

Engineering the Future

HG&E's Cadet Engineers

From maintenance and repair to hydroelectric operations, Cadets at the Holyoke Gas & Electric (HG&E) are learning every facet of the business, while developing a competitive advantage among college classmates.



Grace Hamel, a 2015 graduate of Holyoke High School (HHS), was named HG&E's 2015 Cadet Engineer. As part of the Scholarship Program, she is working at HG&E alongside Steve Roy, Hydroelectric Maintenance Supervisor, throughout the summer. This fall, Grace will be attending Northeastern University in Boston with a major in Mechanical or Chemical Engineering.

"My first few weeks at Holyoke Gas & Electric have been interesting and I am very excited about the opportunity to work at Hadley Station," said Grace. "It was surprising to see how many locations HG&E has, and the number of turbines and solar generators that power the City is impressive."

At E.N. White Elementary School, Grace and her class did a project related to landfills, which piqued her interest in the sciences. "We buried plastic bags in 5th grade and didn't remove them until 8th grade," Grace said. "It was eye-opening to see the properties of the bag didn't change at all in 3 years."

The largest factor in her decision to pursue a science related career was her brother Brendan, a strong role model in her life. Brendan is a 2002 HG&E Cadet Engineer, graduate of Holyoke High School and Massachusetts Maritime Academy, and now works as an Engineer for Plymouth Power.

Grace has a strong love for Holyoke and her Irish

heritage, as you may have seen during Holyoke's Green Season, she was named a 2015 Colleen. Throughout this experience, Grace became a well-known, local celebrity riding

and running down the streets of Holyoke.

At the young age of 18, Grace already has an impressive resume, including being named a 2015 National Merit Scholar, HHS Class of 2015 Salutatorian, HG&E's 2015 Cadet Engineer Scholarship Awardee, member of student government, Cross Country Team Captain and record holder, President of the STEM Academy, and a local volunteer. Grace is a humble, intelligent, hardworking, and enthusiastic; we can't wait to see what the future holds for her.

Jhonatan Escobar, 2013 Graduate of Holyoke High School, is a seasoned veteran of the Cadet Engineering Program now in his third summer. Jhonatan is a Junior Civil Engineering major at Western New England University (WNEU).

"This year has been my best year yet," said Jhonatan. "There are a lot of interesting projects going on at Hadley Station, I am learning so much."

Jhonatan described his favorite project as an eel hoist, which he designed and implemented on his own. The fishway team was having trouble lifting heavy buckets of eels up a 20-foot vertical. As one of Jhonatan's summer projects, he was assigned to solve this problem. He was able to

build a hoist system, making the team's job easier and safer.

Born in Colombia, Jhonatan came to the United States when he was 9 years old. At the time, he did not know any English but quickly matriculated into life at McMahon Elementary School.

Math and Science were always very interesting to Jhonatan, but it wasn't until his sophomore year at HHS that he decided he would like to become an engineer. "My cousin went to UMass for Engineering and worked as a civil engineer in the transportation field," said Jhonatan. "His job is really appealing to me, I am extremely interested in infrastructure, which is the reason I am working in the Hydro Division at HG&E."

Last summer, Jhonatan spent a month studying engineering in Shandong, China with 8 of his peers from WNEU.

During this study abroad program, Jhonatan experienced the life and culture of China, collaborated with engineering students from Shandong University, and participated in a rigorous academic

schedule. This year, he is planning to join a team at WNEU to build a home in Colombia, giving back to his homeland.

The Cornelius J. Moriarty, Jr. Scholarship for Cadet Engineers is open to City of Holyoke residents who are graduating from a duly accredited senior secondary school and have been accepted into an accredited engineering program. For additional application criteria, please contact Holyoke Gas & Electric Manager's office at (413) 536-9313.



