

TOWN Reminder

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Serving the town of South Hadley

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Library hosts first Ukrainian woman to reach the

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

GRANBY – The mystery and wonder of the North Pole is known by children all over, as they wonder if Santa Claus is really up there somewhere.

Moki Kokoris, an advocate for the environment, part-time explorer and adventurer, and one of 14 women to reach the Geographic North Pole, took her dream up north... as far as she could go.

Kokoris founded 90-North, a program that focuses on outreach and education, where she invites people of all ages to come and discover the “magic” of the North Pole, its inhabitants, weather patterns, and more.

“I’ve always loved the cold,” said Kokoris to her audience at the Granby Free Public Library over the weekend. “I loved this opportunity. It meant the world to me.”

Please see **NORTH POLE**, page 6



Liv holding a stuffed Arctic fox created to mimic a stuffed animal.

Turley photos by Emily-Rose Pappas

District 1 hosts heartwarming pinning ceremony

By Emily-Rose Pappas
Staff Writer
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SOUTH HADLEY – District 1 was filled with friends, families, and fellow firefighters last Thursday to host a special pinning ceremony.

“Pinning ceremonies in the fire service are a long-standing tradition in the firefighting community,” said Chief Tom Stark. “All the members of the department do a fantastic job of providing care with the ambulance, and have been with us for many years, some over 15 years. The ceremony really recognizes the members and their achievements, and we look to continue to do that.”

The ceremony featured

pinning of current members, new hires, and the promotion of three individuals: Captain Chase St. Andrey, Lieutenant Collin Morley, and Lieutenant Douglas Baker.

The members, in order to achieve this promotion, completed a written exam, and all three passed.

“It was a great turnout, and we’re looking forward to continuing to have the pinning ceremonies continue for years to come,” said Chief Stark.

Fathers pinned their sons and daughters, spouses their husband or wife, and children their mom or dad, all with bright smiles and pride shining through.

Please see **PINNING**, page 9



Submitted photos

A son pins his dad, showing pride and maybe a few happy tears.



Two daughters show their dad how proud they are by giving him his pin.

Granby remembers its veterans with pride



Turley photos by Emily-Rose Pappas

Todd Carpenter, Dan Cote, Brian Sowell, Dennis Desroches, Ed Cardin, Rose Ladue, Jennifer Bernatchez, Bill Ladue, Steve Weatherbee, Rob Chauvin, Jef Roule, Jean Larouche, and Ken Knight.

By Emily-Rose Pappas
Staff Writer
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GRANBY – Remembering the men and women who dedicated their lives to the service of their country and the sacrifices they made is something taken seriously

here in the United States, as every year, we faithfully commemorate Memorial Day to remember our fallen, and Veterans’ Day to remember those who came home.

The Granby Veterans’ Memorial hosted a special ceremony on that cold morning last Tuesday as the Gran-

by American Legion, Legion Auxiliary, the Sons of the American Riders, the Legion Riders, and the Granby Police and Fire Departments came to remember and thank the veterans in our community.

“Americans never forget. That’s what Veterans’ Day

is all about,” said Dan Cote, the Post Commander. “While not all veterans see combat, the willingness to sacrifice one’s life is a requirement.”

Armistice Day has been remembered with ceremony.

Please see **VETERANS**, page 12

Food Bank of Western Mass Benefit Concert draws massive crowd

By Brendan Rooney
Correspondent

SOUTH HADLEY — On Sunday, Nov. 16, the 35-piece ensemble, Bombyx Brass Collective, had their first of two scheduled concerts which were centered around to raise awareness and benefit the Foodbank of Western Mass and drew a sold out crowd from within the United Methodist Church, as some notable faces also stopped by such as State Rep Homar Gómez - 2nd Hampshire District (D), who took a moment to speak about the importance of SNAP benefits, and the hu-

manitarian efforts being put forth by the Healey administration here in the Commonwealth before the ensemble kicked off, citing a personal connection.

“When I came here in 1997, we came here with \$500 and two little girls, and I used to go to food pantries with my family, so I understand and have seen food insecurity extremely close,” Gómez said. “And what the Trump administration is doing is just really bad, and food should be a human right, at no cost, and I’m glad we live in Massachusetts, where we are more progressive and are

committed to helping people.” Gómez then added that the main goal is always to help others at all times, while touching upon the lingering stigma that arises when the terms ‘food pantry and SNAP benefits’ are mentioned and noted, something he feels isn’t necessary, as many feel regulations should be put in place, something he touched upon.

“You hear concerns, and noise of these people getting food stamps, ‘but they should be working’, and stuff, but the truth is these people are

Please see **CONCERT**, page 9



The Bombyx Brass Collective.

Turley photos by Brendan Rooney

Local food pantries seeking donations for those in need

REGION - As we prepare to bring food to pantries this season amidst SNAP closures, it's important to consider some important things to remember when we are donating:

- Right now, pantries are asking for cans of green beans and corn, and other fixings for a Thanksgiving Meal, like stuffing, potatoes, gravy, and canned ham and turkey.
- Canned meat is always appreciated and asked for, including chicken, tuna, spam, and chili with meat.
- Many people bring in cold cereal, but hot cereal and instant oatmeal is always appreciated.
- Pets are often forgotten, so make sure you are bringing some canned or dry dog and cat food, and maybe some treats, too!
- Pasta and sauces are good options, but also remember bags of rice are equally appreciated.
- Canned veggies and fruit of all kinds, as well as beans, are a good option. Canned chili, unsweetened and sweetened fruits, and seasoned vegetables are good options, too.
- Tea, coffee, and hot chocolate are often luxuries and are wonderful items to receive. Other luxuries include seasonings like salt, pepper, garlic, and onion powder, as well as olive or vegetable oil,

butter, and bouillon cubes for them to cook with.

- Cake mixes, frosting, and candles are also special, and can help make someone's special day even better.
- Many people will donate peanut butter, almond butter, or sun butter, but don't forget about the jelly or fluff to go with it!
- Personal hygiene items are often expensive: shampoo, conditioner, body wash, shaving cream and razors, lotion, deodorant, bar soap, toothbrushes, toothpaste, and hair brushes and hair ties. Feminine products like pads, liners, and tampons are also huge necessities.
- Many families may have babies, so see if your pantry will accept donations of baby food, formula, diapers, or other perishable supplies for infants.

Make sure when you donate, you donate with the dignity of others in mind. Please check your expiration dates, and make sure there are no dents, holes, or tears. Helping our neighbors is essential, but so is helping with dignity and care.

Always reach out to your local pantries to find their specific needs, and a monetary donation is always helpful for them to be able to restock and maintain the pantries and any refrigerated options they have.

SOUTH HADLEY/GRANBY – Below is a list of local pantries where you can donate food and other items, and for anyone who needs to utilize them. Here are the two major food pantries in town, as well as where you can find nearby resources.

Emergency Food Pantry at The Salvation Army-Holyoke Corps Community Center

Call: 413-532-6312
271 Appleton Street, Holyoke, MA 01040

The food pantry serves everyone from low-income families, single parents, senior citizens, unemployed individuals, disabled veterans, working poor, and anyone else who comes to the pantry. This program provides food to meet basic nutritional needs. The emergency food pantry serves a food bag per family every 30 days. In addition, the Salvation Army will be distributing bread

and vegetables to individuals and families in need on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11 a.m.

Neighbors Helping Neighbors, South Hadley

Call: 413-437-7593
Email: info@nhnfoodpantry.org
30 Carew St. South Hadley, MA 01075

Meeting the needs of individuals and families experiencing food hardships. Improving the health and well-being of our communities. Educating and advocating about the issues of hunger and nutrition in our communities. For more information and for hours, go to www.nhnfoodpantry.org. (In Service with Full Circle Garden and Granby to Go)

Granby to Go

Call: 413-493-5000 x5200

Email: granbytogo@granbyschoolsma.net
Granby Jr./Sr. High

School, 385 E State St, Granby, MA 01033

Granby to Go is a public, non-profit 501 c3 organization for the Granby Public Schools community to provide food, clothing, resources, and referrals to outreach services to individuals and families regardless of socioeconomic status in Granby, MA.

You can find them on Facebook and on the Neighbors Helping Neighbors website. (In Service with Neighbors Helping Neighbors and Granby to Go).

