

City council overrides mayor's veto

By Quinn Suomala
Staff Writer

HOLYOKE – The City Council voted 10-3 to override Mayor Joshua Garcia's veto of the two-thirds majority ordinance the council had passed previously.

Initially, the council had passed this ordinance with an 11-2 vote and then sent it to the mayor's office, where he then vetoed it.

The council had first discussed this veto at their meeting on Aug. 6, and after discussion they had placed the matter on the table to be discussed at a future meeting.

Following this, at their meeting on Sept. 4, the council had failed to pass the override, with only an 8-5 vote when a two thirds majority was required. They then made a motion to reconsider their actions and put the item back on the table.

At this meeting, the council appeared to have come to a majority consensus and voted to override the veto.

This ordinance made it so a two thirds majority was required to pass all ordinances and that

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Flag raised to celebrate Recovery Day

By Quinn Suomala
Staff Writer

HOLYOKE – The city of Holyoke celebrated Recovery Day with a march through

the city and a flag raising on Friday, Sept. 20, put on by Hope for Holyoke.

This day celebrates all of those who are recovering or recovered from addiction.

"It's really a great day," Highway to Hope Coordinator and Production Manager at Hope for Holyoke Kevin LeBeau said. "We'll be celebrating people in recovery, cel-

ebrating that recovery is possible."

This celebration started with a march from Holyoke Heritage State Park to Veterans Park to City Hall. This march is a way for the attendees to show off their pride in those who are recovering from addiction.

"People will be holding signs and...they will be chanting during the march," LeBeau said. "You see people laugh, put their fists in the air and scream and holler that recovery is possible."

Once at City Hall, those at the event got to witness the Recovery Month flag raising, and Mayor Joshua Garcia reading a proclamation declaring the day Recovery Day in Holyoke.

After this portion of the celebration was complete, the

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Mayor Joshua Garcia read a proclamation declaring Sept. 20, 2024 Recovery Day in Holyoke and asking people to support those fighting against addiction. The celebration of Recovery Day began with a march through the city.

Turley photos by Quinn Suomala



Personalities surface at library presentation

By Quinn Suomala
Staff Writer

HOLYOKE – Certified Facilitator from Take Flight Learning Will Giangrande

came to Holyoke Public Library to give a presentation on different personality types.

He focused on the DISC personality types, dominant, interactive, supportive and

conscientious.

Those who are dominant tend to be very results-oriented, decisive and direct. Those who are interactive tend to be enthusiastic, optimistic and social.

The supportive types are good listeners, helpful and consistent. Conscientious people are detail-oriented, logical and systematic.

Giangrande hoped that this presentation would help people to be able to better communicate in their daily lives.

"I think communication is at the root of a lot of different things we face in our lives," Giangrande said. "So learning about communicating more effectively with people in our lives spans all types of lives, so having that ability is really important."

Throughout the presentation, Giangrande used different birds to represent the personality types. Eagles represented dominant, parrots the interactive, doves the supportive and owls the conscientious.



Certified Facilitator from Take Flight Learning Will Giangrande described how the DISC personalities can be described using different birds.

Turley photos by Quinn Suomala

City names senior center entrance after citizen

By Quinn Suomala
Staff Writer

HOLYOKE – Barbara Bernard was a longtime resident of Holyoke who had a significant impact on the city.

To honor her, the city unveiled a sign naming the Pine Street entrance of the Senior Center "Barbara Bernard Way"

as a thanks to her for all she did for the seniors of Holyoke.

"She was a really great lady and she is definitely going to be missed by a lot of people,"

City Councilor Patti Divine said. "She was a very dear friend of mine."

Divine hopes that this sign will help to keep Bernard's memory alive for the people of Holyoke.

Bernard was a crucial member of the Holyoke com-

munity during her lifetime, and Divine and many others want to ensure that her legacy is not forgotten.

Mayor Joshua Garcia and Mayor Domenic Sarno from Springfield have both dedicated July 13 as Barbara Bernard day, as that was her birthday.

"It was her 97 birthday and we went out to dinner with

"She was a really great lady and she is definitely going to be missed by a lot of people."

- Patti Divine

her daughters and the mayor gave her a proclamation, and she was really very proud of that," Divine said.

Bernard attended Mount Holyoke

College and, after leaving, established an endowment with interest going to a student in need. She did the same at Our Lady of the Elm's College.

During her time in school, Bernard worked several jobs,

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Holyoke Community honored with workforce award

HOLYOKE – Holyoke Community College recently received the “Igniting Workforce Success” award from the Massachusetts Rehabilitation Commission for a cybersecurity training program it runs in partnership with the agency, which recently changed its name to MassAbility.

Specifically, the award recognizes HCC for its CyberOps training program, a free, nine-month remote program that trains MassAbility consumers to be cybersecurity analysts. MassAbility works with people with disabilities to empower their lives through counseling and various career and employment programs.

Kermit Dunkelberg, vice president of adult basic education and workforce development, accepted the award on behalf of HCC at the MRC’s Igniting Workforce Success conference in June.

“We just completed our fourth year with MassRehab,” said Dunkelberg. “This award is a great recognition of that partnership. In MassRehab, which is now MassAbility, we have a great partner.

They bring as much to the table as we do in terms of innovation and attentiveness to student success.”

The pilot program launched by HCC and MassRehab in 2020 was the first of its kind in Massachusetts. Based on the program’s success, MRC launched a second with Roxbury Community College, which also received an Igniting Workforce Success award.

“Together we are re-envisioning employment and people’s lives,” MassAbility Commissioner Toni Wolf said in 2020 after the first cohort of students graduated from the HCC program. “In the wake of COVID-19, our perspective on what is possible for remote work is expanding on a daily basis, particularly how resilient and adaptive people with disabilities are. These Cisco certifications are nationally recognized and highly sought-after workplace credentials that will give these students the needed leverage to enter a high paying industry.”

Since 2020, about 60 MassRehab clients have gone through the program,

many emerging with paid internships that have led to full time, benefitted positions as cybersecurity analysts.

“It was MassRehab’s vision to offer training in the area of cybersecurity,” said Dunkelberg. “This is by far the longest duration program that they run and the most expensive, because it is not only a long duration, but very intensive. These students are studying 30 hours a week for about 10 months, so it ends up being 900 hours of training, but the difference that it can make in someone’s life is huge in terms of economic self-sufficiency.”

Once students complete the training, they take exams to qualify as Cisco Certified Support Technicians and Cisco Certified Networking Associates. Past program graduates have gone on to work as cybersecurity consultants and systems analysts for big tech companies, such as Dell Technologies.

“The story we always like to tell is one about a participant from our first program class who was making pizza at Big Y,” Dunkelberg said. “Upon conclusion

of the program he was making \$80,000 a year as a consultant.”

Other students have more modest but no less meaningful career outcomes, Dunkelberg said.

“We’ve had four or five students intern here at HCC in our IT department,” he said. “For a lot of people, just getting that hands-on experience is the next step. Another one of our students got a job working in IT support at her local library, and that was just what she needed. Her family told us that before she went through our program, she hardly had a life outside her home. Having a job she could walk to was the perfect outcome for her.”

In 2023, program instructor Dalip Singh received the Above and Beyond Award from the Cisco Networking Academy for developing and teaching the cybersecurity class.

Overall, the program has been so successful, Dunkelberg said the agency wants to explore new training partnerships with HCC.

Fall fun fest to be held Sept. 28

HOLYOKE – The Children’s Museum at Holyoke is partnering with The Holyoke Merry-Go-Round for this year’s fall fun fest. It’s being held on Saturday, Sept. 28 from 1 to 5 p.m. at Holyoke Heritage State Park.

One low ticket price provides admission to the Children’s Museum, unlimited rides on the Holyoke Merry-Go-Round, Face Painting by Happy Face Painter, fun with balloons and magic from BTC Family Entertainment, a special craft project, plus meet Curious Friend (Alice in Wonderland) from

Something Royal Party Company.

