

TOWN Reminder

FREE
August 30, 2024
Vol. 55, No. 19



A TURLEY PUBLICATION | www.turley.com

Serving the town of South Hadley

www.townreminder.turley.com



Friends at the FARMER'S MARKET

Submitted Photo

Tessa Berard, of South Hadley was so excited to see her friend Heather Gagne of Cherished Cookie Creations back at the South Hadley Farmer's Market Wednesday. Heather was out the week before due to an injury.

POW/MIA chair of honor approved

Board agrees to placement at sports complex

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

SOUTH HADLEY – The Recreation Commission met together as the summer drew to a close on August 13. The commission began by discussing the past, and future, regarding events and exciting new additions to the town of South Hadley.

The meeting was led by Andy Rogers, and those in attendance from the board including members Kirsten Britton, Laura Friesner, Byron Joy, Ryan Kennedy, David Mendoza, Danielle Bachand, and Kathleen Sharkey.

Request for Chair of Honor

Rogers also welcomed Brian Willette from the American Legion South Hadley Post 20, to come with a proposal to place a permanent POW/MIA chair of honor at the South Hadley Sports Complex.

"This chair is to honor those who are missing in action, or held as prisoners of war," Willette said. "There are still 81,000 service members still missing in action since World War II, and

of those 81,000, 2,800 are from Massachusetts."

Of the 2,800 servicemen, eight are from the town of South Hadley, and three graduated from SHHS. Willette shared his desire for the announcement of the chair be at the Military and First Responders night on Friday, September 27.

There will be several teams playing at the South Hadley Sports Complex, including the

"This is something for us veterans that's in our hearts and our blood. It's our duty to remember our fallen, especially our missing," Willette said.

The Legion, with the help of some local historians of South Hadley, have worked together to piece together the stories.

"This is a very unique way for our community to come together and honor these missing service members," Willette said. "These are stories we want to keep alive, and I think this is a very appropriate way, involving our youth."

The board moved to approve the establishment of the chair of honor.

PARC Grant and Committee

"We applied for a \$300,000 bill through Senator Oliveira's office that we didn't get," Rogers

Please see **REC**, page 6

Community forum on zoning planned

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

SOUTH HADLEY – The Route 202/33 Zoning Advisory Committee met online on Aug. 19.

The meeting was led by Consultant Emily Keys Innes, the President of Innes Associates, as well as Supriya Kelkar, the Urban Planner and Designer at Innes.

Also in attendance were committee members Michael Beauchemin, Ken LeBlanc, Martha Terry, Nate Therian, and Dan Luis. Director of Planning and Conservation, Anne Capra was also in attendance.

Introduction and process updates

Emily Innes opened the meeting to review a slideshow of updates and progress regarding the Non-Conforming Parcel Analysis, Social Pinpoint Website, and the September community meeting coming up.

Innes provided a brief explanation

on where in the process the committee is in the project process and timeline, where they are in the analysis of conditions.

Community workshops and presentations starting in September 2024 and going through March 2025 that will be open to the public to be able to ask questions and give feedback.

The meetings and workshops include an in-person workshop on September 16 focusing on boundaries and uses, and a virtual workshop on November 14 focusing on design guidelines and standards.

After a break in December for the holidays, there will be an in-person presentation on draft zoning and design guidelines on January 16, 2025.

A Planning Board Hearing will focus on draft zoning and design guidelines for the Town Meeting Warrant in February or March of 2025.

Each of the members of the committee committed to doing

Dawn to dusk gold marathon helps raise money for Jimmy Fund

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

SOUTH HADLEY – For the past 25 years, the Chicopee Country Club hosted a 108-hole golf marathon to raise money for the Jimmy Fund.

A dozen people came to play this past Monday in honor of loved ones they lost to cancer, and altogether, the day raised about \$15,000 to go to the Jimmy Fund.

"The marathon began 25 years ago by myself and my uncle Ken O'Neill who was diagnosed with colon cancer," Michael O'Neill, the coordinator of the event, said.

"A golf marathon was a fun way to raise money for the Jimmy Fund with no expenses," O'Neill said.

The day began at dawn, ending at dusk with a 19th



Submitted photo

Michael O'Neil (left) with his father, Robert O'Neil (right) were just two people who helped raise money for the Jimmy Fund.

Please see **FUND**, page 6

► South Hadley

Community forum to explore new zoning for Routes 202/33

SOUTH HADLEY —The Town of South Hadley is exploring new zoning options along Routes 202 and 33 to support appropriate growth and development along the 1-mile corridor.

Potential rezoning under consideration is based on recommendations from a Corridor Study adopted in January 2022. This section of roadway links South Hadley to Granby in the north and Chicopee in the south and is the most heavily traveled route in town.

The corridor contains a broad mix of residential, commercial, and open space and recreation uses. The intersection of Routes 202 and 33 at the heart of the corridor is centered between the Plains Elementary School and the Big Y Shopping Plaza.

Zoning recommendations will be informed by public input at a series of four community forums, the first of which is on Monday, Sept. 16, at 6 p.m. at the South Hadley Council on Aging at 45 Dayton Street.

Can't make the community forum, share your thoughts on the future development of the corridor on the interactive project website through the online mapping exercise: <https://community.innesassoc.com/south-hadley>

Funding for this project is provided by a Community Planning Grant from the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities.

The Town has hired Innes Associates Ltd. as the project consultant.

A five member project advisory committee was appointed by the Selectboard in April. Additional community forums will be held: Wednesday, Oct. 16 from 6-8 p.m.

VIRTUAL <https://bit.ly/4fPZM9POr>
Telephone: +1 646 558 8656

Webinar ID: 883 0895 6522 Passcode: 713870

Thursday, Nov. 14 from 6-8 p.m. at the South Hadley Public Library.

Thursday, Jan. 16 from 6-8 p.m. at South Hadley Public Library.

FORUM from page 1

some outreach about the project, including direct mailing, adding to newsletters, and posting on social media.

Non-conforming parcel analysis

“We like to look at this when we’re talking about zoning, because it’s very important for us to understand what’s there now,” Innes said.

Sometimes, a building may not meet various zoning requirements, so when a zoning change is considered, it’s important to understand what is there, and what isn’t in terms of availability.

The first analysis is to look at building coverage, which is “how much of the lot area is covered by building,” Innes explained.

By going through and revising the building coverage, you can then figure out which ones are non-conforming when it comes to the final zoning.

The next analysis type is frontage analysis, and Innes defined it as “the part of the land that is next to a street or road, based on the address of the property.”

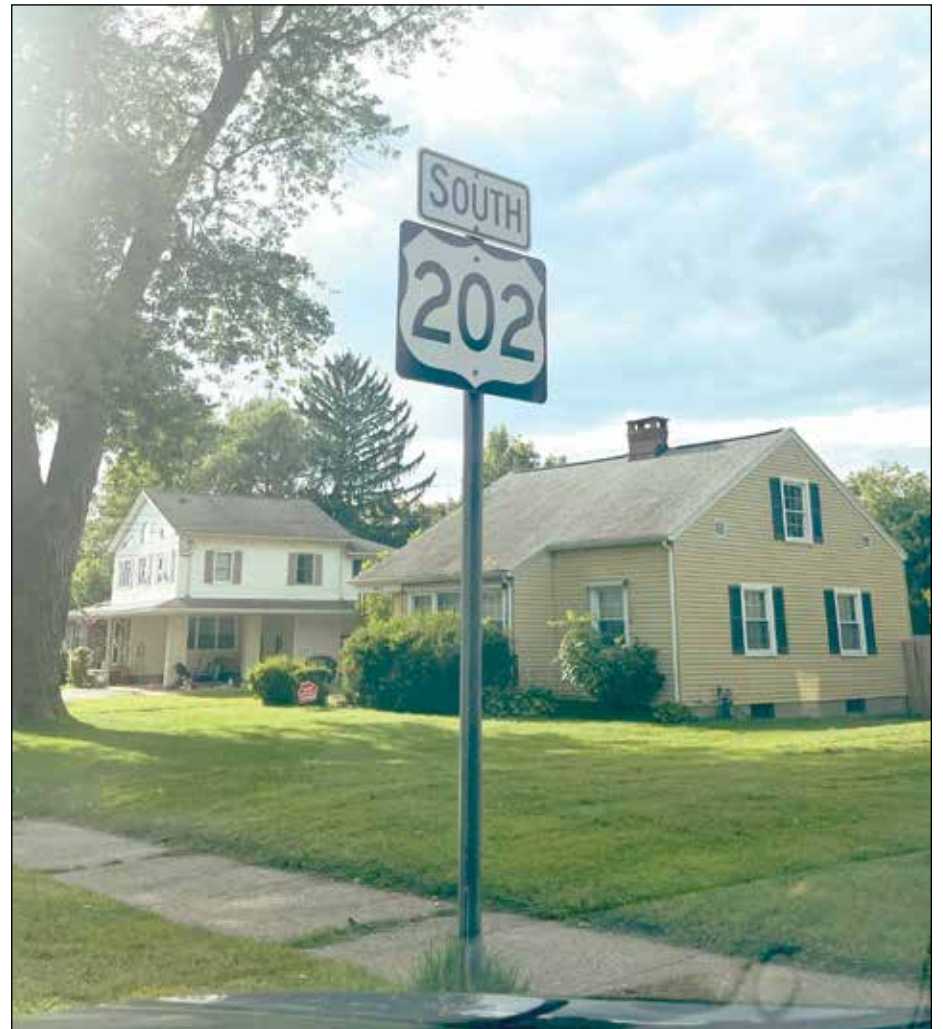
“Impervious surface is building plus any sort of hard hardscape. What that means is driveways, parking areas, paved sidewalks that get you to the building,” Innes explained of the third analysis.