Saint Theresa of Lisieux Roman Catholic Church

Call: 413-732-3069
sttfaithformation@gmail.com

9 E Parkview Dr, South Hadley, MA 01075

As a part of its Ministry of Care, the parish hosts Kate's Kitchen, and has a Take and Eat Ministry, People Feeding People.

Christmas and Holiday Sing on December 14

Join the Church of Christ at 235 State Street, Granby, at 2 p.m.

Presented by The Fanfare Brass Ensemble, open and free to the public.

GRANBY – The 10 part group's program: O Come All Ye Faithful, Three Ships, Three Kings, Westminster Carol, Jingle Bell Rock, Twelve Days of Christmas, Away in the Manger, A Christmas Cannon, Jingle Bells, White Christmas, Sleight Ride, Oh Holy Night, Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree, Angels from the Realms of Glory, All I want for Christmas, O little town of Bethlehem, We Need a Little Christmas, Rudolph the Red Nose Reindeer, Stars and Stripes for Christmas and more.



Come sing some Christmas tunes with the Church of Christ.

Submitted photo

Holiday Bazaar returning to Center Church

SOUTH HADLEY – You are invited to Center Church, First Congregational Church of South Hadley, 1 Church St, South Hadley, on Saturday, November 22, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m., and Sunday, November 23, from noon to 4 p.m., to our annual Holiday Bazaar. Winter and Christmas-themed treasures galore at bargain prices in a boutique setting, which includes decorations, tins, baskets, houseware, candles, lights, jewelry, books, wreaths, ornaments, Santas, snow-

men, and more. A nice selection of gently used toys and stuffed animals, as well as puzzles and games. Select a wreath crafted from a freshly harvested variety of greens, accompanied by a lovely bow. From juried crafters, select unique gifts and specialty items. A highlight is filling a container with cookies from 40+ varieties. Other baked goods and treats will also be available. Enjoy a delicious soup and chili lunch, din-in or take-out. We accept cash, check, and Venmo. Free admission.



- Tree Removal
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- Lot Clearing



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Celebrate
the season
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HOLIDAY PARTY

Wednesday, December 3rd • 1:00 - 3:00 PM

298 Jarvis Avenue • Holyoke, MA 01040
(Please use the "Sheldon" entrance.)

Enjoy lavish hors d'oeuvres and festive entertainment by Gary & Natalie Jones.
Tours will be offered following the event.

Kindly RSVP by Tuesday, November 25th to 413-561-7958.

It's time to put your Life Plan in place.

Day Brook Village Senior Living is a locally owned, not-for-profit continuing care retirement community (CCRC) offering all levels of care. Residents have priority access to each level should their needs change, and couples remain together on campus even if their care needs differ.

Don't miss your chance to enjoy exceptional savings when you sign a lease at Day Brook Village before December 31st, 2025.*

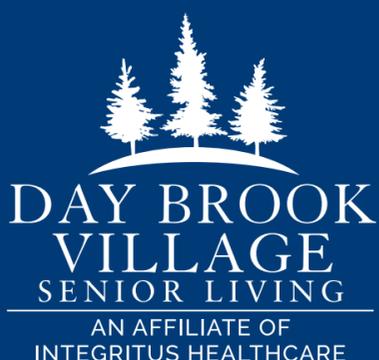
SIGN BY NOV. 30 & ENJOY:

- ✓ Two months rent-free
- ✓ Complimentary two-month meal plan, including breakfast AND lunch

SIGN BY DEC. 31 & ENJOY:

- ✓ One month rent-free
- ✓ Complimentary one-month meal plan, including breakfast AND lunch

*Dinner is included in the Monthly Service Fee. Limited availability. Offer applies to new Independent Living depositors after October 1st, 2025. Monthly Service Fees range from \$2,682 - \$4,935.



298 Jarvis Avenue
Holyoke, MA 01040
413-561-7958
www.daybrookvillage.org



INDEPENDENT LIVING • ASSISTANCE IN LIVING • SKILLED NURSING

Opinion

SOCIAL SECURITY

Matters

By Russell Gloor

Did the Obama-era Social Security tax cuts hurt the program?

Dear Rusty:

I will be retiring early next year, but my question to you is: During the Obama administration, payroll taxes that employees pay were cut in half from 6.2% to 3.1%, while the employer's part stayed the same at 6.2%. This continued for around a year I think. This was an attempt at giving people a tax cut, which I think was a bad idea or maybe the wrong way to have done it. How much damage do you think this may have caused to Social Security?

Signed: Soon to Retire

Dear Soon to Retire:

FYI, the Obama-era cut in the employee portion of FICA payroll taxes and SECA (self-employment tax) was a temporary measure, which has long since expired. However, the legislation which enabled that cut in employee FICA/SECA taxes also included a provision to replenish the Social Security Trust Funds from the General U.S. Treasury in an amount equal to the estimated loss of tax revenue to the Trust Funds. So, in effect, there was little or no impact on the Social Security Trust Funds.

FYI, the Trustees of Social Security have been projecting for many years that the Social Security reserves would be fully depleted in the mid-2030s, unless Congress takes action to reform the SS program. Unfortunately, Congress has not yet taken any meaningful action to accomplish that reform and the current projection from the Trustees is that all Social Security reserves will be depleted in about 2033, necessitating an across the board cut of about 21% in everyone's bene-

fit. Time is running short and we see signs that Congress is finally starting to seriously discuss Social Security reform.

At AMAC, we have developed and submitted to various Congressional Representatives a reform plan, which would restore Social Security to full solvency. People can see AMAC's suggested plan by visiting www.amac.us/social-security-guarantee. And AMAC is working every day in Washington, D.C. to promote Social Security reform to avoid future cuts in benefits. We believe and hope that Congress will eventually reform the Social Security program to avoid future benefit cuts but, unfortunately, not until they can muster sufficient bipartisanship to make the hard choices needed. To this end, contacting your Congressional Representative to demand Social Security reform now would be a good thing to do. The longer Congress delays reform, the harder the choices will be.

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.

Thanksgiving questions for the Garden Lady

Eva, who has a big vegetable garden in Ware, wrote in with this question for the Garden Lady: "We are supposed to have a low of 27 degrees one night this week. With that said, are my Brussels sprouts going to be OK? I was hoping to harvest them just in time for Thanksgiving." It has been a few years since I have grown Brussels sprouts, but I do remember that they do thrive well into late fall and early winter. A few frosty mornings won't hurt them!

For readers not familiar with Brussel sprout culture, I will elaborate. Brussels sprout seeds are started indoors, around the same time you would start their cousins, broccoli, cabbage or kale.

For me, seeds are sown off heat the first week of April through tax day. They are grown cool but under supplemental light to prevent stretching, and are transplanted once the first set of "true leaves" unfold.

I transplant mine into the cells of a six pack, although individual two or three inch pots are also a good option. Brussels sprouts can be moved into the garden a couple of weeks prior to Memorial Day, where fertile soil and eight-10 hours of direct sun are preferred.

They need to be given a lot more room than their cousins, about nine square feet of growing space per plant! It will pay off!

Placing transplants under floating row covers is smart, and will protect young plants from flea beetles and swede midge, then from various "cabbage" worms. The plants

and a little more caramelization. I hope they will be a wonderful part of your family meal, Eva!

Melissa, who gardens in Palmer, just moved to a house that has a few "highbush cranberries" on her property.

"I was curious if this shrub is a tall version of the Thanksgiving cranberry and if so, if it is edible? The word 'highbush' reminds me of blueberries, so I thought maybe it worked out the same," she asked.

The American cranberry is not to be confused with Viburnum trilobum, an eight-12 foot multistemmed shrub sometimes called highbush cranberry, crampbark, or even cranberry viburnum.

The berries of this native shrub hang in clusters and are orange-red in color. Although they are edible, birds generally find them a whole lot more appealing than we do, and will typically "gobble" them up before winter hits.

The shrub typically has great fall interest, too, with foliage that varies in hues of orange, red and purplish red.

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.

will grow tall over the course of their long growing season and will form buds along the stem.

