are essential to our existence, right here in this country, so that if you have supply chain

issues and emergencies, at least you’re producing the hospital supplies and the generic drugs that you need.”

Neal countered by pressing to expand prescription drug price negotiations into the commercial market, roll back healthcare cost increases from the Republican “Big Ugly Bill” (noting that more than 300,000 people in Massachusetts face coverage risks due to new paperwork rules), and protect vulnerable populations from losing Medicaid coverage, as millions of children are at risk of losing their health care because of this bill.

“More than 300,000 people in Massachusetts are at risk because of Republican paperwork requirements that will keep sick people, even those with cancer, from getting Medicaid coverage. In the year since the bill’s enactment, over 8 million Americans have already lost insurance coverage, and many more face significantly higher premiums to keep it or must switch to less coverage at a higher cost,” said Neal. “Many hospitals are already on the brink. They are seeing a sharp rise in patients who cannot afford care, leaving communities vulnerable to losing access to health care and, in many cases, one of their largest employers.” The congressman then said he would expand prescription drug price negotiations to include more drugs and extend those savings into the commercial insurance market, so seniors aren’t the only ones who benefit, while prioritizing rolling back the health care cuts and cost increases from the Big Ugly Bill.

On housing and energy,

Neal pointed to legislative frameworks aimed at alleviating local cost pressures.

“We need to continue working to increase supply and bring down costs,” Neal said, highlighting the impact of measures like the 21st Century ROAD to Housing Act and ongoing support for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) to protect families from rising utility and heating oil burdens. “I remain committed to advancing solutions that recognize the unique housing challenges facing

Western and Central Massachusetts, including the need for more affordable housing and the rehabilitation of existing housing stock.”

Milleron felt the district is ripe for solar power potential and electric car production, despite President Trump stopping it: “We had a great solar industry here. You know, our farm is totally run by solar. My car is electric. I don’t pay any gas prices, and I want that for everybody,” Milleron said. “And so, you know, definitely we have to stop the moratorium on alternative energy, develop it, and encourage people. And you can get that up pretty quickly in a district. And people have all of these roofs here; you know, they can put solar up there. And so, yeah, I think that would make a material difference for households if they were producing the energy they need to drive a car, and that’s definitely made a big difference for our households.”

Election Day is November 3rd, and it’s clear this race will be one to watch.

Public Notices

City of Holyoke Board of Appeals Notice of Public Hearing The Holyoke Board of Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on **Thursday November 12, 2026, at 5:00 p.m., in the City Hall Conference Room, Room 6, Holyoke MA** to hear the petition of Ryan Ripa, who is requesting a residential rehabilitation use variance, at a property known as 12 Crescent St., Holyoke MA 01040 (030-02-001) currently zone general industry (IG). A complete copy of the application may be seen in the Office of Planning & Economic Development, 20 Korean Veterans Plaza, Rm 401, 8:30-4:30, M-F. Board of Appeals: Josh Knox Applicant: Ryan Ripa 10/23, 10/30/2026

LEGAL NOTICE CITY OF HOLYOKE GAS & ELECTRIC DEPARTMENT ELECTRIC LINE CONTRACTORS ANNUAL CONTRACT Sealed proposals for the above contract will be received by Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept. until **2:00 p.m., November 24, 2026**, at the Office of the Manager, 99 Suffolk St., Holyoke, MA 01040, at which time proposals will be publicly opened and read. Prevailing Wage Rates set by the Mass. Dept. of Labor & Industries shall be paid to all people engaged in work under this contract. All Bidders are required to submit a Bid Deposit.

Additional information may be obtained from: Chi Wong Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept. 99 Suffolk St. Holyoke, MA 01040 (413) 536-9308 cwong@hged.com The right is hereby reserved to reject any or all proposals, or to accept any proposal that in the opinion of the Manager may be for the best interest of the City of Holyoke. Please mark sealed envelopes **“Bid for Electric Line Contractors Annual Contract”** and address them to: James M. Lavelle, Manager Holyoke Gas & Electric Dept. 99 Suffolk St. Holyoke, MA 01040 10/23/2026

Commonwealth of Massachusetts The Trial Court Probate and Family Court Hampden Probate and Family Court 50 State Street Springfield, MA 01103 Docket No. HD26P2174GD In the matter of: Norma Vega Juarbe Of: Holyoke, MA RESPONDENT Alleged Incapacitated Person CITATION GIVING NOTICE OF PETITION FOR APPOINTMENT OF GUARDIAN FOR INCAPACITATED PERSON PURSUANT TO G.L. c. 190B, §5-304 To the named Respondent and

all other interested persons, a petition has been filed by **Antonia Acevedo** of Holyoke, MA in the above captioned matter alleging that **Norma Vega Juarbe** is in need of a Guardian and requesting that **Antonia Acevedo** of Holyoke, MA (or some other suitable person) be appointed as Guardian to serve **Without Surety** on the bond.

