

# TOWN Reminder

FREE  
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## Committee hopeful about asst. principal position

By Samuel Gelinas  
Correspondent

SOUTH HADLEY - Assistant Superintendent of Public Schools Jennifer Voyik, who spoke in place of absent Interim Superintendent Dr. Mark McLaughlin at a recent School Committee meeting, shared her gratitude to the several town bodies that came together to vote in approval of an assistant principal position for the high school.

"We wanted to share our thanks with the Selectboard, the School Committee, the Appropriations Committee, town meeting members, town administration, and Chief Gunderson,

for giving us the opportunity to be heard over the last couple of weeks and last night, and to vote in favor of the assistant principal at the high school," Voyik said.

"We know that this position will have the greatest impact on students at the high school, and we are looking forward to filling that position as soon as possible," Voyik added. "We posted today, and we're looking forward to the hiring process over the next couple of weeks."

She said these words in praise of the decisions made by the Nov. 15 Special Town Meeting voters, who favored the need for this position and allowed the funding for its creation via vote.

This position gained consensus with the logic that it would be among the most effective and economic ways to reduce violence that has occurred at the high school with greater frequency, according to reports.

The position has been posted for the public; the position is funded at \$61,000, to last through June of 2024.

Additionally, as part of the Superintendent's report at the School Committee meeting, Voyik updated the Committee on the updated status of the Mosier stabilization fund; \$850,000 was allocated to the fund at the Special Town Meeting, bringing the fund to a total of \$1.4 million.

Voyik shared that it is estimated the feasibility study will cost between \$1.5-2 million.

She assured the Committee that it had been discussed at the Special Town Meeting that the necessary total for the study will be met, adding "most likely it will be an article in regular town meeting to add to that fund in May."

Voyik added that "we should be right where we need to be should we be invited to the MSBA [Massachusetts School Building Authority] program in December."

Please see **COMMITTEE**,  
page 11



**WE KNOW THAT THIS POSITION WILL HAVE THE GREATEST IMPACT ON STUDENTS AT THE HIGH SCHOOL, AND WE ARE LOOKING FORWARD TO FILLING THAT POSITION AS SOON AS POSSIBLE."**

**JENNIFER VOYIK**  
ASST. SUPERINTENDENT  
OF PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## VFW makes donations to local food pantries

By Tina Lesniak  
Correspondent

SOUTH HADLEY - After a recent merging with the Amherst Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Post, South Hadley VFW Post 3104 found itself with some extra money, and with knowledge of the financial strains on local families with inflation and rising costs of living, the Post decided to start the holiday season off with donations to three local food pantries.

"The South Hadley VFW recently merged with Amherst after the sale of its building, and that brought a fair amount of money into the new Sanders/White South Hadley VFW Post 3104," said Michael Slater, a Post member and veterans' agent for South Hadley. "This allowed us to have the funding to make this \$15,000 donation"

Just before Thanksgiving, Post Commander Dave Mendon-

Please see **VFW**, page 9



Submitted photo

The food drive was a success thanks to the hard work of local volunteers.

## Iona's Kitchen hands out 2,700 meals to the needy

By Marcelo Gusmão  
Staff Writer  
mgusmao@turley.com

This year, Iona's Kitchen was able to give out more meals for Thanksgiving than previously as part of its annual program.

Kelly Dobbins started this program with his restaurant about five years ago, seeking to help feed veterans, seniors, and the homeless.

"When we did it last year, our goal was to put out 2,500 meals," Dobbins said. "But this

year, we put out 2,700."

"After dinner is done, we go over to Springfield [and] we have a sit-in dinner," Dobbins said. "We go into the Orchard Covenant Church; we sit people down and feed them there."

Dobbins started this program when he grew concerned about the accessibility to the Commerce High food drive for Springfield residents.

"I used to volunteer every year at Commerce High School," Dobbins said. "I thought, 'we have to do something on the other side,' because

people couldn't get from that side of town to [their event]."

Dobbins decided to use his business to get meals to people with limited access to transportation who couldn't make it out of the Orchard.

"There are no buses running on Thanksgiving, how are they going to get to the opposite side of town? I'm going to do something over here," Dobbins said. "It grew over time, getting meals out and partnering with these agencies that get food

Please see **IONA**, page 6



Courtesy Photo, South Hadley VFW Post 3104

In addition to the donations, South Hadley VFW Post 3104 also recently helped out by distributing Christmas trees to Airmen and families of the 104th Fighter Wing, courtesy of Operation Service.

## COA holiday open house next week

By Sam Gelinas  
Correspondent

SOUTH HADLEY - Next week, the town's Council on Aging (COA) will open its doors to the whole family as they host their Holiday Open House from 4-7 p.m. on Tuesday, Dec. 5.