It is the buds that we harvest, known as the "sprouts" we so enjoy. Experts recommend "topping" the plants in September, or cutting off the first couple of inches of top growth, so that the plant puts all of its energy into the sprouts it already has, making them bigger.

When I grew Brussels sprouts many years ago, aphid were a big problem. There are a number of varieties that have a spaced branching habit that seem to reduce the population of these pests. "Divino," "Speedia," and "Nautic" are all good choices.

Harvest the half-dollar sized sprouts after the first few frosts and you will be in for a great, sweet treat. Like carrots who endure a little cold, starches turn to sugars and yum!

Personally, I like to roast them for heightened crunch



Designed for when the flakes are down before the leaves are up...



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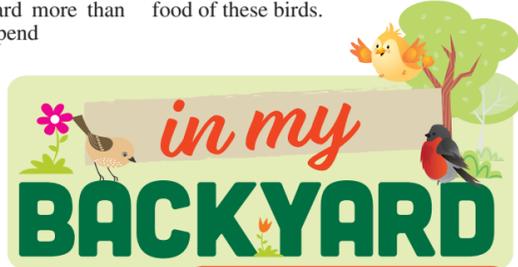
In October, Massachusetts Audubon Society reported a black-billed cuckoo at Wellfleet Bay Sanctuary and another was seen at a different location in Wellfleet.

The black-billed cuckoo is often heard more than seen. They spend a lot of time in densely wooded eastern forests and thickets. It is slender, brown bird with white belly, long tail and as its name implies a black bill. It has a red ring around the eyes and white tips on the underside of its tail. They also have a hunch backed look. It is about the size of a mourning dove 11 to 12 inches without the plump body.

Cuckoos eat lots of spiny caterpillars and can make quick work of tent caterpillars and webworms. The spines of the caterpillars stick to the lining of their stomachs. To rid themselves of the spines they periodically shed the stomach lining and coughing it up in one giant pellet, similar to an owl.

They sing especially at night in midsummer. Their song is a staccato with less of a knocking sound than the

yellow-billed cuckoo. They also perch motionless for long periods of time so they can be tricky to find. A good location to look for them are areas with tent caterpillars or fall webworms, a favorite food of these birds.



By Ellenor Downer

Audubon bird sightings

On Nov. 9, Massachusetts Audubon Society reported the following sightings at Wachusett Reservoir.

Sightings included: nine common loon, two horned grebe, one double-crested cormorant, two great blue heron, 135 Canada geese, four mute swan, one immature gadwall, two black ducks, 63 mallard, five ring-necked duck, 95 greater scaup, eight lesser scaup, 41 bufflehead, 11 hooded merganser, seven common merganser, one ruddy duck, one red-tailed hawk, three wild turkey, 11 ring-billed gull, one belted kingfisher, one northern flicker and one pileated woodpecker.

Other birds included on common raven, one winter wren, one Carolina wren, 46 eastern bluebird, five cedar waxwings, 90 dark-eyed junco and 30 red-winged blackbird.

Black vulture

I received an email from a Palmer resident on Nov. 4. She said, "When I came home, I noticed two birds across from the house. I thought they might be vultures because of their face, but were not turkey vultures." She googled vultures

and said, "It was easy to recognize them because of their face white feet and legs. Plus the head appeared to be gray and like a helmet. They were definitely black vultures. They stayed in that one spot for quite awhile. They didn't appear to be scared of anything. Cars going by did not phase them." Since then she has not seen them again. She said, "They are really a beautiful bird."

Helping birds

Bird feeders and feeding platforms are also hotspots for disease. Many wildlife diseases, like mange and avian pox, are spread by physical contact between healthy and sick animals. It is important



Black-billed cuckoo

to clean bird feeders frequently and remove any molding seeds and debris from them especially during the rainy weather. Moving the location of feeders to different locations also helps prevent the spread of disease.

Flocking birds

Birds are migrating. Last week I saw a large flock of blackbirds flying overhead. I also have seen flocks of about a dozen Canada geese flying overhead. Last week, my granddaughter, Lizzie and I saw a flock of geese flying low over her house. We could hear their wings beating. The robins that head south have also been flocking in my field and along the roads. Some

robins over winter living in the swamps.

Winter berries

Every year a flock of robins come and make short order of the winterberries on a bush in my yard. I've spotted the bright red winterberries in several spots during my travels. I will keep an eye out for birds at those bushes.

People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by calling me at 413-967-3505, leaving a message at extension 100, emailing mybackyard88@aol.com or edowner@turley.com or mailing to Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.

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.

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

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14-unit condo plan meets 'usable space' questions

By **Walter Hamilton**
Correspondent

SOUTH HADLEY — The Planning Board has questioned whether wetlands and front, side, and back yards can be considered “common usable space” that would govern how many dwellings could be built on a 10.6 acre parcel at 136 East St.

The board raised that issue and others on Nov. 10 during a public hearing on an application by 136 East Street, LLC c/o Gerald Coderre; 383 Newton St., to build a 14-unit age-restricted condominium project under a flexible development bylaw that allows greater housing density in the residential A-1 district.

Consultants have included the common space in their calculations that the site could accommodate 15 units, one more than enough to allow the planned two single and 12 duplex 1.5-story market-rate condominiums for residents aged 55 and older under flexible development regulations.

The word “usable” in the rules became the focal point of debate.

Board members questioned whether all the property surrounding the free-standing structures would, in practice, be open to all dwellers of the complex in order to meet the required “usable” space.

“Front yards and drive-ways are not common open

space,” Planning Director Anne Capra said. Development consultant Rob Levesque stated that fenced-off back yards for pets or play areas also could not be considered common usable space, and supported the board’s suggestion to create and empower a homeowners association that would help define the common space rules. Zoning bylaws define common open space as follows:

“While the Planning Board will make the final determination of the composition of the common usable open space, the common usable open space may include wetlands, floodplain land, and steep slopes. However, the required open space shall not be comprised exclusively of lands with such restrictions. As a general guide, no more than 50% of the required open space shall be composed of wetlands.”

Two abutters of the proposed development, Larry Dubois, of 148 East St., and Kathleen Van Winkle, of 130 East St., described a portion of the land at the rear of their properties as “swampy.”

“You can’t go back there unless it is frozen solid,” Van Winkle said. Ken Leblanc, a developer and Park Street resident, said the open space of the proposed condominiums on one commonly-owned lot could not be compared to dwellings on individual parcels of land. He added that

in such “challenging” situations, informal customary rules might help.

However, board members Rob Wachilla and Nate Therien also endorsed the creation of a homeowners association. Wachilla warned that informal agreements are unlikely to stand up in a court of law.

An application for the project has also been filed with the town Conservation Commission. That board has not yet considered the plan.

In other business, the board approved an application by Raymond and Cathy Machak to build a detached Accessory Dwelling Unit at 11 Brockway Lane. The detached dwelling allowed by right under state law, would be located alongside the existing 2,258-square-foot principal single-family home on a lot slightly larger than 1 acre.

Under state law, the gross floor area of an ADU is limited to one-half the size of the principal dwelling or, in this case, a maximum of 900 square feet. The law adds basement floor space into that maximum floor area calculation if the basement is declared “habitable” by the town Building Commissioner.

The Planning Board noted that it does not have jurisdiction over the Building Code, but advised the applicant to plan a basement that is less than 6-feet, 8-inches that the state building code deems is non-habitable as living space.



A schematic design, above, for a proposed 14-unit age-limited condominium complex at 136 East St. was submitted by consultants for the property owner.

Jingle Bell Bazaar returns to Church of Christ

GRANBY – The Jingle Bell Bazaar is coming up fast. December 6, 2024, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Come enjoy our Cookie Walk, it will have hundreds of delicious cookies to choose from. Be sure to check out handmade crafts, freshly crafted greens, jewelry, a New to You section, Bake Sale, hot Lunch, the Quilt Raffle, see Santa, and more. Santa will be in the building. Come and visit. This event helps support the work of our WOTC at Church of Christ Congregational, UCC Granby, MA. Come on down and get in the holiday spirit. a

Fall yard waste pick-up set for Nov. 3-29

SOUTH HADLEY – South Hadley’s fall yard waste curbside collection is set for Nov. 3-29. Each route will have two collections. Please only use paper or open top containers. Any brush must be tied in bundles of no more than four feet in length. NO metal. NO plastic bags. Yard waste must be curbside by 7 a.m. on collection day. Please keep yard waste barrels separate from trash barrels. If you have specific questions, please reach out to the DPW at 538-5033.