Tickets are only \$35 for a family 4-pack or \$10 individually. They can be purchased online at www.holyokemerrygoround.org/tickets until Thursday, Sept. 26, after which tickets are available at the door.

For more information on the event, please contact Meghan Rothschild at (413) 218-4994 or meghan@chikmedia.us and for more information about The Children’s Museum at Holyoke, visit their website and follow them on Facebook and Instagram.



The evolution of fashion at HPL

HOLYOKE – A presentation by fashion historian Ren Antonowicz will be held on Saturday, Oct. 5, from 1 to 2:30 p.m. at the Holyoke Public Library Community Room.

Join in the journey through the styles of 1912, the WWI era, and the 1920s. Antonowicz will look at how war, the Jazz Age, Prohibition, and women’s newly-earned right to vote affected style and dress in these periods. Her talk will also discuss the impact of trends in fashion on women of different social classes.

Antonowicz received her Master’s Degree in Textiles, Fashion Merchandising, and Design, with a

concentration in Historic Costume & Textiles, from the University of RI. She then taught fashion history and related courses full time at the college level for 13 years. Antonowicz and her husband, Mike, also owned and operated Nostalgia Antiques & Collectibles in Providence, RI, for five years.

Antonowicz continues to follow her passion for historic costume by offering presentations and workshops at libraries, senior centers, schools, historical societies, and historic homes. She and Mike now make their home in Vermont. This presentation is free and open to the public. Sponsored by the Holyoke History Room.

Invitation extended to join Holyoke’s Community Advisory Committee

HOLYOKE – In partnership with the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, the Holyoke School Committee is developing a plan to transition from state receivership back to local control. The School Committee plans to build on the district’s accomplishments and listen to stakeholders about their hopes and expectations for the future of Holyoke’s Public Schools and what is important to them as the School System transitions back to local control.

The School Committee, with support from DESE, is in the process of writing the transition plan and is seeking input to help inform the direction of their work through the creation of an Advisory Committee. The Advisory Committee will be led by two co-chairs, ideally one co-chair from the School Committee and another from the community.

The role of the Advisory Committee is to help shape the process and content of stakeholder engagement and provide input and feedback on elements of the transition plan. For anyone interested in serving on the committee, here is additional information to know:

Commitment:

Pre-work for and participation in four advisory team meetings (1.5 hours per meeting)

(Early November), in-person – Understand why we are here and who is and isn’t in the room, co-develop guiding questions for public meetings and focus groups. Pre-work: Read draft transition plan.

(Early December) – Ask and answer guiding questions for public meetings; review draft of questions for all-stakeholder survey

(Early January) – Review data from public meetings, focus groups, and survey. Determine themes. (Mid- or late-January) — Review final draft of transition plan, determine important next steps Attend one public engagement meeting about the transition plan.

Membership:

The School Committee is looking for Advisory Committee members with a:

Desire to share not only their points of view, but common points of view that others like them may share (e.g., parents speaking on behalf of other parents, teach-

ers sharing the perspective of other staff members, etc.)

Belief that students are at the center of everything we do and in the HPS equity commitments that can be found at www.hps.holyoke.ma.us; and passion for education in Holyoke.

Ideal representation, across schools and across grade levels, includes:

Families and Students (10-14 representatives).

Middle and high school students (4) – at least 1 from Dean, 1 from North, 1 from Opportunity Academy, and 1 from a middle school. Parents/Caregivers (6-10) from various schools.

Holyoke Community (10 representatives), Partners (4) – at least 1 from higher education, 1 from a local business, and 2 from non-profit organizations, School Committee members (2), A designee from the City as chosen by Mayor Garcia (1), A City Council representative (1), Additionally interested community members (2).

Holyoke Public Schools Staff (8 representatives), Teachers (6)—1 each at the high school, middle school, and elementary

levels, and 1 each in early childhood, special education, and English language development. FACE team member (1), School leaders (e.g., principals, APs, Deans) (1), there is flexibility to add several other people depending on applicant interest.

When selecting Advisory Committee members, the School Committee will look to build a broad base of representation including diverse viewpoints and experiences, as well as race, gender, length of time in Holyoke, job function, school representation, etc.

Follow steps below to apply:

Step 1: By Oct. 3, please submit your interest by filling out the form at www.holyoke.org/signmeup. Note: All applications should include a paragraph that answers the questions: Why do you want to serve on the Advisory Committee for Transition to Local Control? What skills or experiences would allow you to be a valuable contributor to the Team?

Step 2: The applicants will be presented to the School Board at their Oct. 15 meeting. The School Committee will select the applicants to serve on the Advisory Team membership.

COLLEGE NEWS

Local graduates SUNY Delhi

DELHI, NY – Over 800 students graduated from SUNY Delhi in the spring of 2024. Commencement was held Saturday, May 18, with certificates, associate, bachelor’s, and master’s degrees conferred upon the classes of Fall 2023 and Spring 2024.

Juliana Ducharme of Holyoke, graduated from SUNY Delhi with a bachelor’s degree in Criminal Justice.

Harper’s Haven Halloween Event

HOLYOKE – The Holyoke Parks and Recreation Department cordially invites the community to the 4th annual Harper’s Haven Halloween Event. This event will take place on Friday, Oct. 4, from 5:30 to 7 p.m. at Community Field (off Cherry Street).

Music, glitter tattoos by Dazzle Day Artists and an arts and crafts table will be available. Enjoy pizza, drinks, cookies and goodie bags while supplies last. Wear your favorite

Halloween costume. Take pictures with Spiderman and Cinderella. Visit with the Holyoke Fire Department.

This event is free of charge, weather permitting. This event is sponsored by the Holyoke Parks and Recreation Department and Harper’s Family.

For more information visit our web site at www.holyoke.org or call the Parks & Recreation Department at (413) 322-5620.



Basketball league registration begins

HOLYOKE – The Our Lady of Guadalupe CYO Basketball Program, Holyoke, will be holding registration on Saturday, Sept. 28 and Oct. 5 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the gymnasium, 340 Chestnut St. for K-2, kindergarten - 2nd grade (coed), 3&4th, 5&6th and 7&8th grade boys and girls teams. The price is \$75 for the first child; \$50 for the second child: \$135 per family. For more information, call Owen Donohue at 413-275-6075 or email helloh@aol.com.

Liquor licenses need renewal

HOLYOKE – The City’s License Board reminds all Holyoke liquor license holders that it is the time for renewing alcohol licenses for the year 2025.

Every year the renewal process begins with notices being sent by the Building Department to schedule site inspections. The first round of notices to license holders was sent Aug. 20. A second notice to schedule inspections was sent Sept. 9.

In order to renew a liquor license, license holders’ on-premises businesses must be inspected, and a renewal application must be filed with the License Board. Applications need to include proof of insurance, a Tax Clearance form from the tax collector’s office, Certificate of Good Standing by the Department of Revenue, Workers Compensation, and a copy of TIPS Certificate for all employees. Only completed applications will be reviewed by the License Board. Once okayed, license renewals are forwarded to the ABCC for final approval.

During the second week of October, alcohol renewals from the License Board will be mailed to establishments that have followed the renewal protocols.

All license holders need to submit their renewal application in the month of November. Any renewal application not signed and filed by November 30 will be treated as a new license.

Aaron Vega, director of the City’s Office of Planning and Economic Development, said Holyoke “is proud of all the different restaurants in the City, and we look forward to promoting your business in the new year. But we need to have compliance when it comes to liquor licenses issued in the city. The liquor license is an important asset, and the yearly renewal is critical to stay in good standing and not risk the loss of a license, which would hurt the owner and the City.

“We look forward to working with you this renewal season in a positive and productive way to ensure compliance,” Vega said.