A fourth non-conformity analysis is the setback analysis, which is “the distance between a property line and the area where the building can take place”.

September community meeting

At the September community meeting, Supriya Kelkar, the Urban Planner and Designer at Innes prepared an overview of the topics and information that will be provided and presented.

The meeting will provide an introduction to the team and committee with information on who they are and what they do, followed by details on what the project is



Turley photo by Emily-Rose Pappas



THE MUSIC

THE THRILLS

THE SPIRIT



3COUNTYFAIR.COM LABOR DAY WEEKEND

FREE PARKING AUG 30-SEPT 2

NORTHAMPTON, MA 207TH CONSECUTIVE

AMERICA'S OLDEST ON-GOING AGRICULTURAL FAIR

for and about.

“For the September community forum, the focus of our meeting is site design and building form,” Kelkar said. “Just helping people understand how the forms of buildings interact with zoning.”

The meeting will also have a “Zoning 101” session, which details “what is zoning, and how it’s going to impact, and how all of these exercises tie back into this project,” Kelkar said.

The meeting is also going to have an interactive workshop with three workshops, and the main workshop will be

building block design that will show how structures are built.

In the interactive workshop, people will be able to use pieces in order to construct a neighborhood, and how they are correctly zoned.

The board also reviewed a model of the time the session will take, materials, and how to time the activities throughout the session, pointing to the Social Point Website, so people who can’t attend the actual meetings can still keep up with the information.



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 Mon.-Thurs. 11am-10pm; Fri. & Sat. 11am - Midnight; Sun. 12pm - 8pm

Cultural council holding grantee reception

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

SOUTH HADLEY – The August 14 meeting of the Cultural Council was led by Chair John Anz, and was accompanied by Treasurer Ira Brezinsky, Secretary Mary Anne Myers, Grants Manager Geraldine de Berly, and Publicity and Marketing Manager David Solender-Clark.

Members also in attendance included Pauline (Joy) Jarne, Caroline Martin, Olive Rowell, Eric Weiss, and Dien Vo.

Treasurer's report

Treasurer Ira Brezinsky gave the report on the prior balance as of April 11, 2024, which totaled to \$6,018, and May and June saw each an accrued interest of \$1.86, bringing the new balance as of June 12, 2024, to \$6,019.86.

"The council voted a little less than a year ago, to take \$2,000 of the local fund to support the Showcase South Hadley Festival in October," Brezinsky

said.

However, because of weather-related interruptions, the council didn't end up needing to rent an outdoor stand, and because they didn't need to, the money

Outstanding issues on 2023 grants

There were eight total final reports that were not submitted, or were missing, and two did not respond for their grant requests after repeated outreach from the council.

The two grants, totaling \$550, was not spent by the council, and they decided to move on, after not hearing anything more from the two applicants for the grants.

2024 Grants: Calendar and Publicity

The council also reviewed the upcoming 2024 grants, including calendar and publicity. The council also shared the idea of updating the website to keep the grant information up and available for people to see.

"We've got a process in place, that we can share with either current or new grantees at the reception in September, but also have one in place for January, one for the new grant cycle, and the new projects," Anz said.

Grantee reception on Sept. 19

Anz announced a new date and location for the Grantee Reception to be in the Library Community Room on Sept. 19.

"It's still small, but we are still working with our grantees," Anz said. The reception is meant to share information regarding how to apply for grants, as well as provide information about what the council does.

The council put up more information on their Facebook page, and hope that this will be a good opportunity for the community to learn more about grants and becoming grantees.

Reaching out to South Hadley artists

Mary Anne Myers and Caroline Martin worked together to create a poster to announce the

Cultural Council's desire to support local artists of all kinds in order to showcase their pieces.

The flyer also contains a QR code to a link to apply for a grant to have their work supported, where they will be invited to the September 19 Grantee Reception.

At the reception, they can learn more about opportunities, grants, and networking and showcasing their works.

Showcase South Hadley 2025 date

Showcase South Hadley 2025 will be the final weekend in April, from the 26 to 27, and there is going to be a second committee meeting regarding the upcoming celebrations.

People from the Chamber, at Mount Holyoke, and from the public schools are on the committee, to make this happen.

"I would just add that the goal from the first meeting... (was) really focusing as much as possible on local talent, really showcasing, what is local," Brezinsky said.

Man dies after weekend crash in Hadley

HADLEY — A man from Three Rivers died as a result of injuries sustained in a crash in Hadley around noon Saturday, Aug. 24.

The collision between a motorcycle and truck took place on East Street when a motorcycle traveling northbound and a truck heading southbound collided as the truck was turning left into a driveway. The operator of the motorcycle, James Lis, 70, was transported to Baystate Medical Center, where he died. The crash remains under investigation by Hadley Police, State Police detectives attached to the Northwestern District Attorney's Office, State Troopers with the Crime Scene Services Section and the Collision Analysis and Reconstruction Section.

The Office of the Chief Medical Examiner will determine the cause of death.

Dual stream recycling still in effect

SOUTH HADLEY—This is a reminder to South Hadley residents that dual stream recycling is still in effect until June 30, 2025.

Recycling materials need to be separated into 2 bins: paper and cardboard in one bin, and bottle/cans/glass into another

bin. Republic Services has reported that combined recyclable violations have increased since July 1.

The single stream recyclable collections will coincide with the new trash carts starting July 1, 2025.

For any questions, please

contact the DPW at 413-538-5030.



CHECK OUT ALL THE

Turley Publications

www.newspapers.turley.com

South Hadley Public Library

www.shadleylib.org • 413-538-5045

September events at South Hadley Public Library, 2 Canal Street

IN PERSON AUTHOR TALK

Huzza!: Toasting a New Nation, 1760-1815 by Timothy Symington. Wednesday, Sept. 4 at 6 p.m. Learn about the American Revolutionary War through the War of 1812 through political drinking toasts! The toasts were one of the earliest forms of social media. Like "tweets," they gave a glimpse of popular opinion at a particular moment, and then they were gone by the next newspaper edition. The toasts were used to spread national ideology, or they became weapons of political propaganda.

SPARKIE ALLISON MUSIC

Wednesday, Sept. 18 at 6 p.m. Come on down and listen to local musician singer/songwriter Sparkie Allison. She is sure to entertain and inspire.

SMALL APPLIANCE SWAP

Saturday, Sept. 21 at 10 a.m. Do you have a kitchen item sitting on your counter that is clean, and still works- but you no longer use it? Bring it down to the library and swap it for something new to you! For example: a rice cooker, coffee maker, or air fryer- bring it in. It must be in working condition and clean. If it is not clean it will be refused. Drop offs will begin on Tuesday, Sept. 3rd until Friday, Sept. 20th. You will receive a ticket for each item you bring. Then come on Sat., Sept. 21st. The library doors open at 9:30 am.

September events at Gaylord Memorial Library, 47 College Street

SPICE CLUB

returns this fall. The first meeting will be Thursday, Sept. 5 at 6:30, where we will be sampling Southern New England Spice Company's Buffalo Spice Mix. Preregister at shadleylib.org / https://tinyurl.com/gaylordchainmail

CHAINMAIL BRACELET MAKING CLASS

Castle Nitor will bring their Chainmail Bracelet Making Class to Gaylord on Thursday, Sept. 12 at 6 p.m. Participants can keep what they make. Register at https://tinyurl.com/gaylordchainmail.

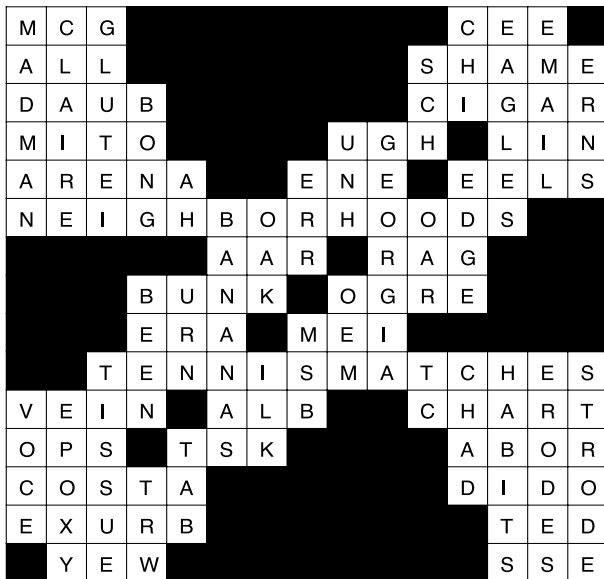
FALL PLANT SWAP

Bring your extra fall plants and bulbs to our Fall Plant Swap on Friday, Sept. 27 from 3-5 and take home something new.