Get ready for the Knit and Basket Sale at the library

GRANBY – The Granby Free Public Library will hold a Holiday Gift Basket and Knit Sale on Saturday, December 6, from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. The sales will continue to run through December during open library hours, while supplies last. Come shop from a variety of gift baskets, knitted & crocheted items, holiday ornaments, and much more. Do you have someone on your list who is hard to shop for?

We have got you covered! Donations of premade gift baskets and new hand-crafted items are accepted until December 4th. *Sponsored by the In Stitches Knitting Group and the Friends of the Granby Library. The Granby Free Public Library is located at 297 E State St in Granby, MA. For more information and a listing of open library hours, please visit granbylibrary.org or call 413-467-3320.

South Hadley Police to host food and toy drive

SOUTH HADLEY – The SHPD is collecting food to be distributed by Neighbors Helping Neighbors Inc., serving South Hadley and Granby. Needed: any non-perishable food items. They are also accepting new, unwrapped toys and gift cards for families in need in our commu-

nity. All collected items will be brought to Neighbors Helping Neighbors for distribution. The donation drives are taking place from November 20 to December 20, and donations can be delivered to the police station at 41 Bridge Street at any time within those dates.

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NORTH POLE from page 1

Kokoris has imagined journeying to the North Pole since she read the of the polar journeys undertaken by explorers including Fridtjof Nansen, Ernest Shackleton, and Admiral Byrd. At eight years old, she read of their adventures under a blanket, pretending to be in an igloo in the polar world far, far away.

"As I matured, those dreams were eclipsed by life's more conventional obligations and ensuing adulthood responsibilities, but the hopes born inside that private 'iglu' remained," said Kokoris. "All the while, I lived vicariously through any news I could find of current day polar adventurers who were testing the boundaries of new frontiers and pursuing goals that had not yet been attained."

Kokoris experienced her own

"personal renaissance" after several tragedies plagued her life, and then 9/11, where the office she had worked in for an architectural firm was lost.

However, it was through these struggles that she found herself sitting with a therapist, who spurred her forward, and dared her to pursue her childhood dream of going to the North Pole.

"She proved to be the spark that rekindled my fire," said Kokoris. "Even the daunting logistics and the dangers I could possibly face did not derail me from my ultimate endeavor. Relying on the lessons I had learned from those explorer tales I'd read as a young girl; I knew I possessed the stamina, determination, and presence of mind that are essential traits required to carry out objectives of such caliber."

And so, she packed her bags,

her courage, and her dreams, and went to the North Pole, the degree 90-North, on April 18, 2003. This is where she found her "True North," soon after creating the organization itself to bring others that same wonder, excitement, and love for the polar region she has.

Her talks and presentations focus on the importance of taking care of our environment, and everything in it, as well as creating opportunities for people to learn about the people who live there and their customs and traditions, and experience some of the animals that call the frigid world home in different ways.

"My new dream is to inspire my audiences to fall in love with the Far North by revealing the Arctic's breathtaking beauty so that together we really can protect it for future generations," said Kokoris. The program allowed for kids to

touch pelts and other items from animals like a reindeer and a musk ox, as well as a coat made of Arctic seal and Arctic wolf fur, and sunglasses carved from a deer's antler. Kokoris' event had a fossilized mammoth molar to hold and study along with the other wonders of the North Pole.

"To discover the deep significance of existence is a rare joy, and while I stood there in the white windy presence of eternity, and in the silence and vivid elemental splendor of the Arctic North, I felt peace and spiritual harmony within my soul," said Kokoris.

"Ironically, in this ultimate adventure upon a boundless sea of ice, I have witnessed the power and the magic of life itself. I am humbled to have been able to stand at the very top of the world, and to understand that no one does so without bringing some of it away with themselves, nor

without leaving something of themselves behind.... This, my friends, is the very essence of what I call: Polar Nirvana."



A close-up view of a fossilized mammoth molar on a bed of musk ox fur.



Merritt illustrating what it would look like if your head got in a polar bear's mouth!



Moki Kokoris showing a girl a reindeer antler, and how to tell their age by counting the tines.



Learning about Moki's favorite Arctic animal, the musk ox, and getting the opportunity to pet its soft fur.



Moki Kokoris reaching the children in attendance about the different items she brought, and the animals they were from.



Merritt walked around to show everyone a real horn from a narwhal.

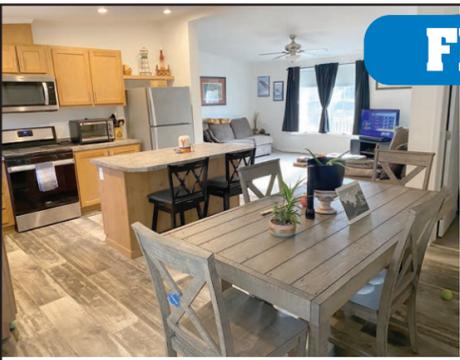


Moki Kokoris and her "magic umbrella" where she points out the region around the North Pole she travelled through.

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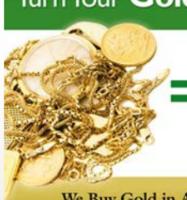
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Tigers, Knights ready for Turkey Day tilt

By Gregory A. Scibelli
gscibelli@turley.com

HOLYOKE – This year, it won't be the first time that Holyoke High School and South Hadley High School football will matchup on the field.

This year, Holyoke and South Hadley landed in the same conference and South Hadley already possesses one win this season over Holyoke.

South Hadley also has the major advantage over Holyoke since the two neighbors started meeting on Thanksgiving morning. Holyoke has just one win in seven games on Thanksgiving with South Hadley, a rivalry that began after Holyoke and Chicopee's 100-year rivalry ended.

This year, South Hadley, despite just a 4-4 regular season re-

cord, made the state tournament. The Tigers faced Amesbury in the first round of the Division 7 State Tournament, losing 43-8. South Hadley enters the holiday with a 4-5 record.

In conference action, the Tigers would go 2-3, and suffered a pair of shutouts in Weeks 7 and 8 against Lee and Easthampton. Despite that tough end to the regular season, South Hadley was still able to make the tournament.

The Tigers did have a couple of impressive wins in Weeks 1 and 2, beating larger schools in Northampton and Agawam.

South Hadley's two conference wins this year were against Taconic and Holyoke.

The Knights have had a very tough season in 2025. Holyoke had a disappointing conference

mark, going 1-4 with their only win over Taconic.

Holyoke also suffered losses against Chicopee Comprehensive and Agawam in independent action.

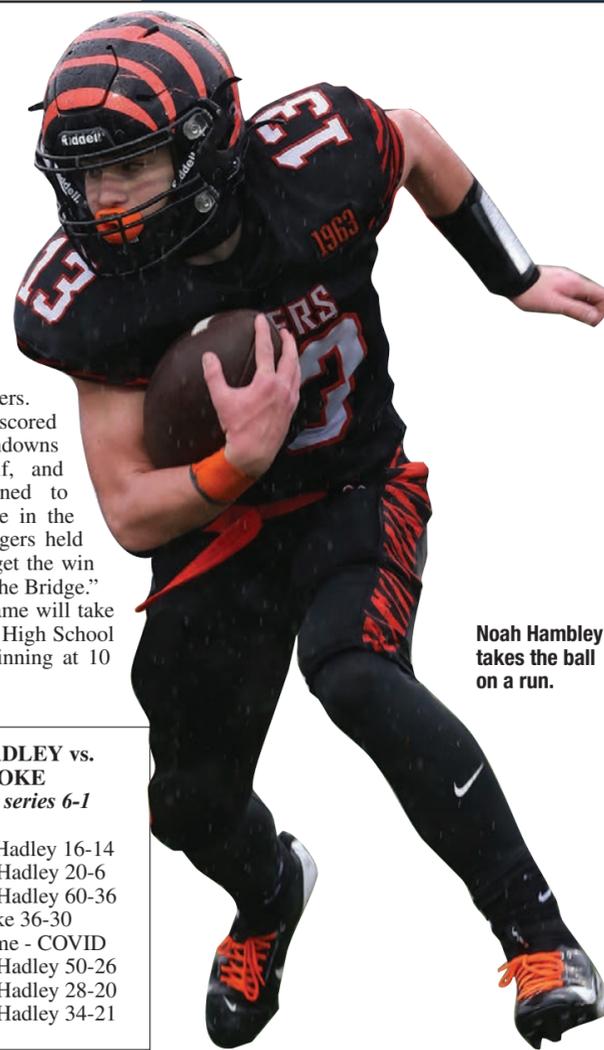
During the nonplayoff phase, Holyoke did renew its old rivalry with Chicopee in Week 9 and picked up a good win 35-12. In Week 10, however, West Springfield handily defeated the Knights 49-27.