Community Corner



Holyoke Early literacy Initiative [HELI]

Holyoke is keeping kids "On Track for Literacy" through the Holyoke Early literacy Initiative.

www.HELI-Holyoke.org - www.facebook.com/helionethingaday - @HELI_Holyoke (Twitter) - HELI.Holyoke@gmail.com

Greetings HELI Parents! Where did the summer go? Here we are in September and many of us have children entering school for the first time. Whether your children are infants, toddlers, pre-Kindergarten students or elementary students in one of our cities' schools - their brains are taking in and processing words, language and ideas every day at an incredibly rapid rate. As HELI Parents, we are committed to doing at least "one thing a day" to support our children's literacy development. Remember, YOU are your child's most powerful teacher when it comes to literacy development. And the best part? The ways you can most support your child's literacy are easy and fun!

Try some of these ideas with your child this month:

- **Infant:** Talk to your baby face-to-face
- **1-2 year old:** Have your 1 year old hold an object while you describe it.
- **3-4 year old:** Ask your child to help you group different objects in the house....socks, pennies, etc.
- **5-6 year old:** Ask your child what he/she did today and challenge him/her to only use full sentences.
- **7-8 year old:** When reading a book with your child, ask a question about the book that can only be answered by reading the book.



Iniciativa de la Alfabetización Temprana de Holyoke [HELI]

Holyoke está manteniendo los niños "En Buen Camino para la Alfabetización" mediante la Iniciativa de la Alfabetización Temprana de Holyoke

www.HELI-Holyoke.org - www.facebook.com/helionethingaday - @HELI_Holyoke (Twitter) - HELI.Holyoke@gmail.com

¡Saludos padres de HELI! ¿A dónde se fue el verano? Aquí estamos en septiembre y muchos de nosotros tenemos niños que ingresan a la escuela por primera vez, Ya sea que sus hijos son bebés, niños pequeños, estudiantes de pre-kindergarten o estudiantes de primaria en una de las escuelas de nuestra ciudad – sus cerebros están tomando y procesando palabras, lenguaje e ideas cada día a un ritmo increíblemente rápido. Como un padre HELI, estamos comprometidos a hacer por lo menos "una cosa al día" para apoyar el desarrollo de la alfabetización de nuestros hijos. Recuerde, USTED es el maestro más poderoso de su hijo cuando se trata de desarrollo de la alfabetización. ¿Y la mejor parte? Las formas en que puede apoyar más la alfabetización de su hijo son fácil y divertida!

Pruebe algunas de estas ideas con su hijo este mes:

- **Infantil:** Hable cara a cara con su bebé
- **1-2 años de edad:** Haga que su niño de 1 año de edad sostenga un objeto mientras lo describe
- **3-4 años de edad:** Pídale a su hijo ayudarlo a agrupar objetos diferentes en la casa... medias, centavos, etc.
- **5-6 años de edad:** Pregúntele a su hijo lo que él/ella hizo hoy sólo para utilizar oraciones completas.
- **7-8 años de edad:** Al leer un libro con su hijo, hacer una pregunta sobre el libro que sólo puede ser respondida por la lectura del libro.



EMPOWERING YOUR WORLD

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Holyoke drop boxes

- Senior Center, 291 Pine Street
- C-Mart, 1500 Northampton Street
- DB Mart, 494 Westfield Road
- Stop & Shop, 28 Lincoln Street
- Stop & Shop, 2265 Northampton Street
- Wally's BP Shop, 297 Apremont Hwy

Holiday Closings

Columbus Day
Monday, October 12, 2015

Commissioners

Francis J. Hoey, III
Robert H. Griffin
James A. Sutter

Manager

James M. Lavelle



Eat, Drink & Be Holyoke!

A Tasting Fundraiser & Silent Auction to benefit the Rotary's Children's Literacy Projects

Thursday, October 8, 2015 - 5PM to 8PM - Gateway City Arts

Join the Holyoke Rotary Club as we raise much needed funds for the Kelly School to outfit their educators with the tools they need to teach in today's technology-driven environment as we all strive to improve proficiency levels of the students in Kindergarten through third grade.

Visit www.EatDrinkAndBeHolyoke.com.