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.



EARLY DEADLINES

In observance of Labor Day, the **CLASSIFIEDS** have an **EARLY AD DEADLINE.**

To advertise, place your ad no later than **NOON**

Friday, August 30

Thank you!

A TURLEY PUBLICATION
www.turley.com

Opinion

in the Garden

by Roberta McQuaid



Next year I will not...

It's just about now when I feel, to some degree, embarrassed to be called the Garden Lady.

You see, my garden is not as well kept as I'd like it to be. I skimped in a few areas that I shouldn't of.

As my oldest is about to enter her last year of high school I reflect back on the year of her birth, and how dismal my garden was that year. It was the first summer without a dog to keep critters at bay. We had a whole family of woodchucks eat pretty much everything in the garden.

I consoled myself by saying that I was growing a human that year and not a bunch of vegetables.

While responsibilities have changed in the fact I am no longer changing diapers or zipping up avocado and sweet potato in the blender, I'm still pretty busy with the kids and that has taken priority over a tidy garden. Usually it comes down to getting out what you put in and honestly, the garden has pretty much been on it's own since mid June. Gasp.

Maybe you can relate. So, the column today will be about what I plan to do better on next year, especially since I don't anticipate life slowing down anytime soon.

Next year I will not, absolutely not, skimp on fertilizer. My nature is to be frugal, but I will go back to the statement above of getting out what you put in.

I know that 12-foot squash vines probably need more sustenance than the few shovels of compost I put in their hills. This is evident by how pale the leaves are.

Contrast that to the self-sown decorative squash plants that grew in my compost pile comprised mainly of chicken bedding and manure. They are unbelievably healthy, replete with numerous healthy fruit.

My soil test did indicate that nitrogen was low, and I did intend to go back when I bought that new bag of blood meal and amend it further but alas I did not. Next year I will not skimp on fertilizer.

Next year I will not, absolutely not, skimp on mulch. When I looked at what was left for mulch from the previous year I figured I had enough to get by.

Wrong. Part of the reason the yard looks like a jungle is because I should have mulched thicker. Mulch serves several purposes. It covers bare soil and prevents weed seeds in the soil from seeing the light of day, germinating and turning into a nuisance.

Mulch also breaks down over time into organic matter then humus, and feeds the soil. It also helps to conserve moisture.

Until this week we didn't really need help with that, but the abundance of rain, added to not nearly thick enough mulch, surely made for numerous weeds! Next year I will not skimp on mulch.

Next year I will not, absolutely not, let the weeds take over. The first two "will nots" relate to this paragraph entirely.

I prepped the garden and knew I should till in the old strawberry plants. I looked at a few sparse blossoms and thought, "I may get a few berries, I'll leave them in place and till them in later."

Well, the berries were few and far between but the surrounding weeds took over. Then the necrotic squash plants grew all over the weeds and the strawberry plants so I'm forced to wait until the first frost to deal with the whole mess.

I'm not sure who said it first, but it's a smart diatribe: "Do not put off until tomorrow what can be done today."

With all this said I must cut myself some slack, and if you failed anywhere along the line with your garden, you should as well. Our gardens are a work in progress and although I wish I had done a better job, I did OK.

Please see **GARDEN**, page 5



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Helping Vice President Harris

Vice President Harris has given new energy to the Democratic Party. Harris Supports democracy instead of destroying it. Harris Supports the low and middle classes instead of the rich one percent. Harris Supports women instead of abusing them, insulting them, and taking away their rights over their bodies. Harris Supports our climate instead of cutting all the programs that will help it. Harris Supports the law instead of being a convicted felon. Harris Supports peace and safety instead of riots and guns.. It is important that he is defeated by a large margin so it is obvious that his ideas are rejected and we don't have another January 7. We all need to vote and donate to her campaign. There is no time to wait! Some states such as Pennsylvania will be voting very soon.

John Howard
South Hadley

Her power to affect change will rest on control of the House and Senate. We in Massachusetts have a strong democratic state with good people representing us. It is very difficult for us to directly help convince the undecided in Arizona, South Carolina etc. But it is possible by giving funds to the Democratic organizations which will help candidates in swing states.

Here are four organizations that do such work: the House Majority PAC, the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee (DCCC), the Senatorial Majority PAC and the Democratic Senatorial Campaign Committee (DSCC).



Retiree asks about his Social Security

Dear Rusty:

I retired with a (gross) \$4,600 per month Civil Service Retirement System annuity from the U.S. Postal Service in December 2022. I am 66 and will attain Full Retirement Age in November of this year.

I know at that point I will not be subject to the "earnings" test, but I will be affected by the dreaded "government offset." I have earned enough quarters and will be eligible for a small social security benefit.

First question: will my Social Security benefit just be reduced or will it be eliminated? Second: will it make a difference if I apply in November or when I turn 70? I am currently working part-time and paying Social Security FICA taxes.

Third: if my SS is being eliminated, do I even have to apply? Fourth and last: I am married, filing jointly and my wife is currently receiving SS benefits (only). Could I also be affected by the "windfall" provision if my wife predeceased me?

Thank you in advance for your service as a Social Security Advisor.

Signed: *Upset to Offset and Downfall to Windfall*

Dear Upset:

You are correct that when you reach your Full Retirement Age in November you will

no longer be subject to Social Security's "earnings test," which limits how much you can earn while collecting early benefits. But if you apply for your Social Security to start in November, your SS benefits will be affected by the Windfall Elimination Provision due to your non-covered CSRS pension because you didn't pay into SS while earning your CSRS pension.

As you may know, only those federal employees, who retired under CSRS are affected by WEP; newer Federal employees, who retire under the more recent Federal Employee Retirement Program program are not affected.

Because of your CSRS pension, your Social Security benefit will be reduced, but not eliminated. The amount of reduction will be based on the number of years of non-government employment you had where you paid into Social Security. Usually, those who have spent a lifetime earning a pension without contributing to SS, but who have a separately earned SS pension, will see their SS benefit cut approximately in half.

To answer your second question, your benefit will, indeed, continue to grow if you wait until you are age 70 to claim Social Security.

Benefits taken after one's FRA earn "Delayed Retirement Credits," which add to your final benefit amount. Your benefit will still be reduced by WEP, but your final amount will be more because you waited longer to claim.

Regarding your third question, your SS benefit will only be reduced, not eliminated, so it's always worthwhile to apply. Otherwise, you are forfeiting Social Security money you are entitled to.

And lastly, if your wife dies before you, your CSRS pension will also cause another provision called the Government Pension

Please see **SSI**, page 5

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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www.turley.com

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Buttery Brook Park

Happenings

Events for the upcoming week

Fri, Aug. 30 - from 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. - Cruise Night with It Takes Two (Joe & Amanda) performing on the Buttery Brook stage

Wed, Sept. 4 - from 2 p.m. to 6 p.m. - Farmer's Market

Friday, Sept. 6 - 5 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. - Final Cruise Night of the season

Pickleball Courts - Daily Open Play (Mon-Sun), 8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m. / Weeknight Open Play (Mon-Fri), 4:30 to 10 p.m.

Spray Park - Open Daily, 10:30 a.m. to 6:30 p.m. (closes Sept 8)

Friends of GPL Fall library fundraiser

GRANBY—Friends of the Granby Public Library are having a Fall and Halloween Gnome Fundraiser, featuring a variety of themed gnomes handmade by members of the library's "In-Stitches" knitting group. Gnome designs include pumpkins, sunflowers, football, candy corn, ghosts, vampires and more. All gnomes are \$5 and the proceeds benefit the Friends of the Granby Library.

Local residents to participate in Boston Jimmy Fund Walk

SOUTH HADLEY—Four residents from South Hadley will participate in the Boston Marathon Jimmy Fund Walk presented on Sunday, Oct. 6.

Allyson Ramondetta, Barbara Tillman, Elena Tillman, and Beth Neas, along with thousands of other walkers, will participate in the iconic annual event that will unite the community to raise funds to support all forms of adult and pediatric care and research at the nation's premier cancer center, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute. The Jimmy Fund Walk has raised more than \$176 million for Dana-Farber in its 35-year history, raising a record-breaking \$9.4 million in 2023.

"For 35 years, the Jimmy Fund Walk has continuously

supported lifesaving research and cancer care at Dana-Farber. Our goal is to build off of the momentum we've established throughout that history, and in 2024, aim to surpass our total from last year by raising \$9.5 million," says Caitlin Fink, assistant vice president of event fundraising. "Fighting cancer is what we do. The Walk unites our community under a common goal, to defy cancer together."