The teams will be hoping for better weather for this year's game.

On a rainy Thanksgiving morning last year, South Hadley High School football scored a victory over Holyoke 16-14, relying on a pair of two-point conversions to make the difference in the game. Each team scored a pair of touchdowns in the match-

up, but South Hadley made conversions while Holyoke kicked point-afters. South Hadley scored both their touchdowns in the first half, and Holyoke threatened to take the lead late in the game, but the Tigers held them off late to get the win in the "Battle of the Bridge."

This year's game will take place at Holyoke High School with kickoff beginning at 10 a.m.



Noah Hambley takes the ball on a run.

SOUTH HADLEY vs. HOLYOKE Tigers leads series 6-1

- 2024: South Hadley 16-14
- 2023: South Hadley 20-6
- 2022: South Hadley 60-36
- 2021: Holyoke 36-30
- 2020: No game - COVID
- 2019: South Hadley 50-26
- 2018: South Hadley 28-20
- 2017: South Hadley 34-21

Holyoke Football (3-7)

- Friday, Sept. 12 – Chicopee Comprehensive 43, Holyoke 8
- Thursday, Sept. 18 – Holyoke 32, Northampton 12
- Friday, Sept. 26 – Agawam 28, Holyoke 15
- Friday, Oct. 3 – Lee 36, Holyoke 7
- Thursday, Oct. 9 – Easthampton 24, Holyoke 22
- Friday, Oct. 17 – South Hadley 48, Holyoke 7
- Friday, Oct. 24 – Holyoke 40, Taconic 22
- Saturday, Nov. 1 – Hoosac Valley 35, Holyoke 6
- Thursday, Nov. 6 – Holyoke 35, Chicopee 12
- Friday, Nov. 14 – West Springfield 49, Holyoke 27
- Thanksgiving Game
- Thursday, Nov. 27 – vs. South Hadley 10 a.m.

South Hadley Football (4-5)

- Friday, Sept. 12 – South Hadley 46, Northampton 0
- Friday, Sept. 19 – South Hadley 16, Agawam 6
- Friday, Sept. 26 – Chicopee Comprehensive 38, South Hadley 14
- Saturday, Oct. 4 – Hoosac Valley 33, South Hadley 6
- Friday, Oct. 10 – South Hadley 28, Taconic 14
- Friday, Oct. 17 – South Hadley 48, Holyoke 7
- Friday, Oct. 24 – Lee 28, South Hadley 0
- Thursday, Oct. 30 – Easthampton 22, South Hadley 0
- Friday, Nov. 7 – Division 7 First Round – Amesbury 43, South Hadley 8
- Thanksgiving Game
- Thursday, Nov. 27 – at Holyoke 10 a.m.



Noah Hambley tries to keep the ball in traffic during last year's matchup.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Julius Hebeneth works around the Holyoke defense.



Jayden McMains makes a block.



Brayden Koske goes for a tackle.

Rams head for state semifinals

By Tim Peterson
Sports Correspondent

SOUTH HADLEY—Just like they want to do in every match, the Granby girls' soccer team scored an early goal during last Wednesday night's Division 5 Elite 8 contest.

The top-seeded Lady Rams managed to hold onto the lead the rest of the way en route to a 3-0 shutout victory over the ninth-seeded Rising Tide Charter School Herons, which was played on the turf field at South Hadley High School.

"We like to put high pressure at the beginning of the game all over the field," said Granby head coach Bob Weaver "I'm really proud of the way the girls came out today. That's a tough team to play against. They're very

well-organized and played good defense against us. The girls really did a good job."

The Lady Rams (15-3-4) have gone 8-0-2 since being shutout at home against Amherst on October 6. It was their seventh shutout during that stretch.

Overall, Granby junior goalie Meredith Bartosz has posted a total of ten shutouts this season. She made ten saves in the Elite 8 match.

"Meredith played a great game tonight," said Granby senior Kaitlyn Curran, who's a starting defender. "We were able to score an early goal, which took a lot of pressure off the defense. I'm very happy that I'll be playing at least one more game with this team."

Curran, who's a tri-captain of the soccer team, is also

a member of the Lady Rams basketball and softball teams.

The Lady Rams were scheduled to face fourth-seeded and Central Division rival Monson in the semifinal match at West Springfield High School on Monday night.

"I'm so happy that we're going to the final four," said Granby junior Kalli White. "We always want to score the first goal in every game that we play."

The other two Granby senior tri-captains are Mylin Laliberte and Ava Elizabeth Loughman, who's recovering from an ACL injury.

Rising Tide Charter School, which is located a couple of miles from Plymouth Rock and the Mayflower II, finished their season with an 11-7 overall record.

The soccer fans were still arriving when Granby scored their first goal against the Herons during the third minute of the opening half.

White, who has more than 100 career points, began the scoring play by sending a pass to eighth grader Margo Healy, who finished off the play by firing a shot into the left corner of the net past senior goalie Lucy Ellis (14 saves).

It was Healy's seventh goal of the season. She also has eight assists.

The duo of White and freshman Marcela Tapia has combined for a total of 43 goals.

White, who leads the way with 28 goals, had a couple of very good scoring chances



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Meredith Bartosz punts the ball away.

Please see RAMS, page 8

Thunderbirds offensive struggles continue against Penguins

WILKES-BARRE, PA – The Springfield Thunderbirds (2-10-1-1) could not overcome an early deficit, falling 3-1 to the Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins (12-3-1-0) on Saturday night inside Mohegan Arena at Casey Plaza.

After scoring five goals in a third period comeback win on Friday night, the Penguins picked up where they left off just 2:20 into the game on Saturday, as Raivis Ansons funneled a wrist through heavy traffic and past Georgii Romanov to make it a 1-0 game.

The T-Birds had a tough time getting much cooking in the offensive end, and the Penguins' relentless pressure pushed the lead to a pair at 12:51. After already picking up a fighting major in a scrap with Springfield's Kale Kesy earlier in the period, Boko Imama positioned himself in

the slot and deflected a Zach Gallant shot through Romanov's legs to make it a 2-0 game and bringing Imama two-thirds of the way to a Gordie Howe hat trick in the opening period.

The Penguins wasted little time adding to their margin early in the second, as Rutger McGroarty - making his season debut - cashed in with a backhand tuck between the legs of Romanov just 1:06 into period two.

After continuous even-strength action for the first 28 minutes, special teams were finally put to work in the middle frame, and the T-Birds had a perfect showing, killing off two Penguins' man advantages and adding a power play goal at 11:52. After creating his own predicament on a turnover, Romanov reacted alertly to deflect a centering pass toward the neutral zone, where

Chris Wagner and Hugh McGing sped up on the rush and converted a 2-on-1 past Joel Blomqvist to make it a 3-1 game, as McGing picked up his third of the season while Wagner picked up a point for a second straight night.

Romanov settled in very well after the McGroarty tally and turned aside the final 11 shots he faced to keep it at a two-goal margin heading into the third. Blomqvist, though, answered in kind with a busy and strong final period, as the Penguin backstop turned away all 12 attempts that came his way in the third, while the Penguins' PK also survived one more Springfield power play threat.

The T-Birds continued their busy road schedule Tuesday morning when they square off in Hartford against the Wolf Pack at PeoplesBank Arena.

