

TOWN Reminder

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Friends' volunteers Janet Stawasz, Marjie Marcotte, Kim Prough, Carol Constant, Carolyn Mongeau, Cheryl Pelland-Lak, and Kathy Gallivan assembled the bouquets.

Daffodil deliveries offer a welcome sign of spring

SOUTH HADLEY – The Friends of the South Hadley Seniors volunteers prepared 130 bunches of daffodils to be delivered to South Hadley's Meals-on-Wheels clients.

Drivers from Access Care Partners delivered the daffodil bunches with their "Home Delivered Meals" program.

This year, Town Administrator Lisa Wong and Police Chief Jen Gundersen joined the drivers for the meal and daffodil deliveries.

"It was so nice to be able to meet so many community members at their homes. The Meals on Wheels staff do a great job and care so much about South Hadley's Seniors. It was an extra bonus to be able to deliver daffodils to each recipient on behalf of the Friends of the South Hadley Seniors, another amazing organization that works so hard to support our senior community," said Chief Gundersen.

This is the third year the Friends have prepared the daffodil bunches.

"We started this annual program to offer a fun, spring pick-me-up for our homebound seniors. It's gratifying to see the smiles on the faces of the recipients as they were delivered," said Friends' board member and daffodil organizer Cheryl Pelland-Lak.



Debbie Deveno, Chief Gundersen, and Evelyn Hatch.

Submitted photos

Selectboard discusses ballot question for West Street Building

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

GRANBY – During the April 10 meeting, the Selectboard invited West Street Building Committee Chair Lynn Mercier to speak and plan ways to deal with the upcoming May 19 ballot question for the WSB renovation project.

"What happened on Tuesday night is you no longer have an appropriation for the project."

– Christopher Martin
Town Administrator

"There is confusion out there about this question to be put on this May 19 ballot," said Interim Town Administrator Christopher Martin.

The meeting began with Martin sharing about phone calls and emails he received accusing the Selectboard of voting to have the question on the ballot regardless of the outcome of Special Town Meeting. However, this allegation is false.

There is no way for a Town Administrator, or Interim or any other member to make a decision, legally, about the ballot without the proper protocols and measures being taken, including the Selectboard's voting and signing the warrants, and the assurance that all votes were public ones.

The Special Town Meeting question will be on the ballot on the May 19 Annual Town Meeting ballot and would have been regardless of the outcome of whether or not the funds for the West

Street Building we appropriated.

"This board held a legally posted meeting, like we normally do before every Town Meeting, and decided to address the question," said Martin. "On April 8, I had put together a letter to the Town Clerk from the board indicating that you took a vote on April 8 by Mass General Law chapter 59

section 21C subsection K to place a question on the May 19 ballot."

The question, a Proposition 2 ½ override debt

exclusion, was voted on at the April 8 Special Town Meeting, and Martin also reviewed that all warrants must go through the Selectboard as a warrant signed by the Selectboard, and it was.

"On Tuesday night, the question failed. That does not mean this question does not go forward on the ballot," said Martin.

The only way for a question to no longer be on the ballot for Town Meeting is if the Selectboard chooses to rescind their vote which originally passed the warrant to go to Special Town Meeting.

"What happened on Tuesday night is you no longer have an appropriation for the project," said Martin.

Martin then presented the Selectboard with the option to rescind their vote for putting this question on the May 19 ballot and instead allow the 259 voters present on April 8 to determine what

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Students hold hygiene drive for YWCA

By Emily-Rose Pappas
Staff Writer
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SOUTH HADLEY – For Domestic Violence Awareness Month, Honors students from the high school have worked together to organize a Hygiene Drive to donate hygiene products to the YWCA Women's Shelter.

Nora Matzen and Abby Vann with several other students in the Honors Program worked together to create and advertise the drive to collect hygiene products for the shelter.

"Abby and I have actually done a similar project before, last year, for a different women's shelter. We thought it would be a great idea to continue the tradition and coordinate another drive this spring," said Matzen.

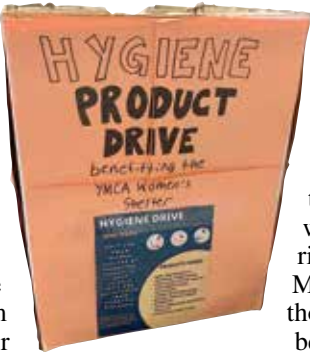
The honors students are looking for donations of new, unexpired hair care

products (shampoo, conditioner, etc.), body wash, body lotion, toothbrushes and toothpaste, combs and hairbrushes, razors, shaving cream, deodorant, diapers and baby wipes, and menstrual products.

"We're both Girl Scouts, so we've done a lot of

volunteering for our local communities, and we both value sisterhood and women's rights," said Matzen. "We thought what better way to honor these values than doing a drive for a women's shelter in our local community?"

"This is one example of the individual service projects that our National Honor Society members organize throughout the year. I am very proud of the work these students do to collaborate with organizations and



The Hygiene Product Drive box at the South Hadley Public Library, located near the book sale.

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Local author shares her story

By Emily-Rose Pappas
Staff Writer
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SOUTH HADLEY – Writing out your story is a way to share your legacy, and a way to preserve feelings in a concrete form that other people can pick up and possibly relate to themselves.

Local author Martha Johnson came to the South Hadley Public Library on Wednesday to share with the people gathered, her story of healing.

"I've been writing for 25 years," said Johnson. "I've never considered myself a poet or artist, and I still don't, but I had a tremendous support system to encourage me to publish these stories."

After being diagnosed with MS in her late fifty's, and then losing relationships, family, and friends, she went through a period of self-reflection, where so

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Library gets together to share what draws them in

By Emily-Rose Pappas
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SOUTH HADLEY – Last week was National Library Appreciation Week, and to celebrate, the library held a special Drawn to the Library Program.

Circulation Librarian Rena Stromgren set up the Drawn to the Library wall display, and used materials for National Library Week from ALA, the American Library Association.

"I also used ALA's promotional materials to collect comments in the children's room, and added those to the wall too," said Children's Director Jenny Arch.

"During National Library Week, the children's room hosted all of our usual programs, including Pajama Storytime, Lego & Games, Story Time (with local author/photographer Shelley Rotner!), Read to a Dog, Playgroup (a partnership with CES/CFCE), and Graphic Novel Book Club," said Arch.

National Library Week is celebrated annually and serves as a way to celebrate the valuable roles that libraries, librarians, and library



Turley Photo by Emily-Rose Pappas

The mural of papers detailing all the way people have found enjoyment in and keep coming back to their library.

workers play in strengthening and transforming communities.

"Libraries are particularly under threat this year because of the attempt to defund and dismantle the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), as well as the national rise in attempted book bans and challenges, so it is extra

important to see the positive ways in which libraries support our communities," said Arch.

Stromgren is planning to send photos of the library's "Drawn to the Library" wall to Senators Markey and Warren, Representative Neal,

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►

South Hadley

Energy Center plan draws comments at hearing

By Walter Hamilton
Correspondent

SOUTH HADLEY – A proposed new Energy Center building that would both heat and cool 44 Mount Holyoke College buildings through 26 miles of underground campus-wide pipes, met no opposition to its purpose, but faced strong criticism of its appearance and location during a Planning Board hearing on Monday.

The two-story, essentially unstaffed building at Woodbridge Street and Dunlap Place would contain compressors that, depending on seasonal temperatures, would gather heat, or, in a reverse process, cool, the air that would then be dispersed to campus buildings. It would not operate during summers.

The new building would contain a small control room and house pipes and equipment that connect it to the campus-wide heating and cooling network.

The campus-wide geothermal system, now under construction, would cut campus energy use by 600 percent, and eliminate all use of fossil fuels to achieve “complete electrification,” a feat made possible by its connection to SHELDT, the town-owned electric utility, which derives 89 percent of its power from non-fossil-fuel nuclear and hydroelectric sources, according to Karla Youngblood, MHC associate vice-president for facilities management.

Town residents questioned members of MHC’s project engineering and architectural consulting firms about expected noise levels, parking, lighting and compatibility of appearance and scale with surrounding structures.

Barry McPhee, of 3 Woodbridge St., said while he appreciates the “end use” of the building, he opposed the design “because it does not fit at all and ‘sticks out’ in the neighborhood,” and he and others at the hearing urged the college to locate it elsewhere on campus. He asked that the college consider a brick facade that he said would be preferable to the planned exterior gray-scale cement fiber panels of variable sizes.

“Make it look like the rest of the neighborhood,” McPhee said.

Youngblood said the college extensively explored placing the building elsewhere, but no other locations were feasible. The proposed Energy Center building is located close to the college rugby field where a network of pipes connected to the heat exchanger will be buried. The college plans to retain the current on-campus fossil-fuel power plant as an emergency backup facility.