The event will host the Boy and Girl Scouts, who will be decorating cookies. Profes-

sional photos with Santa will be available. South Hadley's culinary program will be hosting a cocoa bar. Other holiday-themed amusements such as a holiday train and music will welcome the Christmas season at the COA.

"The holidays are for all ages," said COA program coordinator Sandy Farnsworth, who added that the presence

of young people at the senior center brings back memories of childhood and innocence for the people of the senior center.

All are welcome, free of charge and irrespective of age. However, registration is required, which can be done by calling the Senior Center at 413-538-7924 or signing up in person at 45 Dayton St. in South Hadley.



# ▶ South Hadley



Submitted Photo

## Toys for Tots, food drive event held

On Nov. 26, members of Fire District No. 1 held an event for the Western Mass Food Drive and Toys for Tots. The district thanked all donated, adding that it will be accepting donations through today, Friday, Dec. 1.

## Free holiday concert this weekend

SOUTH HADLEY – A holiday concert with Dan Kane & Friends (feat. Freddie Marion) will be held from 2-3:30 p.m. this Sunday, Dec. 3, at St. Theresa’s Church.

All are welcome to this annual free concert presented by the Friends of the South Hadley Seniors. No RSVP is needed. Free hot cocoa and cookies will be served following the show.

This program is supported in part by a grant from the South Hadley Cultural Council, a local agency, which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

## Bike/Walk Comm. to offer free bike lights thanks to MassBike Lights Brigade

SOUTH HADLEY- On Saturday, Dec. 9, volunteers from the town’s Bike/Walk Committee will be distributing free bike lights to South Hadley area cyclists as part of MassBike’s Lights Brigade program.

Free sets of lights will be available near the Log Cabin at Buttery Brook Park from 5:30-7 p.m. during Santa’s Land, or until the supply runs out, according to a press statement.

“Stay safe. Stay legal. Use lights at night,” the Bike/Walk Committee released. “Having front and rear lights on your bike is crucial. Without working lights, you are practically invisible to vehicles. All bike riders in Massachusetts are legally required to have front white lights, red rear lights, and rear and side reflectors when riding anytime from 30 minutes after sunset until 30 minutes before sunrise.”

MassBike’s Lights Brigade program supplies volunteers with free bike lights to distribute to cyclists in their community.

“Many riders find themselves out at night without the required lights to help them stay visible to drivers and others on the roads and paths, while being in compliance with the law,” the press

statement reads. “The #Lights-Brigade program by MassBike engages riders using community paths and roads and provides free bicycle lights.”

Learn more at [massbike.org/lightsbrigade](http://massbike.org/lightsbrigade).

MassBike is the statewide bicycling advocacy group for Massachusetts. A member-supported non-profit, MassBike works to create “a state that is safe and welcoming for all bicyclists whether experienced or just getting on a bike for the first time.” Programs include promoting bicycle-friendly legislation; improving bicycle access and safety on roads and public transportation; educating bicyclists, motorists, police, and children about bicycling. MassBike’s vision encompasses bicycling as transportation, recreation, and a lot of fun.

For more information about South Hadley Bike/Walk, visit us on the town website at [southhadley.org/bikewalk](http://southhadley.org/bikewalk).

Should inclement weather force the cancellation of Santa’s Land, the Lights Brigade event will also be canceled. Check [facebook.com/butterybrookpark](https://facebook.com/butterybrookpark) or [facebook.com/southhadleyrecreation](https://facebook.com/southhadleyrecreation) for weather notices.

Springfield Symphony Orchestra

# Jolly Holiday

DECEMBER 9 • 4:00 PM

William Waldrop Conductor  
 Springfield Symphony Chorus Nikki Stoia, Director  
 Michael Lynche Vocalist  
 Elise Barber Cantor

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**Tuesday Nights**  
6:30pm  
**Pitch Night**

.....  
**Wednesday Night**  
5-6:30pm  
**BBQ Smoke Dinner**

.....  
**Saturday & Sunday**  
11 am-1pm  
**Sandwiches**  
Corned Beef, Ham & Cheese  
and Chicken Salad

.....  
**Sunday, Dec 10th**  
12pm  
**Kids Christmas Party**  
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by December 3rd

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## Senior Center's December events

SOUTH HADLEY - The town's Senior Center has announced its upcoming December highlights.

Additionally, the SHCOA will be closed Dec. 25 for the holidays.

"Please also note there will be no evening programs Tuesday, Dec. 26. We will close at 4:30 p.m." the COA released.