Participate in the 2025 Wilbraham Turkey Trot

WILBRAHAM – Please join us on Thanksgiving morning, Nov. 27 for the Wilbraham Turkey Trot - a five-mile road race up Monson Road now in its 46nd year. The annual tradition, started in 1980, has grown in recent years selling out at 500 runners the past several years. This year, the maximum has been increased to 550 participants. There is no vaccination requirement this year. The course starts in Woodland Dell Cemetery just up from race headquarters at the Wilbraham United Church. Runners then make a left onto Main St. and head up Monson Road. Once summited, runners turn left and enjoy scenic views of the valley from

atop Ridge Road and enjoy the downhill along Mountain Road before turning back on Main Street to the church. The race starts at 8:30 a.m. with bib pick-up beginning at 7:30 a.m. at the church.

The race focuses on providing a classic New England Turkey Trot with chip timing, race swag, and one big hill. Awards will be given for the first male and female runners to the top of Monson Road.

Registration is only \$25 and available online at www.RunReg.com/13116

Residents are asked not to park on Woodland Dell or Main Street on Thanksgiving morning and to avoid driving on the route until after the race has concluded at 10 a.m. Any traffic will be detoured

downhill from Monson Road to Main along Ridge and Mountain Roads.

Expected road closures are as follows:

Main Street: From Monson to Woodland Dell: 8:30-8:35 a.m.

Monson Road: Closed to downhill traffic from Ridge Road to Main Street: 8:30-8:50 a.m. (Traffic detoured down ridge road)

Ridge Road: Closed to uphill traffic from Mountain to Monson: 8:35-9:10 a.m.

(Traffic detoured down Mountain Road)

Mountain Road: Closed to uphill traffic from Main to Ridge: 8:40-9:25 a.m.

(Traffic can travel uphill via Monson Road)

Local players named to all-star teams

HOLYOKE – The International Volleyball Hall of Fame has made a tradition of hosting a showcase for both high school boys and girls players. The girls all-star showcase was held this week at Holyoke Community College in the Bartley Center featuring players from all over the region.

The IVHF is very proud to have its home in Western Massachusetts and we are very excited to again recognize the top players in our

area," said IVHF Executive Director George Mulry. Selected players are chosen by nomination and vote of the Western Massachusetts girls high school coaches.

There were two games scheduled to be played. One featuring the second team all-stars followed by a game between the first team all-stars. Both games were scheduled to be three-set exhibitions. For more information on the Hall of Fame Girls All-Star Volleyball Showcase, con-

tact events@volleyhall.org.

Players named to the first team included: Minnechaug's Anna O'Toole, Cora Pace, Maliha Daubon, and Nehir Elcin,

Player named to the second included: Agawam's Sophia Laprise, and Hannah Jock, Minnechaug's Haley Powers, Belchertown's Layla Liminski, South Hadley's Grace Matyszewski, Chicopee Comprehensive's Olivia Warren and Lori Vazquez.

Railers score sweep of Lions

WORCESTER – The Railers spent the first few weeks of this season playing games where it was hard to find something they did right.

Saturday night they played one where it was hard to find something they did wrong.

Behind sensational goaltending by Henrik Tikkanen and equally sensational penalty killing, Worcester shut out the reigning ECHL Kelly Cup champion Trois-Rivieres Lions by a 2-0 score.

Tikkanen made 32 saves. The Railers killed five penalties, three in the third period. Counting the penalties and the four minutes or so Trois-Rivieres played with its goalie on the bench, Worcester spent about half the period skating 5 on 6.

Goaltending was the difference in the final 20 minutes as Tikkanen made 13 saves. So, which aspect of the game was key, goaltending or penalty killing, coach Nick Tuzzolino was asked.

"It works hand in hand,"

he said. "I think the lanes that our penalty kill created allowed (Tikkanen) to be as effective as he was."

Worcester got a goal from Lincoln Hatten in the second period and Anthony Callin, just back from a suspension, in the third.

The shutout was the first by a Railers goaltender since Tikkanen beat Wichita, 1-0, out there last Nov. 27. It was the first at the DCU Center since March 2, 2024. John Muse blanked Trois-Rivieres, 4-0.

It was the fifth of Tikkanen's career here. He is one behind Mitch Gillam, the franchise's all-time leader, and tied with IceCat Brent Johnson for sixth on the Worcester all-pro list. Curtis Sanford of the IceCats leads in that category with 10.

Tikkanen's career in the Islanders' organization has had its highs and lows. It is highs like Saturday night that have kept him around.

"I know he has had sort of an up and down stat career in

Bridgeport," Tuzzolino said, "but every time I've been behind the bench and he's been in net I can count maybe one game that he'd like back.

"I have no issue with Teeks."

Tuzzolino did have an issue with the way his team played in the first two periods and let them know about it. Even so, the Railers had the lead going into the third thanks to Hatten's goal at 12:31 of the second period.

He snapped the dual shutout with his second goal of the weekend at 12:31. Cole Donhauser tried a wrap-around that Lions' goalie Benjamin Gaudreau denied but the puck bounced out to Hatten just above the crease and he popped it home to give Worcester the lead.

Callin made it 2-0 at 8:12 of the third. Calle Odelius set things up with a nice rush through center ice. He found Callin on the right side and he beat Gaudreau with a high wrist shot to the far corner.

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Turley Publications sports department has recently joined Instagram. You can find our account by searching "turleysports." We will regularly feature samples of photos that you will see in our publications on a weekly basis. Please follow and share with your

friends and loved ones. We will be featuring photos from all 11 of our sports sections, but as always, you can see all the photos that appear by subscribing to your local paper or picking up a copy in your community.

RAMS from page 7

less than ten minutes later, but the score remained 1-0.

"We were looking at the stat-sheet from our past few games and there's like eight, nine girls on it. It's just enjoyable to see," Weaver said. "Teams can't just concentrate on Kalli."

During the 18th minute, junior McKenna Zumbruski gained possession of the ball at the top of the box before booting a shot into the back of the net. The assist was given to White.

Zumbruski is another starting defender, along with junior's Jaidyn Roberge and Ellie Szlosek.

Just like they did in the first half, the Lady Rams scored their third three minutes into the second half.

The duo of Healy and White hooked up again. This time, it was White firing a wide open shot into the right corner and Healy was credited with the assist.

Bartosz made a couple of key saves during the second half, which enabled the Lady Rams to punch their ticket into the final four.

The semifinal winner will be facing either second-seeded Hopedale or 10th-seeded Norfolk County Agricultural in the Division 5 state finals this weekend.

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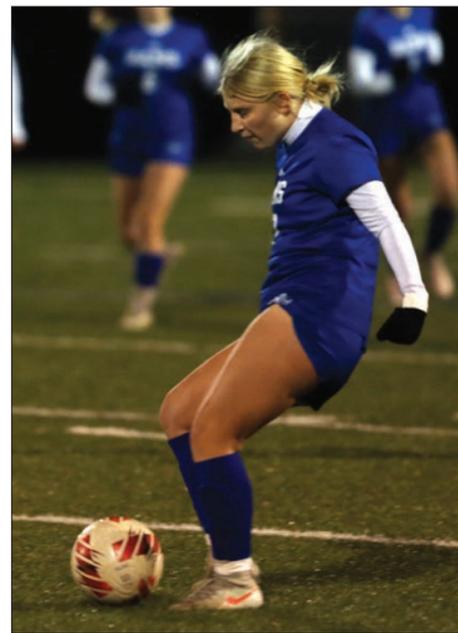
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Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com
Margaret Healy makes a stop.



Kaitlyn Curran looks to make a move up the field.



McKenna Cudworth clears the ball away.



Kalli White advances up the field.



Marcela Tapia watches her shot head for the goal.



McKenna Zumbruski turns play around after taking possession.

PINNING from page 1

"It's an honor for me to have this pinning ceremony to recognize the members and welcome new ones, but its also for family members and friends to come and see, and it's important for them and the firefighters as well," said Chief Stark.

The firefighters that are part of the South Hadley Fire District 1 are a close group, a family, and look out for one another through anything: from tragedy and sicknesses to celebrations and achievements.

"They inspire me through their hard work and dedication to serving the community, and they take their job very seriously. The fire service is like a second family and we take care of each other," said Chief Stark.

No matter the call, the department answers an average of 3,00 every year and the firefighters, paramedics, and EMTs go out there to help someone in need.