Other members of the public sought information about expected noise levels generated by the facility.

Representatives of Connecticut engineering consultant firm Salas O’Brien stated that the building’s design included a 7-foot-high rooftop acoustic barrier that would mitigate noise from compressors located there. After measuring the “ambient” noise levels, or those levels measured on the site as they now exist, their calculations point to an maximum extra 10 decibel increase when compressors are running. Online testing statistics indicate that noise generated by heavy diesel trucks can be eight to nine times higher.

An emergency generator would run only for emergencies and it would be tested once a month. The building would ordinarily be non-staffed, lightly illuminated, and would receive no deliveries, the representatives said.

Rita Petithory, of 12 Woodbridge St., expressed concerns that she and other residents in the apartment building there would be adversely affected by more noise and extra parking that are already a problem. She also said the planned building “does not complement surrounding buildings” and joined others who advocated that it be sited elsewhere.

Tanya Wallace, rector of All Saints Episcopal Church, located directly across Dunlap Place from the proposed energy center, said that the church has shared its parking lot with the college, and has in turn been allowed parking for its own purposes on the now-closed college-owned commuter lot across the street.

Since the lot has been closed, commuter staff and students have been parking in the church lot, causing a shortage of parking for church purposes, Wallace, a MHC graduate herself, said.

Others spoke about increased parking on streets abutting the now-closed lot, causing problems for nearby residents, who were also concerned about expected extra noise, especially during construction of the center.

Youngblood pledged to address the parking issue by providing more spaces as needed at the Kendall Hall sports complex further down Dunlap Place.

The Planning Board voted to continue the hearing at its April 28 regular meeting.

Support Buttery Brook Park bottle & can drive

SOUTH HADLEY – April 19 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. the Friends of Buttery Brook Park will be conducting a Redeemable Bottle & Can Drive to benefit programs and renovations at the Park. Start gathering your redeemables now and bring them to the high school parking lot.

The high school students will be having a car wash at the same time to benefit Make A Wish Foundation. Two good causes.

SHPD free community shredding event

SOUTH HADLEY—A Free Community Shredding event will take place on Saturday, May 3rd from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. in the Newton Street parking lot at South Hadley High School.

It is sponsored by the South Hadley SALT Council - TRIAD.

Monetary donations will be gratefully accepted to support programs which benefit our senior citizens.

Rummage Sale at St. Paul’s

HOLYOKE—St. Paul’s Episcopal Church, 485 Appleton Street, Holyoke will hold their Annual Rummage Sale on Saturday, April 26 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Auditorium.

There will be bargains for everyone including clothing, housewares, bedding, towels, books, toys, and holiday and craft supplies

Free ample parking is located behind the church and all are welcome.

For more information, please contact Trudy Monson 413-335-1145 or call the church office at 413-532-5060.

Less is more, strategies for decluttering

SOUTH HADLEY—All are welcome to “Discover the Art of Decluttering”, being presented on May 1 at 4pm at the Senior Center. Stephanie Baird, LMHC will share expert techniques using the KonMari method to help you create a more organized and stress-free space.

Enjoy her inspiration-

al guidance followed by a delicious dinner featuring stuffed chicken breast, rice pilaf, veggies, dessert, and drinks.

Tickets are \$5 and are available for purchase at the Senior Center. Deadline to purchase tickets is April 21. This event is sponsored by the Friends of the South Hadley Seniors.



CORRECTION

In the April 11 edition of the Town Reminder, the voting result of Article I of the Special Town meeting was incorrect. The correct result was a vote of 90 in favor and 161 against the article. We apologize for the error.



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South Hadley Chorale to perform at Showcase South Hadley



Anita Anderson Cooper leads a rehearsal of the South Hadley Chorale for Showcase South Hadley. David Hillerby photo

Submitted photos



Members of the South Hadley Chorale rehearse for Showcase South Hadley.

SOUTH HADLEY – The South Hadley Chorale will perform on Saturday, April 26, from 12:30 to 1:30 p.m. at All Saints’ Episcopal Church, 7 College Street, South Hadley, as part of Showcase South Hadley.

Music Director Anita Anderson Cooper will conduct a fun, entertaining program which will feature several genres of music including classical, folk, spiritual, and pop. Michael Rheault will accompany on the piano. A highlight of the concert will be the premiere of Ms. Anderson Cooper’s Harry Burn (Did What his Mother Said), a lively song about the vote for women’s suffrage.

For more information about the South Hadley Chorale, please visit our website at www.southhadleychorale.org.

Rugged Beauty and Grit

The 7 Sisters trail race returns to the Mount Holyoke Range

By Tina Lesniak
Correspondent

One of New England’s most challenging and iconic trail races returns this spring as the 7 Sisters Trail Race takes over the rugged ridgeline of the Mount Holyoke Range. Held annually on the New England Trail, also known as the Metacombet-Monadnock Trail, this demanding race draws trail runners from across the region to tackle its steep climbs, rocky descents, and unforgiving terrain.

“The trail runs along the Mount Holyoke Range’s ridge line with many up and down sections, loose rocks, and roots. It is very challenging,” said Patricia Eagan, Chairperson of the Friends of

the Mount Holyoke Range organization.

The 7 Sisters Trail Race, originally founded in the 1990s by the Friends of the Mount Holyoke Range, will take place on May 3 at 8:30 a.m., and the spirit of community involvement remains strong. “We do work closely with the trail race, and every year the Friends of the Mount Holyoke Range provides race volunteers,” added Eagan.

The race is known for its scenic beauty and brutal difficulty. Spanning an out-and-back course, runners face countless ups and downs, loose rocks, and roots that make every mile a true test of endurance and skill. It’s no surprise, participation is capped at 500 runners, with a growing waitlist of hopefuls ready to jump in if spots open up.

For those unable to race, volunteering is not only a way to stay involved — it’s also an inspiring experience. “I love volunteering for the race. It is very inspiring!” said Eagan.

“If a trail runner can’t run this year, volunteering is a great way to be part of the race and become familiar with the trail race experience.”

Beyond the competition, the event has a lasting impact on the surrounding environment. Proceeds from the race directly benefit the Friends of the Mount Holyoke Range, a nonprofit dedicated to trail maintenance, park beautification, and land preservation. “This money helps fund trail maintenance, park beautification, and land preservation,” said Eagan. “We also help fund projects as requested by the Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation.”

Regarded as a premier trail race in the northeast, the 7 Sisters Trail Race offers more than just a physical challenge — it’s a celebration of community, conservation, and the enduring beauty of the Mount Holyoke Range. For more information, visit 7sisterstrailrace.com.

Heart of the Valley Chorus vows ‘till the whole world sings’

NORTHAMPTON – Heart of the Valley Chorus, a women’s voices barbershop a cappella group, will host a concert on Sunday, May 4 at 3 p.m. at Bombyx Center for Arts & Equity (130 Pine Street, Florence MA).

This annual show invites the community to experience music’s power to inspire joy, community, and peace, and to keep the music playing “Till

the Whole World Sings” (the theme of this year’s show, and the official theme song of World Singing Day written by Scott Johnson and Chad Warren).

“When the world feels divided and unstable, there’s something really grounding and comforting about coming together and making harmony,” says Stephanie Flinker, a 30-year veteran barbershop

singer and director of Heart of the Valley.

Joining them on the stage will be the Cider House Boys, High Definition, the Northampton High School Chamber Choir, the Northamptones, Chill Harmonics, the Wise Guys, and the Ujima Sings.

“There are so many amazing a cappella groups in this area,” says Flinker. “This

show is a wonderful way to introduce the community to a variety of musical genres and styles, as well as all the opportunities to join the singing!”

Tickets are on sale now at the Bombyx box office and at www.bombyx.live for a suggested donation of \$20. A portion of proceeds will benefit Big Brothers Big Sisters of Hampshire County.

Heart of the Valley Chorus was established 40 years ago as the Mount Sugarloaf Chorus, and is part of Sweet Adelines International. They have recently performed at Rockridge Retirement Community, the Springfield Sheraton, the Granby Senior Center, Pause & Pivot Farm.

On May 10 they will compete along with 13 other Sweet Adeline Region One

choruses at Symphony Hall in Springfield. Chorus members include school teachers, medical professionals, college faculty, mail carriers, retirees, bookkeepers, fund development professionals, social workers, pastors and so much more from all over the Pioneer Valley. For information about visiting a rehearsal, visit www.heartofthevalleychorus.org.