Discover Harmony at UCCH

HOLYOKE – Do you love to sing? Then we want to hear your voice at Discover Harmony Day, hosted by Area 2 of Harmony, Incorporated on Oct. 5 from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Discover Harmony is a day of two a cappella workshops; one for younger voices aged 14-20 years old, and the other for adults 21 and older. Each workshop will feature sopranos and altos that will learn two songs in four-part harmony. Both workshops will then perform their songs at a Free Public Concert at 3 p.m., alongside Silk N’ Sounds and Area 2 quartets.

The workshops are free to participate in, though pre-registration is required at www.area2harmony.org. For more information, please email the director at director@area2harmony.org.

Harmony, Incorporated is an international, non-profit organiza-

tion whose mission is empowering all women through singing, education, and friendship. Since its founding in Providence, RI in 1959, the organization has expanded from its Eastern roots to include chapters throughout the United States and Canada, from California to Newfoundland, and from Manitoba to Florida. For more information, visit www.harmonyinc.org



The United Congregational Church of Holyoke is an Open and Affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ. We welcome all individuals, regardless of where they are on their journey. If you’d like to learn more about UCCH, please visit our website at www.uccholyoke.org, find us on Facebook or Instagram, or call our office at 413-532-1483 Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

New senior nutrition program to begin Oct. 1

HOLYOKE – WestMass ElderCare is thrilled to announce an exciting new partnership with Delaney’s Market, a local business known for quality and convenient ready-made meals.

Starting Oct. 1, Delaney’s Market will begin providing meals for WMEC’s Senior Nutrition Program, which includes both our home-delivered meals and our Community Table sites.

Every day, WMEC’s Senior Nutrition Program serves an average of 1,200 meals to older adults and individuals with disabilities across our service area, which includes Holyoke, Chicopee, South Hadley, Granby, Ware, and Ludlow. This new partnership with Delaney’s Market will enhance our ability to provide nutritious, delicious meals that align with our mission to support the health, independence, and quality of life of those we serve. Importantly, all meals

provided through this partnership will continue to adhere to the nutrition and portion guidelines set forth by the Executive Office of Elder Affairs, ensuring that our consumers receive well-balanced, healthy meals tailored to their needs.

WMEC’s home-delivered meals offer more than just nourishment; they bring vital social interaction, safety, and peace of mind for caregivers who are unable to be with their loved ones. The drivers perform daily wellness checks, ensuring that no meal is delivered without meaningful interaction. For those who live alone, the driver may be the only person the consumer sees throughout the day, providing a critical lifeline of support and connection - as well as tremendous peace of mind for caregivers.

WMEC’s Community Table sites, located at Granby and South Hadley

Senior Centers as well as housing locations in Chicopee, Holyoke, South Hadley and Ludlow, offer a welcoming environment where older adults and residents can enjoy a meal together, fostering social connections and community engagement.

“We are incredibly excited to contract with Delaney’s Market,” said Sarah Aasheim, director of Community Programs at WMEC. “Partnering with such a well-known and respected local business means our consumers will benefit from high-quality, locally-sourced meals, while we continue to support their health and well-being.”

Peter Rosskothén, owner of Delaney’s Market is well-known in the Pioneer Valley having successfully co-owned and managed the Log Cabin and Delaney House Restaurant until 2023.

HHS class of ‘69 reunion set

HOLYOKE – The Holyoke High School Class of 1969 will be holding its 55th reunion on Saturday, Oct. 5, at the Knights of Columbus Hall, 250 Westfield Road.

The reunion party will begin at 5:30 p.m. with cocktails and hors d’oeuvres, followed by dinner at 7 p.m. Dinner, raffle, and cash bar, along with entertainment by Moose and the Hightops, will be provided. Tickets are \$45.

The Reunion Committee has worked to locate as many classmates as possible. To be sure everyone is invited or have questions, please contact Janice Shewchuk (413-530-9524), Marc Joyce (413-575-0597), or holyokehighclassof1969@gmail.com.

Comprehensive plan listening sessions available

HOLYOKE – The City of Holyoke is charting a path for the next chapter in its history. For the first time since 1999, Holyoke is updating its Comprehensive Plan, a Commonwealth-mandated document under that requires Massachusetts cities and towns to maintain a plan for their long-term physical development. Through comprehensive plans, cities and towns envision aspirational futures for themselves and identify implementation pathways for achieving those aspirations. These plans span all aspects of physical development, from the types of housing available in the community, to how people get around, to the community’s resilience to climate change, and more. Holyoke is committed to shaping the new comprehensive plan through

engagement with residents. This fall, the City will host a series of community listening sessions. Free food featuring local restaurants and free youth activities will be provided. These sessions will be bilingual. Live Spanish interpretation will be available, and materials will be displayed in Spanish and English. Participants will receive free gift cards for the Holyoke Farmers’ Market. City officials hope Holyokers will share their aspirations and priorities for the future of the community at any or all of the community listening sessions:

Community Listening Session #2
Saturday, Oct. 26, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.
(drop-in format)
Heritage State Park, 221 Appleton St.

Community Listening Session #3
Thursday, Nov. 21, 5-7 p.m.
Location TBA

Holyoke’s Office of Planning and Economic Development is leading the comprehensive plan update in collaboration with the Holyoke Planning Board. To support them, a team of consultant urban planners has been retained, led by Cambridge-based Agency Landscape + Planning with support from Northampton-based Cambridge Econometrics, Boston-based Nitsch engineering, and Queens-based Hive Public Space. Several of the consulting planners are native Spanish speakers and several live in the Pioneer Valley. The City aims to complete the project in Summer 2025.

Annual Communion Breakfast to be held this Sunday

HOLYOKE – Saint Jerome Parish is hosting its annual Communion Breakfast on Sunday, Sept. 29 at 9 a.m. at the Pope John Paul II Social Center on the Mater Dolorosa Campus. The guest speaker is Sr. Joan Magnani, Ministry Coordinator at Jericho, The Bureau for Exceptional Children and Adults.

Tickets are \$20 per person and may be purchased at all weekend Masses at St. Jerome’s from Sept. 7 through Sept. 15 or by contacting the Parish Office at 413-532-6381.

HCC Vice President Amanda Sbriscia named to advisory board for college foundations

HOLYOKE – Amanda Sbriscia, vice president of Institutional Advancement at Holyoke Community College and executive director of the HCC Foundation, has been named to the Council of Foundation Leaders for the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges.

The association (AGB) provides leadership and guidance to the governing boards of its member institutions. The Council of Foundation Leaders is an advisory committee that includes foundation professionals from 25 U.S. colleges and universities.

Sbriscia is one of only two council members representing a community college and the only one from Massachusetts.

“It’s an honor and a privilege to

serve as a member of the Council on Foundation Leaders,” said Sbriscia. “Community colleges are hubs for educational and economic opportunity, and I commend AGB for including this voice around the table.”

The HCC Foundation became a member of AGB in 2020 to help its board of directors navigate a complex bylaw revision process.

“Since then, AGB has been an invaluable resource that has elevated our work and helped us continuously strive for excellence in board governance,” said Sbriscia. “I look forward to learning from my colleagues at other institutions of all sizes, and also hope to contribute meaningfully to help us all navigate the changing education and fundraising land-

scape.”

In 2023, the HCC Foundation board of directors received the AGB’s John W. Nason Award, which is given annually to foundation boards that demonstrate exceptional leadership and initiative.

Guided by AGB, the HCC Foundation recently completed an 18-month strategic planning process to ensure its alignment with HCC’s vision and priorities.

As vice president of the division of Institutional Advancement, Sbriscia oversees the offices of development, grants, alumni relations, and marketing, and serves as executive director of the HCC Foundation, the nonprofit fundraising corporation for the college. The HCC Foundation manages assets of \$25.3 mil-

lion, including an endowment of \$18.3 million, the largest community college endowment in Massachusetts.

Sbriscia holds a bachelor’s degree in communication from Cedar Crest College, a master’s degree in higher education from Drexel University, and a doctorate in education in educational leadership from Gwynedd Mercy University.