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

GARDEN from page 4

We enjoyed some yummy green beans and I froze some kale. I did make tomato sauce on a couple of occasions and hopefully will have another chance at it and maybe I'll get a few butternuts to eat.

I know for sure I'll get some nice decorative squash, thanks to the composted chicken manure. Live and learn I guess.

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

SSI from page 4

Offset provision to apply. The GPO will reduce your surviving spouse benefits by 2/3rds of the amount of your government CSRS pension, which will likely eliminate any spousal benefit you are entitled to except the so-called "death benefit," which is a one-time lump sum \$255 benefit paid to a surviving spouse).

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 informational 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 amac-foundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory or email us at ssadvisor@amac-foundation.org. Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

Parents & Coaches

SEND US YOUR NEWS & PHOTOS
email us at: townreminder@turley.com

St. Paul's to hold Fall Festival

HOLYOKE — St. Paul's Episcopal Church, 485 Appleton St., will hold their Fall Festival on Saturday, Sept. 28, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Parish Hall and on the Church grounds.

There will be something for everyone: gift basket raffles, \$5 fundraising raffle, vendors, plants, bake sale, a cafe, and outdoor activities for families.

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

For more information, please call the Church Office at 413-532-5060.



Announce Your Wedding or Engagement

Share Your Joy!



Your wedding or engagement announcement will be included in our Bridal Guide, out September 30, 2024 for FREE!

Be sure to include the following with photograph. Deadline September 4, 2024:

Bride's Name: _____

Bride's Town Residence: _____

Groom's Name: _____

Groom's Town Residence: _____

Wedding Date: _____

Wedding Location: _____

EMAIL TO: JAMIE@TURLEY.COM

BRIDAL GUIDE

800.824.6548 | www.turley.com

Be sure to include a high resolution, clear photograph for printing.

TOWN ORDERED AUCTIONS

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2024

PALMER

12:00 PM at Palmer Town Hall - 4417 Main St.

Selling the Thorndike School at 4023 Main St.

and a Single Family Home at 3002 East St.

SOUTH HADLEY

2:00 PM On Site at 144 Pearl St.

Selling a Single Family Home at 144 Pearl St.

VISIT WEBSITE FOR DETAILS

zekosgroup.com



ZEKOS GROUP AUCTIONEERS

508-842-9000

LIC #104



Community vaccine clinic

GRANBY—The vaccine clinic will be for flu and COVID vaccines for any interested individuals ages 6 months and older at East Meadow School gym, 393 E State St., on Saturday, Oct. 5 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. Individuals should bring their insurance card, but no one will be turned away due to lack of insurance. Preregistration is highly encouraged and recommended. If individuals need help registering, please call 413-587-4903 or email nurses@northhampton.gov.



Michael O'Neill hitting the ball as it soars off towards the sky.

Submitted photo

FUND from page 1

hole party to celebrate, hosted by the Boathouse of South Hadley.

Inspired by his relationship with his Uncle Ken, O'Neill continues the golf marathon every year, and has reached 25 years, all the while keeping his memory alive.

"My favorite part is talking about memories of past marathons and the people that we do this for," O'Neill said.

On a special sign, there is a list of names and photographs to remember loved ones the golfers came to play for.

These included Theresa P. Burke, John "Chippy" Kupiec, Claire and Dick Condren, Robert Ledoux, Thomas A. Burke Jr., Dr. Paul Gobeille, Bill Ochoa, Jack O'Neill, Gladys O'Neill, Don Madson, Johnny Yee, and Takvor S. Melikian.

"It is very rewarding at the end of the day, that no matter how tired I am from doing this, it's nothing to what the people fighting cancer feel," O'Neill said.

REC from page 1

explained. "Our real trouble at this point is, I think we have about \$850,000 or so to spend, and our budget's at about a million at this point."

Rogers announced having to prioritize the build and construction on Buttery Brook, and how to go about making cuts or adjustments to the plan.

"It's been very productive, and hopefully we will, once we finally figure out what we're cutting and get to, it'll be great," Kirsten Britton said.

Kim Prough has been working to raise money for the project, and there are ornaments on the fence at the park, each one commemorating a donation for the park.

"We're hoping to go to bid within the next month," Rogers said. "And then construction would start sometime in the early October timeframe and then be done by June 1, 2025."

Human Services Department Update

Rogers introduced the topic with the announcement that Danielle will be moving up to work with the Council on Aging, and clarified that he has switched to a new office.

"We're running everything that we normally run," Rogers said. "We've cut nothing back... but certainly we're gonna do everything we can to keep doing everything we've done and more."

South Hadley High School's scoreboard and cheerleading exhibition

Rogers also announced that the High School's new scoreboard has been installed, and the power to it has

been installed. "I'm really, really excited about it," Rogers said.

One of the upcoming fall sport games will also announce and recognize the sponsors for the sign. "It's been a long time in the making for that, so we're really excited about this," Rogers said.

The cheerleading exhibition is October 19, and packets will be emailed out to all the teams for them, and Rogers submitted a request with the Board of Health to get highway signs to direct people for parking, and for big lights to be put up at the Bowl.

Summer programs review

The committee reviewed several different programs and how they went over the summer, including the Big Rigs, Fireworks, and concerts.

The July 3 fireworks "was a great success", Rogers said. There were food trucks, a local band, DJ, and the show was amazing.

"Big Rig Day was an amazing success... I think by the end, we had seventy-five cars there," Rogers said, "It was really well-attended, and it was a big smiles day."

Concerts on the common also remained a hit, and were very well-attended throughout the whole summer.

"Challenge Island was new this year," Danielle Bachand said of the new event that came to Western Massachusetts for the first time.

There was also three soccer programs, a slime camp, and eighty-five preschoolers participated every Sunday and Wednesday in futsal, a kind of soccer that is played indoors on a smaller court.

The fall sports are starting, including football and soccer at the schools.

New bench to be installed

The Water District 1 will be installing a public bench on the 202 run, as the Bike/Walk Committee and it will be decorated with a shrubbery and flowers.

"It is a Master Plan goal to have these in five different spots," Rogers said. "It's something that we're hoping that catches on."

The bench should be going in by the end of the month.

SHOWCASE South Hadley

April 25 to 27, 2025 will be held with the schools and last year, it was held in October.

"It's trying to highlight the town and show different things," Rogers said. The dates were chosen to be the "tail-end" of spring break so that as many people can join as possible.

Fall Programs

Tackle football and cheerleading have begun, as well as Roots Programs, and field hockey. Sports for Kindergarten through second grade will begin after Labor Day.

Pickleball Club up and running

Paula Lonergan, a teacher at South Hadley High School and a lover of the game of pickleball, came to the board to share the new club at the high school.

Lonergan came up with the proposal to use the Buttery Brook Park courts for a slotted time period on Thursday nights for the duration of the five-week club.

The club will rely on the students' own transportation to courts, and will kick-off with a fun jamboree with students from other towns, and will end with a tournament with students from other states as well.

The board approved of the time usage for the courts at Buttery Brook, as well as the formation of the club at the high school.

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Girls soccer begins pursuit of state title



Allison Fleury chases down a loose ball.

SOUTH HADLEY – After falling just short of a state championship last year, South Hadley High School girls soccer is back in action. The Tigers hosted a play day featuring several school last Sunday. Agawam, Chicopee Comprehensive, Tantasqua, and Minnechaug visited and engaged in short scrimmages with one another. The Tigers are preparing for a Labor Day opener on Monday, Sept. 2 against Belchertown at 1 p.m. at home.



Riley Fisher sends a quick pass away.



Grace Sherman tries to clear the ball ahead of pressure.



The girls soccer team attempts to defend against Minnechaug's offense.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Central Mass. wins Bay State Games

West team falls in bronze medal game

WALTHAM – The Central and West field hockey teams well-represented their regions in the Bay State Games held over the summer. The Central team won the gold while the West team made it to bronze game. Here are some highlights of the tournament.

Central won an early round game against Metro/Northeast 3-1. Central goals scored by juniors Katelynn Swistak (6) and Emma Huslander (2) as well as sophomore Elly Schofer (8). Metro/Northeast's lone goal was scored by sophomore Lia Arevalo (10) assisted by freshman Addison Aufiero (8).

West had a wild tie with Coastal 5-5. Sophomore Adeline Finlaw (3) scored 2 goals and had one assist for Coastal. Sophomore Paige Moreau (8) had both a goal and an assist. Other Coastal goals scored were from juniors Lilly Cook (9) and Summer Silverman (11). Junior Ellia Delisle (15) and sophomore Kelsey McCleary (5) each had an assist. Central goals scored by juniors Emma Huslander (2) and Katelynn Swistak (6), sophomore Elly Schofer (8), freshman Makenzie Casey (1), and 8th grader Isabelle Stanley (4).

