

**Any resident wishing to register to vote for the upcoming municipal elections can register by doing one of the following:**

- by mail**       **in person**
- registry of motor vehicles**
- any state agency office**

(Welfare, WIC, Secretary of the Commonwealth, etc.)

## 2007 Municipal Election Calendar

Last day to register for preliminary	September 5, 2007
Preliminary election (if necessary)	September 25, 2007
Last Day to Register for Municipal Election	October 17, 2007
Municipal Election	November 6, 2007

**For further assistance please call (413)322-5540 or visit the Registrar of Voters Office at:**

**Holyoke City Hall, 536 Dwight Street, Room #9**

**Office hours are Monday-Friday 8:30AM-4PM**



The City of Holyoke

This message was prepared by the Holyoke Registrar of Voters and is presented as a public service by HG&E.

**Cualquier residente que desee inscribirse para votar puede hacerlo de la siguiente manera:**

- por correo**       **en persona**
- registro de vehiculos de motor**
- cualquier agencia de estado**

(Welfare, WIC, Secretario de Estado)

## 2007 Calendario de Eleccion Municipal

Ultimo dia para inscribirse para la preliminar	5 de Septiembre del 2007
Eleccion preliminar (si es necesaria)	25 de Septiembre del 2007
Ultimo dia para inscribirse para la eleccion	17 de Octubre del 2007
Eleccion municipal	6 de Noviembre del 2007

**Para mas informacion favor de llamar al (413) 322-5540 or visite la Oficina de Registros de Votantes en la:**

**Alcaldia de Holyoke, 536 de la Calle Dwight, #9**

**Horas de oficina son Lunes-viernes 8:30AM-4PM**



The City of Holyoke

# Mainlines

MAY/JUNE 2007

A newsletter for the customers of the Holyoke Gas & Electric Department

## HG&E Can Help You Stay Frosty Cool This Summer

From rebates on window air conditioning units to a program that can help you install an energy efficient central a/c system, HG&E has special programs that can help keep your home cool this summer. See below for more details:

### Energy Star Rebates

Receive a \$25 rebate when you purchase an Energy Star rated room air conditioner. Visit our website at [www.hged.com/energystar](http://www.hged.com/energystar) to download a rebate form.

### Residential Energy Conservation Program

Receive up to \$5,000 in zero percent interest assistance to install a high efficiency central air conditioning system. Visit our website at [www.hged.com](http://www.hged.com) to obtain details and a program application.



### Four summer energy saving tips:

- ▶ Close shades, drapes and blinds during the day.
- ▶ Use a microwave instead of the range/oven.
- ▶ During mild weather, use fans instead of air conditioning.
- ▶ Plant shade trees. Outside shade can reduce air conditioning costs 30%.

## An invitation to visit...

The Robert E. Barrett Fishway at the Holyoke Dam opens for the season on May 9th. Come see our amazing fish elevator system and the underwater fish viewing windows.

### 2007 Fishlift Schedule

Open May 9 through June 17  
Wednesday - Sunday • 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

**FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT OUR WEBSITE AT:** [www.hged.com/fishlift](http://www.hged.com/fishlift)

## A notice to HG&E customers in the Highlands, Smiths Ferry, and West Holyoke regions

HG&E personnel will be traveling door-to-door in these areas over the coming months to install advanced AMR-ready utility meters. These devices are capable of Automatic Meter Reading (AMR) and can allow HG&E personnel to make monthly utility meter readings without having to enter your home.

If you would prefer to schedule an appointment to have this work performed, **contact our Metering Department during regular business hours at 536-9339 (Monday-Friday 8AM-4PM) to schedule an appointment.**

The meter change process will result in a brief (5-15 minute) interruption to your utility services. Although these devices will reduce the hassles related with monthly access and meter reading cards, Massachusetts State Law requires that we will still need to make a direct physical reading and safety check of the meter at least once each calendar year.