Last year, she was selected for a fellowship for aspiring college presidents by the AGB Institute for Leadership & Governance in Higher Education, a collaborative venture of the Association of Governing Boards of Universities and Colleges (AGB), Miami University, and AGB Search, a search firm for college and university administrators.

Extending the life of summer annuals



It was a lot of fun decorating the porch in an autumnal theme this afternoon. The switch over from summer to fall always poses a dilemma for me, though. Do I throw out the summer annuals or try and overwinter them?

Or maybe I should take a cutting instead and keep them going that way. Hmmm.

I usually end up at least trying to keep the annuals that I love, and if successful they become houseplants of sort. There are geraniums, coleus and fuchsias that are now part of my plant family.

Perhaps you too are trying to decide whether or not to haul these annuals or others off to the compost pile. If you are up for an experiment, why not consider taking a few cuttings.

Read, on, straight from the archives to learn the skill.

Getting a piece of stem to form roots is relatively easy. Here are a few tips that will guarantee your success.

First, make sure that the plant you are taking the cuttings from, called the "stock plant," is insect and disease-free and well hydrated.

Plan to take cuttings in the morning before the heat of the day has a chance to cause any wilting.

A clean, sharp pair of scissors or hand pruners is the best tool for the job. Cuttings can be taken at any time during the growing season; in the fall, sooner is better than later.

Begin by examining your stock plant. Those stems with the closest placed nodes are the best choice for cutting material.

Nodes are the point on the stem from which the leaves grow. There is a strong accumulation of hormones in this area; for that reason, stem cuttings are taken just after a node.

Terminal cuttings, (those from the growth tip) three to four inches long are desirable. It is tempting to take longer pieces, figuring that the end result will be a larger plant.

These are likely to wilt before they root or take a very long time to root because the stems are woodier the further down you go. Play it safe with stout cuttings.

There are all kinds of potting mediums in which to place the cutting while it grows roots. Ideally it should be able to hold enough moisture to keep the cutting turgid yet not hold so much that it rots the stem.

Sand, perlite, and soilless potting mixes have all been used with success. Water is not recommended as "watery roots" will have a harder time adapting to potting soil later on.

I have had good luck rooting cuttings in peat-based potting mixes that are formulated for seed starting. Moisten the material well and fill your clean container of choice up to the top and tamp it down.

Cut only a few cuttings at a time so that

wilting doesn't occur while you prepare the stems for insertion into the growing medium. Strip off the bottom one-third of leaves from the cutting.

If you wish to shorten the amount of time it takes for rooting to occur a commercial rooting hormone can be used. These come in powder or liquid forms. Follow the directions on the container. I have found that "less is more" when using these products.

When you are ready to "stick" the cutting make an indentation into the growing medium with a pencil or dibble first- do not push in with the stem! After the cutting is inserted firm around it well so that it stays in place.

Put the container, cuttings and all in a clear plastic bag and place in a shady location. The humidity within the bag ought to prevent the stems from wilting. Water well, only about once weekly.

After a month or so roots will begin to form.

Transplanting into individual pots can be done once the roots equal or surpass the size of the cutting. I like to start out with a small pot and transplant up a size or two at a time as the plant grows.

Most annuals prefer a cool but sunny location in the house to overwinter.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 32 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to pouimette@turley.com with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.

Should my husband file and then suspend his benefits?



Dear Rusty

My financial advisor used a computer program, which told my husband to take his SS at age 68, then suspend it after a few months. What I understood was if my husband started and then stopped taking distributions, he would earn delayed retirement credits and thus get more at age 70. I know waiting increases SS amounts, by 8% a year, but does purposely starting and then stopping SS increase distributions even more?

Signed Confused

Dear Confused

Suspending receipt of one's SS benefits after their Full Retirement Age as in your husband's case does result in him earning Delayed Retirement Credits, but the DRCs earned accumulate at the same rate as if he

simply waited longer to claim his SS benefit in the first place. DRCs are earned up to 70 years of age, at which point your husband's maximum SS benefit is attained. FYI, DRCs earn .667% of additional benefit for each month benefits are delayed or suspended or 8% per year.

But I see no advantage to your husband starting his benefits now at 68 and then suspending them several months later to earn DRCs, the number of DRCs earned are the same in either case, so he could simply wait to apply for his Social Security benefits until he is 70 to get his maximum amount.

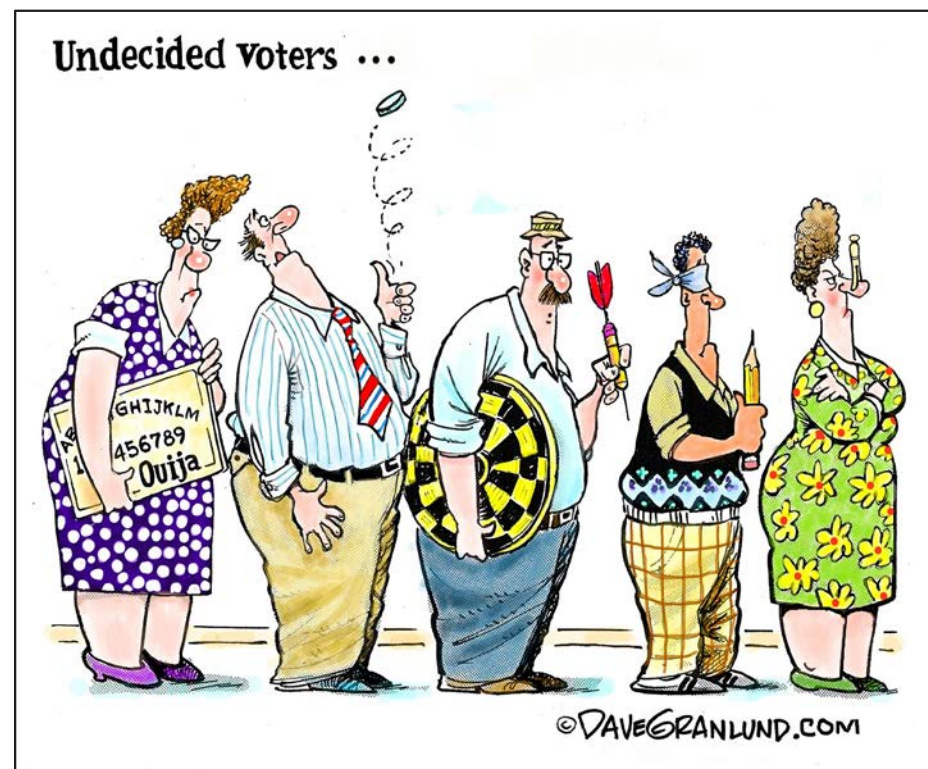
The only rationale I can think of to claim and then suspend after doing so is to get a few months of his benefit payments before suspending. But the few months he received benefits before suspending will be considered when he later unsuspends his benefit, so that his total payment amount will be a bit less at 70 than it would otherwise be if he simply waits longer to claim SS.

And, just for information, he can't "file and suspend" his benefits so that you can receive a spousal benefit from him. That

option to file and suspend, enabling a spouse to receive benefits was eliminated by the Bipartisan Budget Act of 2015 while your husband's benefits are suspended, you cannot receive a spousal benefit from him.

So, frankly, I see no advantage to your husband claiming his benefit now and then suspending them a few months later. If his goal is to maximize his SS benefit, then the best way to do that is simply wait longer to claim.

The Association Mature Citizens Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. This article is intended for information purposes and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the Association Mature Citizens Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association. To submit a question, visit amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org. Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.



Tell Us What You Think

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Your Community Newspaper

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The Holyoke Sun is published every Friday by Turley Publications, Inc., 24 Water St., Palmer, Mass. 01069. Telephone (413) 283-8393, Fax (413) 289-1977.

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Letters to the Editor Policy

Letters to the Editor have a maximum of 350 words. We require writers to include their name, address and phone number in order for our office to authenticate authorship prior to publication. Addresses and phone numbers are not published.