Please see **GAMES**, page 8

Former Red Sox prospect leads new baseball camp

By **Tim Peterson**
Sports Correspondent

WILBRAHAM— Many sports camps were held throughout Western Massachusetts



Catcher TJ Ryan catches a ball at the plate.

during the past several months.

The Summer Sendoff Baseball Camp took place on the baseball fields at Spec Pond in Wilbraham from August 19-22. The camp was run by Dustin Brisson, who played Minor League Baseball for the Boston Red Sox.

"I held a couple of private baseball clinics with Doug Clark, who's the WooSox hitting coach, during the offseason," Brisson said. "I spoke with the Wilbraham Parks & Recreation Department about holding a baseball camp during the summertime. All these kids just love playing the game of baseball. I really wanted them to have high quality instruction and the resources to be successful."

Brisson was aided at the four day camp by Bryan Barnows-

ki, Ace Adams, Gary Burnham, who was an All-American baseball player at Clemson University, and Dan Gomez, who's the head baseball coach at Western New England University. Minnechaug Regional varsity baseball coach Mike Netkovich worked at the camp for one day. Ray Fagnant, who's the Boston Red Sox Northeast Regional Scouting Supervisor, also attended the camp for a day. Fagnant grew up in Chicopee.

About 40 baseball players between the ages of 6-16 from Wilbraham and the surrounding communities attended the inaugural baseball camp.

"We have a few kids from South Hadley, Agawam, and East Longmeadow at this camp," Brisson added. "This is a very good group of kids to work with. All of them listen to us and they're having a lot of fun."

The players were split up into two groups.



Parker Duquette dives for a barehanded catch.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

"We play a lot more games with the younger kids, who are in grades 1-5," Brisson said. "We do more skills with the older kids."

Brisson, who was born in Florida, played college baseball at the University of Central Flor-

Please see **CAMP**, page 8

Sports

Fanning captures win in Street Stocks

THOMPSON, CT — A perfect Wednesday, Aug. 14 afternoon in the quiet corner of Connecticut brought the fans in droves for the annual NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour Wednesday night showcase at Thompson Speedway. The Thompson 150 presented by FloSports headlined a seven division card of racing on Wednesday night that also included a fan-favorite visit for the New England Supermodified Series and the five track championship divisions that call Thompson home throughout the season.

The Street Stocks started off the evening's feature racing with Scott Sundeen at the head of the pack. Sundeen powered up looking to nab his first win of the season followed by Al Stone III, 'Leadfoot' Larry Barnett and Corey Fanning nose-to-tail behind him. The lone caution on lap 12

Please see **RACE**, page 11

T-Birds announce series of front office promotions

SPRINGFIELD — With Opening Night less than two months away, the Springfield Thunderbirds proudly announced that six veteran front office staff members will take on promotions to their roles for the 2024-25 season.

Last season, the team achieved multiple franchise milestones, including all-time Springfield hockey records in average attendance per game (6,321), sellout games (20), season ticket members, and group sales revenue. The team ended the 2023-24 season by posting an incredible 14 consecutive sellouts.

Jessica Hansen has been promoted to Senior Director of Finance and Human Resources. Hansen, an alumna of Western New England University and a native of Feeding Hills, Mass., has been on the Thunderbirds staff since 2017. In addition to her finance and HR responsibilities, she has been integral in growing the team's in-game charitable presence through 50/50, jersey raffle, and Chuck-a-Puck sales. She has also served a supervisory role in the club's charitable foundation matters and merchandise.

Drew Supenor has been promoted to Senior Manager of Brand Development & Merchandise. A Springfield native and Springfield College alumnus, Supenor has grown the Thunderbirds' merchandise revenues each season since the club's

inception in 2016 through many unique product lines, such as the team's various specialty night rebrands throughout the year. In 2023-24, the team generated six times greater revenue in merchandise when compared to the final season of the Springfield Falcons in 2015-16. In recognition of his customer service and dedication, Supenor was honored with a 2024 Howdy Award for hospitality excellence this past May.

Lauren Blanchard has been promoted to Senior Account Executive, Groups and Experiences. An Agawam, Mass. native, Blanchard joined the Thunderbirds in 2021 and has set multiple team records for group tickets, including the most sold for a single game. Thanks to Blanchard's efforts and the entirety of the ticket sales department, the Thunderbirds' group sales revenue has grown 77% over the last six years. The department spearheaded the franchise to the 2021-22 President's Award for AHL Team of the Year. Blanchard was also nominated for a 2024 Howdy Award for hospitality excellence.

Shae Koharski has been promoted to Manager of Social Media & Digital Marketing. A Russell, Mass. native, Koharski has been with the Thunderbirds since 2021. She has exponentially grown Thunderbirds' social media accounts, as the club has eclipsed 80,000 followers across

X, Facebook, and Instagram. Her acumen for social media trends has allowed the Thunderbirds' social media to not only provide fun content for fans, but grow the brand in the marketplace while evolving to current trends.

Lucas Armstrong has been promoted to Art Director. An East Amherst, N.Y. native, Armstrong has been instrumental in creating and implementing the Thunderbirds' graphic design as a "keeper of the brand" since joining the organization in 2019. An industry veteran with over 20 years of experience across professional sports and nationally acclaimed brands, Armstrong's work alongside his creative colleagues was recognized with the AHL's Marketing Campaign of the Year award in 2022 for the club's "We Are 413" tagline.

Steve Brousseau has been promoted to Account Executive, Membership Sales & Service. A Springfield College alumnus and a native of Freeport, Maine, Brousseau joined the team full-time in 2021 after interning for the organization previously. An exemplary builder of relationships with his ticket members, Brousseau will specialize in servicing the Thunderbirds' season ticket members throughout the 2024-25 season as the organization looks to break its season ticket holder record for a ninth consecutive season.

CAMP from page 7

ida from 1997-2000. He also played baseball in the prestigious Cape Cod League and is a member of PeoplesBank, which captured another Tri-County League championship title this summer.

He was drafted by the New York Mets and the Miami Marlins before signing with the Red Sox.

He advanced to Double A before his professional baseball career came to an end due to an injury.

"I was blessed to have the opportunity to play professional baseball," Brisson said. "I'm now doing what I can to give back."

Brisson also owns Forge Athletics.

"I started Forge Athletics back in May," he said. "I want to run more baseball clinics in the future. I'm also looking forward to running this baseball camp again next year."

Barnowski, who lives in Southwick, was one of Brisson's teammates at the Single A level.

Bryan and I were teammates on a Single A team," Brisson said. "His sister and my wife have been friends for 40 years. I met my wife when I went to visit him during the offseason, and we've been married for 22 years. My wife's family is from Wilbraham, and we moved here in 2005. We love living in this community."

Because it rained on the first day, the camp was held indoors down the street at the Soccer City Sportscenter.

"Soccer City isn't really designed for baseball, but we made the best of it on the first day of the camp," Brisson said. "The people there were very accommodating. We were able to use both of their soccer fields. We were able to have a full workout. The only thing that we didn't do was to have a live batting practice. The baseball fields here at Spec Pond is one of the best in the area."

Brisson main goal was to teach the players the fundamentals of baseball. He and his staff also held a meeting each morning to map out the schedule for that day.

"My main goal is to teach the players the basic fundamentals of the game," he said. "I also want to keep the kids active. I really don't want them standing around doing nothing. We also talked to the kids about mental health."

Brayden Pacifico, who lives in Wilbraham, had a lot of fun at the baseball camp.

"It's awesome being here with my friends at this baseball camp," said Pacifico,



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

The Summer Sendoff Baseball Camp was held last week in Wilbraham.



Wesley Beer lunges for a catch.

ico, who's a centerfielder. "I've learned a lot about baseball from the coaches, who have a lot of experience. Baseball is my favorite sport."

Baseball was also Brisson's favorite sport growing up. He was also a swimmer and a wrestler.

"I always tell kids to play multiple sports," Brisson said. "My daughter, Na-



Alex Nunlist fields a grounder.

talie, who's six years old, plays soccer and is a swimmer. We want her to experience everything. A lot of kids who only play one sport get burned out very quickly."

Brisson and his staff are already looking forward to holding the baseball camp again next summer.

WSU to hold swimming clinics

WESTFIELD — Westfield State swimming and diving coach Matt Nodell will host a Nike Swim Clinic at the Ely Pool on campus on Sept. 7 and 8.

Saturday, Sept. 7 is for co-ed athletes aged 8-12 years old, while Sunday, Sept. 8 is for athletes in the 13-18 year old age groups.

"Participants can expect to learn and practice drills to help them swim easier and faster," said Nodell. "All is done in a fun and engaging environment with contests and competitions."

The clinics last from 9 a.m. to 12 noon each day, with check in at 8:45 a.m.

The fee for the clinic is \$125 and includes the morning training session, a camp t-shirt and prizes.