"Firefighting is one of the most important jobs out there. We're always there to answer the bell," said Chief Stark. "They are there for the citizens of South Hadley and surrounding communities."

The ceremony to honor these brave men and women untied together as firefighters was a wonderful success, and the department is looking forward to many more in the future as it grows and prepares to assist the people in their communities.



Submitted photos

A group shot of the men and women that make up the District 1 "firefighting family."



Chief Tom Stark (left) and Captain Jay Houle addressing those in attendance, and thanking them for their support.



A father pins his daughter's jacket with pride.



The station full of supportive friends, family, and neighbors for the pinning ceremony.

CONCERT from page 1

working, ' and it's clear inflation across the board is out of control. So it's not like these people aren't trying, they are, and if we can provide a tool to help them get food on the table, then I'm here to help," said Gómez.

In addition, the event was sponsored by local South Hadley Landmark, Gerry's Music Shop, and in partnership with Neighbors Helping Neighbors, and countless others. However, before the concert started, Bombyx Brass Collective Conductor Juli Sansoucy took a moment to reflect on the importance of these fundraisers in helping all.

"We like to present our artistry in brass, and were very excited that we can also support the Food Bank

of Western Mass in our endeavor, while getting more exposure and enjoying the art of brass playing," Sansoucy said. She then pivoted to discuss how the concert came into reality, citing that the idea was introduced in August, "So from that point forward, we started putting things into place for this concert, and obviously it became more and more crucial, and it's very much near and dear to our hearts," she added. The show, which was titled "Pops Across The Pond," was the group's first of the season and featured works by British composers, including Delius, Holst, Byrd, Walton, Boysen, and Zimmer/Fernie.

Also, taking a moment to reflect on the benefit was Ira Brezinsky, who provided a video highlighting the good and importance of the efforts displayed by the Food

Bank, which caused a unanimous round of applause. He revealed to the room that the goal of the concert was to raise \$5000; however, after an anonymous donor, whom he met in person, gave him that total in a check, the overall total increased to \$10,000, which got the crowd energized, and that the total as of Sunday morning between the donations of both concerts was at \$3k, and was now at \$8k and the momentum only carried from there. As the final guest to speak, was Food Bank of Western Mass public engagement manager Cheyenne Burnham, who kept her thoughts simple.

"Thank you for supporting for us. Please support your local food pantries; they are on the front lines, doing a whole lot of work. It's been a hard few weeks, and I'll let you get to it," Burham said.

For those who attended, admission was a \$25 suggested donation, which was paid by cash or card, or by going to the website bombyxbrass.org/donate. In addition, some guests brought non-expired dry goods, which were donated at the door, with all proceeds benefitting the Foodbank. The final leg

of the benefit series was this past Tuesday at the Bombyx Center for Arts and Equity in Florence, which kicked off at 7 p.m. In addition, next week will see the annual return of the Monte Belmonte March for the Food Bank for its 16th anniversary, with this year's goal set to raise \$650,000 – the equivalent of

1,300,000 meals. The event is a 43-mile march from Springfield to Greenfield. Monte, Congressman Jim McGovern, Food Bank Executive Director Andrew Morehouse, and marchers fundraise to support the mission of the Food Bank and spread awareness about how hunger effects people throughout the region.



Neighbors Helping Neighbors Executive Director Mary Lou Guarnera at the front door, keeping track of donations for the Food Bank.



Bombyx Brass Collective Conductor Juli Sansoucy in action, leading the ensemble.



Turley photos by Brendan Rooney

Ira Brezinsky talks to the sold-out crowd.



State Rep Homar Gómez, 2nd Hampshire District (D), delivers opening remarks.

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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.

• salary rate range: \$26.49 - \$38.59 per hour

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 or send letter of interest, resume and three (3) references with relevant contact information to: highway@worthington-ma.us or to **Worthington Highway Department, PO Box 643, Worthington, MA, 01098.** This posting will remain pertinent until the position is filled.

The Town of Worthington is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

TOWN OF WORTHINGTON INVITATION TO BID SNOW PLOWING SERVICES

The Town of Worthington Highway Department is soliciting bids for seasonal plowing services for the 2025-2026 winter season. Work will include plowing backroads and selected blacktop sections throughout the Town of Worthington.

Minimum equipment requirements:

• ¾-ton truck or larger

• 8-foot plow (minimum)

Please contact the Worthington Highway Department for bid specifications and route details:

Worthington Highway Department 64 Huntington Road Worthington, MA 01098 Phone: 413-238-5830 Email: highway@worthington-ma.us

The Town of Worthington reserves the right to accept or reject any and all bids deemed to be in the best interest of the Town.

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

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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, December 09, 2025** to be held at 1 Library Lane-Old Carnegie Library-Top Floor to consider the following:
 1. **7:30 PM: NOI** filed by Nick Wholers, applicant, for a proposed construction of a single-family dwelling within the 100' buffer to a bordering vegetated wetland with regards to Lots 9 and 10 East State Street and known as Map 15-Block A-1 (9-10), in the Town of Granby.
 Members of the public can attend virtually by phone at +1 (312) 757-3121 using Access Code: 282-289-421 or 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 "NOI" 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 11/21/2025
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, December 09, 2025** *1 Library Lane - Carnegie Building - Top Floor to consider the following:
 1. **7:30 pm "RDA"** filed by Gerald Archambault to see whether the area depicted on plan(s) referenced a the jurisdiction of the Wetlands Protection Act and to see if the work depicted on plans referenced is subject to the Wetlands Protection Act and its regulations with regards to property located on 239 Amherst Street and known as Map 1-B Lot 16-2, in the Town of Granby.
 Members of the public can attend virtually by phone at +1 (312) 757-3121 using Access Code: 282-289-421 or 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 11/21/2025
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, December 09, 2025** *1 Library Lane- Carnegie Building-Top Floor to consider the following:
 1. **7:30 pm "RDA"** filed by Ryan Terhune to see whether the area depicted on plan(s) referenced are subject to the jurisdiction of the Wetlands Protection Act and to see if the work depicted on plans referenced is subject to the Wetlands Protection Act and its regulations with regards to property located on 62-64 West State Street and known as Map 4-A Lot A-7, in the Town of Granby.
 Members of the public can attend virtually by phone at +1 (312) 757-3121 using Access Code: 282-289-421 or 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 11/21/2025
TOWN OF SOUTH HADLEY NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING
 The Conservation Commission will hold a public hearing pursuant to the Wetlands Protection Act and the Local Wetlands Bylaw to consider a Notice of Intent filed on behalf of Nicholas Moynihan of Quality Fleet Services, Inc. The filing is to address an Enforcement Order for the unpermitted removal of vegetation and the addition of fill within Bordering Vegetated Wetland.
 The project restoration work consists of removal of unpermitted fill, planting native species within resource area and buffer

zone, and vegetation management for the treatment of invasive species. Map 8, Parcel 75.
The hearing will be held on Wednesday, December 3, 2025 at 6:00 PM virtually. Login information will be provided with the posted agenda on the Town website.
 A copy of the Notice of Intent is on file in the Conservation Commission office, Room U6, in the Town Hall, and is available to the public for inspection between the hours of 8:30 AM to 4:00 PM Mon - Thurs. Plans are also available online at www.southhadley.org/603/Project-Plans.
 Any person interested or wishing to be heard should appear at the time and place designated.
 April Doroski,
 Conservation Chair 11/21/2025
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, December 09, 2025** to be held at 1 Library Lane-Old Carnegie Library-Top Floor to consider the

following:
 1. **7:30 PM: NOI**-filed by Alan Kotowicz, applicant, Wayne Gaudreault, owner, for a proposed construction of a single-family dwelling within the 100' buffer to a bordering vegetated wetland with regards to Parcel A-13 Carver Street and known as Map 16-Block A-13, in the Town of Granby.
 Members of the public can attend virtually by phone at +1 (312) 757-3121 using Access Code: 282-289-421 or 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 "NOI" 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 11/21/2025