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GUEST COLUMN

The Road of Law:

A behind-the-scenes look at how Massachusetts makes laws

By Senator Jake Oliveira
Guest Column

REGION—Every law in Massachusetts begins with an idea. An idea that someone believes can make our Commonwealth a better place to live, work, and thrive. But how does that idea become reality?

The legislative process is often described as slow or complex, but that’s because it’s intentionally designed to be thoughtful, transparent, and inclusive. As a State Senator, I want to walk you through how a bill goes from a simple filing to potentially becoming law and how you can be part of that journey. Whether you care about education, economic opportunity, or any issue impacting your community, understanding this process is the first step toward creating meaningful change.

The legislative process in Massachusetts is a careful, structured system designed to ensure thorough review and debate before a policy is enacted. Massachusetts has a two-year legislative session. At the beginning of each session, legislators file bills themselves and on behalf of their constituents, organizations, or policy advocates.

When a bill is first filed in the legislature, it is assigned a docket number. This number is temporary and serves as an internal tracking mechanism while the bill is processed before formal introduction. This is the starting point for all policy initiatives.

After filing, the bill is assigned to the appropriate Joint Committee based on its subject matter. This can sometimes cause confusion as the initial docket number changes to a different bill number. For example, my bill An Act to promote the inclusion of American

Sign Language in the Commonwealth’s public schools, AKA The American Sign Language Inclusion Act, was filed SD.499 at the start of the session, but now that it has been assigned to the Joint Committee on Education, it is S.425. This was done after recommendations from the Senate Clerk and Senate Counsel. The numerical

change reflects those recommendations.

Each committee will then hold public hearings where legislators, experts, advocates, and everyday citizens can testify in favor of or oppose the proposals. The legislature’s website has a calendar where you can see the times and locations of upcoming hearings, watch hearings live, or view hearings that have already occurred. Just copy and paste <https://malegislature.gov/Events/Hearings/Joint> into your internet browser.

Following hearings, the committee decides whether to advance a bill with a favorable report, send it for further study, or issue an adverse report, which typically prevents it from progressing. This stage is crucial for policies as it ensures that every initiative is thoroughly vetted and improved before proceeding.

If a bill receives a favorable report, it proceeds to the House or Senate floor for debate. In each chamber, the bill goes through three readings, during which amendments can be proposed and discussed. Once a bill passes one chamber, it moves to the other for review. If any changes are made, both chambers must agree on a final version before it moves to the Governor’s desk. This

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page 6



Senator Jake Oliveira



SOCIAL SECURITY Matters

By Russell Gloor

Will my Social Security increase if I keep working after applying?

Dear Rusty:
I am going to be 67 in a few weeks and I plan on working for another year or two.

According to Social Security, they count the best 35 years to come up with your benefit. I currently have 30 years, with 2024 and 2025 taxes yet to be filed. If I take my benefit now, will I get an upward adjustment after filing my taxes for those years or do I need to wait to apply for SS until after filing my taxes to get credit for those years?

Signed: Still Working

Dear Still Working:
Whenever you claim your Social Security benefit, SSA will look at your lifetime earnings record on file at the time as received from the IRS and calculate your “Primary Insurance Amount” using that record on file. They will use your highest earning 35 years to do that calculation and, if you do not yet have

35 years, they will use “zero \$\$” enough times to make it 35 years. In other words, your benefit will always be calculated using 35 years, whether you actually have 35 years of earnings on record or not.

However, Social Security revisits your earnings record whenever additional information is received from the IRS, so if file your taxes and add the additional year’s income after you start your Social Security benefits, you will get credit for those additional earnings. Essentially, you will be replacing one of the “zero \$\$” years originally used to calculate your benefit amount and Social Security will recalculate your monthly amount to reflect that, resulting in an increase to your monthly benefit.

Thus, as long as you work and earn and report your earnings to the IRS, Social Security will update your record and automatically give you a higher benefit if warranted by your more recent earnings. That recalculation usually happens later in the year after April 15, but Social Security will make any increase retroactive to the beginning of the calendar year, so you will get any higher benefit effective

with January.

So, since you have already reached your Full Retirement Age, you can (if you wish) apply for Social Security now and be confident that Social Security will give you credit for any additional earnings after you apply. And for clarity, if you choose to wait beyond your full retirement age to claim, you will earn Delayed Retirement Credits (DRCs), which will continue to increase your monthly benefit amount until you are 70 years of age. DRCs will add 8% to your PIA for each full year you delay (.667% for each month you delay past your FRA).

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.

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.

Turley Election Policy

This newspaper will print free self-submitted statements of candidacy only four weeks or more out from the election. All candidates running in both contested and uncontested races are asked to submit their statements to the editor to include only biographical and campaign platform details. Total word count for statements is limited to between 300-500 words maximum. Please include a photo. We will not publish any statements of candidacy inside the four weeks from election threshold. To publish any other campaign publicity during the race, please contact our advertising representatives. We also do not allow personal attacks against other candidates or political parties in statements of candidacy, nor do we publish for free any information about key endorsements or political fundraisers.

Letters to the editor of no more than 250 words from supporters endorsing specific candidates or discussing campaign issues are limited to three total per author during the election season. No election letters will appear in the final edition before the election. We reserve the right to edit all statements of candidacy and letters to the editor to meet our guidelines.

Vacation plans, anyone?

Many people plan trips over April vacation! Not me, I am planning an escape to the garden.

I have been chomping at the bit to do some gardening in spite of this crazy, post-winter weather we are having. Can you believe it snowed twice last week?

Maybe a dusting at your house, but Saturday’s snowfall was a despicable four inches! At least forecasts for this upcoming week are improving, and I’m hoping that vacation week’s are even better.

While it’s best to wait until Memorial Day to sow bean and squash seeds, as well as transplant your tomato and pepper seedlings into the garden, there are many veggies that thrive in cooler spring temperatures. Here is a re-cap of a column from a few years back, outlining the veggie seeds that can be sown in the garden now:

Beet seeds can be planted as soon as the soil can be worked. Sow them close together and thin to three inches apart for full size beets – use the culled greens in salad. For a pretty beet try Chiogga for its alternating stripes of pink

and white; pick early for best quality.

More interested in beet greens than beets themselves? Beautiful Bull’s Blood grows well throughout the summer months without getting bitter.

Carrots will also grow well under cool conditions, although they may take longer to come up. Keep them moist to hasten germination. Experts recommend sowing fast-growing radish seeds to mark carrot rows as well as provide shade (and therefore moisture retention).

I’ve also heard of folks covering rows of carrot seeds with burlap or straw for the same reason. For the longest, straightest roots, be sure the seed bed is deep and rock-free. Thin twice, with an ultimate spacing of one inch apart.

Amazingly enough, carrots come in all shades of yellow and orange, purple and red, even white. Try Yellowstone, Atomic Red, Purple Haze and White Satin for an extremely colorful coleslaw.

Lettuce is one of the best crops to start now. In fact, it won’t germinate at all when

soil temperatures top 75 degrees.

Sow your seeds every couple of weeks for a continuous supply throughout the summer. Get creative with lattice or interplant with other crops to give lettuce a break from sun and heat.

When all your friends are complaining that their salads are bitter, you’ll be rewarded for your efforts with sweet greens. Look for seeds that suit your season. Consider New Red Fire or Slobolt for growing in the summer months; Tango or Lollo Rossa for fall and winter season extension.

Parsnips, like carrots, take a long time to come up and need consistent moisture in order to germinate. Try some of the tricks I mentioned above or just be diligent with the hose.

Old Sturbridge Village grows two great heirloom varieties – Hollow Crown and Student. Harvest some after a few hard frosts in the fall, but hold on harvesting the rest until early spring.

You will be in for a sweet surprise.

Peas have been a favorite plant of mine for the last several years. Sow them now and provide support for all but the dwarfest varieties. I plant them around the perimeter of my garden up against the



fence, and will utilize “pea brush” for another row or two within the garden.

Be on the lookout for cut worms – in my garden they nearly always decimated my crop. If you see pea seedlings cut off at the soil line, gently cultivate around your plant and dispose of the chubby green or golden caterpillars.

Oregon Giant is a great snow pea, with flat pods perfect for stir fries. Tall Telephone (aka Alderman) is nearly six feet tall under optimal conditions, and yields upwards of 30 pounds of peas per one hundred foot row.

Spinach is another crop that must be started early to ensure success, and a crop I can’t quite seem to master. I was never satisfied with the meal or two I ate before the plants bolted – I wanted more!

So instead of growing regular spinach, I now grow New Zealand Spinach. It isn’t a true spinach, nor does

it resemble one, but it can be grown throughout the summer and substituted for cooked spinach in nearly any recipe.

Soak the large seeds overnight before sowing to hasten germination. Pinch off and use the waxy leaves when they reach two or three inches long. New Zealand spinach also freezes extremely well.

