

TOWN Reminder

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INDEX

6
9
12

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Selectboard supports the shared services for fire districts

By Emily-Rose Pappas
Staff Writer
epappas@turley.com

SOUTH HADLEY – The Selectboard held a session to discuss the efficiency report of the Fire Departments in Districts 1 and 2 to see them merge, as well as accepting resignments, grant applications, and more.

Chair Andrea Miles held the Jan. 21 meeting, and she was accompanied by Vice Chair Jeff Cyr, Clerk Carol Constant, members Renee Sweeney, and Town Administrator Lisa Wong joined the meeting virtually.

District Efficiency Report

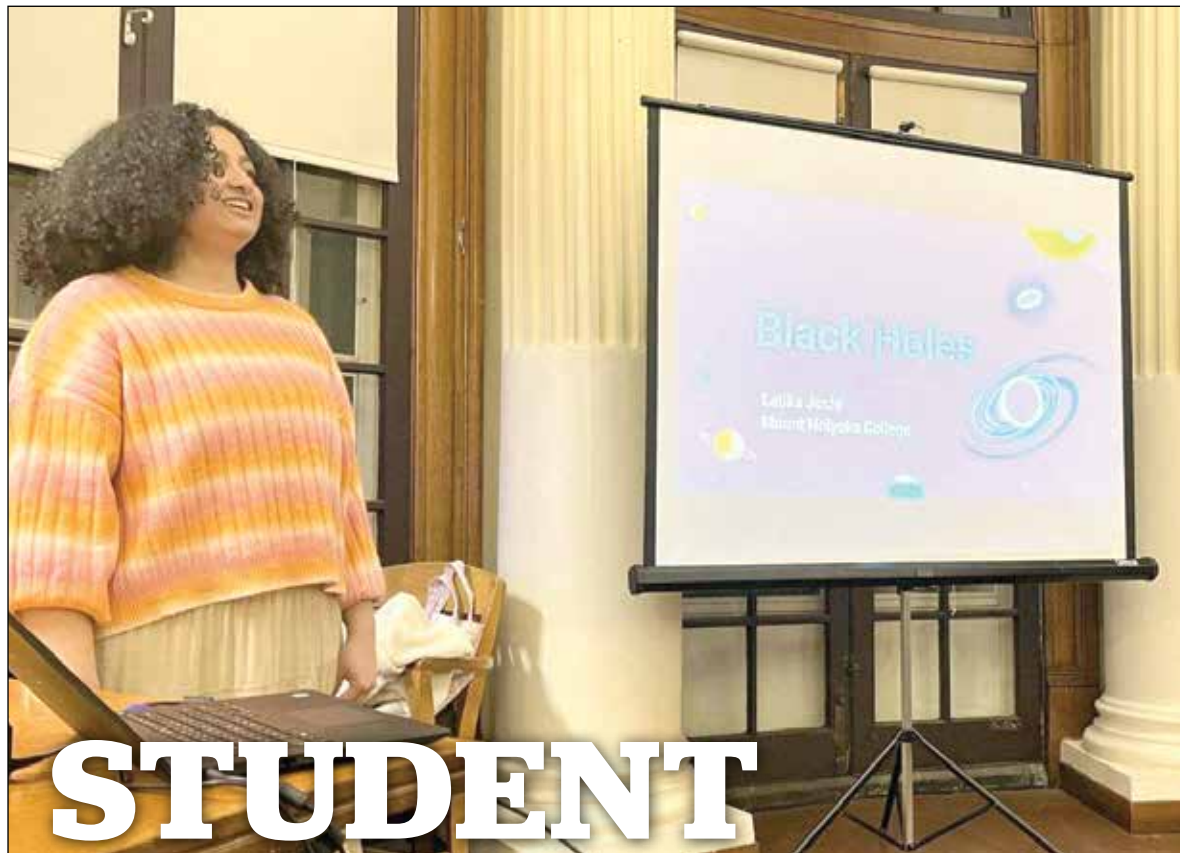
Director Eric Weiss from the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission to share an update on the project, using DLTA funds to complete it.

Weiss shared that the planning commission looked at helping the Fire Departments in Districts 1 and 2 organize a shared services preliminary report and reflected on there being pushback because of the general response too change causing pushback.

“I look at this as another step for South Hadley,” said Weiss.

Weiss shared the multiple faces of this challenge, including how to deal with what the departments already do well, and that is sharing resources, but also to deal with

Please see **SELECTBOARD**, page 3



STUDENT gives presentation on black holes

By Emily-Rose Pappas
Staff Writer
epappas@turley.com

SOUTH HADLEY – Outer space and our solar system are some of the most wondrous places, and they hold secrets that have baffled us for as long as humans have been on earth.

Black holes are one of these mysteries of deep space, and Mount

Holyoke senior Latika Joshi gave a presentation about these mysteries.

“I find the most fascinating thing about black holes to be the mystery of what happens to matter as it passes through the event horizon,” said Joshi. “We know it gets pulled toward the singularity, where the laws of physics as we understand them break down, but we don’t fully know what happens after that—or even where that matter

might ultimately end up.”

Joshi gave a presentation at the Gaylord Memorial Library last week about these strange phenomena, and what exactly a black hole is.

“Black holes challenge our fundamental understanding of gravity and space-time, making them one

Please see **BLACK HOLES**, page 5

Submitted photo

Latika Joshi welcoming people to her presentation about black holes.

PD shares new project to help community

By Emily-Rose Pappas
Staff Writer
epappas@turley.com

SOUTH HADLEY – Protecting the town and ensuring the safety and well-being of its citizens is an important part of all members of law enforcement, and providing resources to help is one of the many ways they bring that protection.

The South Hadley Police Department, Fire Districts 1 and 2, Geriatric NP, the Board of Health, and TRIAD worked together to collect the funds

needed to make a new program possible.

“Project Lifesaver is a service that utilizes an electronic tracking device to assist in locating at-risk people. This service helps to provide peace of mind to family members and caregivers with loved ones who wander,” said Officer Emily Tebo.

Project Lifesaver utilizes radio technology and specially trained search and rescue teams, and citizens enrolled in

Please see **PROJECT**, page 5



One of the wristbands that are worn by the client is easy to track.

Community rallies behind student

South Hadley
Freshman battling leukemia

By Emily-Rose Pappas
Staff Writer
epappas@turley.com

SOUTH HADLEY – The town came together for South Hadley High freshman, Jill Scott, who was diagnosed with T-Cell Acute Leukemia just at the beginning of December.

Her family and friends came together around her immediately, and within just a short time she was diagnosed with cancer, the posted GoFundMe for her treatment raised \$40,000.

Her work family at The Boat-house Restaurant teamed together to host a fundraiser this past weekend, and the whole restaurant was booked out with reservations for the night, with 20% of each food purchase being donated to Jillian’s treatment.

Please see **STUDENT**, page 6



Turley Photo by Emily-Rose Pappas
Joe Scott, Jill’s dad, Mary Walsh, and Tyler Scott, Jill’s big brother, selling t-shirts to raise more for her cancer treatments.



All About Town

SOUTH HADLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

Get to know your town employees: Joe Rodio

SOUTH HADLEY – As part of a new addition to the papers, we are looking to add in features of our town employees to recognize and thank them for their hard work and dedication.

These town employees are what help keep our communities running, providing resources, help, information, fun events, organization, and more for us to enjoy.

Here is an interview with South Hadley Public Library's Director, Joe Rodio.

What is your favorite thing about the town?

"I really enjoy the sense of community in South Hadley. People are proud of their town and it shows."

What do you do in your position?

"As Library Director, I'm responsible for the operations of the South Hadley Public Library including the beautiful building, terrific staff, and incredible selection of materials."

Describe an average day at the office?

"There really is no "average day" and that's what makes me love my job! You know that saying: "You can never cross the same river twice"? The same is true for libraries. Every day brings a different group of patrons, new situations, and unplanned opportunities."

Tell me a bit about you. Are you a resident? What's your education?

"I grew up in Webster, MA which is an old mill town best known as the home of Lake Chargoggagogmanchaug-gagoggchaubunagunamaug. I



Turley Photo by Emily-Rose Pappas
Joe Rodio, South Hadley Public Library's wonderful director.

attended public schools K-12 and received a BA in American History from Clark University and a Masters degree in Library Science from the University of Maryland at College Park (Go Terps!)."

What other departments or committees/boards do you work closely with?

"My position falls under the publicly-elected, nine-member Board of Library Trustees who meet monthly to review services, approve bills, and discuss future plans. I'm also a town

department head and work with the Town Administrator to set goals and objectives. The library works closely with many other town departments on collaborations and providing meeting space."

What is the most fulfilling part of your job?

"I love working with the people who come into our library. I've met some amazing people at SHPL including authors and illustrators whose books grace our shelves!"

What inspired you to take on the position?

"South Hadley has always been a community that supported its libraries, and the South Hadley Public Library had a strong reputation for progressive library services going back to former director Connie Clancy. It was an opportunity I couldn't pass up."

Where is your office located? What are your office hours?

"My office is on the second floor of the South Hadley Public Library, next to the Local History room. You can also find me most Friday early afternoons at the Gaylord Memorial Library. I don't have set office hours: if my door is open, you're welcome to come in."

What is the history of your department? What makes it unique from others?

"The South Hadley Public Library was established by a town meeting vote on March 15, 1897. A "sister library", the Gaylord Memorial Library, was established in 1902. The two libraries cooperated at varying levels for over a century. Since 2017, the two libraries have functioned as a single library system with SHPL as the main library and Gaylord as a branch location. One library, two buildings."

What do you want the community to know about your position?

"People think librarians sit and read all day - not true! Working in a library is less about books and more about people. Technology changes rapidly but quality, personal service is constant."

South Hadley warming shelters

SOUTH HADLEY—The following are the locations for the South Hadley warming shelters.