For more information or to register online, visit <https://www.usports-camps.com/swim/nike/westfield-state-swim-clinic>

Ely Pool is the home of the Westfield State University Owls women's swimming and diving team. The pool has recently seen upgrades with new starting blocks, an updated team locker room and records board, and features 1 and 3 meter diving boards. Nodell is starting his second season as the head coach of the Owls. He led the team to a fifth-place finish at the Little East Conference championships and a 3-3 mark in dual meets.

GAMES from page 7

West then lost the bronze game 3-1. West's lone goal scored by junior Grace Rajpold (13). Coastal's Goals scored by 8th grader Breanna Aveiro (6), sophomore Paige Moreau (8), and junior Ellia Delisle (15). Freshman Maura Kennedy (2) and sophomore Adeline Finlaw (3) each had an assist. Coastal won the bronze medal.

Central defeated Southeast for the gold 2-1. Southeast's lone goal was scored by freshman Ella Marzullo (8). Central's sophomore Elly Schofer (8) scored 2 goals in the final game, one unassisted and the other assisted by freshman Mackenzie Casey (1). Central took home the gold while Southeast settled for the silver.

September Programs

Celebrating 10 years on Canal Street in October

Can you believe it's already been 10 years since the new South Hadley Public Library opened on Canal Street? We've been around since 1897 but this past decade has been especially full of wonderful memories and growth. We will be holding an event in October to look back at how the new library came to be. Great communities make great libraries.

Adult Programs at SHPL

Wednesday, Sept. 4 at 6 p.m.

Join us for a fun author's talk in the Community Room on Huzzza!: Toasting a New Nation, 1760-1815 with Timothy Symington. The time period from the American Revolution through the War of 1812 will be covered through political drinking toasts! Like modern "tweets" they gave a glimpse of popular opinion at a particular moment, and then they were gone by the next newspaper edition. Local author Timothy Symington will be here to share some exciting insights!

Tuesday, Sept. 17

National Voter Registration Day is happening on and we've got a big election coming in November. Assistant Town Clerk Zoe Ingram will be at the library from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. to answer questions about your voter status and register new voters.

Wednesday, Sept. 18 at 6 p.m.

Looking for some live music this fall? SHPL will host a free Folk Music Concert with Sparkie Allison. Come on down and enjoy the sounds of this local singer/songwriter.

Saturday, Sept. 21 at 10 a.m.

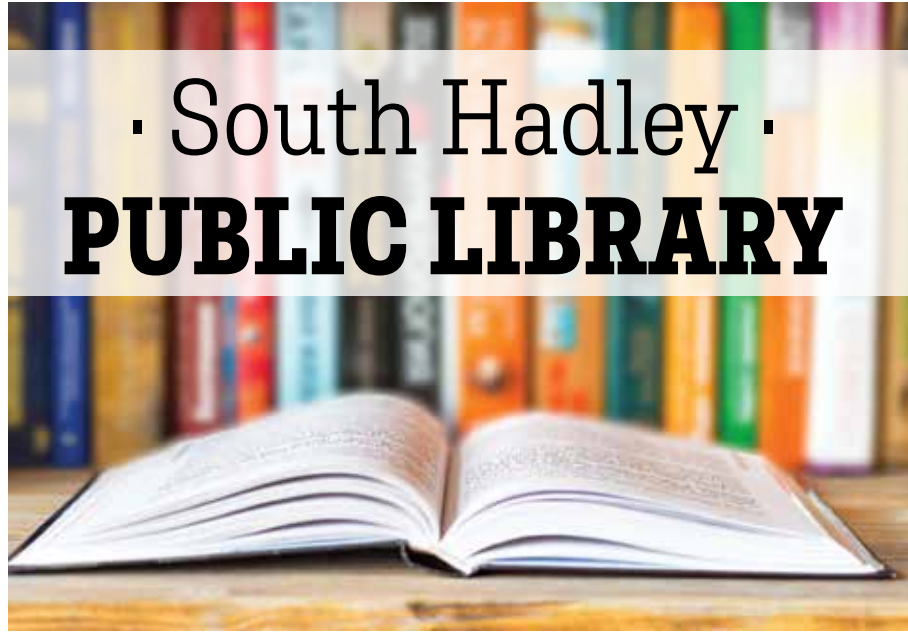
Small Appliance Swap - Do you have a kitchen item sitting on your counter that is clean, still works, but you no longer use? Bring it on down to the library and swap it for something new to you! Examples include a rice cooker, coffee maker, or air fryer- bring it in. It must be in working condition and clean, if it is not clean it will be refused. Drop offs will begin on Tuesday, Sept. 3 through Friday, Sept. 20. You will receive a ticket for each item you bring, then come to the swap on Saturday, Sept. 21. The library doors open at 9:30 a.m. and you can begin to line up at the Community Room door. Doors won't open until 10 a.m.

Online Author Programs

- Capturing the Human Drama of 9/11 and D-Day Through Oral History with Garrett Graff, New York Times Bestselling Author and Pulitzer Prize Finalist. Tuesday, Sept. 10 at 2 p.m.

- Living with an Expansive Mind in a Distracted World-with Nate Klemp, PhD, New York Times Bestselling Co-Author of Start Here: Master the Lifelong Skill of Well-Being. Wednesday, Sept. 18 at 2 p.m.

- A Deep Dive in Character Development with Global Sensation Liane Moriarty, #1 New York Times Bestselling Author of Big Little Lies, The Husband's



Secret, and Apples Never Fall. Saturday, Sept. 21 at 7 p.m.

Teen Programs at SHPL

We continue our regular monthly programs with the popular Crafternoon, Snackernoon and Xbox1 programs.

Crafternoon

Thursday, Sept. 19 at 4 p.m. will feature Perler Beads.

Snackernoon

Thursday, Sept. 26 at 4 p.m. will feature Breakfast Sushi. Thank you to the Friends of the South Hadley Public Library for sponsoring our Teen Snackernoon.

Xbox1 gaming session

Tuesday, Sept. 3 at 3:30 p.m.

Teen Night Craft

Tuesday, Sept. 24 at 6:30 p.m. Crafting DIY Stress Balls, and this program is typically held on the last Tuesday of the month.

Our Teen Takeaway craft this month is Paper Plate Dragons! See Bethany for more details or to sign up.

Reach out with any questions about teen services through email or call the library 538-5045 and ask for Bethany. You can also check out the Teen Room door for more information.

Children's Programs at SHPL

Monday, Sept. 9 at 6 p.m.

Animal Builders program from the Hitchcock Center. How do squirrels prepare for fall? Perfect for kids in kindergarten through third grade!

Also coming up...

Pajama Storytimes: Monday, Sept. 16, 23, and 30, from 6:30-7 p.m. Wear your jammies!

Animal Builders: Squirrels: Monday, Sept. 9 from 6-7 p.m.

Graphic Novel Book Club: Thursday, Sept. 12 from 3:45-4:45 p.m., for kids age 8-11

My First Book Club: Saturday, Sept. 14, from 10:30-11:15 a.m., for kids in kindergarten and first grade

Mr. Liam joins Rhyme Time: Tuesday, Sept. 17, 10:30-11:15 a.m.

Farmers' Market Storytime: Wednesday, Sept. 18, at 4 p.m.

We have weekly storytimes, rhyme times, playgroups, Lego and board

games, comics & crafts, and Read to a Dog. Learn more about our weekly and monthly year-round programs for kids and our Book Bundle service on the children's programs page of our website!

Hispanic Heritage Month begins Sept. 15, so come check out some of the fantastic books that celebrate the culture and contributions of Hispanic and Latino Americans! If you haven't yet read a book by Raúl the Third, Meg Medina, Claribel Ortega, Pam Muñoz Ryan, or Margarita Engle, now's the time!

Sneak peek at an early October program...Brie's Balloons is coming back!

Gaylord Memorial Library Programs

Spice Club returns to Gaylord this fall. We'll be sampling spices from local favorite Southern New England Spice Company, starting with Buffalo Spice on Thursday, Sept. 5 at 6:30 p.m. Preregister at the Gaylord circulation desk to register in person.

Gaylord's Garden Volunteers meet Friday, Sept. 6 at noon. Find out how you can get involved with Gaylord's growing garden programs! Later in the month, bring your extra fall plants and bulbs to our Fall Plant Swap on Friday, Sept. 27 from 3 to 5 p.m. and take home something new to plant!

Chainmail Bracelet Making Class

Castle Nitor, teacher, Thursday, Sept. 12 at 6 p.m. Participants can keep what they make.

Story Time every Friday at 10:30 a.m. with Miss Janet.

Our special guest on Friday, Sept. 6, will be when Miss Mary visits us from Berkshire Hills Music Academy to read braille books and sing for the kids.

Lego Club meeting Thursdays, Sept. 5 and 19 from 3 to 6 p.m.