Enjoy these earliest days in the garden; I know I will! The best vacation ever spent.

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.

TOWN Reminder

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much poured out of her, and she found she needed somewhere to put it.

“I was so much in the pain of losing my business and my physicality, and I lost my identity as a businesswoman... and there were a lot of losses,” said Johnson. “What this did was break me open, and all of a sudden there was stuff wanting to come out, and people told me ‘Martha, you keep writing’. So, I did.”

In 2000, she moved back home to South Hadley after living in DC for thirty years, where she really began to dive into writing, through talks with her therapist, finding the outlet uplifting and beneficial in her healing journey.

Soon enough, she found herself with enough writing for three books, each book detailing a different story.

Her first book was encouraged by her therapist, who also encouraged her to paint for the cover on the first book.

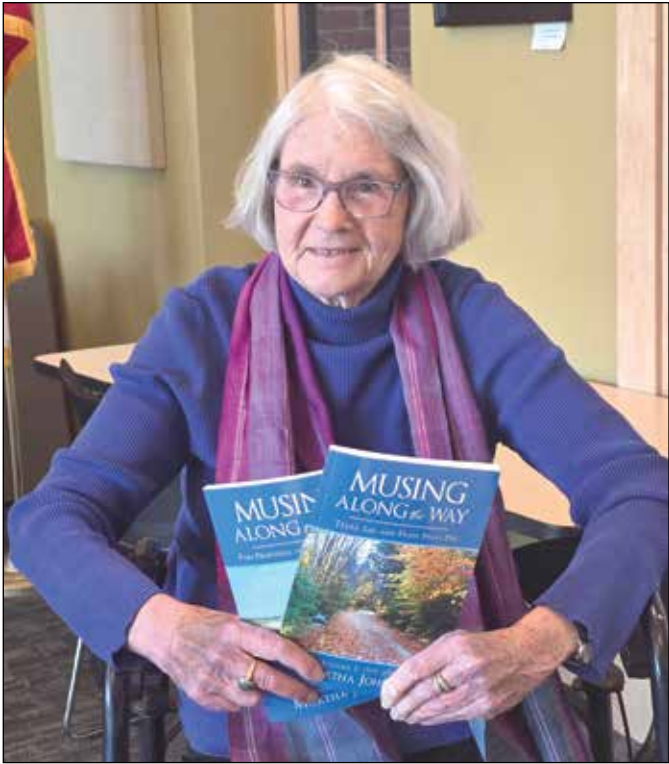
“I was really writing for myself, it was published, and it went on Amazon, but I was really writing for myself,” said Johnson.

Her second book came out of conversations with her friends in a horseback riding group for people with MS, where they asked her when her second book would come out.

Johnson went into her desk at encouragement and prompting and pulled out paper after paper filled with stories she had written.

“And that became book 2, and I published them both together as a set in 2011,” said Johnson. “They didn’t form themselves into a book for a while, and it was through some creativity that it became what it was.”

Johnson began a writing circle and support group at the



Turley Photo by Emily-Rose Pappas

Martha Johnson at the library, ready for her book signing and reading.

senior living home she lives in, and the people there want to write for their children, so she guided them into writing, to leave their legacy.

“There’s no criticism- it’s more about sharing your stuff, and I think that’s important,” said Johnson.

The group began in 2020 when COVID hit, and she wrote 133 pages of her decade-by-decade story of her life called “Who is Aunt Martha, Anyways?” for her family, this one she is not publishing.

She spent time blogging as well, writing out what she felt about aging, and is working these old blog posts into a volume three.

Johnson also spoke last November at a writer’s conference and spends time encouraging people to write about their lives.

“Everybody has a story, and when you live your life, you’re doing your thing, and I

don’t think people know they have a story, and they take it for granted like I did,” said Johnson. “I’m looking back at it and seeing that I had an extraordinary life, but everybody does, they just don’t realize it.”

“People were moved by some of the poems and could relate to life transitions, and you can look at that and start creating a new life,” said Johnson. “[Writing] makes me clear. I needed to heal, and I needed to get my emotions out, and that’s the way I did it.”

“I hope that others will look at their lives, the good ones and the bad, and just do their thing with their talents. I realized my talent was providing a safe place to talk about some hard things.”

You can read some of her older blogs on her website, www.meetmarthajohnson.com, and her books on Amazon.

South Hadley Senior Center News

Upcoming events for April 2025

SOUTH HADLEY—Thank you to our volunteers - this month and always.

Our volunteers are the heart and soul of our Senior Center, bringing warmth, kindness and enthusiasm to everything they do. Thanks to their commitment, our Senior Center remains a welcoming and vibrant place for all who walk through the doors.

In honor of National Volunteer Month, we are hosting a special a Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon at the end of April. Invitations will be sent to all our incredible volunteers – this is just a small token of our gratitude for everything they do.

We truly couldn’t do it without them.

Community Office Hours
Thursday, April 24 from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m.

SHPD – Chief Gunder- sen will be holding Office

Hours at the Senior Center

Monday, April 21, 10 a.m.

State Rep Homar Gomez will be holding Office Hours at the Senior Center

Events:
Fridays through May 9, 2:30 p.m.

NEW! Intro to Mosaics series —in this five-part series, you will learn about the history and techniques of mosaic art from Brian Schrauf. Mr. Schrauf has 50 years of experience. You will complete a project of either a house number or a gardening steppingstone. All supplies included. Total cost is \$20 per person.

Fridays through May 16, 3 to 4 p.m.

NEW! Learn Conversational French \$3 per person.

Learn conversational French with Mrs. Ingrid Vega, M.Ed., World Language Department chair and French teacher from Holyoke High School- North

Campus. This group will meet weekly in this size-part series.

Mark your calendars for the events scheduled for the end of April.

Thursday, April 24, 2 p.m. to 6:30 p.m.

Senior Living Options Fair: Meet staff from local Long-Term Care, Assisted Living and Independent Living communities, and learn about the services and programs they offer. Plus enter for a chance to win a raffle prize.

Monday, April 28, 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Navigating Through ‘the last chapter of Life

Gain expert guidance on end-of-life care from medical professionals and holistic practitioners. From Hospice to palliative approaches and beyond. Our panel will provide practical insight and compassionate discussion to help you navigate this sensitive journey.

Real estate, personal property and sewer bills mailed

SOUTH HADLEY—Fiscal Year 2025 Qtr. 4 Real Estate & Personal Property bills as well as Fiscal Year 2025 Sewer bills were mailed out to residents on April 1.

The due date for Real Estate and Personal Property bills is May 1, 2025. Sewer bills are due May 15, 2025.

If you have not received your bills, please email our office at: collector@south-hadleyma.gov or call 413-

538-5030, ext. 6189 and we can send you a new bill.

Bills can also be viewed/printed through Invoice Cloud which can be accessed from our website.

Payment can be made online through the Town of South Hadley’s website, southhadleyma.gov, by mail, dropped in our Drop-box located behind the Police Department on Bridge Street or you can pay in person Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.

SHPD Drug Take Back on April 26

SOUTH HADLEY—A DRUG TAKE BACK is scheduled for April 26 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Bridge Street parking lot of the South Hadley Police Department.

It is sponsored by the South Hadley SALT Council - TRIAD. Monetary donations will be gratefully accepted to support programs which benefit our senior citizens.

South Hadley Residents Smith Educational Fund

Applications for financial assistance through the Smith Educational Fund are available in the Superintendent’s Office, South Hadley Public Schools, 116 Main St, South Hadley, MA 01075 & southhadleyschools.org

Applicants must be: A resident of South Hadley
Under twenty-one years of age
Registered to attend a post-secondary school

Application deadline: May 16th, 2025



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Saturday, April 19th

The Healys



Friday, April 25th

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Saturday, April 26th

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Cemetery annual meeting

SOUTH HADLEY—The Proprietors of the South Hadley Falls Cemetery (Village Cemetery) will be conducting its annual meeting on Wednesday, April 30 at 6:30 p.m., in the small conference room at the South Hadley Public Library.

The public is invited to the meeting as their input is always welcomed. The meeting will elect Officers and Trustees, review reports and discuss the future of the cemetery.

Historical Assoc. seeks donations

GRANBY – The Granby Historical Association will be holding its Annual Spring Tag Sale on May 23 and 24 in the big red barn on 12 Common Street from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

They are looking for donations of sellable items, including home décor, games, toys, books, athletics, housewares, holiday items, and jewelry, but will not take clothing, musty, moldy, rusty, or broken items, or suitcases.

Do not leave donations at the barn but contact Judy LaPlante at 413-687-7231 to schedule a time for drop-offs.