South Hadley Fire District #1

- 144 Newton St, South Hadley

South Hadley Fire District #2

- 20 Woodbridge St, South Hadley

South Hadley Public Library

- 2 Canal St, South Hadley
- Monday through Wednesday 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
- Thursday through Friday 9:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Saturday - 9:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

South Hadley Senior Center

- Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.
- Our extended hours are now Thursdays, 8 a.m. to 6:30 p.m.

GPL celebrates Valentines Day

February is Library Lover's Month

GRANBY — The Friends of the Granby Public Library are holding a Library Lover's Basket raffle that includes library merchandise such as a library mug, tee shirt, canvas tote bag and of course some chocolate. Raffle tickets are \$2 each or 3 for \$5.



The Library Gnomes are Back for Valentine's Day!

Check out our selection of crocheted Valentine's Day Gnomes. This is a great calorie-free Valentine gift for just \$5. All proceeds benefit the Friends of the Granby Library and library programming.

Friday fish fry starts February 28, runs through April 18

BELCHERTOWN—The Swift River Sportsman's Club at 350 Cold Spring Road in Belchertown is pleased to announce that

their infamous Friday Fish Fry is returning on Fridays, starting Feb. 28 and running through April 18, 2025. Prices range

from \$14 for fish and chips to \$18 for a fish, shrimp and chip combo. Clam Chowder will also be available! Come out and enjoy

one of the best fish dinners in the area with generous portions.

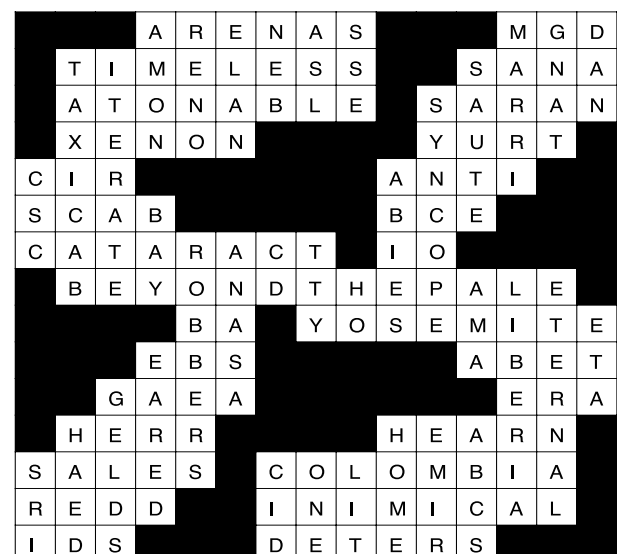
For more information, please call the club at 413-323-9387.

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Cultural Council funds 44 projects for 2025

\$19,441 distributed to local artists and culture creators

SOUTH HADLEY—The South Hadley Cultural Council (SHCC) has awarded 44 grants totaling \$19,441 for cultural programs in or near South Hadley in 2025. The amount awarded included a 2025 allocation of \$18,000 from the Mass Cultural Council for 2025 and additional funds left over in the local SHCC fund from previous years.

Amounts granted ranged from \$35-\$1,000. This year's grant recipients include local organizations involved with the high school musical, and several concerts and events at the South Hadley Public Library and the South Hadley Senior Center. Also funded were grants to organizations providing various cultural opportunities (music, dance and theatre performances, festivals, workshops, and more) for South Hadley residents and others in the region.

A complete list of recipients and grant amounts can be found

at this link to massculturalcouncil.org/local-council/south-hadley/.

A calendar of events funded by these grants can be found at South Hadley Arts, which is also the website for Showcase South Hadley, a weekend of live music, dance, art, and other celebrations of local culture scheduled for April 25-27, 2025.

Among the first events supported by a 2025 SHCC grant is the South Hadley High School Musical, We Will Rock You!, with performances scheduled Jan. 31-Feb. 2.

The South Hadley Cultural Council prioritized applications for:

Programs and organizations by and for BIPOC (Black, Indigenous, and People of Color) communities

Programs and organizations that make arts and culture more accessible to more South Hadley residents, including individuals with disabilities, low-income communities, seniors, and individual artists

Programs and organizations that bring art and culture to students in South Hadley Public

Schools and to South Hadley youth

About the South Hadley Cultural Council

The South Hadley Cultural Council is part of a network of 329 Local Cultural Councils (LCCs) serving all 351 cities and towns in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. The LCC Program is the largest grassroots cultural funding network in the nation, supporting thousands of community-based projects in the arts, sciences and humanities every year. The state legislature provides an annual appropriation to the Massachusetts Cultural Council (MCC), a state agency, which then allocates funds to each community. Funds are awarded based on individual community cultural needs, assessed and set by Council members. Decisions about which activities to support are made at the community level by the municipally appointed volunteers who serve on LCCs. For South Hadley's local guidelines and recent grant awards visit: <https://massculturalcouncil.org/local-council/south-hadley/>

South Hadley COA Feb. events

February Art Exhibit

Beginning Feb. 3 and on display for the entire month of February - come and discover the diverse talents of Sunshine Village artists. Amanda M's lifelong passion for canvas painting, Josh N's captivating pour paintings, Sean C's striking photography and David A's vibrant anime drawings. Don't miss this showcase of incredible art styles.

Create & Sip

Create & Sip with South Hadley Board and Brush from 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, Feb. 6. Hot Cocoa Bar.

Tickets are \$25 with all supplies included.

Call the Welcome Desk to choose your craft.

Meet the Artists

Friday, February 7th at 10:30am

Meet this month's exhibit artists from Sunshine Village. Get to know them and the inspiration for their work. Refreshments will be served.

Food Safety Bingo! Nutrition Program with WMED

Monday, Feb. 10 from 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Join registered dietitian Hannah Clayton, MPH, RDN, LDN, from WMEC for a free, fun and informative nutrition education program! Prizes will be given out!

Valentine's Cupcake Decorating Class

Friday, Feb. 14 at 1 p.m.

Our friends at Mont Marie Rehabilitation will be offering a free Valentine cupcake decorating workshop! Please register in advance.

State Rep Gomez Visit!

Tuesday, Feb. 18 at 10 a.m.

Join us in welcoming new State Representative Homar Gomez, as he hosts his first community event in this role! A proud Easthampton resident, he is excited to meet and share his vision and to hear from you. Come connect over coffee and muffins.

South Hadley Council on Aging is located at 45 Dayton Street, South Hadley.

SELECTBOARD from page 1

challenges surrounding communication, personnel changes, and more.

The planning commission shared that they recommended the sharing of resources and services to include sharing inspection services and have joint grant applications, as well as make upgrades in the water departments and "make investments to make them align with each other," said Weiss.

"I see this as a really big opportunity for both districts and the town," said Weiss. "It is the beginning of a conversation, not to be the end. I really hope people appreciate the report. It has a lot of the history, and it's a good report of where South Hadley is now on this issue."

Wong shared a comment on a final recommendation to apply for an IT grant from the state in

the amount of about \$200,000 and said it is "one of the very concrete ways to have the districts start to work together."

Members of the community came forward to share their thoughts on the changes this will make, and Constant shared an encouragement to "keep the conversation going," in order to come together as a community to discuss this in more depth.

You can find the packet listing out all recommendations and details under the Selectboard Meeting Agenda for Jan. 21 on the Town Website.

Members of Conservation Commission Resign

The Selectboard met with members Neva Tolopko and William Deluca who came to the board with their resignations from the Conservation Commission.

The Selectboard accepted the

resignations, with regret for the Conservation Commission, and thanked them for their service with much gratitude.

Historic Planning Grant

Robert Judge, Chair of the South Hadley Historical Commission came forward to the Selectboard about a past request for a match of \$15,000 for a project in 2023.

The Massachusetts Historical Commission has strict guidelines on how the application process works, and South Hadley was chosen as one of twenty-five applicants to continue the application process in order to be chosen to receive a part of the grant.

The board voted unanimously and approved to go ahead and authorize the town to submit the full application for the Historic Planning Grant.

Hero Act

In August of 2024, Governor Healey signed in the Hero Project, and Wong shared the different ways this new Act will work in the town of South Hadley to benefit veterans.

The Selectboard looked at how the Act will benefit the veterans of South Hadley by providing money towards doubling exemptions on property taxes for veterans under Chapter 115.

A local disabled veteran came forward to share his support for this benefit to the veterans of South Hadley.

Town Administrator PBE Check-In

The Selectboard on a yearly basis is given a sheet in order to score the performance of Town Administrator Lisa Wong in her role, and what changes can be made.

The Performance-Based

Evaluation Form is scored based on how the Selectboard is doing regarding the approved overarching goals that the Selectboard approved, including communication, belonging, commitment, innovation, and proficiency.

The Selectboard members approved of the updates to the PBE.

College Street Construction Trailer Approval

While this is not part of the new trailer bylaw, it does need Selectboard approval for this construction trailer to be parked on a lot on College Street where a massive geothermal project will take place at Mount Holyoke, submitted by Jason Forge.

The Selectboard moved to unanimously approve a permit of six months of the parking of the trailer on College Street, and it will be eligible to be renewed for more six-month periods under the discretion of the Selectboard.

NOTICE

ERRORS: Each advertiser is requested to check their advertisement the first time it appears. This paper will not be responsible for more than one corrected insertion, nor will be liable for any error in an advertisement to a greater extent than the cost of the space occupied by the item in the advertisement.

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Nomination Papers for the South Hadley Fire District No. 1 Annual Election

are available at District 1 Headquarters, 144 Newton Street for the following:

- Prudential Committee (3 year)**
- Water Commissioner (3 year)**
- Water Commissioner (1 year)**
- Moderator (1 year)**

Nomination papers with a minimum of ten (10) signatures are due back to the District Clerk's office, 144 Newton Street, by 12:00 p.m. on February 18, 2025. Annual District Election will be held April 8, 2025 from 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. at South Hadley High School, 153 Newton Street.