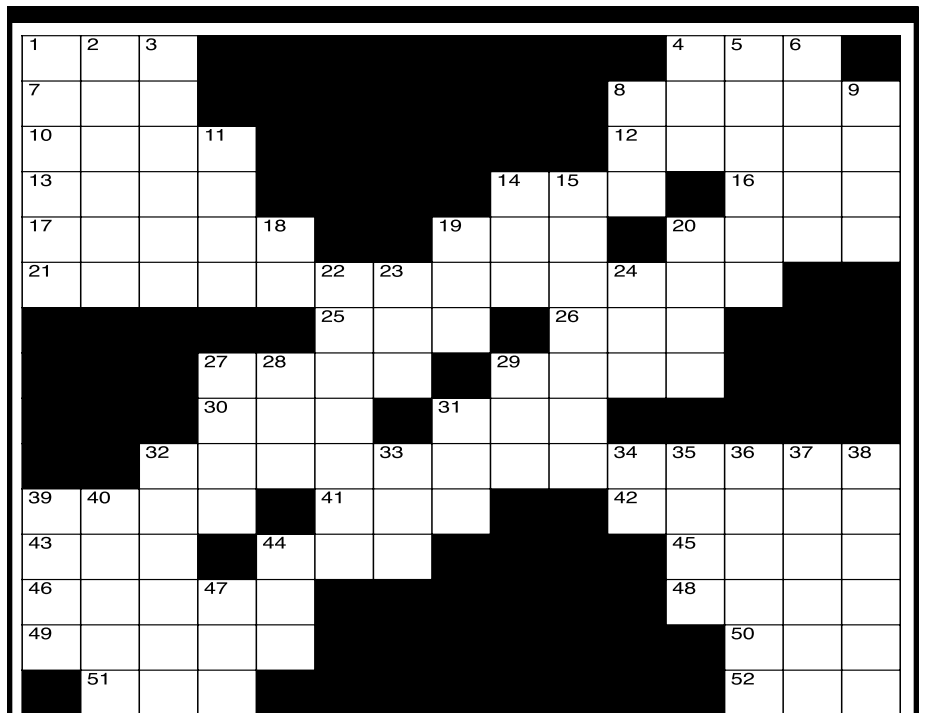
Open Crafts for Kids Thursdays, Sept. 12 and 26 from 3 to 6 p.m.

Outdoor Water Play on Saturday, Sept. 21 at 10:15 a.m.

Outdoor Games on Saturday, Sept. 28 at 10:15 a.m.

Town of South Hadley

The South Hadley Cultural Council (SHCC) invites the public to attend a reception to showcase the work of this year's grantees and learn how to apply for funding for the 2025 grant cycle. The SHCC Grantee Celebration and Information Session will take place in the Community Room of the South Hadley Public Library, 2 Canal Street, South Hadley, MA, on Thursday, Sept. 19, from 5:30-7 p.m. Refreshments will be served. Attendees can also learn about applying for a grant to fund a project in 2025.



CLUES ACROSS

- Microgram
- After B
- Everything
- An unfortunate development
- Coat with sticky substance
- Cylinder of tobacco for smoking
- Minimum interval take off
- Yuck!
- NBA sensation Jeremy
- Where some rockers work
- Midway between northeast and east
- Snake-like fishes
- Groups of homes
- Swiss river
- Useful towel
- "The Wire"
- character "Moreland"
- Oafish creature
- A major division of geological time
- Bird-like Chinese dinosaur
- Sporting events
- Body part
- Clerical vestment
- Shows data
- Some are "special"
- Expression of disappointment
- Students' rights document (abbr.)
- Vacation locale Costa ___
- Pop singer
- Distract outside a city
- Mark Wahlberg comedy
- Coniferous tree
- Midway between

CLUES DOWN

- Lunatic
- Actress Danes
- Buttock muscles
- The 22nd letter of the Greek alphabet
- Popular 70s rockers
- Electronic communication
- Trigraph
- Sea eagles
- Low-pitched, resonant sound
- Northeastern US university (abbr.)
- Home of the Bulldogs
- Exclamation of surprise
- Make a mistake
- Advantage
- Monkeys love
- them
- Wood
- Paddle
- Past participle of be
- Tall, rounded vase
- Device manufacturers
- Financial institution (abbr.)
- Paper product
- A type
- Atomic #43
- Red Hot Chili Peppers' drummer
- Behaviors
- Decays
- Walked confidently
- Voice (Italian)
- Class of adhesives
- Bar bill
- One-time aerospace firm

Morning fire caused by smoking

SOUTH HADLEY — An early-morning structure fire in South Hadley last weekend most likely started with smoking materials, said South Hadley Fire District 1 Chief Thomas Stark and State Fire Marshal Jon M. Davine.

"Fortunately, no one was injured in this incident," said Stark. "Still, it's a strong reminder for smokers to use caution and care with smoking materials. Tossing cigarette butts into leaves or mulch, dropping them in planters, or stubbing them out on a railing can start a fire that grows and spreads before anyone is aware of the danger."

"Massachusetts fire departments have reported nearly 9,000 smoking fires over the past five years," said Davine. "If you still smoke or have guests who do, always use a heavy ashtray with water or sand to extinguish cigarette butts. Put it out, all the way, every time."

South Hadley Fire District 1 responded to the fire at 3 Warner St. at about 5:15 a.m. on Sunday. On arrival, firefighters observed smoke and flames on the front porch and three occupants who had escaped safely. Firefighters were able to

Please see **FIRE**, page 11

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HELP WANTED

The Trustees of the Otis Library seek applicants for a **Library Director Position.** The position pays \$21-\$25 per hour commensurate with experience. The Director can expect to work between 25-30 hours per week. An application packet is available by emailing **otislbrary@cwmares.org** or at the **Otis Library at 48 North Main Road, Otis, MA 01253. (413) 269-0109.** The application deadline is September 13, 2024. The Otis Library Board of Trustees is an equal opportunity employer.

TOWN OF WORTHINGTON HIGHWAY POSITION OPENING

The Town of Worthington is soliciting letters of interest from qualified candidates to fill two full-time **Equipment Operator/General Laborer** positions in the Town Highway Department. Valid MA CDL operator, Hydraulic Hoister's licenses and OSHA-10 certification is preferred.

Further information can be found on the Town's website: **www.worthington-ma.us**

Questions will be answered by the Highway Superintendent at 64 Huntington Road, Monday - Friday, 7 AM to 3 PM; the telephone number is 413-238-5830.

Send letter of interest, resume and three (3) references with relevant contact information to: **worthingtonhighway@gmail.com** or to Worthington Highway Department, P. O. Box 643, Worthington, MA. This posting will remain pertinent until the position is filled.

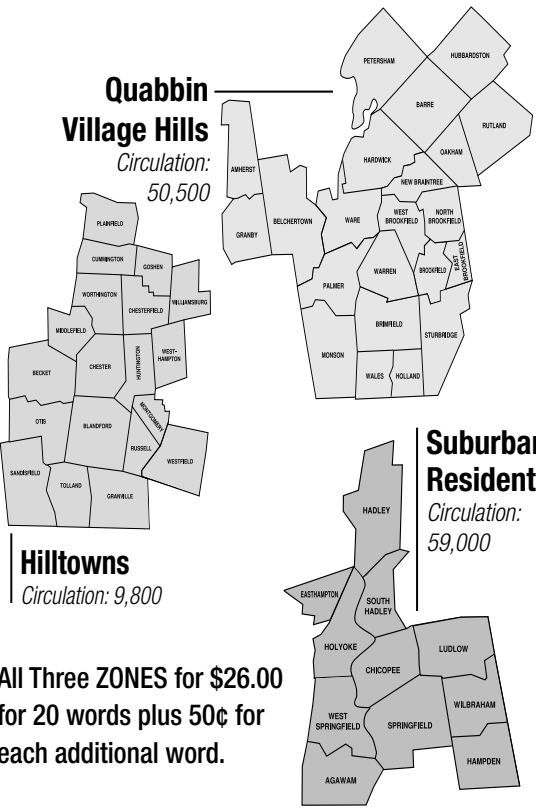
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FIRE from page 10

keep the fire from spreading to the main structure and extinguished it with a hand line.

The origin and cause of the fire were investigated by South Hadley Fire District 1 and State Police fire investigators assigned to the State Fire Marshal's office. Based on witness interviews and an examination of the scene, they determined

that the fire started in the area of the enclosed front porch and identified careless disposal of smoking materials as the most likely cause.

Smoking fires in Massachusetts caused 175 fire service injuries, 128 civilian injuries, 41 civilian deaths, and more than \$100 million in damages between 2019 and 2023.

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RACE from page 8

for the spinning Tim Poulin set up a final showdown between Sundeen and Fanning with Corey Fanning powering through to the win with Ryan Waterman making moves to take second and Al Stone III holding on for third.

Following NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour qualifying the Mini Stocks took on the highbanks with Steve Michalski and Rick LaFlesh. LaFlesh got the jump into the lead as heavy-hitters Jared Roy and Kevin Moore battled for second just inches off LaFlesh's back bumper. Roy sling-shot into the lead powering out of turn four under the half-way crossed-flags. Jared Roy would put the peddle down to return to his winning ways followed by Kevin Moore and Ryan Pomposelli.