Unsigned or anonymous letters will NOT be published.

We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions. Libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks or defamation of character are not allowed.

Deadline for submissions is Wednesday at noon.

Please email (preferred) letters to thesun@turley.com. Mailed letters can be sent to *The Sun*, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

Whimsical Fairy Walk at Stanley Park seeking volunteer builders

WESTFIELD – On Saturday, Oct. 12, and Sunday, Oct. 13, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., join in for a whimsical walk that will be sprinkled with fairy houses for a magical experience of the natural world. Volunteer builders create a fairyland of small structures built out of natural materials, opening a portal to the imagination and the incredible world around us through deep observation of nature's gifts.

Please contact the Development Office for information on submitting a fairy house.

The fairy houses will be sprinkled throughout our Woodland Wildflower

Garden leading out to the Enchanted Oak Tree. Arts and crafts will be in the Beveridge Pavilion on both days. Sunday's event will also include a Fairies of the Seasons puppet show from noon to 12:45 p.m. on the Beveridge Pavilion stage. There is still time to register as a builder if to create a fairy or gnome house. Email development@stanleypark.org to register.

Parking for this event is in Rose Garden parking area accessible using Gates 2, 3 and 4. This event will be held rain or shine and is free of charge however donations are accepted and greatly appreciated.



The Second Annual "Whimsical Fairy Walk" presented by Stanley Park, 400 Western Avenue, Westfield, will take place Saturday, Oct. 12 and Sunday, Oct. 13 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

Submitted photo

Call for Jimmy Fund walkers

BOSTON – Register for the 2024 Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk. Scheduled for Sunday, Oct. 6, funds raised from the Jimmy Fund Walk support all forms of adult and pediatric care and research at the nation's premier cancer center, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. The Jimmy Fund Walk has raised more than \$176 million for Dana-Farber in its 35-year history, raising a record-breaking \$9.4 million in 2023.

One Walk, Four Distances, For All Cancers

The Jimmy Fund Walk is the only organized walk permitted to use the famed Boston Marathon course, and participants have the flexibility to choose from four distance options: 5K walk (from Dana-Farber's Longwood Medical Campus); 10K walk (from Newton); Half Marathon walk (from Wellesley); Marathon walk (from Hopkinton).

Whatever route participants choose, they will be supported by hundreds of volunteers and treated to refueling stations with refreshments throughout the course. Poster-sized photographs of patients-Jimmy Fund Walk Heroes-are the heart of the event and appear along the course as inspiration. Due to ongoing

construction in Copley Square, all routes will conclude at the Jimmy Fund Walk Finish Line Powered by Schneider Electric at Boston Common, by the corner of Charles and Beacon Street. Finish line activities will include a celebration with food, entertainment, and more. Walkers can participate virtually as well.

Register as an individual walker, team member, or start a team. Take advantage of this unique opportunity and lead a group of your family, friends, or colleagues toward the ultimate finish line: a world without cancer.

Volunteers are needed to cheer on participants, serve snacks, distribute T-shirts, and more, at the four start locations, along the course, and at the finish line. The Jimmy Fund Walk would not be possible without the hundreds of dedicated volunteers who donate their time, talent, and energy. Register to volunteer today.

To register for the Walk (#JimmyFundWalk) or to support a walker, visit www.JimmyFundWalk.org or call (866) 531-9255. Registrants can enter the promo code NEWS for \$5 off the registration fee. All registered walkers will receive a bib, medal, and a Jimmy Fund Walk T-shirt.

'Dinner and a Show' supports the Friends of the Westfield Athenaeum

WESTFIELD – On Friday, Oct. 18 beginning at 6:30 a.m. in St. John's Luthera Church, 60 Broad St., there will be a pasta dinner followed by the play, "An Accidental Wedding" by Steve Henderson.

The play is a hilarious encounter with a wouldn't-be-groom, an irate match maker and a tall tale like they write tall tales about. This is a highly interactive, roll in the aisle comedy people won't want to miss.

The show to follow dinner. Dinner

will include salad, pasta, meatballs and make-your-own-sundae dessert. Tickets are just \$20 for the dinner and show and must be purchased by Friday, Oct. 11 by visiting <https://www.friendsofwestath.org/dinner-theater> (no service fee for online purchases) or at the Westfield Athenaeum, 6 Elm St. The Friends of the Westfield Athenaeum is an all-volunteer independent 501(C)3 not-for-profit organization whose mission is to support the programs and services of the Westfield Athenaeum.

St. Joseph's to hold roast pork dinner

WESTFIELD – Back by popular demand, St. Joseph's National Catholic Church at 73 Main St. is hosting a community stuffed roast pork dinner on Sunday, Oct. 20 at noon.

This community dinner will feature delicious and juicy stuffed roast pork, Au Gratin potatoes, fresh corn off-the-cob and apple sauce. Homemade apple crisp with ice cream will be served for dessert. Beverages included are coffee, fresh apple cider and bottled water.

Tickets are \$18 for adults and \$10 for children under 12. For tickets, people may call Cliff at 413-977-2007. Deadline for purchasing tickets is Thursday, Oct. 17. A limited number of meals-to-go will be available at 12:30 p.m. When buying tickets, people should indicate if they are eating at the Social Center or planning take-out. Parking is available at the Clinton Avenue parking lot. All are welcome. Besides the traditional New England fall dinner there will be a raffle.

Election letters to the editor welcome

The Holyoke Sun welcomes readers to participate in this year's election campaigns by writing letters to the editor for publication on these pages. Letters of up to 250 words from local residents endorsing candidates on the ballot or discussing campaign issues should be sent to *The Holyoke Sun*, c/o Turley Publications, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069, faxed to 413-289-1977 or emailed to thesun@turley.com. Please include a daytime telephone number for verification purposes (it will not be printed). Letters must be received by noon Monday to be considered for that Friday's newspaper.

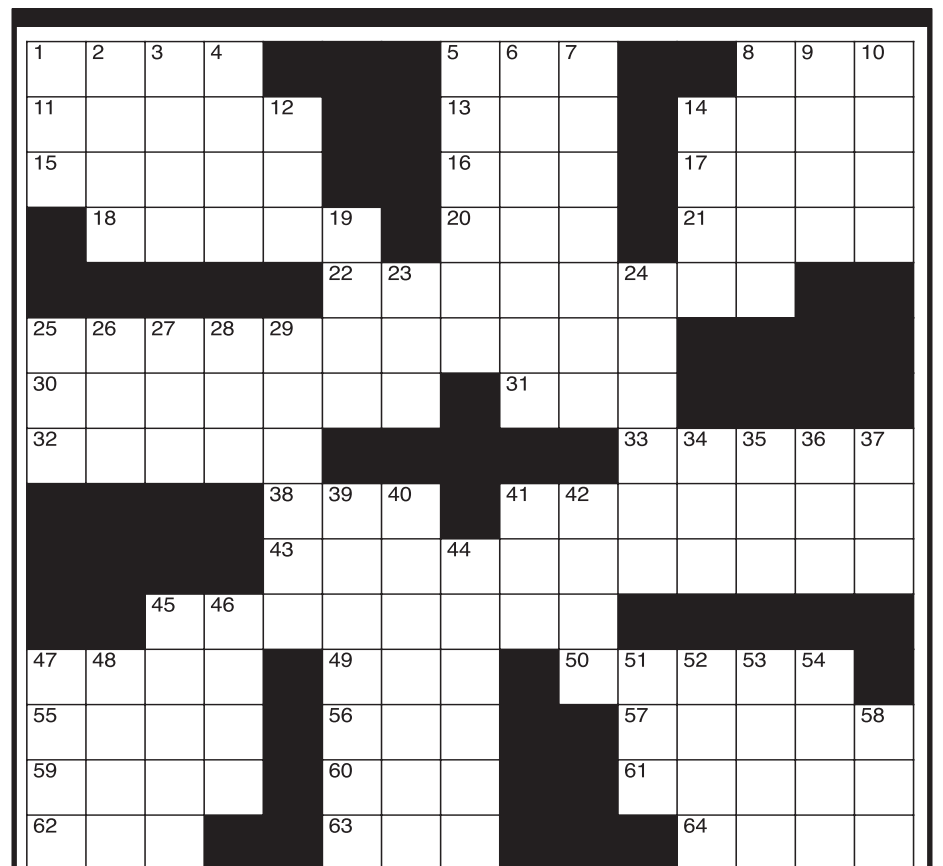
No attack letters will be printed. No letters written by candidates supporting their own candidacy will be printed. If the volume of letters received is larger than the space available in the newspaper, or if the letters become repetitive, the newspaper reserves the right to print

a representative sample. No endorsement letters will be printed in the last edition before the election. For more information, call 413-283-8393.