South Hadley Public Library

2 Canal St., South Hadley • www.shadleylib.org • 413-538-5045

FEBRUARY EVENTS

Adult Programs

Local Romance Author Liz Alden

Wed. Feb 12 at 6

Love modern romance? Come on down and listen to local author Liz Alden give a talk about her new books!

Middle East Conflicts: What to Expect in 2025 with Mt. Holyoke College Professor Sohil Hashmi

Wed. Feb 19 at 6

The fighting in the Middle East has halted, but tensions remain, and Syria is in the mix. What will 2025 bring? Professor Sohail Hashmi is Chair of International Relations, and Professor of International Relations and Politics at Mount Holyoke College.

Music Event! Gregorian Chants from the Cathedral of St. Michael the Archangel Chorus

Sat. Feb 22 at 11

Love the sounds of historical music of monasteries? Come on down to listen to an amazing chorus of singers conducted by Ashley Duplessis.



Opinion



Reader seeks clarification of Medicare IRMAA and MAGI

Dear Rusty:

I am confused by an article in my local newspaper which said that Modified Adjusted Gross Income, on which my Medicare Part B premium is based, is my Adjusted Gross Income, plus any non-taxable interest, plus 50% of the social security I received.

The part that is confusing is the 50% part. When I look at my tax return my Adjusted Gross Income includes the taxable portion of my Social Security benefit which, in my case, is 85% of my total benefits. Why must 50% of benefits be added to my AGI if it is already included in my total AGI?

Signed: Confused

Dear Confused:

The article you refer to was misleading for stating that the Modified Adjusted Gross Income used to determine your Medicare premiums includes your normal Adjusted Gross Income from your income tax return, plus any non-taxable interest you may have had, plus 50% of the SS benefits you received during the tax year. What the article should have said was that the MAGI, which determines your Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount to your Medicare premiums consists of your normal AGI from your tax return, which includes the taxable portion of your Social Security benefits, plus any non-taxable interest you may have had.

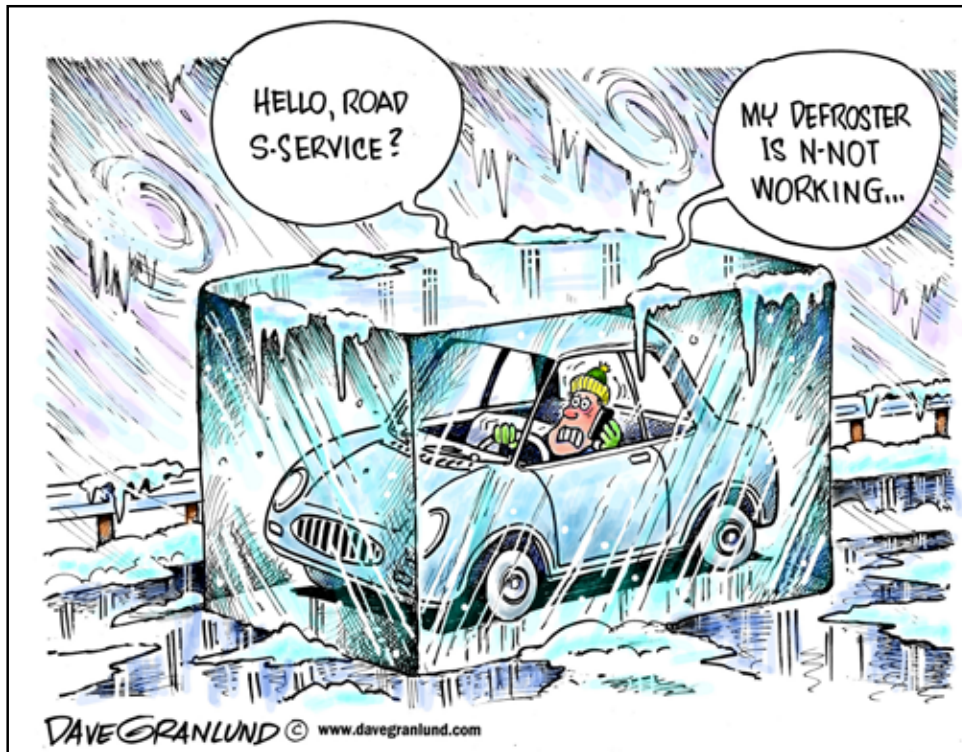
For additional clarity, the Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount is a supplemental amount added to the standard Medicare premium for those with higher incomes. The thresholds at which the IRMAA supplements apply depend on your IRS filing status, and your MAGI determines the amount of supplement which will be added to the standard Medicare premium.

Single filers with MAGI over \$103,000 or married filers with MAGI over \$206,000 will see an IRMAA supplement added to their Medicare premium. Those whose MAGI is under the first IRMAA threshold pay the standard Medicare premium, but those whose MAGI exceeds the first IRMAA threshold above will pay more.

How much more depends on how much their MAGI exceeds the first IRMAA threshold by. The IRMAA supplement (the additional premium amount) could be anywhere from \$69.90 to \$419.30 per month for Medicare Part B (coverage for outpatient services) or an additional \$12.90 to \$81.00 per month to the Medicare Part D (prescription drug plan) premium - again dependent on how much over the initial MAGI threshold the person is for their IRS filing status. You can see the MAGI levels and corresponding IRMAA supplements by visiting this Medicare website at www.cms.gov/newsroom/fact-sheets/2024-medicare-parts-b-premiums-and-deductibles.

IRMAA and MAGI can be confusing. If people have questions about their Medicare premiums, help is available by emailing ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org or calling 1-888-750-2622.

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.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Not an adequate representation

Dear Editor,

Your January 24, 2025 article about the South Hadley Planning Board quoted Planning Board "background material" that mischaracterized the reasons the Flexible Development bylaw amendment was defeated at the November 2024 Town Meeting.

The opposition was organized and succeeded because the bylaw amendment was flawed. It would not have accomplished its purported goals of balancing new housing with conservation; the protection of open natural space; and protection of our town's tree cover, something many residents and town meeting members want.

In addition to those defects, the bylaw drastically reduced the required parcel size for cluster housing, (flexible development), from 5 acres to 3 acres, while at the same time significantly increasing the allowed density of housing. With 50% of a 3-acre lot set aside as "open space," up to 11 housing units would have been permitted on just 1.5 acres. Plus, up to 10% of the of so-called

open space could have been paved. This would have been allowed on potentially 326 parcels all over town, including in the Fire District 2 water supply protection zone.

On top of all that, The Planning Board proposed giving up its power to say "no" to a developer. Cluster housing/flexible development would have been permitted with Site Plan Review, rather than through the stronger Special Permit process.

The Flexible Development amendment and associated new bylaws most likely would have been approved at Town Meeting if the Planning Board had listened to residents' concerns: if the bylaw hadn't increased the allowed density while dropping the parcel size; if it had not included the water supply protection zone as a place for cluster housing; and if it had truly protected the environment and saved tree cover.

Sincerely,

Linda Sachs
Town Meeting Member, Precinct D
South Hadley



Creating a "wow" factor at home

This past week I've been hard at work trying to come up with new and exciting garden ideas for the entrance areas of Old Sturbridge Village.

It's a job I've done for decades now, and maybe I take for granted how cool it is to work for a place that many people visit each year. I want to give visitors something to rave about with my color combinations and plant selections!

Read on, straight from the archives, to bring some of this "wow factor" attitude home to your own landscape.

How often have you visited an outdoor museum, amusement park or resort and felt inspired by the gardens or container plantings used to adorn the property? Chances are you may have even used an especially delightful display as a backdrop for a family photo or two.

Tourist attractions such as these put

"their best foot forward" each season of the year to awe their customers with spectacular combinations of unique plants, so that no matter when the visit is planned, the guest leaves with the feeling something special was done in their honor.

We can treat our home gardens in a similar fashion. Why not? Certainly we deserve to have exceptional plantings, for our own enjoyment and for the compliments they will elicit from our friends.

So instead of utilizing border plantings that provide only glimpses of color in the spring, summer and fall, devote entire beds to the showiest plants available for the time of year and change them with the seasons.

These types of gardens don't have to be very large, but they do have to be situated for optimal effect. Think "location, location, location!"

If you have a long driveway, consider placing a "welcome garden" just as you turn down the path. Since it will be viewed from a distance, and from a single vantage point, make the bed more wide than narrow, and raise the height of the soil in the back of the bed a bit for a multidimensional appearance.

Utilize large, bold flowers, bright colors, and strong foliage forms- these will capture the eye en route.

Which door do you or guests normally use to enter and exit the house? Plant a small garden nearby, one that can be admired up close, each time you pass by it.

Please see **GARDEN**, page 11

OPINION PAGE/ LETTERS 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 townreminder@turley.com. Mailed letters can be sent to Town Reminder, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

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TOWN Reminder TEAM

EDITORIAL

townreminder@turley.com



ADVERTISING SALES

Maureen
McGarrett Hall
mmcgarrett@turley.com



SPORTS EDITOR

Greg Scibelli
sports@turley.com



STAFF WRITER

Emily-Rose Pappas
epappas@turley.com

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PATRICK H. TURLEY
CEO

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South Hadley Public Library closed Feb. 6-7

SOUTH HADLEY—The South Hadley Public Library will be closed to the public on Thursday, Feb. 6 and Friday, Feb. 7 due to a carpet replacement project. The location of the work will make the building inaccessible. Staff will be monitoring email and phone calls. No items checked out from SHPL will be due on those days and patrons are asked to return them to the Gaylord Memorial Library or hold on to their items until the following week.