Thankful for the library this November

SOUTH HADLEY – In 1906, Andrew Carnegie gave \$10,000 so that South Hadley could build a municipal library in the South Hadley Falls neighborhood. We're excited to announce that history is repeating itself! South Hadley Public Library is one of almost 1,300 Carnegie Libraries across the United States that will receive a \$10,000 gift from Carnegie Corporation of New York in celebration of America's 250th anniversary. More than a century after philanthropist Andrew Carnegie helped fund the construction of 1,681 libraries nationwide, SHPL is still serving our community.
Adult Programs at SHPL
 On Wednesday, **November 19, at 6 p.m., Alex MacKenzie** from the **Springfield Armory** shares the hidden history of the first Continental Arsenal and its key role in America's fight for independence.
Children's Programs at SHPL
 November is Native American Heritage Month and Picture Book Month (and Children's Book Week)! We'll be featuring

both throughout the month in our displays and during **storytimes** on Wednesday mornings at 10:30 a.m. and Monday evenings at 6:30 p.m.
Music with Mr. Liam returns as well, on **Saturday, November 29, at 10:30 a.m.** Get your post-Thanksgiving wiggles out with some ten-second dance parties!
 All our regular programs continue - **Lego & Games** (Monday and Wednesday at 3 p.m.), **Rhyme Time** (Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m.), **Baby Lapsit** (November 21 at 10 a.m.).
 Remember, our puzzle swap is available whenever the library is open, and you can request a Book Bundle anytime!
Teen Programs at SHPL
 This month for Teens (ages 11 through 19), we have a lot of great offerings!
Night Craft will be happening on **Tuesday, November 25, from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m.** We will be crafting Paper Pulp Painting. None of these programs requires registration unless you would like an email reminder.
 Monthly gaming sessions

will be held on **Monday, November 24, for Switch**. All gaming sessions start at 3:30 p.m. and run until 5 p.m.. No sign-up is needed.
Teen Takeaways continue to be available. This month features Origami Maple Leaves. Sign up once and get a new Teen Takeaway every month.
 We also have our latest **Booktrovert** pick: *Thieves' Gambit* by Kayvon Lewis. There are no in-person meet-ups; just enjoy the book on your own time. Copies are available in the Teen Room for checkout. Any questions, please email Bethany.
Gaylord Memorial Library Programs
 For kids, we also have our usual **Story Times (Fridays at 10:30 a.m.)**. We have **Drop-In Crafts on Thursday, November 21, from 3 to 6 p.m.**
 Families can also join us on **Saturday, November 15, at 10:15 a.m. for Puzzles and Board Games**.
November Holidays
 The libraries will be closed on: Thursday and Friday, November 27 to 28, for Thanksgiving

EARLY DEADLINES FOR ADS & LEGAL NOTICES

Thanksgiving will bring early deadlines for all legal notices to run in **TURLEY PUBLICATIONS** the week of November 24-28, 2025.

Thursday, Nov. 20 at 2 PM for November 27 issue

- Agawam Advertiser News • Country Journal
- The Register • Wilbraham-Hampden Times

Friday, November 21 at 2 PM for November 27 Issue

- Sentinel • Quaboag Current

Monday, November 24 at 2 PM for November 27 Issue

- The Journal Register • Ware River News • Barre Gazette

Tuesday, November 25 at 2 PM for November 28 Issue

- Town Reminder • The Holyoke Sun • Chicopee Register

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Turley Publications, Inc.

Turley Publications would like to help you show off the newest member of your family this Christmas, FOR FREE!

Mail to:
 Turley Publications
 24 Water Street
 Palmer, MA 01069
 Attn: Jamie Joslyn
 Include a self addressed/ stamped envelope if you would like the picture returned or email photo to: jamie@turley.com with subject line: **BABY'S FIRST.**
 This offer is available to all babies born in 2025. Pictures will be published the week of December 23-26, 2025.



Logan Distler
 September 22, 2024
 Parents: Daniel & Lisa Distler, Brimfield
 Grandparents: Christopher & Michele Mues, Warren
 Carole & the late Bruce Distler, Long Island, NY

Baby's Name: _____
 Birthdate: _____
 Parents' Names: _____
 Parents' Town of Residence: _____
 Grandparents' Names & Town of Residence: _____

Telephone #: (not to be printed - for office use only) _____

Please check the newspaper you would like your announcement to appear.

Agawam Advertiser News
 Barre Gazette
 Chicopee Register
 Country Journal
 The Holyoke Sun
 Journal Register

Quaboag Current
 The Register
 Sentinel
 Town Reminder
 Ware River News
 The Wilbraham-Hampden Times

Deadline for photos and forms is Friday, December 12, 2025

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CLUES ACROSS

1. Popular broadcast network

4. Train line

10. Go quickly

11. Straightforward

12. Canadian province

14. Swiss river

15. It can be straight or curved

16. Edit

18. Utter repeatedly

22. Gotten up

23. Sea vessel

24. Agents of one's demise

26. Not out

27. Something to scratch

28. A round water pot

30. Slang for cylindrical green fruit

31. Promotions

34. Masses of matter

36. Soviet Socialist Republic

37. Nightstand item

39. The content of cognition

40. Arab ruler

41. Northern U.S. state

42. Chewed in small bites

48. Hawaiian island

50. More thin

51. Of one

52. Rigid bracelet or anklet

53. Barbary sheep

54. Not even

55. Atomic #106

56. Haggle

58. Boxing's GOAT

59. Division of a group into opposing factions

60. Vietnamese offensive

CLUES DOWN

1. Horse-drawn carriage

2. Prejudices

3. Peacefully

4. University athletic official

5. Soldiers

6. Large mollusk

7. Take out again

8. Sour or bitter in taste

9. Songwriter Tunstall

12. Husk of wheat

13. Flexible covering in some birds

17. Energy

19. Night monkey genus

20. Small nails

21. Colorless volatile liquid

25. In a way, changes integrity

29. Mark Wahlberg's stuffed animal

31. Remember it

32. "Good Will Hunting" lead man

33. Pleasant facial expression

35. Sea vessel

38. Lacking poetic beauty

41. Tall, swift and slender dog

43. Sports personality

44. Robber

45. Liquefied natural gas

46. Snake-like fish

47. Sediment at bottom of a liquid

49. Crimean seaport

56. Bad grades

57. Popular S. Korean rapper

VETERANS from page 1

nies since World War I, and has taken place on the 11th month, on the 11th day, on the 11th hour, mirroring the time of the armistice with Germany in 1918, and in 1954 was renamed Veterans' Day to honor all who have fought.

"I hope the community understands the importance of Veterans Day, a day to honor all those who have served in the U. S. Military, and to express our gratitude for their courage, their sacrifice, and their dedication to our nation's defense," said Post Adjutant Rob Chauvin.

The Memorial, where the ceremony took place, is the result of 10 years of hard work and dedication from the Granby Veterans Memorial Committee and the Friends of the Granby Veterans to raise funds to create a space to commemorate the war heroes of Granby.

The Memorial commemorates the brave men and women, both past and present, of Granby who served in the military, and creates a space where memories of their military stories can be remembered by the Granby residents of today, and in future generations.

"I'm proud to be a member of the American Legion. It allows me to continue to serve our community, state, and nation, and my fellow veterans," said Chauvin. "It makes me proud to be part of

this veteran community that values honor, service, and patriotism. Veterans strengthening America is what being a Legionnaire means to me."

When veterans come home, many bear physical scars, as well as mental scars, and we are called to step up to help them and give them the support they need.

"It's up to us to ensure that veterans know they are appreciated by people here," said Cote, sharing the suicide hotline 988 as a reminder that they have resources they can go to for help.

"If you know a veteran, let him or her know that you have their back, because veterans have had the back of our country."

The ceremony was a beautiful reminder, at the Memorial that celebrates and remembers veterans, that they are not alone, and the community of Granby and its many businesses, churches, nonprofits, and other community organizations work hard to reach out to veterans.

"I'm thankful that our community has been a strong supporter of our veterans and military. I believe Granby and its residents have always been very patriotic, supportive, and thankful to our community veterans, and will be in the future," said Chauvin. "It shows by all the events and ceremonies that the community shows up to support the Granby American Legion and the Granby Veterans Memorial."



Turley photos by Emily-Rose Pappas

Members of the community gathered at the Memorial to thank the veterans in their lives and community.



Commander Dan Cote and Brian Sowell sharing a special blessing over the veterans.



Todd Carpenter playing a song on the bagpipes.

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