Campaign news

As part of its election coverage, the newspaper plans to print stories about contested races for Congress, state Senate, state House, district attorney and Governor's Council during the weeks leading up to the election, as well as a question-and-answer voters guide. In order to ensure fairness to all candidates, no political press releases will be printed, nor will reporters cover political rallies or fundraisers.

Candidates who wish to further publicize their candidacy, beliefs and events may contact advertising, 413-283-8393 about paid advertising in *The Holyoke Sun*.



CLUES ACROSS

1. Unequaled
5. ___-fi (slang)
8. Synthetic resin
11. Chadic language
13. Influential come Election Day
14. Bucket
15. European river
16. Earn a perfect score
17. Horizontal passage
18. Barely sufficient
20. Dekaliter
21. Goo Goo Dolls hit
22. Australian city
25. Female servants
30. Plumbing fixtures
31. Tooth caregiver
32. Book of Esther antagonist
33. Say aloud
38. Thyrotrophic hormone
41. Absolute

42. Body parts
3. Invests in little enterprises
4. Rock legend Turner
5. Dug into
6. Laughed
7. Northern European nation
8. San Diego ballplayer
9. Eight
10. Substitutes (abbr.)
12. Moved swiftly on foot
14. Compensated
19. Volcano in the Philippines
23. Speak ill of
24. One who publishes
25. Expression of bafflement
26. Macaws
27. Matchstick game
28. We all have our own
29. Divinatory

34. Explosive
35. Follows sigma
36. Sea eagle
37. Type of bread
39. Bit used with a set of reins
40. Time away from work
41. Parts per thousand (abbr.)
42. Lots on your plate (abbr.)
44. Actor Brosnan
45. It's part of packaging
46. Towards the oral region
47. Public Theater creator Joseph
48. Ancient Syrian city
51. Swiss river
52. Mollusk
53. A French abbot
54. Hoagies
58. Not present (slang)

CLUES DOWN

1. Barrels per day (abbr.)

Read The Holyoke Sun online at www.sun.turley.com

CROSSWORD ANSWER on page 9

In The News

LIBRARY, from page 1

He, and others at Take Flight Learning, use these birds to symbolize the personality types as they feel it makes them all easier to remember.

"We use those four different birds because it is more friendly to remember and it makes it easier to apply," Giangrande said. "And people are able to have a little bit more fun with it."

Additionally, Giangrande broke it down so the personalities were placed along different poles. The eagles and parrots tend to be more fast paced and verbal, while doves and owls are more even-paced and reserved.

Furthermore, doves and parrots tend to be more people-oriented while eagles and owls are more task-oriented.

During the presentation, Giangrande showed clips of characters from different movies that exemplified different personality types.

For example, he showed a clip of Buddy the Elf from Elf, who he described as a perfect example of an Interactive type or a parrot.

He hoped that by showing these clips people could get a more firm understanding of the different personality types.

Giangrande also made sure to emphasize that while everyone has a certain personality type that is more forefront, that does not mean they can't have characteristics of other personality types.

Giangrande hoped that through this presentation, people would learn how to better interact and work with others.

"A lot of it is focused on improving communication and what I really love about it is how it is focused on not just your professional life, but your personal life as well," Giangrande said.

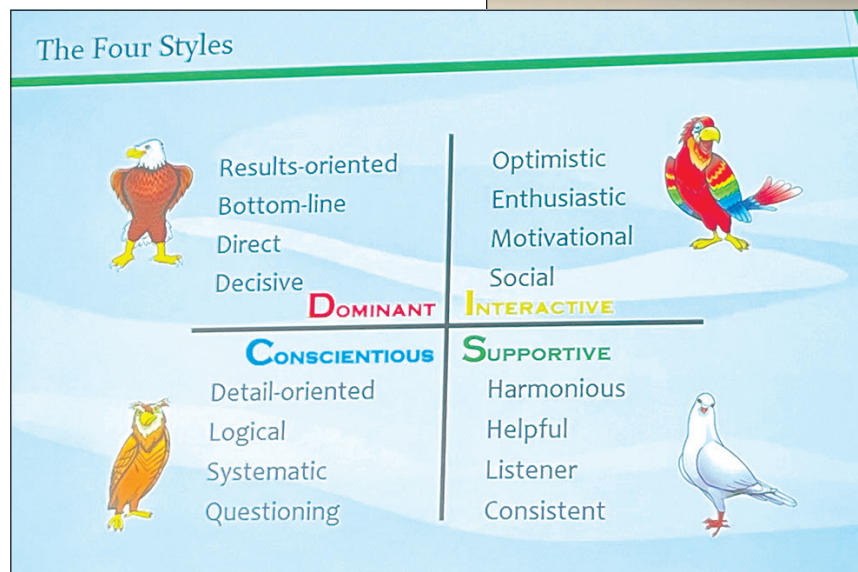
He hoped that people would gain an understanding of these different personality types and thus be able to identify what types other people are when they are interacting with them.

By doing this, people can learn to approach different personality types in different ways in order to improve communication and teamwork with them.

Giangrande has been to many different places to give talks similar to this in the hopes of helping people to work better with others around them.

"A lot of it is aimed at helping organizations, whether it be schools, different businesses, anywhere that is looking to improve their team building," Giangrande said.

If anyone has further questions about these personality types, they are welcome to reach out to Giangrande at wgiangrande123@gmail.com.



Certified Facilitator from Take Flight Learning Will Giangrande broke down the traits of the DISC personality types.

At his presentation, Certified Facilitator from Take Flight Learning Will Giangrande showed clips of movie characters who exemplify different DISC personality types. *Turley photos by Quinn Suomala*

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Landon Koziara tries to clear the ball away.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

Knights fall to Pacers

HOLYOKE – Last week, Chicopee High School boys soccer picked up its fifth win of the season as well as a tie to remain undefeated in 2024. First, the Pacers went to Holyoke High School and picked up a 4-1 win on the road. Abdulwahhab Alnuaimi scored two goals. Griffen Wesley and Tiago Destapado had the other goals and Zachariah Varovoy had a single save for the win. Ryan Kennedy scored the lone goal for Holyoke, which is now 0-5-2.



Christian Guzik attempts to take the ball away from a Chicopee player.



Erik Salinas-Salinas attempts to settle the ball.



Jaybriel Rivera-Soto goes after the loose ball.



Christian Piedra makes his way up the field.

Holyoke football falls in Week 2

HOLYOKE – Last Thursday evening, Holyoke High School football fell to Agawam 21-14. The Knights had a lead heading into halftime, but Agawam was able to shut out the Knights offense during the second half while coming

back with a pair of touchdowns to take the lead. Holyoke falls to 0-2 on the season and has a rare Saturday game coming up. The Knights will face Taconic High School on Saturday, Sept. 28 at 3 p.m. on the road.



Jayderson Lugo secures a pass near the sideline.



Running back Avantay Rivera tries to avoid being tackled.



The offensive line readies to protect its quarterback.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli



Jayden Cauley-Guzman tries to power through Agawam's defense.