There will be extended hours and programs at the Gaylord branch on Thursday, Feb. 6. The Gaylord Memorial Library at 47 College Street will open early at 9:30 a.m. and there will be a full slate of programs that day: children's programs in the morning and afternoon, an after school teen crafternoon program, and the popular Spice Club (registration required) for adults in the evening. On Friday morning, children's storytime will take place at Gaylord at 10:30 a.m. The online calendar, on the library's website, has more information on programs.

People with questions or concerns are asked to contact Library Director Joseph Rodio by email: jrodio@cw-mars.org or phone: 413-538-5045.

PROJECT from page 1

this program are given a radio frequency signal that is unique to the client who wears it.

"If an enrolled client goes missing, the caregiver will notify the South Hadley Police Department, and a trained emergency team will respond to the wanderer's area with specialized receivers that will help triangulate the direction of the signal and help locate the client.

Project Lifesaver is designed for clients with cognitive conditions like autism, dementia, or a traumatic brain injury who have wandered off or are at risk of wandering off.

"In addition to these clients, the program can help provide peace of mind to the family members and caregivers. It also benefits first responders if a client does in fact wander," said Tebo.

"In communities where Project Lifesaver is in use, the recovery time is on average 30 minutes, which is 95% less time that standard operations without the program and equipment can take."

People who are eligible for the program must be residents of South Hadley and have a diagnosis of a cognitive conditions like autism, dementia, TBI, and others.

To add, people who have wandered away in the past or are at risk of wandering, people who do not drive a motor vehicle, or doesn't take public transportation without supervision, and needs constant supervision and monitoring from a



responsible adult.

You can contact Officer Emily Tebo for more information about the program, to learn if they qualify, or to discuss the sign-up process, you can call her at 413-538-8231 ext. 6403.

"I am most excited for it to be put in place. I do not ever want to have to use it, but having people sign up some of the most vulnerable members of our community is great," said Tebo.

The equipment has to be purchased, and it can be discussed on an individual basis for people who are interested. People can also contact their individual insurance to see if they would cover the cost.

This new program will be a wonderful addition to the town of South Hadley and its residents and will help to create a safer town. You can find more information as well through the website, www.projectlifesaver.org.

BLACK HOLE from page 1

of the greatest enigmas in modern science," said Joshi.

A black hole is a part of space where the gravity is so powerful that not even light can escape it.

The singularity is the part of a black hole where the gravity is the strongest, and the event horizon is the boundary around the singularity where nothing can escape.

Black holes form from the remnants of the death of a star, and when these giants undergo nuclear fission, the pressure on the outside balances the inward pulls of gravity, and when the fusion fuel runs out, the star collapses under its own gravity.

Black holes are found all across the universe, and some are formed at the death of stars, and others lie at the center of the galaxies, and escape from a black hole is nearly impossible.

A black hole's gravitational pull is so powerful that it traps the fastest moving things in the universe and defies the laws of physics.

"Space has this incredible ability to inspire wonder and imagination, and I love being able to connect people to the science behind that. Watching someone's face light up when they learn about what could lie beyond black holes or the possibility of habitable planets reminds me why I fell in love with astronomy in the first place," said Joshi.

Black holes are a "cosmic puzzle," and challenge the way we understand the universe, but physics, too. Studying them helps us understand the formation of the galaxy, as well as the universe's structure.

Black holes "feed" on nearby gas and dust and release vast amounts of energy that can affect the galaxies where large black holes are found, preventing the way stars are able to form.

"Programs like this presentation are a way for me to encourage and support others who may be curious about space but haven't had the resources or exposure to pursue it," said Joshi. "Sharing these topics is a small way to help make astronomy more inclusive, accessible, and inspiring for everyone."

The presentation gave more information on how black holes can have an impact on how galaxies form, and the shapes of them, too, as stars are born and die in an endless cycle of energy and light.

Black holes can even collide with one another, resulting in ripples in space-time, which scientists call gravitational waves.

The possibilities of what happens when matter crosses the event horizon of a black hole are limitless, and some even speculate that black holes could be potential portals to other universes as matter that enters them."

"Black holes push the limits of our knowledge, combining both science and imagination," said Joshi in her presentation.

As Stephen Hawking said, "Black holes aren't as black as they are painted. They are not the eternal prisons they were once thought. Things can get out of a black hole, both to the outside, and possible to another universe."

The wonders of space are limitless, and all you have to do is look to the skies and wonder, wonder about the possibility of what more could be out there.

General Nutrition with the Foodbank of WMass

CHICOPEE - The Council on Aging will host a General Nutrition Workshop on Tuesday, Feb. 18 at 10 a.m. at Chicopee Council on Aging's RiverMills Center, 5 West Main St.

The Food Bank of Western Massachusetts will be at RiverMills Center for a general nutrition program and healthy food demonstration. Registration is required.



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Valentine's Dinner For Two

Friday, February 14th

in our Upstairs Hall

\$75 per person

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 Shrimp Cocktail, Stuffed Mushrooms and Crudit e
Entr es for Two
 8 oz. Filet Mignon and Stuffed Lobster Tail with Roasted Red Potatoes and Garlic Parmesan Asparagus
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 Mini Raspberry Swirl Cupid Cakes
Glass of Wine for Two
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Nomination Papers for the
South Hadley Fire District No. 2 Annual Election
 are available at District 2 headquarters, 20 Woodbridge Street beginning January 27, 2025 for the following:

Prudential Committee (3 year)
 Water Commissioner (3 year)

Nomination papers with a minimum of ten (10) signatures are due back to the District Clerk's office, 20 Woodbridge Street, by Noon on February 18, 2025. Annual District Election will be held April 8, 2025 from 7:00 am to 8:00 p.m. at South Hadley High School, 153 Newton Street.

COLLEGE NEWS

President's list fall 2024 at Nichols College

Nolan Sullivan of Granby, has achieved president's list honors for the fall 2024 semester at Nichols College.

AIC dean's list fall 2024

American International College in Springfield, is proud to announce that 473 students have earned a place on the dean's list for the fall 2024 semester. These full-time students have attained GPAs ranging from 3.3 to 4.0. AIC applauds the dedication and achievements of these enterprising students.

Kamdyn Lopez of Granby, majoring in Management

Ireland Stevenson of South Hadley, majoring in Educational Studies

Gabrielle Walz of Granby, majoring in Health Science

University of Rhode Island names area students to Fall 2024 Dean's List

The University of Rhode Island is pleased to announce that several area students have been named to its Fall 2024 Dean's List. To be included on the Dean's List, full-time students must have completed 12 or more credits for letter grades which are GPA applicable during a semester and achieved at least a 3.30 quality point average. Part-time students qualify with the accumulation of 12 or more credits for letter grades which are GPA applicable earning at least a 3.30 quality point average. Among them are:

Sam Desautels of South Hadley
Chris Misiaszek of Granby
Alexa Wiesel of Granby

Bouyea named to University of Alabama fall 2024 Deans List

A total of 14,631 students enrolled Fall Semester 2024 at The University of Alabama were named to the dean's list with an academic record of 3.5 (or above) or the president's list with an academic record of 4.0 (all A's).

Jocelynn Bouyea was named to The University of Alabama Deans List for Fall Semester 2024.

Anna Maria College announces Fall semester 2024 Dean's List

Anna Maria College recently announced academic honors for students named to the Dean's List for Fall 2024 Semester. Anna Maria College awards Dean's List recognition to students enrolled in a full-time undergraduate day program in good standing who have attained in the previous semester a GPA of 3.5 with no grade lower than "B" for a minimum of four courses.

The following Massachusetts students achieved Dean's List:

Tyler Mayer of South Hadley

Marjanski named to fall 2024 Dean's List

Paige Marjanski, a member of the Class of 2025 from South Hadley, MA, has been named to the Fall 2024 Dean's List at Stonehill College. To qualify for the Dean's List, students must have a semester grade point average of 3.50 or higher and must have successfully completed all courses for which they were registered.

Dog licenses now available

SOUTH HADLEY— All dogs 6 months and older must be licensed annually in Massachusetts. It is important to license your dog annually, not only because it is the law, but because it will help reunite you and your pet if they escape, and help limit the spread of rabies in our community.

Renewal applications for dog licenses must be submitted by March 31, 2025, to avoid a \$5 late fee.

Fees for dog licenses in South Hadley are as follows: Spayed/Neutered dogs: \$15.00 per dog and Unspayed/Unneutered dogs: \$20.00 per dog.

Dog licenses may be purchased via any of the following ways: Online through OpenGov here: <https://south-hadley.ma.portal.opengov.com/categories/1084/record-types/6425>; In-person in the Town Clerk's Office at 116 Main St. Please bring cash or a check for the fee and a current copy of the rabies

certificate. Office hours are Monday through Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Fridays 8:30 a.m. to noon.; By mail using the insert at the bottom of the Census (to be mailed by late January), including the proper fee, a current copy of the rabies certificate, and a self-addressed envelope with 2 stamps.

Remember also to take the PUP Pledge. Help ensure your pet's waste does not wash with the next storm into drain pipes that flow into a nearby stream, river, or lake. Take the pledge now by visiting <https://thinkblueconnecticutriver.org/pup-pledge-form/>.

Any questions, comments, or concerns may be directed to the Town Clerk's Office by phone at 413-538-5030, ext. 6183, or by email at townclerk@southhadley.ma.gov. More information is available at www.southhadley.org/dog-licenses.

Davis Foundation gives gift to local farmer awards

SOUTH HADLEY—The Irene E. and George A. Davis Foundation has become the newest lead funding partner with a contribution to the Local Farmer Awards. The Local Farmer Awards is in its 11th year providing annual grants of up to \$2,500 to Western Massachusetts farmers helping them purchase capital equipment used as an ongoing part of farm operations.

Harold Grinspoon, whose foundation in partnership with Big Y, the Massachusetts Society for Promoting Agriculture, and in collaboration with 15 other community funders makes these awards possible, describes the Davis Foundation gift "a pivotal moment in our ability to help more deserving farmers."

