

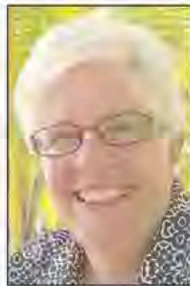
## Lawyer to lead class on elder law, estate planning topics

Karen G. Jackson, a lawyer with Jackson Law, an elder law and estate planning firm, will teach a series of classes highlighting the latest developments in elder law and estate planning at Holyoke Community College in Holyoke.

The six-hour course, called "Elder Law and Estate Planning: What You Need to Know," will be presented in three two-hour sessions on Mondays, Oct. 7, 21 and 28, 6 to 8 p.m., at Holyoke Community College's main campus at 303 Homestead Ave., Holyoke.

"The course will explain the basic building blocks of an estate plan," Jackson said. "From that foundation, we will also consider the various specialized trust documents that support this planning. I will clarify the probate court process and what it means to 'probate a will.' And, I will explore current Medicare and MassHealth issues that are affecting seniors."

In the first session, Jackson will



Karen Jackson

explain each document in the core estate plan. She will discuss the problems that can occur when proper documents are not prepared before a loss of mental capacity or physical health or before sudden loss of life.

The second session will address four areas: trusts; the probate court process; Medicare hot topics; and options for community care and home care. Jackson will provide details about each to assist attendees in planning now.

In the third and final session, Jackson will introduce the various Medicaid programs that provide long-term skilled nursing home care in Massachusetts and the financial assistance associated with each.

The course fee is \$99 and covers all three sessions. Participants may choose to attend one, two or all three nights. To register, call Holyoke Community College at 413-552-2500 or visit [www.hcc.edu/bce](http://www.hcc.edu/bce).