The Café will be closed on Tuesday, Dec. 26, and Wednesday, Dec. 27.

### Mt. Holyoke College Art Museum tour

Tuesday, Dec. 5, 3:30-5:30 p.m.

Emily Wood, assistant curator, will give a tour of this 147-year-old building, the Mt. Holyoke College Art Museum. Sign up at the Welcome Desk for this event and let the COA know if you need transportation.

"We can also meet you there," the COA released. "Thank you to the Travel Club for sponsoring this program."

### December Supper Club Demo: Get ready for the Holiday Rush

Wednesday, Dec. 6, at 2 p.m.

Free and open to all. "Using ideas from the new Supper Club Cookbook, Chef Maggie will show you speedy, delicious entertaining ideas for your holiday table. Don't let your cheese slide off your cracker when things get crazy."

Demo includes recipes and samples; sign up for December culinary lessons, or email Maggiev06021@gmail.com. Limited number of cookbooks available—first-come, first-serve and \$8 per book.

### Holiday Bingo

Dec. 5, 12, and 19, at 1 p.m.

For the month of December. "Thank you to the Friends of the South Hadley Seniors for these special prizes," the COA released.

### Holiday Open House

Tuesday, Dec. 5, from 4-7 p.m. All ages welcome.

"We will be welcoming the return of the Holiday Train, photos with Santa, hot cocoa bar, cupcake decorating, music, and lots of fun. Bring the whole family."

### Cheesecake Prep and First Fire

Monday, Dec. 18, at 2 p.m.

### Cheesecake Decorating

Tuesday, Dec. 19, at 2 p.m.

Cheesecake decoration is \$8 per cheesecake/person. Limit of 24 bakes; participants must register by Dec. 6.

### This is Your Life: Senior Wisdom Podcast

Monday, Dec. 11, at 3:15 p.m.

In-person and virtual. "Like the TV show you remember but with an updated twist. Jan hosts this inspirational hour of sharing with one of our SHCOA members."

Contact Kathy Florence for zoom link at Kflorence@south-hadley.ma.gov

### "Her Majesty" showing

Tuesday, Dec. 12, 5 p.m.

The Queen comes to the SHCOA as Sheryle Faye presents a brand-new show, "Her Majesty." Register to save a seat.

"Sheryl Faye is a full-time actress, a goal she has worked her whole life to achieve. Besides performing a variety of historical women for schools, libraries, historical societies, senior centers, and others, she also writes and performs with Stage-

coach Improv. Thank you to the Friends of the South Hadley Seniors for this unique presentation of live theater," the COA released.

### How to Avoid Scams this Holiday

Wednesday, Dec. 13, at 2:30 p.m. Rachel Senecal presents practical tips to be safe this holiday season.

What are Graphic Novels (and why are they so great?)

Thursday, Dec. 14, at 2 p.m.

"In a nutshell, they're books that tell a story using sequential art, a combination of pictures and words. They can be for kids, teens, or adults and they can be of any genre," the COA released. "Come learn more and see lots of examples with Jenny Arch, Children's Services Librarian at the South Hadley Public Library."

### Gift Wrapping Help

Tuesday, Dec. 19, at 4 p.m.

Cost: Donation. Bring items to be wrapped by the expert holiday helpers.

### Handwashing event

Wednesday, Dec. 20, at 9 a.m.

Join Maureen Couture RN, South Hadley Public Health Nurse, as she presents the GLO Germ handwashing technique.

"The Glo Germ technique will show you all those spots you missed and reinforce how hand washing is the first line of defense when caring for ourselves as go through the flu and COVID seasons."

### Free holiday lunch

Wednesday, Dec. 20, at noon

Holiday Lunch by Loomis with entertainment by The O-Tones. Pick up tickets at the Welcome Desk to ensure seating.

## Tower Theater to receive Growth Capital Corp. grant

SOUTH HADLEY - Senator Jake Oliveira and State Representative Dan Carey recently announced that South Hadley's Tower Theaters would be the recipient of a \$30,000 grant from the Massachusetts Growth Capital Corporation's Movie Theater Grant Program as part of a larger financial investment from the Commonwealth to support and revitalize the independent movie theater industry.

The industry was severely affected by the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic, according to a press statement.

In the November 2022 ARPA/Economic Development bill, the Legislature dedicated funding to support the movie theaters in the Commonwealth most negatively impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic. Working in conjunction with the Massachusetts Growth Capital Corporation, The Executive Office of Economic Development (EOED) established the Movie Theater Grant Program to administer the funds to theaters across the Commonwealth. As a result, 44 theaters were awarded \$2.7 million in total, including seven non-profit theaters.