Founded in 1970, the Davis Foundation has a rich legacy of local support. Kiley O'Meara, executive director, shares "The Davis Foundation is thrilled to join this program that supports and empowers

the local community."

The 2025 Local Farmer awards application is open until Jan. 31. To qualify to receive an award, project applications must be related to growing, harvesting, or processing of farm products. Past award winners have used the grants to expand planting areas, improve fencing to keep their animals healthy and safe, acquire machinery to produce items for market, and put in place a host of other efficiencies. A full list of eligibility criteria can be found on the website: farmerawards.org.

"Our generous community funders are fundamental to the program's success," says Mark Gold, director of the Harold Grinspoon Charitable Foundation. Gold adds, "we will have a complete list of 2025 funders available soon."

This year's Local Farmer Award winners will be announced in April.



Turley Photo by Emily-Rose Pappas

Jill's Boathouse Family and the members of her family and friends worked together to make this fundraiser possible.

STUDENT from page 1

"She means a lot to us as an employee and as a person. Anything we could do to help," said Grace Paulo, Jillian's manager at The Boathouse.

"She has an amazing personality. She's always happy, always smiling, and she's a really hard worker on top of it," said Paulo. "We have an entire restaurant filled with reservations, so the dedication of the community coming together to support her is amazing."

The night was filled with friends, family, coworkers, and members of the community coming together to enjoy a meal, and knowing that each food purchase was making a difference.

Team Jillian, a group of her dear friends and family, came together to start fundraising immediately, Scott and Mary Walsh from the fire department starting a t-shirt drive, and a Meal Train starting with sign-ups on the Facebook page.

"The Scotts are like family," said Lindsay Haesaert, a member of the Team Jill group. "The community has been amazing in supporting her."

"It means a lot to find so many ways to support her," said Stephanie Wall.

"The family helps a lot of people here, and they're just so loved by the community," said Elaine Phelps.

Jillian's mom works at Plains Elementary School, and her dad works on Fire District 1, her whole family an active presence in the South Hadley community, and the response to the fundraisers held for her and volunteering for the Meal Train is evidence of how much they are loved.

"It's really overwhelming at all the community support," said Joe Scott, Jillian's dad. "I'm taken back by it all."

"The support- everyone's coming together to support my sister which is just amazing," said Tyler Scott, her brig brother.

"I really admire her courageousness and strong will through all of this," said Joe.

"Her strength and ability to keep up a good attitude is inspiring," said Tyler.

Jill has touched many lives here in South Hadley, from the friends who immediately rallied behind her, to family members, to neighbors and friends who have become family.

Cancer can be a daunting and scary thing to endure, but with people to love and care for you, it is easier to bare.

ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION

LIVING WELL AFTER THE DIAGNOSIS

JANUARY 31, 2025

PRESENTED VIRTUALLY

9:30 AM (EDT)

Hosted by the Alzheimer's Association
New England Chapters:
CT, MA/NH, ME, RI, VT

Designed for individuals living with early-stage dementia and their care partners.

<https://www.alz.org/manh/events/living-well-after-the-diagnosis>

PRESENTATIONS

9:30 - 10:30 AM
Opening Remarks & Keynote, Living Well: Panel of Individuals Living with Dementia; Presented by Meghan Lemay, MS, and Panelists
This session will highlight what it is like to live with Alzheimer's disease and other dementia. Panelists will discuss coping with the diagnosis and combating the stigma associated with the disease. They will also talk about the importance of disease education, social engagement, and having a voice in your own care.

10:30 - 10:45 AM: Break

10:45 AM - 12:00 PM: *Living Well with Cognitive Challenges: Tips and Strategies Presented by Julie Brody Magid, PsyD*
Establishing a more simplified routine and schedule can be helpful and affect one's well-being. This session will review cognitive strategies to help manage common difficulties encountered in daily life with the goal of improving feelings of well-being and self-reliance. Specifically it will focus on how to develop a person-centered roadmap to optimize meaning, structure and appropriate levels of stimulation.

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Maddie Soderbaum rushes toward the hoop.



Kiana Ramos brings in a pass.

Offense carries Tigers to 11th win

MONSON – Last Wednesday night, Monson High School girls basketball suffered another loss, this one coming against league rival South Hadley 57-34. The Mustangs fell to 3-7 on the regular season. Olivia Chrzan, who is continuing to score points for the Mustangs, scored 31 of Monson’s 34 points in the game. South Hadley continued to see a balanced scoring attack. In this matchup, 12 different players got into the game, and all registered points for the Tigers, led by Olivia Athas with 10 points. The Tigers are now 11-1 on the season and have scored a spot in the state tournament and are likely for the Western Mass. Tournament. Despite the below .500 record, Monson is currently ranked No. 14 in the Division 5 power rankings, and would make the state tournament if it stays that way.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com



Olivia Athas sets to shoot.



Cianna Gurek holds the ball back before rushing the hoop.



Cara Dean gets the open layup.



Tahlia Asarese goes for the layup under pressure.

Pacers co-op suffers loss to Easthampton

HOLYOKE – It has been a struggle for the Chicopee co-op ice hockey team once again. Though the Pacers, which co-op with Granby, South Hadley, Chicopee Comprehensive, and PVCIC, have improved this season, they have one win in their last five games. That win was Jan. 18 against Montachusett Regional. The Pacers would tie Southwick 3-3 on Monday, Jan. 20, then suffered a one-goal loss last Friday night at Easthampton.

In the Easthampton loss, Chicopee got goals from Jake Fournier and Chris Walczak. The Pacers are 3-7-2, but likely need a .500 record to make tournament as they currently rank No. 42 in Division 4 hockey in the state.

Chicopee next faces East Boston at home on Saturday, Feb. 1 at 2 p.m.

Follow Turley Sports on Instagram

Turley Publications sports department has recently joined Instagram. You can find our account by searching “turleysports.” We will regularly feature samples of photos that you will see in our publications on a weekly basis. Please follow and share with your friends and loved ones. We will be featuring photos from all 11 of our sports sections, but as always, you can see all the photos that appear by subscribing to your local paper or picking up a copy in your community.

Indians snap Rams win streak

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

WARE—Having already clinched at least share of the Bi-County West League title for the third consecutive year, the Granby boys’ basketball team made the 25-minute trip to Ware High School last Thursday evening looking to win the league title outright.

The Indians, who are currently in second place in the league standings, put a damper on the Rams celebration plans with a 58-47 victory at Paul Orszulak Gymnasium.

“Granby is a talented basketball team and they’re well coached, so we do have a lot of respect for their program,” said Ware head coach Gene Rich. “I’m very proud of the way that my guys played in tonight’s game. This is an outstanding win

for our basketball program.” Granby, who saw their five game winning streak come to an end, had a 9-3 overall record and an 8-1 league record following the road loss. Their other two losses also took place on the road against Belchertown and Duggan Academy.

Ware (8-3, 9-2), who lost at Granby, 59-46, on January 11, hasn’t won a league title since 2019.

The Indians can tie for this year’s league title if they can beat archrival Palmer on the road and if the Rams lose at Monson. Both of those league games are scheduled to be held on Friday night.

“We prevented Granby from winning the league title outright in our gym, which just feels amazing” said Ware junior center Jack Gaudreau. “We still have a chance to tie them for

first place. All of us have been playing basketball together for a long time and this is a very special team.”

Gaudreau scored eight of his game-high 21 points during the first quarter with the help of three inside hoops and a pair of free throws, which helped the Indians build a 13-9 lead entering the second quarter.

It was the tenth time this season that Gaudreau has reached double digits. He scored a season-high 24 points in a win at Franklin Tech at the beginning of the regular season. He also scored 22 points in a home victory versus Southwick in the middle of January.

“I’ve scored a few more points in two other games this season, but I played with a lot of confidence in tonight’s game,”



Gaviera Fernandez is pressured as he goes for the basket.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Gavin Moreno shoots off-balance.

Please see RAMS, page 8



Jared Lapite, who won two events against Hampden Charter, competes in the medley relay.



Kiersten St. Lawrence does a leg of the 200 medley relay.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Linken Geddis swims the 200 freestyle.

Boys swimming defeats Hampden Charter

HOLYOKE – Last week, Holyoke boys swimming defeated Hampden Charter 90-14. Brady Pjar had a pair of wins in the 100 backstroke and the 200 freestyle. Jared Lapite also had two event wins. Holyoke boys swimming is 4-1.

Girls swimming was a winner over Hampden Charter 108-9. Alexis Lapite had two event wins in the meet for the Knights. The girls are 4-1 on the season.

The Knights co-op in swimming with South Hadley and Granby.



Laura Brown does her leg of a relay race.



Ibrahim Salloum heads down the lane in the 200 individual medley.



Hannah Raymond competes in the medley relay.

T-Birds fall in shootout against Bruins

SPRINGFIELD — The Springfield Thunderbirds (18-17-2-2) got a combined eight points from their top line but ultimately fell in a shootout by a 4-3 score to the Providence Bruins (23-13-3-1) last Saturday night before a seventh sellout crowd this season at the MassMutual Center.

T-Birds captain Matthew Peca got the capacity crowd energized just 3:48 into the first period, taking a slip pass from Matt Luff in the high slot and wiring a shot over Brandon Bussi's blocker to give Springfield the 1-0 advantage.

Springfield carried over their strong special teams night on Friday by dispatching the Bruins' lone power play of the first period, but the Providence attack kept pressing the issue. Georgii Merkulov evened the slate at 13:35 with a one-touch finish from just outside the blue paint, beating Vadim Zherenko upstairs to tie the score 1-1.

Neither team generated much offense in the closing minutes of the period, and the tie game carried into period two, with Providence outshooting Springfield 10-6 in the opening 20 minutes.