Devin Velez looks to pass.



Gracie Chesmore guides the ball.

Knights take down Palmer

HOLYOKE – The Holyoke High School field hockey team picked up a win over host Palmer last Monday afternoon 8-1. The Knights are 4-4 on the season. Siobhan Armstrong had three goals for the Knights in the win. Holyoke next faces Amherst Regional on Tuesday, Oct. 1.



Siobhan Armstrong makes her way up the field.



Kylie Blaha sends a free hit away.



Marialis Camacho gets a backhand on the ball.

Hopkins keeps streak alive at Speedway 95

HERMON, ME – Since D.J. Shaw won the Granite State Pro Stock Series' Maine debut in 2016, every race in the Pine Tree State had been won by a Mainer leading into Sunday afternoon's showdown at Speedway 95.

And July winner Mike Hopkins kept that streak alive, picking up the win at his home track for a clean sweep of both visits to the Hermon, Maine, third-mile.

The penultimate round of the GSPSS title chase thrust full-season chal-

lengers Evan Beaulieu and Casey Call into a Vacationland turf war, with past Speedway 95 winners Hopkins and Josh St. Clair leading the charge alongside reigning champion Travis Benjamin, still winless at the historic speedway.

St. Clair and Hopkins topped the charts in time trials, with Dave Farrington, Jr. clocking in third. Beaulieu qualified fifth and Call eighth, both thinking about the big picture as the green flag flew.

Unencumbered by the bigger picture,

Hopkins drove to the front, putting on a clinic in front of the hometown fans. Benjamin was Hopkins' biggest threat, but he could not catch Hopkins in the final laps, coming up about four seconds shy at the checkered flag.

St. Clair settled for third, with Ryan Deane and Farrington rounding out an all-Maine top five.

Nick Jenkins was sixth, with title contenders Beaulieu and Call seventh and eighth. Veteran Gary Smith and Granite

Stater Bobby Frappier rounded out the top ten.

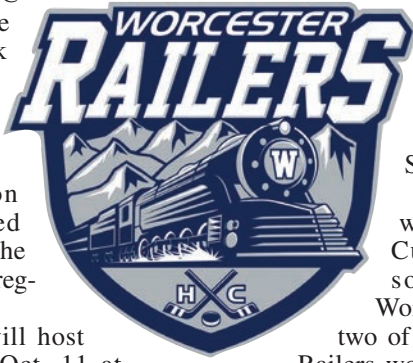
Beaulieu now carries a 21-point advantage over Call into the season finale, with fans assured of a first-time GSPSS champion when the dust settles.

The GSPSS' 13th season concludes on Oct. 6 at Lee USA Speedway, where the championship will be decided as part of Russ Conway's Oktoberfest. Details of the championship finale will be released soon.

Worcester Railers set to host preseason games

WORCESTER – The Worcester Railers Hockey Club (@RailersHC), proud ECHL (@ECHL) affiliate of the New York Islanders (@NYIslanders) and the Maine Mariners announced today a pair of preseason games to be played on Oct. 11 and 12, the weekend before the regular season begins.

The Mariners will host a game on Friday, Oct. 11 at Sidney J. Watson Arena at Bowdoin College at 7 p.m. while the Railers



will host a game on Saturday, October 12th at the Fidelity Bank Worcester Ice Center at 7:00 p.m.

The preseason series kicks off the fourth season of the "VIP Rivalry Cup," presented by VIP Tires & Service.

The Railers have won the VIP Rivalry Cup, the regular season series between Worcester and Maine, in two of its three seasons. The Railers won six of ten meetings last season between the teams, and will face off against Maine ten more times

during the 2024-25 campaign.

VIP Tires & Service, a Quirk family-owned business for 97 years based in Auburn, Maine, operates 70 locations throughout Maine, New Hampshire, Vermont, Massachusetts, and Connecticut providing retail and wholesale tires and installation, and professional automotive services. VIP is the place where New Englanders turn for everything they need to keep their vehicles running at peak performance. For more information, visit: www.vipauto.com.

The Worcester Railers HC 2024-25 Opening Weekend at the DCU Center is Saturday, Oct. 19 and Sunday, Oct. 20 vs. the Reading Royals.

MIAA looks to honor officials

The Massachusetts Interscholastic Athletic Association is looking to collectively recognize the efforts of our Game Officials.

The fall National Officials Appreciation Week will be held Oct. 6 to 12. Once again, MIAA staff members will travel around the state to personally thank officials and support their efforts on the local level. We hope that you will consider recognizing them in some manner. The Winter Officials Appreciation Week will be Jan. 13-18, 2025 and the Spring Officials Appreciation Week will be April 6-12, 2025.

Send Us Your Holiday Event Information

Turley Publications will print your holiday calendar listings FREE OF CHARGE in our Holiday Dazzler Supplement which publishes Nov. 13th.

Deadline for submissions is October 14th

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This position is not eligible for benefits. Alcohol, controlled substance and criminal background testing is mandatory.

Applications are available on the Town Website @ [wbroadfield.com](http://www.wbrookfield.com)
Application deadline: Friday, November 1, 2024, at 3:00 p.m.

Please contact: Jim Daley (508) 867-1417 or via email jdaley@wbroadfield.com

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This newspaper will not knowingly accept any advertising for real estate that is in violation of the law. Our readers are hereby informed that all dwellings advertised in this newspaper are available on an equal opportunity basis. To complain about discrimination call The Department of Housing and Urban Development "HUD" toll-free at 1-800-669-9777. For the N.E. area, call HUD at 617-565-5308. The toll free number for the hearing impaired is 1-800-927-9275.

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STCC starting early childhood program

SPRINGFIELD – Springfield Technical Community College, Holyoke-Chicopee-Springfield Head Start (HCS) and dignitaries announced the opening of an HCS early childhood program on the STCC campus.

The opening of the facility will provide affordable child care for qualifying families in the region, as well as learning and training opportunities for STCC students.

The announcement came at a ribbon cutting ceremony in front of the new Head Start location in Building 14. Earlier in the year, the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT) and the National Head Start Association (NHSA) initiated a partnership to increase the number of Head Start programs co-located on community college campuses. STCC is the first community college in Western Massachusetts to host a Head Start center.

Also attending the ribbon cutting were members of the Springfield state delegation, STCC trustees and faculty as well as HCS Head Start board members and leaders.

At the STCC campus location, HCS Head Start will provide services in one of the historic brick buildings located on the south side of the campus near State Street. HCS Head Start will have two classrooms, one for infants and toddlers, and a preschool classroom.

The partnership will strengthen workforce development opportunities for educators, said HCS Head Start Chief Executive Officer Nicole Blais.

"This exciting partnership will allow us to provide access to affordable care for qualifying students," Blais said. "We also will collaborate with STCC's early childhood education program and give students the opportunity to do their student teaching."

HCS Head Start will provide internship opportunities for students studying in various disciplines across the STCC campus.

"This partnership allows us to create a pipeline to employment for future early childhood educators," Blais said.

STCC President John B. Cook expressed enthusiasm

for the new partnership. Research shows access to child care can remove barriers for students with children.

"We are thrilled to welcome HCS Head Start to our campus," he said. "We very much view this collaboration as a version of what is termed in the field as a 'lab school,' with a focus on workforce development – our students deeply embedded with Head Start programming and teaching. On the cusp of the 60th anniversary of Head Start, how exciting to formalize this partnership in Springfield."

Springfield Mayor Domenic J. Sarno said, "I want to thank Nicole Blais, CEO of HCS Head Start, and her dedicated staff for everything they do for our students and the community. I also want to thank STCC President John Cook and team for being great partners to our Springfield."

"The importance of strong early childhood education cannot be overstated," Sarno said. "We will continue to invest in our students, families and youth who are furthering their education and bring them the tools and opportunities they need to succeed. There is no limit to what our young people can accomplish and my administration will continue to do what we can to make sure that our youth have the skills and opportunities to succeed in life."