Kids Free April and Village Earth days at Old Sturbridge Village

STURBRIDGE—Old Sturbridge Village invites families to make the most of April by enjoying special seasonal experiences and savings. Now through April 30, 2025, families can take advantage of the final month of the museum’s Kids Free March and April promotion, while also celebrating Village Earth Days, April 23–27. From watching potters and blacksmiths at work to meeting heritage breed animals and seeing the fields being prepared for planting, every corner of the Village comes alive in April.

Throughout April, up to two children ages 17 and under will receive free standard daytime admission with each paid adult ticket. It’s the perfect time to reconnect with history and the outdoors, explore hands-on activities, and make memories.

Plus, April is Family Field Trip Month at the Village! This month, families can receive a free bag filled with activities to do while visiting the Village (one bag per family, first come, first served, while supplies last).

Village Earth Days, April



Photo credit John Collins Photography
Gardening at Old Sturbridge Village with the help of chickens.

23 through April 27 invites visitors to be inspired by early New Englanders’ deep connection to the land. Activities include drop-in kids’ programs (included with admission) and hands-on workshops (additional fee and registration is required) which vary daily during Village Earth Days. For a complete list of programs visit <https://www.osv.org/event/village-earth-days/>.

To make the most of your

visit, purchase tickets online and save an additional \$3 off adult admission compared to at-the-door pricing. For full details, restrictions, and to reserve tickets, visit: <https://www.osv.org/event/kids-free-march-april/>

Spring Hours: Old Sturbridge Village is open Wednesday through Sunday, 9:30 a.m. – 5 p.m.

For a full calendar of spring events, visit: <https://www.osv.org/spring/>



This year’s Showcase will bring top-flight local, regional, and national talent to South Hadley across a wide spectrum of arts and culture, plus many family fun activities and performances for all ages. Most activities and performances are free of charge.

SHOWCASE South Hadley returns April 26 & 27

SOUTH HADLEY — South Hadley will again celebrate its many diverse cultural and business communities with SHOWCASE South Hadley 2025.

The festival will take place on April 26 and 27, with performances and activities across South Hadley. On Saturday, April 26, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. the town center will host events at the common, local churches, and Mount Holyoke College, culminating in an evening concert by Grammy-winning blues and soul artist Ruthie Foster at Abbey Chapel on the MHC campus.

On Sunday, April 27th, a Gospel Brunch at Morningstar Baptist Church, featuring The Kevin Sharpe Group (advance registration required), will kick off at noon, followed by performances at the Baptist Church hall, Methodist Church, and South Hadley Public Library all afternoon. An Artisan / Craft / and Business Fair will be

held each day, along with a host of children’s and family presentations and activities for all ages.

Special thanks to our lead sponsors for their critical support: Republic Services, Arrivability Car Service, Mount Holyoke College, and Private Financial Design.

Showcase South Hadley is also made possible thanks to the generous support of the Town of South Hadley, the South Hadley Cultural Council, the Massachusetts Cultural Council, MASH (Music and Arts South Hadley), and dozens of individual donors, participating business, and countless volunteers.

More detailed information, including all scheduled performances and activities, Gospel Brunch registration, sponsor and donor support, volunteer opportunities, and general inquiries can be found by visiting the SHOWCASE South Hadley website at <https://southhadleyarts.org>.

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June 10-12....Hampton Beach Getaway \$529

June 28.....Boston Harbor Lunch Cruise..... \$175

July 12Escape to Rockport..... \$110

July 26Perkins Cove for a Day.....\$110

Share the Adventure with us soon!

For further information call Randall at (413) 436-5357

or email adventuretours@att.net

or go to www.adventuretoursofwarren.com

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6:30pm

Pitch Night

Wednesday Night

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Friday Night

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Spring 2025 yard waste collection April 21 to May 2

SOUTH HADLEY – South Hadley’s 2025 spring yard waste curbside collection will take place from April 21 to May 2.

Paper bags or open top containers only; must be curbside by 7 a.m. on your collection day. Each route will have one collection, brush must be tied in bun-

dles (no metal) of not more than four (4’) foot lengths, leaves, grass and brush only no plastic bags.

Please keep yard waste barrels separate and apart from trash barrels

Questions, please contact The DPW at 538-5030 ext. 6500

www.southhadleyma.gov.

SHOWCASE

SOUTH HADLEY

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OLIVEIRA from page 4

is often done in “Conference Committee,” in which House and Senate members convene to work out the bill’s final details.

Once the House and Senate approve the committee report, it is sent to the Governor, who can sign it into law, veto it, return it with amend-

ments, or take no action. If signed, the bill officially becomes law and is assigned a chapter number in the Acts of Massachusetts.

One final note

The Massachusetts legislative process is designed to ensure transparency, deliberation, and public input. While it can seem slow, every step ensures that laws are

well-vetted and reflect the best interests of all residents.

If you’re passionate about an issue, don’t hesitate to contact my office or attend a hearing to make your voice heard. Democracy works best when we work together. Let’s turn to each other, not on each other, and make Massachusetts an even better place to live and work.”

Liberty

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— Beth from Belchertown

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— Jeanette & Paul Johnson

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Tigers win streak stopped

SOUTH HADLEY – The South Hadley High School softball team has been riding the arm of Isabella Schaeffer to start the season, and jumped out to a 4-1 start, even battling with powerhouse Westfield in a 1-0 loss.

The Tigers then won three straight against Easthampton, West Springfield, and Monson last Thursday. Their win streak was stopped with a 2-0 shutout against Longmeadow earlier this week.

The Tigers are set to face Wahconah on Friday, April 18 and then have a pair of games against Minnechaug Regional during the vacation week. The first matchup is Tuesday, Apr. 22 at 4 p.m. at home.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Lea Agudelo fights her way toward the goal during recent action.

Offense breaks out in first win

SOUTH HADLEY – Last Thursday afternoon, South Hadley girls lacrosse defeated visiting Belchertown 17-4. It was the first big scoring day of the season for the Tigers. Raquel Losty, Caitlin Dean, and Margaret Watkins had four goals each while Ava Asselin had three goals and two assists.

The Tigers would fall to Northampton earlier this week and go in search of their second win of the season coming up on Tuesday, Apr. 22 against Wahconah Regional at 4:30 p.m.

Caitlin Dean heads down the field.



SEE MORE PHOTOS ON PAGE 10.

Tristan Moe scoops up the ball.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

Rams improve to 4-1 with win

MONSON – Last Wednesday afternoon, Granby High School boys lacrosse scored a big win over Monson 12-2. The Rams have a 4-1 record so far this year. Their only loss came in their opening match. They have since won four straight.

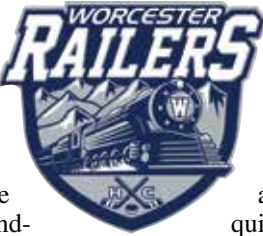


Stewart Szlosek fights for the ball after a faceoff.

Worcester Railers drop decision to Royals

READING, PA – The Worcester Railers HC (34-29-76pts) fall to the Reading Royals (32-29-9-2, 75pts), on Friday night in shootout loss by a final score of 4-3 in front of a crowd of 3,509 at the Santander Arena. The Railers are back on the ice next at the Santander Arena on Friday, April 11th at 7:00 p.m. EST.

Reading quickly got on the board and made it a 3-0 game before the end of the first off the sticks of Matt Miller (1-0-1), Shane Sellar (1-0-1) and Mason Primeau (1-0-1). The Railers finally netted one off the stick of Anthony Repaci (2-0-2) about halfway through the game. Lincoln Hatten (1-0-1) and Repaci each tacked on goals in the third to tie the game up 3-3. As neither team scored in OT, the game went to a shootout where



Matt Brown potted the only goal to give the Royals a 4-3 shootout win over the Railers. The loss for Worcester forces a winner-take-all game on Saturday night for the fourth and final playoff spot in the North Division.

The Royals got to work quickly with a goal from Matt Miller (14) just 11 seconds after puck drop giving the Royals a 1-0 lead over the Railers. Reading added to their lead off the goal from Shane Sellar (12) on a busy scramble out in front of the net of Michael Bullion in net for Worcester 7:32 into the first period. Mason Primeau (12) deflected a point-shot off of his skates on the power-play to give Reading a 3-0 lead over Worcester 16:42 into the first period.

Please see **RAILERS**, page 8

Morozov part of PVCA volleyball



SPRINGFIELD – During recent action, Jacob Morozov gets into the matchup between PVCA and Ware. Morozov is from South Hadley but attends the Christian school.

Jacob Morozov performs during a matchup between Pioneer Valley Christian Academy and Ware.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Jacob Morozov is a resident of South Hadley.

Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame announces new governors

SPRINGFIELD – The Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame is pleased to announce the completion of its Board of Governors reconfiguration to include the addition of Ms. Sheila Johnson, Ms. Cynthia (“Cynt”) Marshall, and Hall of Fame Coach Tara VanDerveer, bringing the Board of Governors to its maximum of 23 leadership positions.

The Naismith Hall of Fame is in the best financial condition since its inception in 1959, and continues to grow, along with basketball, in significance to constituencies within and outside of the game. The Hall’s Board reconfiguration is designed to leverage this strong position

to further enhance the organization’s business plan, global reach, and positive impact.

The Naismith Hall’s three newest Governors are powerhouses in business and basketball.

Sheila Johnson joins the Board with a wealth of expertise and experience, including at the intersection of tourism and hospitality, sports, arts and entertainment, and philanthropy. Johnson is the founder and CEO of Salamander Collection, a growing luxury hotel company, which includes Salamander Middleburg – one of only five properties in the U.S. to earn separate Forbes Travel Guide Five-Star Awards for its accommodations, restaur-

ant, and spa. As a Partner of Monumental Sports and Entertainment, Johnson is an owner of three Washington, DC professional sports teams: the Wizards, Mystics, and Capitals. Among Johnson’s other leadership roles include: board member of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences; College of Performing Arts at The New School; Trust for the National Mall; The Metropolitan Opera; Jackie Robinson Foundation; Simon & Schuster Publishing Advisory Board, and founder and chair of the



Middleburg Film Festival. In partnership with James Beard Award-winning Chef and Restaurateur Kwame Onwuachi, she founded the Family Reunion – a celebration of culinary excellence and diversity in the hospitality community. On election to the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame Board of Governors, Johnson stated: “I look forward to helping to elevate and broaden the positive reach of this important organization in its many facets – from sports museum, to cultural institution, to community and

leadership builder, and more.”

Cynt Marshall brings visionary leadership and mastery in creating positive cultural transformation in organizations through a people-centered approach. Marshall is the founder and CEO of Marshell Resources, a premier consulting firm focused on leadership and organizational development. Marshall served as CEO of the Dallas Mavericks from March 2018 through December 2024, and previously as a leader in operations, legislative affairs, and human resources at AT&T, where her roles included president of AT&T’s North Carolina division, and senior vice president of human resources

and chief diversity officer. At both organizations, Marshall spearheaded transformational work to improve operational effectiveness, organizational culture, and employee and stakeholder engagement – in the case of AT&T, helping the company for the first time ever reach Fortune’s 100 Best Companies to Work For list (one of only two Fortune 50 companies on that list). Marshall, who serves on several corporate and nonprofit boards, reflected on her newest Governor role: “I am delighted to join the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame Board at this momentous

Please see **GOVERNORS**, page 8

Sports

Rams improve to 4-1 with win



Three Rams chase after a loose ball. Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli



Swayer Clarke launches a shot on goal.



Tyler Quist starts a new play from behind the net.

RAILERS from page 7

The first action of the second period came from Railers captain Anthony Repaci (28) who found the back of the net 9:57 into the second period making it a 3-1 game. His goal came from a one-timer on the power play atop the right circle. The Railers outshot Reading 9-7 in the second period while Reading lead in shots overall 23-17.

Lincoln Hatten (9) got the third period started with a goal on a broken play out in front, finishing off a puck from Tanner Schachle and Connor Welsh to get back within one. Anthony Repaci (29) banged home a goal past Keith Petruzzelli in net for Reading on the coattails of Cole Donhauser rushing the puck into the attacking zone and brought Worcester all the way back with his second goal of the night. 60 minutes of hockey wasn't enough as the game headed into overtime. Bullion and Petruzzelli each made five saves in the overtime period as neither team could score in OT. Royals forward Matt Brown scored the lone goal in the bottom of the first round of the shootout to hand the Railers the 4-3 loss.

GOVERNORS from page 7

time in the organization's and basketball's history. I am excited to get to work to help deepen the Hall's connections to the many audiences basketball touches. The opportunities are boundless."

Tara VanDerveer joins the Naismith Hall of Fame Board – herself a 2011 inductee. VanDerveer retired as the winningest coach in NCAA Division I history, and enjoyed an unprecedented level of success through an energetic and positive approach to the game, and through genuine and lasting connection to her players. As National Coach of the Year five times over three decades, and 18-time Pac-12 Coach of the Year, VanDerveer accumulated an impressive 1,216-271 (.818) record in her 45 years as a collegiate head coach (Stanford, Ohio State, Idaho), and a 1,064-220 (.829) record over 38 seasons at Stanford. Since retiring from her coaching career in 2024, VanDerveer now serves as Special Adviser to the Athletic Director at Stanford University. An ambassador for the sport, and

now teaching a Masterclass for Continuing Education at Stanford, Coach VanDerveer is poised to add tremendous perspective and leadership to the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame. "I am honored to serve on the Naismith Hall of Fame Board of Governors," VanDerveer reflected. "It is an opportunity for me to give back to the game that has given so much to me."

Chairman Jerry Colangelo remarked on the addition of these three new Governors: "I could not be more proud and grateful to welcome Sheila Johnson, Cynt Marshall, and Tara VanDerveer to the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame Board of Governors. I have long admired each's tremendous accomplishments and ability to lead any organization they have been involved with to the highest levels of achievement, with integrity and universal acclaim. Sheila, Cynt, and Tara epitomize the leadership we need to take the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame to its next level at a time we are poised for significant growth."

Thunderbirds offense falters in loss to Penguins

WILKES-BARRE, PA — The Springfield Thunderbirds (34-30-2-4) could not get their offense in rhythm in a 4-1 loss to the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins, who rebranded as the Carbondale UFOs (38-22-7-1) on Saturday night inside Mohegan Arena at Casey Plaza.

In his AHL debut, rookie forward Jacob Hudson could not have dreamt of a better script for his first shift with the T-Birds just 1:45 into the contest. He jumped on the ice, picked off the puck from fellow rookie Harrison Brunicke at the Penguin line, and snapped a perfect wrist shot past the glove of Joel Blomqvist to give Springfield the 1-0 advantage.

From that point forward, though, the Penguins, rebranded on this night as the Carbondale UFOs, kept the pressure on inside the Springfield defensive zone.

At 13:32, Tristan Broz broke through on an odd-man rush, taking a beautiful drop pass from Sam Poulin and beating Colten Ellis to tie the game. The rookie's 19th goal of the year turned out to be just the first of two in a 20-second blitz for the UFOs, as fellow ookie Nolan Renwick cashed in for his first pro tally at the goal crease following a centering pass from Chase Stillman at 13:52. The two strikes gave the home team the 2-1 lead heading into intermission.

Ellis continued to be the busiest man on the ice in the second period. The T-Bird netminder saw his save total rise to 30 through just 40 minutes of game action. Among his best work in the period were splendid close-in shots from Emil Bemstrom and Broz.

Offense continued to be hard to find for the visitors,

and the UFOs eventually added to their lead at 16:44, just seconds after a power play had concluded. Owen Pickering sent the puck to the back door from the right circle, where Atley Calvert wedged it through Ellis to extend the lead to 3-1.

The story did not change much in the third, as Wilkes-Barre/Scranton continued outpacing Springfield in the shot department, finishing the night with a 44-23 advantage in shot attempts. Ellis's terrific night would not be enough despite his 40-save effort. Bemstrom sealed the night with his 22nd of the season into an empty net with 1:31 remaining.

Springfield returns home to close the regular season for a two-game set against the Charlotte Checkers at the Thunderdome next Friday and Saturday.

BOARD from page 1

the outcome of the WSB project will be.

On Tuesday night, there were only 259 voters, and the Selectboard shared their hesitation to rescind their vote in order to hear from the rest of the town.

"Let the people decide," said member David Labonte, and the other members agreed to keep the question on the May 19 ballot, where they would then deal with the results of that vote regarding the question with no appropriation.

With the many different social media pages and sources, confusion began after a post about the projected votes, and the Selectboard discussed ways to put out important information and improve social media posts to avoid future confusion.

They worked out the language to specify how

the vote will go: there will be a question on the May 19 Annual Town Meeting Ballot for whether or not to fund the West Street Building Project, and if it passes according to state laws following the days after voting, there will be a Special Town Meeting for how to appropriate the funds on June 9.

The Selectboard took some time discussing with members in the audience, including Jim Trompke, who asked to look for alternatives to the WSB project, and what the town could do.

The Selectboard members shared their concerns in that they were not in favor of the project from the beginning because of the costs it would bring to the town, and the town's physical inability to finance it.