The petition asks the court to determine that the Respondent is incapacitated, that the appointment of a Guardian is necessary, and that the proposed Guardian is appropriate. The petition is on file with this court and may contain a request for certain specific authority.

You have the right to object to this proceeding. If you wish to do so, you or your attorney must file a written appearance at this court on or before 10:00 a.m. on the return date of **11/06/2026**. This day is NOT a hearing date, but a deadline date by which you have to file the written appearance if you object to the petition. If you fail to file the written appearance by the return date, action may be taken in this matter without further notice to you. In addition to filing the written appearance, you or your attorney must file a written affidavit stating the specific facts and grounds of your objection within 30 days after the return date.

IMPORTANT NOTICE The outcome of this proceeding may limit or completely take away the above-named person’s right to make decisions about personal affairs or financial affairs or both.

The above-named person has the right to ask for a lawyer. Anyone may make this request on behalf of the above-named person. If the above-named person cannot afford a lawyer, one may be appointed at State expense. WITNESS, Hon. **Claudine T. Stoudemire**, First Justice of this Court. Date: October 09, 2026 **Rosemary A. Saccomani** Register of Probate 10/23/2026

City of Holyoke Notice of Public Hearing The Holyoke License Board will be holding a Public Hearing on **Wednesday, November 4, 2026, at 5:15 p.m.** You can join via Zoom.com; ID 83974921923; CALL IN: *67 646 558 8656 or in person at City Hall, 536 Dwight St. in the Old Tax Collector Office Room 6, regarding the application for a Amendment- Change of License Classification for Los Masters Social Club at 65 Commercial Street. pursuant to M.G.L. Ch.138. Applicant: Los Master Social Club License Board: Jose Correa, Chairman 10/23, 10/30/2026

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646 558 8656 or in person at City Hall, 536 Dwight St. in the Old Tax Collector Office Room 6, regarding the application for a Amendment- Change of License Classification for Pedro Sport’s Bar LLC DBA Pedro Sports’s Bar at 120 High Street. pursuant to M.G.L. Ch.138. Applicant: Pedro Sport’s Bar LLC License Board: Jose Correa, Chairman 10/23, 10/30/2026

City of Holyoke Notice of Public Hearing The Ordinance Committee of the Holyoke City Council and the Planning Board will hold separate public hearings to hear a zone change application from RA (Agriculture and single-family residence) to R-2 (Two-family residence) of MS Homes LLC / Sergey Savonin at the north-east corner of the intersection of Main Street and Jones Ferry Road (117-00-140) to develop two duplexes on the vacant lot. **Planning Board public hearing will be held on Tuesday, November 10th, 2026 at 5:30 p.m. remotely via zoom.us** with Meeting ID 819 6511 7810 or by call in at 1-646-558-8656 using same meeting ID. **Ordinance Committee public hearing will be held on Tuesday, November 30th, 2026 at 6:30 p.m. at Holyoke City Hall 536 Dwight St and can be accessed remotely via zoom.us** Meeting ID 890 9276 0984 Meeting Passcode 034069 or by call in at 1-646-558-8656 with same Meeting ID and Passcode. For a copy of the

application or to provide comments to the Planning Board, please contact Brianna Tejada at tejadab@holyoke.org. For the Ordinance Committee, please contact City Council Admin Asst Jeffery Anderson-Burgos at Anderson-BurgosJ@holyoke.org or by phone 413-322-5525. Planning Board Chair, Lauren Niles Ordinance Chair, Meg Magrath-Smith 10/23, 10/30/2026

City of Holyoke Planning Board Notice of Public Hearing The Holyoke Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, November 10, 2026, at 5:30 p.m. via Zoom.com** ID: Webinar ID819 6511 7810; Call in *67 646 558 8656 to hear, pursuant to the Holyoke Zoning Ordinance, a Site Plan Review (Sec 10.0) for Walmart Store submitted by Capro Cypress Holyoke Retail, LLC C/O Cypress Acquisitions LLC to be located at 2201 Northampton St, Holyoke MA 01040 (n/f 115-00-015 & 115-00-173).

A complete copy of the application may be seen in the Office of Planning and Economic Development at 20 Korean Veterans Plaza, 8:30 am-4:30 pm, M-F. APPLICANT: Capro Cypress Holyoke Retail, LLC C/O Cypress Acquisitions LLC PLANNING BOARD: Lauren Niles 10/23, 10/30/2026

The Holyoke Sun

OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

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