The Bruins vaulted to their first lead just 1:59 into the second period when Frederic Brunet found a home with a point shot off a faceoff play, making it 2-1. The T-Birds had a golden chance to get back in the game as they went to a

Please see **T-BIRDS**, page 9

RAMS from page 7

said Gaudreau, who also plays soccer and baseball. "We moved the ball very well offensively and we also played with a lot of energy."

Back-to-back jumpers by Granby senior guard Riley Goodhind (9 points) tied the score for the fourth time at 13-13 less than two minutes into the second quarter. Then senior guard Cody Breault (12 points) knocked down a 3-pointer from the left corner giving the visiting team its only lead of the game.

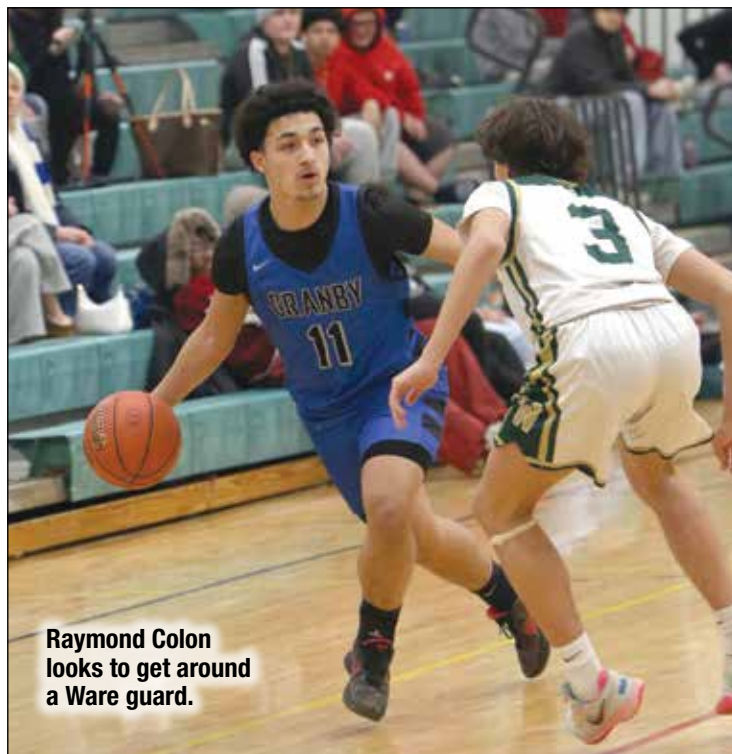
With 6:12 left in the first half, Gaudreau made a lay-up and added a free throw which started a 14-3 Ware run.

The Indians retook the lead at 19-16 when senior guard Jason Mumper buried a 3-pointer from the right corner. Senior forward Justin Grout (9 points) followed with a foul-line jumper.

Then Breault, who made a total of four 3-pointers in the game, buried his second 3-pointer closing the gap to two points.

The Indians second quarter run continued with a Gaudreau inside hoop, a Grout base-line lay-up and two free throws from junior forward Brady Guimond (5 points), which increased their lead to 27-19 with 1:46 left in the first half.

With 1.8 seconds showing on the scoreboard clock, Granby senior guard Gavier Fernandez Jr. made two foul shots cutting the Rams deficit to six points at



Raymond Colon looks to get around a Ware guard.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

halftime.

Fernandez, who scored 28 points in the first meeting of the regular season against Ware, scored 14 of his team leading 20 points during the second half of last Thursday's contest.

Gaudreau began the second half by making his first 3-pointer of the season from the right side.

With 4:40 left in the third quarter, the Rams were trailing, 30-26 following back-to-back lay-ups by Fernandez.

The Indians responded with

a 3-pointer from junior forward Alex Orszulak (5 points). He also made an inside hoop before senior guard Owen McKeever knocked down a 3-pointer pushing the lead into double digits (38-28) for the first time.

Just like he did at the start of the third quarter, Gaudreau ended the quarter by sinking another 3-pointer giving the home team a 45-34 advantage entering the final eight minutes.

Ware built a 15-point lead early in the fourth quarter after



Cody White gets a shot on the hoop.

junior guard Brodi Koczur buried a 3-pointer and Grout made a free throw.

The Rams then put-together a 10-0 run. With 2:30 remaining in regulation, Fernandez made a steal leading to a lay-up, which sliced the Rams deficit to 49-44. Grout ended Granby's run with an inside hoop.

With his team holding a 51-46 lead, Koczur hit another



Sawyer Clarke goes for the open layup.

3-pointer.

Koczur, whose older brother, Drew, was an outstanding three-sport athlete at Ware High School, scored all ten of his points during the final quarter. He made four foul shots during the final seconds, which sealed the victory and helped the Indians keep their league title hopes alive for another week.

Worcester's point streak ends in loss at Maine

PORTLAND, Me. – Worcester's eight-game points streak, second-longest in team history, ended here Friday night via a 4-2 loss to the Maine Mariners. The Railers fell behind very early, eventually trailed by 3-0, and were never able to summon the energy to come all the way back.

"I thought they were flat," coach Nick Tuzzolino said. "I thought they were emotionless in the first period. It was not my favorite game with that group."

The defeat was part of a bad standings night for Worcester. Two teams trailing them in the battle for the fourth playoff spot both won. Maine closed to within five points of Worcester and has three games in hand. Reading, suddenly very hot, also won.

The Royals are 5-0-1 in their last six games. They are just one point behind Worcester. Both teams have played 40 games.

Griffin Luce and Jordan Kaplan had the Worcester goals. Luce's was his fifth of the season, extending a career high.

Jacob Hudson, Tristan Thompson, Owen Pederson and Nick Jermain scored for Maine. Hudson made it 1-0

a mere 67 seconds into the game as the Railers got off to a tentative start.

Once again a Railers game was stagnated by goal reviews. There were two. Both went against Worcester. One was an overturn of a floating shot by Kaplan that went over goalie Maine goalie Ryan Bischel's glove with Griffin Loughran in front in the first period.

Right after that, Thompson scored a power play goal that looked like Michael Bullion was interfered with. That goal held up.

It was a game of hard feelings. There were 23 penalties called good for a combined total of 84 minutes, a season high.

Luce's goal came at 6:07 of the third period. It cut the Maine lead to 3-1 and was scored only 21 seconds after Pederson's goal. Kaplan scored on a pretty wraparound at 14:40 for the game's final goal

Bischel got the win as he stopped 27. Bullion made 28 saves for Worcester.

Recent Railers games have been overrun with goal reviews and it really takes away from the flow and momentum. Worcester's last eight games have averaged 2 hours, 37 minutes. That is well above standards from past seasons.

Jack Baldwin to take part in modified tour this season

Tommy Baldwin Racing announced Wednesday that Jack Baldwin will pilot the historic 7NY in over 20 Tour-Type Modified events during the 2025 season.

The bulk of the races will come on the SMART Modified Tour - as Baldwin will compete in the full 14-race calendar driving the 7NY. Jack has two SMART Modified Tour starts to his credit, scoring 5th and 8th place finishes in 2024.

Jack will also compete in the Tour-Type Modified events at New Smyrna Speedway's World Series of Asphalt Stock Car Racing from February 10-14, along with end of the season events at Riverhead Raceway (Islip 300) and Wall Stadium Speedway (Turkey Derby). Additional events may be announced at a later date.

Jack is the reigning 602 Modified champion at New Smyrna and has mul-

tipled 602 Modified wins. In 2025, he will chase his first career Tour-Type win.

"Jack has run select events the last few years but we're excited to have him a full season in the Tour-Type Modifieds to continue to gain experience and refine his skills behind the wheel," team owner Tommy Baldwin Jr. said. "He will be running against stout competition in every race he runs."

"I'm definitely excited to get the chance to race on the SMART Modified Tour full-time," Jack said. "Watching the series the last few years, you can tell the racing is tight and the competition is unlike anything else when it comes to Modified racing in the south. Driving the 7NY and working with our family team all year will be special. Excited to kick it off with Speedweeks at New Smyrna."

Granby Lions Club Valentine Dance

GRANBY—The Granby Lions Club will be having a "Valentine Dance" from 6:30 – 9:30 p.m. on Saturday, Feb. 8 at the Granby American Legion Hall on Pleasant St. in Granby. Tickets are limited and are available from any Granby Lion or at the Legion bar. The cost is \$10 and will feature The James Germano Band as well as a cash bar.



Obituary

Dr. Gerald LaVerne Paist

Dr. Gerald LaVerne Paist ("Gerry") passed away peacefully at Harrisburg Hospital on January 24, 2025. He was a resident of Country Meadows Mechanicsburg since April 2024.



Born in Williamsport, PA, Gerry was the son of Thomas Holland Paist, Jr. and Ethel Ann (Hubbell) Paist. He grew up in Willow Grove, PA and attended the Upper Moreland School District, where he graduated Valedictorian of the class of 1957.

Gerry was very active in Scouting and attained the rank of Eagle Scout. During his senior year, Gerry was selected to tour Europe with the World Friendship Organization. While there, he visited 18 European countries and received the Queen's Scout Badge, the highest award in English Scouting.

Following high school graduation, Gerry earned a B.S. in Mathematics from Lafayette College and Masters and Doctoral Degrees In Educational Administration from Harvard University.

After teaching Mathematics at Stoneham and Framingham School Districts, Gerry served as Assistant Dean of Westfield University in Massachusetts. He then became the Superintendent/Director of Pathfinder Regional Vocational Technical High School, where he served for 47 years. Currently he is the longest running School Superintendent in the United States.

Gerry will be remembered lovingly by his sister, Susan Hubbell Whyte (Howard) of Carlisle, niece, Kimberly Eshbach Barger (Chad) of Mechanicsburg and grand nephews, Alec Barger and Chase Barger. Burial will be private at West Laurel Hill Cemetery in Bala Cynwyd, PA.