"We're limited by working with what we have, so that might be one of the reasons why the costs are so

expensive, is because we're trying to fix an old house," said Chair Crystal Dufresne.

Chair of the West Street Building Committee, Lynn Mercier, was also present to discuss with the Selectboard about the project and where, exactly, it will go if the question fails on May 19.

"The whole thing on May 19 is people are coming out to say that 'I agree for the debt exclusion, I'll let my taxes go up \$200 a year, give or take, for the next twenty years'," said Mercier. "There's just a lot of education that has to be done."

After going over some options with Mercier, the Selectboard agreed to meet before the warrant release date of May 5 to be posted to come up with a way to provide the town with information one last time before the vote on the May 19 ballot.

DRAWN from page 1

State Senator Oliveira, and State Rep Homar Gomez in order to share with them the importance and value of a library within a community.

"We have many wonderful programs planned for the upcoming school vacation week, including a children's theater performance from The Pineapple Project, a yoga storytime, a baby lapsit storytime, and a science storytime with Mount Holyoke College students," said Arch.

Librarians perform many services for the communities, and one example was when Arch visited Brighter Beginnings, a local daycare, to do some special storytimes for the children there.

Through a Cultural Council Grant, Arch was also able to bring in the Springfield Symphony Orchestra on April 12 for their Musical Instrument Petting Zoo.

"This is a unique program that teaches kids about instrument families, gives them the opportunity to hear the instruments, and even allows them to try out any instruments they wish," said Arch. "As many public elementary schools no longer have an instrumental music program, this is a really fantastic and valuable opportunity for hands-on experience."

Libraries do so much more than just offer books, and work to ensure the com-

munity can have equal access to programming and beyond.

"The library works with many other local organizations and businesses to bring value to library patrons; all library programs are free, and all library materials are free to borrow with a library card," said Arch. "Library cards themselves are also free, so if you don't already have one, get one today! Kids as young as five years old can get their own cards and start choosing and borrowing books."

The Drawn to the Library display features many different ways in which library patrons and community members have found joy from just being a part of it.



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Friends of the GFPL Spring Book Sale

Book lovers and bargain hunters

GRANBY—The Friends of the Granby Free Public Library will host their annual Month-Long Spring Book Sale during the month of May in the Community Room of the Library. You will be able to choose from a large assortment of used and like-new hardcover, softcover, paperback books, teen books and children’s books, along with a selection of CDs, DVDs, video games and audiobooks. The Library is now accepting donations of hardcover and paperback books, DVDs, music CDs, playable video games, and audiobooks in good condition acceptable for resale.

The Library does not accept donations of: Textbooks, encyclopedias, Reader’s Digest books, or books with smoke, mold, mildew, or water damage. Donations are accepted at the Library during open hours. Please do not leave donated books outside the library or in the book return. Donations accepted until April 29. The Granby Free Public Library is located at 297 E. State St. in Granby. The Book Sale will be held during open library hours throughout the month of May. All proceeds benefit the Friends of the Granby Library, who support library programming. Call for more information 413-467-3320 or visit granbylibrary.org.

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.

American Parkinson Disease Assoc. to educate and empower during the month

APDA supports Massachusetts Parkinson’s community in April and year-round.

BOSTON—April is Parkinson’s Disease Awareness Month, and the American Parkinson Disease Association (APDA) will commemorate the month with a “Did You Know?” campaign that will educate the public about Parkinson’s disease (PD) – highlighting everything from statistics and symptoms to personal stories and ways to get involved – while also helping those affected by PD feel empowered with the resources and support they need. Through a nationwide network of Chapters and Information & Referral (I&R) Centers, APDA works every day to provide the support, education, and research that will help everyone impacted by PD live life to the fullest. The APDA Massachusetts Chapter and APDA I&R Center at Boston University School of Medicine work in tandem to support people living with PD throughout the Commonwealth and beyond, as well as their care partners and loved ones, by helping them assemble the resources, support, and medical expertise they need to feel more

empowered, connected, and optimistic. Throughout Parkinson’s Disease Awareness Month (and always), the APDA Massachusetts Chapter and APDA I&R Center at Boston University have a variety of programs and events planned, with many ways for people to get involved. April is the perfect time to register for the 39th Annual Massachusetts Optimism Walk, which will take place on Sunday, May 18 in Framingham as part of a nationwide initiative to raise awareness and vital funds for the PD community. The Optimism Walk series is a cornerstone of APDA’s efforts to empower individuals living with PD and their families while advancing research towards better treatments and, ultimately, a cure. Additionally, throughout the month, APDA will share educational information and resources on all APDA social media channels using #DidYouKnow. With approximately one million people living with PD in the United States – 21,000 of which are in Massachusetts – and 90,000 new diagnoses every year, it is critical to engage, inform, and support the PD community and raise public awareness about the disease. Parkinson’s Disease Awareness Month is the perfect time to shine a spotlight on this issue. “With a new diagnosis every six minutes, nearly 7,200 people in this country will learn they have PD

in April alone,” states Cathi Thomas, RN, MS, Program Coordinator at the APDA I&R Center at Boston University. “Here in Massachusetts, we are the boots on the ground. From support groups and exercise classes to educational events and access to PD experts, APDA is here for every member of our local PD community, working tirelessly to help make their journey more positive.” Beyond Massachusetts, APDA offers extensive virtual programming and a robust resource library – with many resources available in Spanish and Mandarin/Simplified Chinese – to ensure that all members of the PD community have access to high-quality information and services no matter where they live and to help them to feel connected to the community even from a distance. From popular webinar series like Dr. Gilbert Hosts, Unlocking Strength Within, and Let’s Keep Moving with APDA to a variety of virtual exercise and movement classes, there is something for everyone. Support from the public is crucial, and Parkinson’s Disease Awareness Month is an especially meaningful time to take action to help those coping with this progressive neurodegenerative movement disorder. People can support by raising awareness of PD and/or by making a donation that will enable APDA to continue their critical work and fund research that will lead to better treatments and ultimately, a cure. Every effort makes a difference. The APDA Massachusetts Chapter and APDA I&R Center at Boston University offer a wide range of Parkinson’s disease programs, resources, education, and support. To learn more, visit www.apdaparkinson.org/ma, email apdama@apdaparkinson.org or call 800-651-8466. **About the American Parkinson Disease Association:** The American Parkinson Disease Association (APDA) is a nationwide grassroots network dedicated to fighting Parkinson’s disease (PD) and works tirelessly to assist the more than one million people with PD in the United States live life to the fullest in the face of this chronic, neurological disorder. Founded in 1961, APDA has raised and invested more than \$313 million to provide outstanding patient services and educational programs, elevate public awareness about the disease, and support research designed to unlock the mysteries of PD and end this disease. To join in the fight against Parkinson’s disease and to learn more about the support APDA provides nationally through a network of Chapters and Information & Referral (I&R) Centers, as well as a national Research Program and Centers for Advanced Research, please visit us at www.apdaparkinson.org.

Holyoke Rotary Club announces date of eat, drink & be Holyoke

A premier tasting fundraiser & silent auction

HOLYOKE—The Holyoke Rotary Club has announced the date of the 2025 Eat, Drink, & Be Holyoke, their premier tasting fundraiser and silent auction on Thursday, May 1. The event will take place at the Holyoke Coun-

cil on Aging & Senior Center at 5:30pm and will include live music performed by The Earls & Pearls. Eat, Drink, & Be Holyoke will feature food prepared by Amedeo’s, Fame, Pics Pub, Rusty’s Place, and Sumo. Beverage tastings will be provided by Quality Beverage and Wine Haus. Tasting samples will include craft beer, seltzers, canned cocktails, and wine.

Tickets are \$50 and can be purchased at https://edbh2025.eventbrite.com/. Eat, Drink & Be Holyoke is generously sponsored Holyoke Medical Center, Holyoke Gas & Electric, Carl & Shirley Eger, Holyoke Credit Union, Marcotte Ford, Mountain View Landscapes, Brunault, Proulx & McGuiness, Center School, River Valley Counseling Center, Dowd Insurance, Holyoke

YMCA, and Holyoke Mall At Ingleside. The Holyoke Rotary Club is still identifying additional event sponsors, as well as food and beverage vendors. Local businesses interested in supporting and collaborating together with the Holyoke Rotary Club for this event are encouraged to visit www.holykerotary.com. Proceeds will go towards supporting Rotary projects,

mostly within the Holyoke Rotary district of Holyoke, South Hadley, and Granby, Mass. Ongoing Holyoke Rotary projects include providing several annual scholarships, providing food for those in need through community collaborations, and fostering community engagement with free summer concerts, as well as funding international clean water initiatives. Since 2008 the Holyoke

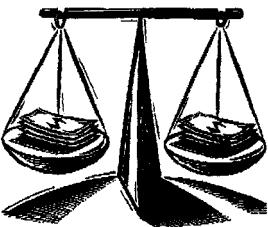
Rotary Club has raised over \$150,000 to fund various projects, including the Miracle League of Western Massachusetts Inclusive Playground at Kennedy Field, the media room at the Holyoke Library, K-9 vests for the Holyoke Police Department, and literacy projects with Kelly School and Holyoke Boys’ and Girls’ Club, among others.

