Ballyneal Golf Club is looking for anyone in the surrounding communities that has golf knowledge and a passion for the game.

Training and tryouts for caddies will be conducted Sunday, May 6 at Ballyneal beginning at 11 a.m. Depending on the turnout, another session will be held Sunday, May 20, according to Ballyneal caddiemaster Nick Flaa. Those wishing to become a caddie must attend one of the mandatory dates to receive the proper training.

The Ballyneal Caddie Program wants to educate local communities on the opportunity Ballyneal Golf Club is creating for those interested in part-time or full-time work May 22 through mid-October.

In conjuncture with the general job description of caddying at Ballyneal, high school students and athletes have an opportunity to earn a pre-requisite for obtaining a full tuition and housing college scholarship that is renewable for up to four years.

Each year, more than 800 deserving caddies across the country attend college on a four-year scholarship from the Evans Scholars Foundation.

Selected applicants must have a strong caddie record, excellent grades, outstanding character and demonstrated financial need.

The Evans Scholars Chapters have earned a reputation on each campus for scholastic achievement and excellence in community service.

Today, the Evans Scholars Foundation has become golf's favorite charity. An estimated 100,000 golfers contribute annually to the Evans Scholars Program so the Western Golf Association can continue to meet tuition and housing costs that exceed $11 million each year. More information can be found at wgaesf.org.

Flaa became the caddiemaster at Ballyneal midway through last season after four years of caddying. He's also caddied professionally in the desert southwest in cities such as Las Vegas, Nev., Scottsdale, Ariz., Palm Springs and San Jose, Calif.

He said he is very passionate about the game of golf and has even competed as a player at the state level through the Colorado and United States Golf Associations.

For more information on the Ballyneal Caddie Program, contact Flaa at 854-5900 or 970-405-7708 (call or text message).

Directions to Ballyneal from Holyoke offered

Travel south on Highway 385 and turn left on County Road 10. Travel east for two miles and make a right on County Road 43. Continue through the "S" curves, and Ballyneal will be located on the right hand side of the road. The trip takes approximately 25 minutes.

Holyoke Enterprise April 12, 2012