The family would like to thank Country Meadows Mechanicsburg and UPMC Harrisburg for the excellent care given to Gerry. Also, the family would like to express their gratitude to Greg Salois, Eric Duda, Jim Jyz, Dan Whaley, Scott Moynihan, Mark Moynihan and Tim Moriarty for their ongoing support and friendship.

Memorial donations can be sent to: Pathfinder Vocational Technical High School, 240 Sykes Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

Services will be private and at the convenience of the family.

DEATH NOTICE

Dr. Gerald LaVerne Paist
Died Jan. 24, 2025
Services are private
Neill Funeral Home

Town Reminder OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

One is a free, brief **Death Notice** listing the name of deceased, date of death and funeral date and place.

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

Exceptions will be made only when the family provides a death certificate and must be pre-paid.

T-BIRDS from page 8

4-on-3 power play shortly after the Brunet tally, but Bussi and the Providence penalty killers held the fort.

Later in the frame, with Providence on a power play, Ian Mitchell rocketed a one-timer past Zherenko, and the visitors' lead grew to 3-1 at 11:04 of the frame.

In desperate need of a spark, Peca and the top line provided one at 15:32 when the captain entered the zone and lifted a shot over the net. Fortunately enough, the puck careened right to the side of the goal, where MacKenzie MacEachern jabbed it through Bussi to bring Springfield back to within a goal, 3-2. With the good fortune, the veteran winger picked up his fifth goal in his last nine games.

On the very next shift, MacEachern and Peca were at it again, with the captain spotting MacEachern behind the net, and the winger blindly throwing a perfect pass in front of the goal to Luff, who mashed it

home before Bussi could position himself and, thanks to two goals in just 18 seconds, the game was tied, 3-3, heading into the third.

Springfield kept pressing in the final period, but Bussi and the top defensive squad in the AHL kept the home side from gaining the advantage. Zherenko was also up to the challenge, stopping five shots in the third, including a dangerous close-in chance for Fabian Lysell in the dying minutes.

3-on-3 overtime proved to be a showcase of the two netminders' skills, as Bussi and Zherenko traded spectacular saves during the frenetic five-minute frame. Each team had four chances to ice the game, but thanks to the goalies, a shootout would be needed.

Merkulov ultimately made the difference, beating Zherenko in the opening round of the skills competition, while Bussi turned away Tanner Dickinson, forced Luff to hit a post, and then stonewalled Dalibor Dvorsky to earn the extra point for Providence.

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HELP WANTED

ACTIVITIES COORDINATOR

Council on Aging for the Town of Oakham is seeking an experienced Activities Coordinator.

Miscellaneous duties to include supporting current programs and developing new programs to increase attendance and participation of the growing aging population in the Oakham Senior Center. Up to 12 hours per week (flexible) \$20.00/hr. depending upon experience. Resume should be sent to **Admin@Oakham-Ma.gov** or mailed to **Board of Selectmen, Town of Oakham, 2 Coldbrook Road, Oakham, MA 01068.**

COA COORDINATOR for Town of Westhampton. Description available online at **www.westhamptonma.gov**. Applications accepted until position filled.

HAMPDEN POLICE DEPARTMENT is now accepting applications for a **FULL-TIME police officer**. Review of applications begins immediately. Visit **www.hampdenpolice.com** for more information. EOE

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

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TOWN OF BARRE

Cemetery Clerk

The Town of Barre is seeking qualified applicants for the part-time position of Cemetery Clerk. This position is approximately 10 hours per week and the minimum hourly rate is \$15.00/hour and the maximum hourly rate is \$18.02/hour. A full job description is available upon request. Applicants must have HS Diploma or GED, with a minimum of two to three years' experience in office setting, or equivalent combination of education and experience.

Interested applicants should submit a letter of interest to: **Tammy Martin, Town Administrator, 40 West Street, Suite 697, Barre MA 01005** or **townadmin@townofbarre.com**.

For further information, please contact the Board of Selectmen's Office at (978) 355-2504 x135. **A.A. / E.O.E.**

WILBRAHAM UNITED CHURCH is hiring a sexton three evenings, 7-10 hours per week, \$16 per hour. Additional compensation for hours needed for weddings and funerals.

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More information found at **www.wilbrahamunitedchurch.org/about-us-2/**

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Public Notices

TOWN OF SOUTH HADLEY PLANNING BOARD NOTICE OF HYBRID PUBLIC HEARING

The Planning Board will hold a hybrid public hearing on **Monday, February 10, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.** to consider an application for Special Permit filed by Robert Szklarz, Colonial Carpentry Innovations Inc, c/o William and Meghan Mcissac, 3 Roundelay Road, to construct an addition on a dimensionally nonconforming structure at 3 Roundelay Road Assessor's Map 20 Parcel 9, pursuant to the Zoning Bylaw Article IX (Special Permit); 255-7 (Existing uses, buildings and structures; nonconforming uses); and the Zoning Use and Dimensional Regulation Schedules.

The public hearing will be held through hybrid format with in-person attendance to be located in the multipurpose room of the South Hadley Senior Center, 45 Dayton Street South Hadley MA 01075. Virtual attendance will be hosted through the log-in information below:

URL to join: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85119424056?pwd=bHwFbTbG4DuxWEqfIgoXY2NWsCTDj.1>

Or join by phone: +1 (301) 715 8592 Webinar ID: 851 1942 4056 Passcode: 558960

The project location is within the Residence A-1 Zoning District and is an existing single family home.

The application is on file in the Planning & Conservation Department Office (Room U6) in Town Hall and is posted at www.southhadley.org on the Planning Department page under 'Permit Applications' - 'Special Permit' under section 'Roundelay Road (3) - Alteration/Expansion of Nonconforming Structure' or can be viewed at: <https://www.southhadley.org/1181/Special-Permits>. Any person interested in, or wishing to be heard, should appear/join the hearing at the time and in the manner designated. This meeting is being conducted consistent with Chapter 2 of the Acts of 2023 which extends the March 2020 Governor's Order suspending certain provisions of the Open Meeting Law MGL Ch. 30A Sec. 20 until March 31, 2025.

Joanna Brown, Clerk
South Hadley Planning Board
01/24, 01/31/2025

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING TOWN OF GRANBY BOARD OF APPEALS

The Granby Board of Appeals will hold the following Public Hearings on **February 18, 2025**, at 259-A East State Street, (Public Safety Complex, Meeting Room), Granby MA 01033.

5:30 PM- to consider the petition of Jason Richard, Applicant/Owner seeking a variance of Section III- Regulations, 3, Table 2. - Dimensional and Density Regulation, regarding insufficient minimum front setbacks and insufficient minimum side setbacks regarding a proposed construction of a RV roof only carport located at 17 Cold Hill Dr., known as 3-A-B-11 in the Town of Granby, MA.

In addition to the above hearing, the Board of Appeals intends to conduct a public meeting following said hearings as time permits. This notice is given pursuant to Chapter 40A and Chapter 39, Section 23B of the Massachusetts General Laws.

Kathleen Bronner, Chair
Granby Board of Appeals
01/31, 02/07/25

Springfield, MA 01105

2010 Chevrolet Impala
VIN: 2G1WB5EK3A1226799
Jonathan Javier Rodriguez
Martinez
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Springfield, MA 01108

By: Wm Forget
01/15/2025

This notice has been given under the provisions of G.L. c. 255, Section 39A. 01/24, 01/31, 02/07/2025

TOWN OF SOUTH HADLEY MASSACHUSETTS

BOARD OF HEALTH SETS AMENDED RENTAL REGISTRY REGULATION

Town of South Hadley Amended Rental Registry Regulations were passed by the South Hadley Board of Health. Copies may be obtained at the Board of Health Office.

Christine McKiernan, MD, Chair
Michael Rosner, MD, Vice Chair
Karen Walsh Pio, Clerk
01/31/2025

Notice of Sale of Motor Vehicle under G.L. c. 255, Section 39A

Notice is hereby given by DM Towing LLC, 254 Old Lyman Road, South Hadley, MA 01075 pursuant to the provisions of G.L. C. 255, Section 39A, that on 02/07/2025 at 12:00 PM at 254 Old Lyman Road, South Hadley, MA by private auction the following motor vehicles will be sold to satisfy the garagekeeper's lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicle.

2016 Acura ILX
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Reynaldo Schelmetty
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- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

Public notice deadlines are Mondays at noon, Fridays noon for Monday holidays.

visit www.publicnotices.turley.com



GARDEN from page 4

Here, the intricacies of color and form can be fully appreciated, whereas in the garden out front they would be lost. Experiment with a variety of flower and foliage shapes and color schemes.

Don't be afraid to use delicate or small flowers, or those that are mottled or two-tone. Likewise, variegated and cut-leaf foliage can make for interesting inspection if properly paired with surrounding plants.