## Electric Rate Comparison

May 2007 - Residential customer consuming 500 kwh per month. Amounts shown include all discounts and use the fixed default generation supply price.

HG&E	\$55.54
National Grid <small>serving Northampton</small>	\$76.83 <small>+38%</small>
Western Mass Electric <small>serving Springfield</small>	\$89.23 <small>+61%</small>

## Natural Gas Rate Comparison

Average Annual Bill (Nov 2006-Oct 2007) - Residential customer consuming 111 CCF per month. (1376 CCF Annual Consumption) Amounts shown include all discounts.

HG&E	\$167.61
Baystate Gas <small>serving Springfield</small>	\$162.24 <small>-3.2%</small>
Boston Gas <small>serving Boston</small>	\$191.91 <small>+14.5%</small>

## Turn your building into a beacon...

with affordable contract lighting from HG&E

Now you can protect and beautify your property with affordable contract lighting solutions from Holyoke Gas & Electric. For a small monthly fee, you will be utilizing the latest in energy efficient outdoor lighting.

In addition to their ability to deter criminals and vandals, HG&E's high pressure sodium lamps are also economical lighting alternatives for pools, basketball courts, and parking lots.

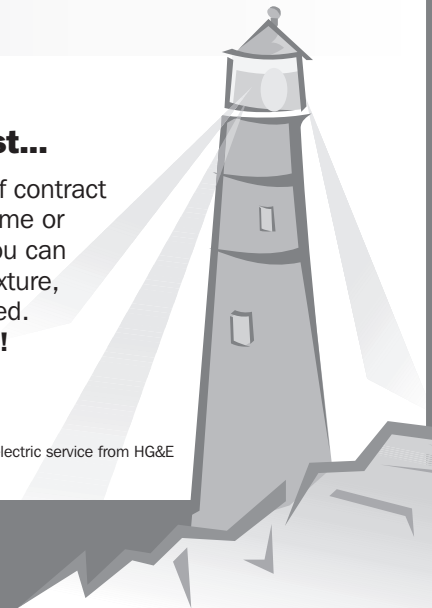
### Installed and maintained by people you trust...

Holyoke Gas and Electric offers a variety of contract lighting packages that can protect your home or business. For as little as **\$12 a month**, you can have a high pressure sodium lamp, light fixture, and a 35 foot wood pole wired and installed.

**The rate even includes electric service!**

**Contact us at 536-9349 to learn more about contract lighting from HG&E.**

note: contract lighting is only available at locations that receive their electric service from HG&E



**contract lights are also ideal for an outdoor basketball court or a long driveway!**

### Never waste another stamp...

Never waste another stamp... And never write another check. With DirectPay from HG&E you'll never have to mail checks or pay your bills in person.

**And as a DirectPay customer, you will always receive your 10% prompt payment discount!**



Call us at 536-9300 to sign up today!

### An important message about energy theft:

Energy theft is punishable by Massachusetts State Law. Preventing energy theft results in savings for every HG&E customer.

If you suspect that someone is stealing utility services, contact the HG&E Metering Department at 536-9339.

### A convenient new location to pay your HG&E bill...

We have added a payment dropbox at the Koffee Kup on Westfield Road. (this replaces the dropbox previously at Arrow Prescription in that neighborhood) Payments made at this location are credited to your bill on the next business day.

#### Payment Drop-Box Locations

- CVS/Pharmacy, 223 South Street, 536-1432
- Brooks Pharmacy, 1504 Northampton St, 533-7985
- Stop & Shop, 28 Lincoln Street, 536-12471
- Stop & Shop, 2265 Northampton St, 536-9287
- Exxon Union Mart, 297 Apremont Highway, 533-1631

#### NEW LOCATION!

- **Koffee Kup, 514 Westfield Road, 535-2253**

## HG&E Sponsors School Safety Poster Contest

In conjunction with an educational safety program, HG&E sponsored a poster contest in March that drew entries from hundreds of 3rd grade children in Holyoke Public and Parochial Schools. Winners received a Target gift card for their excellent work.

