

## Cobblestone Inn & Suites now open

Written by Darci Tomky

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After their first guests booked a room Saturday, June 15, Cobblestone Inn & Suites in Holyoke was officially open for business.

Groundbreaking took place for the new hotel Nov. 6, 2012, at 805 S. Interocean—a great location just south of City Park. While a “Now Open” sign is proudly displayed on the front of the hotel, a grand opening celebration won’t take place until the first week in October.

The hotel, with 38 rooms, is the first Cobblestone Inn & Suites to open in Colorado, with one in Wray to open soon in July.

Following the building of the local Phillips County Event Center, Steve and Kim Young of Holyoke saw the need for more lodging in town and began brainstorming ways to help fill that need. “We saw there was a lot of people not staying in Holyoke because there wasn’t enough space,” said Steve.



**A “Now Open” sign hangs on the front of the new Cobblestone Inn & Suites at 805 S. Interocean Ave. on the south edge of Holyoke next to City Park. The hotel welcomed its first official guests Saturday, June 15, seven months after the groundbreaking ceremony Nov. 6, 2012. —Enterprise photo**

“There’s lots of room for growth,” said Kim, noting they wanted to put up a hotel to bring in more business to Holyoke, both at the Event Center and elsewhere. “There is a need for all of us,” she said.

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By offering more lodging, explained Steve, it's more feasible to hold bigger, multiple-day events in Holyoke. It gives the city reasons to keep people in town and generate business not only for hotels but for gas stations, restaurants and other businesses.

"People will now see Holyoke as a growing community. 'Pride and Progress' is what Holyoke's about," Kim added. "I see good things going on, and we're proud to be able to say we're from Holyoke."

About the time the Youngs began thinking of a hotel, Cobblestone Hotels LLC became interested in Holyoke as the next location for one of their hotels.

A group of people formed Holyoke Hotels LLC and began working with Cobblestone.

Kim said they liked Cobblestone's philosophy—Big City Quality, Small Town Value.

The Wisconsin-based brand started when two men in the hotel industry were driving through a small town. They said to themselves that those small communities needed hotels too.

"They were meeting a need," said Kim. "The features of each hotel meet the needs of the community."

"Smaller communities needed a hotel designed for them," added Steve, noting the building and design of these hotels is very community-driven.

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