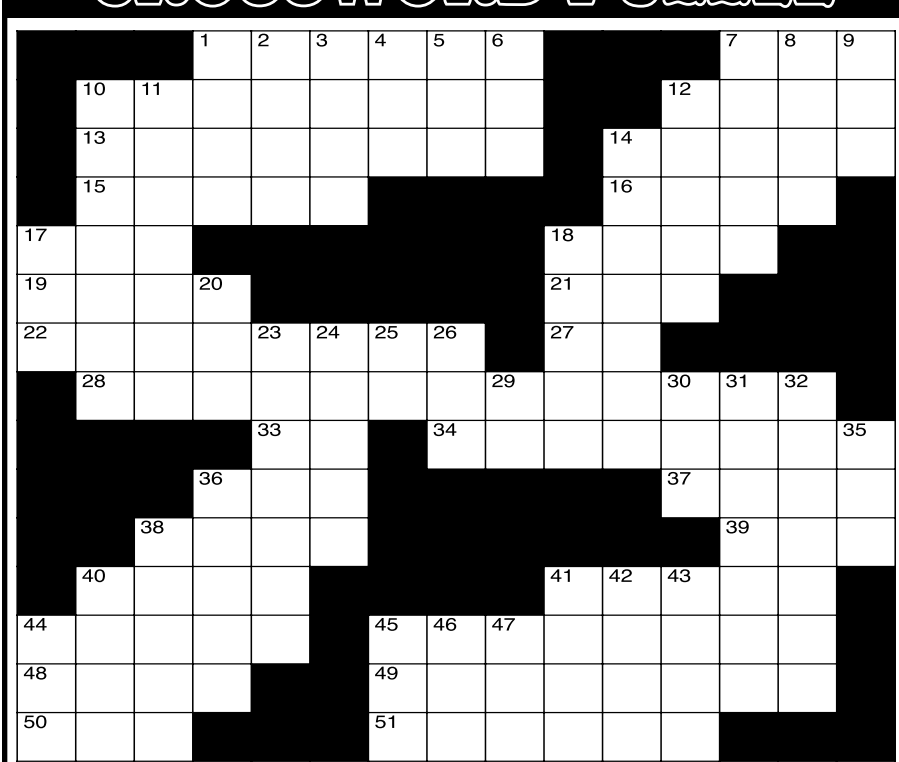
Similar beds or container plantings can be planned for patio or pool-side, or for other areas within the landscape that might be suitable for entertaining. Simply tailor the gardens to the timeframe in

which these locations are used most often, and choose your plants accordingly.

Next week we will get into the "nitzy-gritty" of each of the three seasons: spring, summer and fall, and how to capture the essence of each in your plantings. You too can have museum quality gardens within your home landscape!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 33 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.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



CLUES ACROSS

1. Where entertainers perform
7. Miller beer variety
10. Ageless
12. River in SE Europe
13. Able to be repaired
14. Type of wrap
15. Atomic #54
16. Type of tent
17. U.S. Treasury position
18. Opposed to
19. Protective covering
21. Bridge building degree
22. Clouding of the lens
27. Priestess of Hera loved by Zeus
28. Unacceptable
33. Mr. T's "The A-Team" character
34. American national

CLUES DOWN

36. One point south of due east
37. Assist in a crime
38. Greek mythological personification of Earth
39. A major division of geological time
40. German courtesy title
41. English family dating back to Norman times
44. Discounts
45. South American nation
48. Former Milwaukee Buck Michael
49. Hostile
50. Passports and drivers licenses are two
51. Discourages from doing

CLUES DOWN

1. Supreme god of ancient Egyptians
2. Nevada city
3. Energy, style and enthusiasm
4. Bird's beak
5. Language
6. Midway between south and southeast
7. Punjab village
8. Small biting flies
9. Sportscaster Patrick
10. A way to get around
11. Repeat
12. A way to cook with fat
14. Temporary loss of consciousness
17. Reciprocal of a sine
18. Fir tree genus
20. "Transformers" director Michael
23. Criminals who steal
24. Genus of leaf-footed bug
25. Music product
26. "Talk to you"
29. Santa says it three times
30. Doctors' group
31. African nation
32. Ageless
35. When you hope to get somewhere
36. Worn
38. Deprives of vigor
40. Used to have (Scottish)
41. Where you live
42. Muslim ruler title
43. Basics
44. Type of drug (abbr.)
45. Spanish soldier
46. It precedes two
47. Illuminated

All About Town

GRANBY



Get to know your town employees: Jenn Crosby

By Emily-Rose Pappas
Staff Writer
epappas@turley.com

GRANBY – As part of a new addition to the papers, we are looking to add in features of our town employees to recognize and thank them for their hard work and dedication.

These town employees are what help keep our communities running, providing resources, help, information, fun events, organization, and more for us to enjoy.

Here is an interview with Granby Free Public Library's Director, Jenn Crosby.

What is your favorite thing about the town?

"My favorite thing about Granby is that it is a small, tight-knit town with a great sense of community."

What do you do in your position?

"I am the Library Director. My main responsibility is the everyday operations of the Library; leading staff, overseeing programs and services to make sure they meet community needs, managing the budget, collection development, and planning for the future."

Describe an average day at the office?

"I arrive hours before Library opening to help with the behind-the-scenes tasks to get the Library up and running and ready for the public. We process book delivery, pull paging list holds, empty book returns and shelve books. I spend the first part of my morning welcoming our patrons and overseeing staff.

I spend the afternoon in my office completing tasks related to budgeting, payroll, book ordering, report completion, statistics, preparing for meetings, etc. On a typical day, I end the afternoon by being front-and-center at the Circulation Desk to help patrons as needed and close down the Library for the day. A lot of other running around and behind the scenes things take place; way too many to list!"

Tell me a bit about you. Are you a resident? What's your education?

"I am a resident of Granby and have been for a great deal of my life. I graduated from Granby Jr. Sr. High School in the year 2000 and went on to attend Elms College, graduating with a Bachelor's Degree in Psychology. I then attended The University of Rhode Island, graduating in 2009 with a degree of Master of Library and Information Studies. I have been the Library Director here since 2007."

What other departments or committees/boards do you work closely with?

"I tend to work more closely with other community groups through the Friends of the Granby Library group, which hosts all of our fundraising and community events. We most recently held a Non-Profit Volunteer Fair through which I was able to work closely with GCAM and other groups. I work with the Board of Library Trustees, who govern the Library's building, policies, budget, staff, etc. The Library often collaborates with many organizations in town, including local school groups, homeschool groups, childcare centers, the Council on Aging, and many others."

What is the most fulfilling part of your job?

"The most fulfilling part of my job is getting to help the general public and being part of such a wonderful community."

What inspired you to take on the position?

"I had volunteered for the Granby Library since I was a young teen and worked part-time as the Cataloguer/Circulation Assistant prior to becoming the Library Director.

I grew up going to our Library and spending so much of my time there, falling in love with books. Helping people has always been my main goal in my career path, so it only felt natural to continue to acquire a position in a place that would allow me



TURLEY PHOTO SUBMITTED BY EMILY-ROSE PAPPAS

Jenn Crosby, Granby Free Public Library's wonderful director.

to do that, especially within my own beloved community."

Where is your office located? What are your office hours?

"My office is located down the hall behind the Library's Circulation Desk. I have a public access door within the Adult Stacks that can be knocked on any time! My office hours are typically 12:00pm - 4:30pm (Tues, Weds, Fri) and 12:00pm - 6:00pm (Thurs), but I can always be flexible for meetings."

What is the history of your department? What makes it unique from others?

"The Granby Free Public Library was established in 1891 with the mission to provide the Granby Community with the tools and opportunities to improve themselves and their quality of life while promoting literacy, the enjoyment of reading and life-long learning through the provision of equal access to library materials, services, facilities, technology, resources and programs to meet the educational, informational, social, cultural and recreational needs for residents of all ages and abilities. It seeks to promote endeavors to stimulate and expand the reading interests of children and adults,

and to coordinate this work with other educational, social, and cultural groups in the community."

"In other words, our Library is the hub of the community. We strive to be a community space for everyone throughout every age and stage of life."

What do you want the community to know about your position?

"I love my job immensely! I get to see members of our community grow and learn and that is very rewarding. I get to help people do research to pass their classes, print documents to help them file important paperwork, join a Book Group to enrich their social lives, and even just find a great book that they never would have picked up before that will take them to another world and ease the stress of their everyday lives. Also, it's a surprisingly busy job! We stay busy, especially in the summer months, and there is always something to be done to help our Library and our community evolve. I am so grateful for the opportunity to meet so many wonderful community members, gain lifetime friendships, and be an important part of our Town!"

Friends put together library scholarship program

GRANBY – The Friends of the Granby Free Public Library is hosting a special scholarship program for high school students that are making their way towards higher education.

The awards are given to students who have demonstrated academic achievement and community service through volunteer work at the library, and eligible students are required to be high school seniors graduating this spring and wither reside in Granby or attend the Granby Schools.

The minimum GPA required for consideration is a 2.5, and the student's community service record must also be included, with a minimum of 45 logged library volunteer hours completed during per each junior and senior year.

Students must submit their scholarship application and essay, which can be found on the library's website, www.granbylibrary.com, and must be submitted by the deadline of May 1, 2025.

Granby Lions Club 'Groundhog Fuel Assistance Fund'

GRANBY—Once again this winter heating season, the Granby Lions Club has established an Emergency Fuel Assistance Fund for Granby residents. This fund, titled the "Groundhog Fund," will enable residents of Granby to obtain needed assistance for fuel to help them through the next six weeks of winter.

The Lions Club Groundhog Fund will begin helping residents on Feb. 2 and will continue until March 16.

Residents who would like to apply for needed assistance are asked to complete an application and these applications are available in the Senior Center/Council of Aging Office at 10 West State St. in Granby from 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. Monday through Friday.

The Granby Lions Club appreciates the continuing support that the community of Granby gives to their projects and activities.

CLIENT TESTIMONIAL

I wanted to let you know that it has been a pleasure working with you. I couldn't be happier with the experience of you guiding me while I purchased my dream home.

From start to finish, you were professional, knowledgeable, and incredibly attentive to my needs. What stood out the most was your dedication in doing everything you could to get the perfect home for me. You were always available to answer any questions, no matter how big or small. You guided me through every step of the process, from viewing the home to making an offer, and finally, closing the deal.

One of the things I appreciated the most was your ability to make the entire process feel smooth and stress-free. You went above and beyond to ensure everything was handled efficiently and effectively. I always felt like I was top priority, and that level of care made all the difference.

Thanks to you Maureen, I am now in my dream home and I couldn't be more grateful. If anyone is looking for a realtor who is knowledgeable, trustworthy, and truly cares about their needs, I would highly recommend you. You will make their home-buying experience a positive and memorable one, just like you did for me!

- Cheryl S.



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