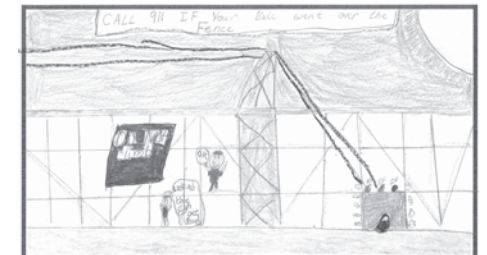
Several of the winning posters are shown below in this newsletter, and all 23 winning entries are on display at our Suffolk Street offices or can be viewed on our website at: [www.hged.com/postercontest](http://www.hged.com/postercontest)



Carlos Ruemmale, Grade 3, Lawrence School



Johanna Santiago, Grade 3, Kelley School



Dan Nicoll, Grade 3, Blessed Sacrament School

## An electrical surge can cost you plenty.



**HG&E can help protect your home from power surges.**

What happens in an instant but can be felt for many years to come? It's a dangerous electrical surge — most often from a lightning strike and it has the potential to destroy your family's valuable electrical equipment. Imagine your computer, TV, VCR, microwave, washer, dryer, and refrigerator all being suddenly destroyed. The cost in repair or replacement, plus programming or data, can be staggering.

### Meterbase surge suppression device from just \$3.75/month.

Fortunately, the Holyoke Gas and Electric Department offers a simple solution to this potential problem—the Meter-Treater Service. Installed by HG&E and mounted into your electric meter socket, the Meter-Treater stops electrical surges from ever even entering your home and causing any damage. Ordering is easy and the low monthly charge is conveniently added to your existing HG&E utility bill.

**Just contact Jeff Brouillard at (413) 536-9358 or e-mail him at [jbrouillard@hged.com](mailto:jbrouillard@hged.com) to enroll in this valuable service.**

note: meter-based surge suppression is only available at locations which receive their electric service from HG&E

## HG&E wins workplace safety awards

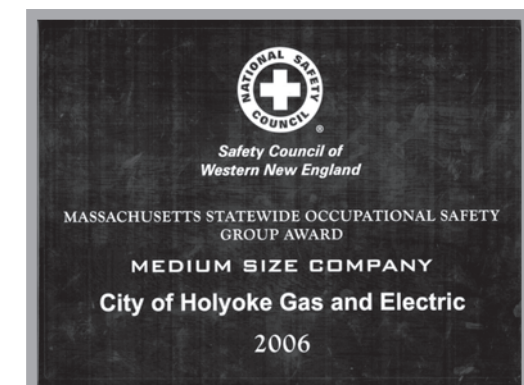
HG&E has recently received several awards to recognize the Department's exceptional workplace safety statistics:

► The American Gas Association (AGA) has honored HG&E with its 2006 Safety Achievement Award.

The award is given annually to the utility with the lowest employee disability injury and illness rate among other gas utilities of similar size.

► The National Safety Council of Western New England has awarded HG&E with a Statewide Occupational Group Safety Award.

This award is given to companies from any industry that demonstrate outstanding achievement in workplace safety.



Award received by HG&E from the Safety Council of Western New England at their 90th Annual Safety Awards Banquet

## COMMUNITY EVENTS

### Irish Heritage Summer Camp

Elms College • July 23-27th 2007

The Irish Cultural Center at Elms College will be presenting a week-long summer program for children in grades 1-9. Classes take place from 9am-3pm each day and will include Irish dancing, music and storytelling. Cost is \$200 per student. Call 413-265-2537 for more information. Registration deadline is 6/1/07.

### Annual Exhibit at Holyoke Creative Arts Center

400 South Elm Street • June 5-6th 2007

Hundreds of works by students and teachers will be on display from 10am-7pm each day. Raffles and more! Learn more about Creative Arts Center Classes on their website at [www.holyokecac.org](http://www.holyokecac.org) or by calling the center at 413-532-0465.