Notice

TOWN OF SOUTH HADLEY PLANNING BOARD NOTICE OF HYBRID PUBLIC HEARING
The Planning Board will hold a hybrid public hearing on **Monday May 5, 2025 at 6:30 p.m.** to consider an application for Site Plan Review filed by Anya Loughran to permit a Home Occupation II to establish a home bakery business at 81 East Street, Assessor’s Map 36 Parcel 147, pursuant to the Zoning Bylaw Article XII (Site Plan Review); 255-22 (Home Occupations); 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/87852853124?pwd=1aa9a5q7aug9cUcQuQb7gn9X3XzCBk.1
Or join by phone: +1 646 558 8656 **Webinar ID:** 878 5285 3124 **Passcode:** 953946
The project is located within the Residential 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’- ‘Site Plan Review’ under section ‘**East Street (81) - Home Occupation**’ or can be viewed at: https://www.southhadley.org/1179/Site-Plan-Review. 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 2025, as signed by the Governor on March 28 2025, an Act extending certain COVID-19 measures adopted during the State of Emergency which further extends temporary provisions pertaining to the Open Meeting Law to June 30, 2027. Brad Hutchison, Clerk South Hadley Planning Board 04/18, 04/25/2025



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CLUES ACROSS
1. Dark blacks
7. Construct a wall to confine
13. Most inappropriate
14. A type of board
16. Sacred Hindu syllable
17. Flatterer
19. The Granite State
20. Tears down
22. China’s Chairman
23. Former Houston footballer
25. Periods of time
26. Expressed pleasure
28. World alliance
29. A Brit’s mother
30. Television network
31. Brother or sister
33. Type of spirit
34. ___ Ladd, actor
36. A medium oversees it
38. One time province of British India
40. Wrong
41. The highest parts of something
43. Insect
44. Baseball stat
45. A way to use up
47. Where wrestlers compete
48. It helps elect politicians
51. As fast as can be done
53. Genus of legumes
55. Samoa’s capital
56. Monument in Jakarta
58. Former French coin
59. Exploiters
60. College sports official
61. Uninterrupted in time
64. Stephen King story
65. Marked by no sound
67. Weathers
69. Denouncements
70. More beloved

CLUES DOWN
1. Winged nut
2. It cools a home
3. Kisses (French)
4. Oxford political economist
5. Keyboard key
6. Leaf pores
7. Agrees with publicly
8. Not around
9. Czech city
10. Muscle cell protein
11. Greek letter
12. Movements
13. Ned __, composer
15. Popular series Game of __
18. Exclamation that denotes disgust
21. Helper
24. Gift
26. Up in the air (abbr.)
27. Treat without respect
30. Trims
32. Slang for lovely
35. City of Angels
37. Guitarists’ tool
38. Island nation
39. Delivered in installments
42. A baglike structure
43. Cooking vessel
46. Gets in front of
47. Wounded by scratching
49. More breathable
50. Medical dressings
52. Indiana hoopster
54. Married Marilyn
55. An ancient Assyrian city
57. Congressmen (abbr.)
59. Approves food
62. Ventura’s first name
63. Between northeast and east
66. Atomic #71
68. Email designation

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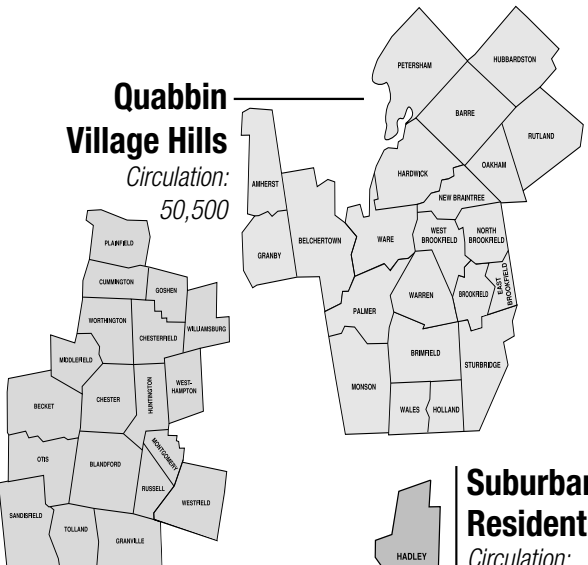
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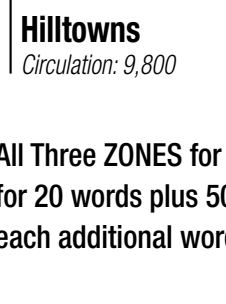
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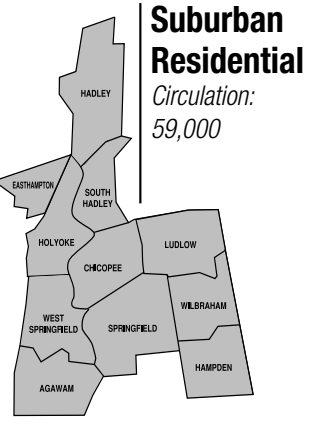
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HYGIENE from page 1

the community as a whole to help those around them,” said Nicole Casolari, the advisor to the Honor Students.

The donations will be donated to the YWCA in Springfield, at 1 Clough St, Springfield, MA and their phone number is (413) 732-3121. You can visit their website for more information.

“We’re happy to take however many donations people are willing to make, because every little bit helps. That being said, we have three drop boxes, so we’re hoping to fill at least one of them by the end of the drive,” said Matzen.

The drive has drop boxes at the South Hadley Public Library, South Hadley Council on Aging, and South Hadley High School, decorated in orange to stand out. The drive will be going on from April 14 to April 26, as the last day to collect donations.

“My hope as our members execute their projects is that they not only are providing support to others around them, but that they are also gaining real-world experiences in

HYGIENE DRIVE

APRIL 14-26TH

HELP THE YWCA WOMEN SHELTER BY DONATING TODAY TO HELP PEOPLE WHO ARE RECOVERING FROM DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.

Donation boxes at South Hadley High School, The Senior Center, and the South Hadley Public Library!



PRODUCTS NEEDED

- HAIR CARE PRODUCTS
- SHAMPOO, CONDITIONER
- BODY WASH, LOTION AND OIL
- TOOTHBRUSH'S AND TOOTHPASTE
- COMBS AND HAIRBRUSHES
- RAZORS, SHAVING CREAM
- DEODERENT
- PANTY LINERS AND MENSTRUAL PRODUCTS
- DIAPERS AND BABY WIPES

Turley Photos by Emily-Rose Pappas

The Honors Students’ Flyers detailing what is needed for the hygiene drive.

communicating effectively, problem solving, and planning in a collaborative way,” said Casolari.

With the women at these shelters oftentimes just leaving with what they are wearing, being able to help provide them with some things to clean up and take care of themselves can be a huge benefit to their emotional and mental well-being as they recover in a safe place.

The YWCA is also looking for diapers in different sizes and baby wipes for women with young children to be able to use when they get to the shelter.

“It is extremely rewarding to see and support them becoming confident in these valuable skills while they also realize the positive impact they can each have on our community,” said Casolari.



Many different self-care and hygiene products are welcome to be donated.

Notice of upcoming Granby road closures

APRIL 25, 2025
GRANBY—Road resurfacing on Truby Street between Taylor Street and the brook. Work will commence on the week of April 25. Please seek alternate routes if possible. Roadway detours and/or closures are anticipated.

Residents may experience short term inconvenience/delays due to construction operations.

APRIL 28, 2025
Road resurfacing on Burnett Street. Work will

commence on the week of April 28, 2025. Work will not be completed until end of June. Please seek alternate routes if possible. Roadway detours and/or closures are anticipated.

JUNE 6, 2025
Road resurfacing on New Ludlow Road between South Street and the South Hadley town line. Work will commence on the week of June 6. Please seek alternate routes if possible. Roadway detours and/or closures are anticipated.

Library offering adult dominoes club

HOLYOKE – Love the strategic game of dominoes? Come play it at the Holyoke Public Library from 5 to 7 p.m. every Monday starting Monday, March 10. The weekly games will be held

in the first-floor board room. For more information, call Abbey at 413-420-8101 or email abuedinger@holyo-kelibrary.org. The event is geared toward adults.

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