In February 2024, the Association of Community College Trustees (ACCT), along with partner National Head Start Association (NHSA), announced the launch of the Kids on Campus initiative to bring more Head Start programs to community college campuses throughout the United States. The joint project offers a practical, commonsense approach to solving challenges in child care and education, according to the ACCT announcement.

The ACCT stated that qualifying student parents receive free, high quality child care and early education for their families from the Head Start program. Colleges obtain an expert partner to operate on-site child care from Head Start, which also has the ability to apply funding to retrofit buildings on campus.

For more information about HCS Head Start and to find out if you and your family are eligible for enrollment, visit hcsheadstart.org.

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Pet supplies fundraising tag sale

BELCHERTOWN – Belchertown Animal Control will hold a fundraising Pet Supply and Gifts Tag Sale on Saturday, Oct. 5 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. at the shelter, 165 George Hannum St.

There will be lots of pet Halloween outfits, leashes, collars, harnesses, beds, sweaters, food, treats, carriers, litter boxes, toys, stairs, gates, ramps, etc. and many one of a kind items.

Some items are new and some are gently used, but all will be priced to sell.

Tag sale items are items donated by community members and friends, but not currently needed at the shelter.

All money raised from these items benefits the ACO Gift Fund which helps shelter and community pets with extra needs such as surgery or prescriptions.

She also wrote columns for several newspapers, including the Daily Hampshire Gazette, the Holyoke Transcript-Telegram, the Sunday Republican, the Morning Union and the Daily News.

"Everybody knew her, everybody read her columns, the Mayor of Springfield looked forward to her column and then would call her," Divine said.

Later in her life, Bernard was awarded the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Valley Club, being the first female and person from Holyoke to do so.

She was also chosen as the Citizen of the Year by the Holyoke St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee.

In her obituary, which Bernard herself wrote, she shared how special a day this was for her.

"The year I received the St. Patrick's award and rode in Harry Craven's convertible in the parade was the sunniest day ever and as we drove along the parade route, I realized my life had been touched by hundreds of parade viewers lining the streets greeting me, hugging me, calling out times when we had been together," she wrote.

These are just two of the many awards she received throughout her lifetime, all of which she truly deserved.

Bernard will not be easily forgotten by Holyoke thanks to all she has done for its inhabitants.

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a two thirds majority vote meant two thirds of the council body that was present for the meeting.

It also stated that all ordinances or parts of ordinances not consistent with this ruling would be repealed.

In past discussions, several councilors had raised their concerns with this ordinance.

City Council President Tessa Murphy-Romboletti did not want ordinances to need a two thirds majority to pass.

"It just gives us little space to make change...a very small minority can stop an ordinance from passing even if a majority of people on the council think it's a great ordinance change," Murphy-Romboletti said.

Additionally, Murphy-Romboletti felt that the ordinance is not what Former Councilor Todd McGee would have wanted, and he was the one to initially bring the matter to the council's attention.

Councilor Juan Anderson-Burgos had voted for this ordinance prior to the mayoral veto, but afterward he gave it further consideration and decided he did not agree with it.

"I look at the work I've spent in this room over the years," Councilor

Juan Anderson-Burgos said. "I feel that this rule congests all the work...so I'm changing my mind."

Other councilors were frustrated that people were initially changing their minds on supporting this ordinance.

Councilor Kevin Jourdain felt that the councilors who had changed their mind on the ordinance after veto only did so because the mayor had disapproved the ordinance.

"After a year of discussion, they got what they wanted but now the mayor is opposed so people are changing their votes," Jourdain had said.

Additionally, many councilors felt that this was the best compromise they could come up with on this matter.

"I would like to remind my colleagues that we spent a long time coming to a compromise," Councilor Linda Vacon said. "I don't think there is anybody in the room for whom this was the perfect answer, and yet we came to a compromise with an 11-2 vote, and yet the mayor chose to veto it and this is really a matter for this body to be determining."

With this information in mind, the council took the vote to override the veto and this time it passed, with only Murphy-Romboletti, Anderson-Burgos and Councilor Meagan Magrath-Smith voting against it.

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including at the radio station WHY/AM. It was this hard work throughout her time at school that inspired her to establish the endowment in order to help students like her who struggled financially.

She graduated from MHC in 1948, and married her husband George Bernard Jr. later that year.

Soon after, when she was only 23 she won \$100 from a New York radio program and used it to start the Golden Age Club.

This was the first club of its kind in the country and the club persists even to this day. The group meets every Wednesday at 1 p.m. and they are welcoming new members.

"It's for seniors that get together and enjoy their company, they have many things going on at the senior center, whether it is bingo, exercising or musical things, it really is a great organization," Divine said.

Bernard and the other members of the club wanted to have a building for seniors, and she was the honorary chairperson of the drive that eventually got the building built in Holyoke.

Throughout all of this, Bernard continued working at the WHY/AM, which eventually moved to Springfield and became the WHY-TV/AM/FM where she did a live daily program called the Barbara Bernard show.

In The News



Highway to Hope Coordinator and Production Manager at Hope for Holyoke Kevin LeBeau welcomed everyone to the Recovery Day celebration and flag raising.



City Councilor Israel Rivera shared his own family's struggles with addiction and reminded people that recovery is possible. *Turley photos by Quinn Suomala*



The Recovery Month flag was raised outside of City Hall as a part of Holyoke's Recovery Day celebration.



Those marching in celebration of Recovery Day held up a variety of signs.



As the Recovery Day celebration attendees marched through the city, they had a variety of chants including "What do we have? Hope! What do we love? Holyoke" and "Recovery is possible! ¡Sí se puede!"

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attendees marched back to Veterans Park where more guest speakers gave speeches and attendees were able to enjoy food and the resources available from different community organizations.

Throughout the event, there were also live intakes available to treatment facilities, thanks to Highway to Hope.

For LeBeau, this event is about the unity it brings to all who attend.

"Every person, every family and every community is the focal point to this Recovery Month," LeBeau said.

His favorite part of the day is seeing everyone come together and celebrate the progress they have made in fighting addiction.

"The highlight of the day for all of us is, whether we were here 20 minutes or 20 years, it's watching those individuals walk down the street with a sign saying you don't have to live the way you are anymore," LeBeau said. "There is a solution to the problem at hand and...we're here to help people find that solution."

This event is held as part of National Recovery Month, which occurs every September.

"It promotes and supports new evidence-based treatment and recovery practices," LeBeau said. "This nation's strong and proud recovery community, such as Holyoke and the surrounding areas, and the dedication of service providers and community partnerships make recovery in all forms possible."

LeBeau works with Hope for Holyoke as well as many other community organizations in order to put this celebration on.

He is grateful for every single person who contributed their time and funding to helping make this event, and the work the community organizations do, possible.

"Our team is not just Hope for Holyoke, it's the entire recovery community," LeBeau said. "That is how we pass the message and spread hope to those in need."

He has seen that with the work and support from the community, people in need can get the support they deserve as they work to fight against the disease of addiction.

"Addiction recovery process is possible for anyone, if they choose to seek it, and that's what we do here at Hope for Holyoke," LeBeau said.

Hope for Holyoke is a peer led organization that works to support those in the community who are struggling with the disease of addiction. Anyone is welcome to come and get the support they need.

"Addiction doesn't close, it is a 24/7 killer and what we do is try to do what we can to fight it on a daily basis," LeBeau said.

To keep up with the events Hope for Holyoke puts on, go to their Facebook page titled Hope for Holyoke Recovery Center.

You can also call their office at 413-561-1020 or go in person at 100 Suffolk Street in Holyoke.

Wilbraham & Monson Academy OPEN HOUSE Sunday, Oct. 6, 10 a.m.



For families interested in grades 6-12, PG.

Meet faculty, students, parents and coaches.
Learn more about our programs and community. Tour our campus.

rsvp: www.wma.us/openhouse