Rookie Isaiah Newcomb brought the Thompson Sunoco Modifieds to the green flag with Jon Puleo quickly launching the head of the pack. By lap five, Todd Owen had charged up to second and began stalking the youngster with a few love taps on the bumper. Owen would charge under Puleo to lead lap seven with Puleo left to fend off Keith Rocco for second. Puleo would use the cross-over to lead lap 13 with Rocco and Owen getting physical for second. Content to run 1-2-3, the leaders waited for laps to wind down in their 30-lap main event and took it right down to the checkered flags with Jon Puleo taking his fifth win of the season followed by Keith Rocco and Todd

Owen in victory lane.

Bobby Timmons and Jim Storace brought the New England Supermodified Series to green for their 30-lap main event. The heart-stopping move of the race would come on lap 4 as Ben Seitz and Dan Bowes took Storace three-wide, shooting off turn two and down the back straightaway with Bowes coming out with the lead. Coming from mid-pack, Jon McKennedy also rounded Storace to take third, made the long march to take on Seitz and dove underneath to take position on lap 21. With a straightaway lead Dan Bowes took the win just nine lightning-fast laps later followed by McKennedy and Seitz at the line.

Fast time, Mayhew Tools polesitter Patrick Emerling brought the 26-car NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour field to green and quickly shot out front ahead of Craig Lutz. Dave 'Sap' Sapienza brought out the first caution on lap 20 with a flat right rear sending him in the spin-cycle in turn three. Emerling would maintain the lead under the return to green flag racing with a rear-view mirror full of Justin Bonsignore. The leaders would begin taking on lap traffic on lap 53 but remained settled in for the long-haul strategy. The second caution on lap 60 for the spinning Woody Pitkat off turn two saw the entire field jump pit-side for tires and adjustments in preparation for the second half of the Thompson 150 presented by FloSports.

Patrick Emerling again maintained his lead position by an impatient Justin Bonsignore began to

show his hand, diving under Emerling in a look to the near future. Jake Johnson would slam into the turn one wall on lap 76 from mid-pack with an apparent mechanical failure to rerack the field once more. The subsequent restart saw top-5 runner Chase Dowling quickly fall through the field with obvious issues under the hood to swamp a great day for the Tinio Motorsports group as Emerling continued to dominate at the front. The final stretch would see Patrick Emerling dominant the Thompson 150 presented by FloSports for his fifth career NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour win and first at Thompson Speedway followed by Justin Bonsignore and Craig Lutz.

The AZ Roofing SK Light Modifieds and the Late Models wrapped up the Wednesday night racing action at Thompson. Cautions plagued the opening circuits of the SK Light feature, taking out point leader Tyler Chapman and rookie Steve Midford, leaving Meghan Fuller to battle Nick Hovey and John O'Sullivan. Nick Hovey would motor around Fuller for his first win of the season with John O'Sullivan coming home third. The Late Model 25-lap sprint would see Derek Gluchacki charge ahead of the field to take back-to-back wins followed by Nick Johnson and Matt Lowinski-Loh.

Public Notices

Town of Granby Massachusetts Conservation Commission

The Granby Conservation Commission will hold Public Hearings pursuant to the Wetland Protection Act (MGL Chapter 131, Section 40) on **Tuesday, September 10, 2024 @*1 Library Lane-Carnegie Building-Top Floor** to consider the following:

1. **7:30 p.m.: "RDA"** filed by Beverly Witter to see whether the activities depicted on the plan referenced are subject to the Wetlands Protection Act and its regulations with regards to property located at 55 Forge Pond Road and known as 14 C-A-15, in the Town of Granby.

Members of the public can attend virtually by phone at +1 (312) 757-3121 using Access Code: 282-289-4210r by visiting <https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/282289421>.

Anyone wishing information and/or to be heard on this matter should appear at the time and place designated. The complete materials (including text and maps) relative to this "RDA" are available for inspection during regular business hours at the Selectmen's Office located in the Granby Senior Center Building, 2nd Floor, 10-B West State Street. Additionally, copies of the application may be inspected on the Conservation Commission's web page at www.granby-ma.gov.

William Shaheen, Chair
Granby Conservation Commission

08/30/2024

TOWN OF GRANBY LEGAL NOTICE

The Selectboard will hold a Public Hearing on **Monday, September 16, 2024, at 5:30 P.M. at *10-B West State Street, in the Senior Center** large meeting room relative to the following:

Amending the General Bylaws of the Town, by replacing existing **CHAPTER XIV. CANINE CONTROL** with New Chapter **XIV. ANIMAL CONTROL BYLAW**. (Copies of full text of said amendments are available from the Selectboard's Office, Town Annex and on the town's website: www.granby-ma.gov)

Crystal L Dufresne
David Labonte
Glen N Sexton
Granby Selectboard
08/30, 09/06/2024

Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.

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By Linda Sachs

Each season is an opportunity for homeowners with yards to simultaneously create beauty and contribute to a healthy environment for people, pollinators and other beneficial insects, birds and wildlife.

Soon it will be autumn and time to prepare for winter. Often so-called “fall clean ups” entail overly aggressive and harmful practices. But with a few changes from old-fashioned landscaping and some simple steps, you can avoid the harm, help creatures and still have a pretty yard.

The first simple step involves fallen leaves. “Leave the Leaves” has gained followers and detractors. It can be a scary slogan and is definitely misunderstood.

You do not need to leave a thick carpet of fallen leaves all over your yard. Put them in your flower beds and underneath your trees instead of store-bought mulch. The leaves will add vital nutrients to the soil and turn into compost. Fallen leaves provide refuge and warmth for overwintering insects, (many bugs are actually good), including butterfly and moth caterpillars and even queen bees. If you can, let some of the fallen leaves remain on your lawn, where they will do no harm. You can create a compost pile with the rest.

Second simple step, leave the faded perennials in your garden throughout the winter, rather than cutting them back. The stalks and dead flower heads may not be what you are use to, but many bird species will eat the flowers’ high-fat seeds. It is an

astonishing and heartwarming sight in the dead of winter to see a yellow goldfinch hanging onto the stems of a Black-eyed Susan, eating its nourishing seeds. House finches, sparrows and other small birds will feast on them too and also many other natives flowers like coneflower, sunflowers, asters and goldenrod. Pollinators will make winter homes in hollow stems and in leaf debris on the ground. If you’ve never done this before why not try it and see what happens?

There’s also an aesthetic benefit to leaving the stalks and dead flowers. In a winter landscape, especially when it snows, they add beautiful texture to a barren view.

The third simple step to an ecologically healthy fall clean up, is to create one

or more small brush piles. This will help birds, turtles, frogs and small mammals shelter and keep warm when the weather gets cold. Use the edge of your yard, a wooded area or even beneath a large shrub. Some of our neighborhoods are so manicured that creatures and beneficial insects struggle to survive. The Xerces Society even recommends tiny brush piles of hedge clippings, twigs and leaves for bumblebees to make their winter homes.

Perhaps this fall, we can abandon landscaping practices that make pollinators homeless for the winter and harm and even starve wildlife. Maybe this sounds excessively ambitious, but it can be done, yard by yard, step by step.

South Hadley native, Stender, serves in the U.S. Navy

OAK HARBOR, Wash.— Aviators in the U.S. Navy fly some of the most technologically-advanced aircraft in modern history. The driving force behind keeping naval aviators safely in the air are the maintainers on the ground making repairs and ensuring the aircraft are mission-ready.

Petty Officer 2nd Class Michael Stender, a native of South Hadley, Massachusetts, serves the U.S. Navy assigned to Fleet Readiness Center Northwest, aboard Naval Air Station Whidbey Island.

Stender graduated from Amherst Regional High School in 2013. The skills and values needed to succeed in the Navy are similar to those found in South Hadley. “The lessons I learned came from working as a summer custodian before enlisting where the basics were punctuality, pride in the work you do no matter the job, and demonstrating good leadership to the entire team,” said Stender.

Stender joined the Navy seven years ago. Today, Stender serves as an aviation ordnanceman.

“I joined the Navy because I wanted a better future and gain work experience

after graduating college from Westfield State University in 2017,” said Stender.



Petty Officer 2nd Class Michael Stender

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and security.

Stender has many opportunities to achieve accomplishments during military service.

“My proudest accomplishment was being part of a five-month deployment that conducted drug interdiction operations all across the Caribbean and Pacific,” said Stender. Stender can take pride in serving America through military service.

“Serving my country means that I get

to be part of a team that has the capability to defend our county and our allies from any type of threat,” said Stender. Stender is grateful to others for helping make a Navy career possible.

“I want to thank my mom and dad, Kimberly and Mark, for teaching me a good work ethic and the morals to be a good person,” said Stender. “What they taught me growing up has helped me during my time in the Navy.”

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