Sen. Oliveira believes the grant program reflects the Legislature's commitment to sup-

porting small businesses across Massachusetts, which were forced to bear the burden of the shutdown caused by the pandemic.

"Small businesses are one of the backbones of western Massachusetts, and Tower Theater is a locally-owned and operated establishment that made so many sacrifices and persevered through it all," Sen. Oliveira said. "I'm thrilled to see them receive this well-deserved grant opportunity to support and grow their terrific entertainment services, and I'm excited to see them make the most of it. I know they will."

State Representative Dan Carey expressed excitement for the theater and pledged his continued support for them.

"Congratulations to Tower Theaters," Rep. Carey said. "While movie theaters were hit especially hard during the COVID pandemic, it is wonderful to see them bouncing back. From 'Barbie' to 'Super Mario Brothers' to Taylor Swift's 'Eras Concert,' some stories are best enjoyed on the big screen. The Tower Theaters is a gem in the community and an asset to the region. I'm proud

Please see **GRANT**, page 7

## Holiday Programming South Hadley Public Library

### The BHMA Classical Ensemble Holiday Concert

Wednesday, December 6 at 6 pm • Community Room

Come and enjoy the holidays with the spirit of music by The Berkshire Hills Music Academy Classical Ensemble. Listen and enjoy an hour of classic holiday music and have a fun time! This program is in the community room. There is no sign-up need - just come visit!

### Adult Hot Chocolate Paint and Sip with Carla

Wednesday, December 13 from 5 - 7 pm • Community Room

Come and paint a winter scene while you enjoy Hot Chocolate, Tea or Coffee! You must sign up to attend. Sign up at [www.shadleylib.org](http://www.shadleylib.org) under events.

### PBS Season 4 Premier: All Creatures, Great and Small Episode 1: "Broodiness"

Tuesday, December 12 at 6 pm • Community Room

James Herriot's adventures as a veterinarian in the 1930's Yorkshire Dales gets a new adaptation in a PBS TV series based on his internationally celebrated books. Nicholas Ralph makes his television debut as the iconic vet who became renowned for his inspiring humor, compassion for his animal patients, and love of life. With plenty of heart, a picturesque setting, and a cast that utterly charms, the show delivers drama both comforting and entertaining.

### SOUTH HADLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

2 Canal Street, South Hadley, MA 01075  
[www.shadleylib.org](http://www.shadleylib.org) • 413-538-5045

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- 2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

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

visit [www.publicnotices.turley.com](http://www.publicnotices.turley.com)

## SOUTH HADLEY COUNCIL ON AGING YOUR VIBRANT CENTER

CALL TO REGISTER FOR THESE AMAZING PROGRAMS.

### Holiday Open House - All Ages Welcome! Dec. 5th 4-7 p.m.

We will be welcoming the return of the holiday train, photos with Santa, hot cocoa bar, cupcake decorating, music, and lots of fun! Bring the whole family!

### How to Avoid Scams This Holiday Season Dec. 13th 2:30 p.m.

Rachel Senecal, Coordinator Elders and Persons with Disabilities Unit with the Northwestern DA Office, presents practical tips to be safe this holiday season.

MONDAY-FRIDAY 8:00 AM-4:30 PM  
TUESDAYS UNTIL 7:00 PM 413-538-5030 X3,  
45 DAYTON STREET, SOUTH HADLEY 01075

## Nomination Papers for the South Hadley Fire District No. 2 Annual Election

are available at District 2 Headquarters, 20 Woodbridge Street beginning December 11, 2023 for the following:

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

Nomination papers with a minimum of ten (10) signatures are due back to the District Clerk's office, 20 Woodbridge Street, by Noon on January 16, 2024. Annual District Election will be held March 5, 2024 from 7:00 am to 8:00 p.m. at South Hadley High School, 153 Newton Street.

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

are available at District 1 Headquarters, 144 Newton Street beginning December 11, 2023 for the following:

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

Nomination papers with a minimum of ten (10) signatures are due back to the District Clerk's office, 144 Newton Street, by Noon on January 16, 2024. Annual District Election will be held March 5, 2024 from 7:00 am to 8:00 p.m. at South Hadley High School, 153 Newton Street.



# Opinion



## About the fairness of WEP and GPO

Dear Rusty

I was married to my ex-husband for 30 years. For 14 of those years, I was an unemployed mom and community volunteer. After my sons were grown, I began teaching in California and earned a teacher pension. That teacher pension eliminates all the spousal benefits my husband paid for. How can that be justified? I, like a number of my retired friends, rent out rooms in my house to be able to live on a small teacher's pension and get none of my earned spousal benefits.

Signed: Frustrated Teacher

Dear Frustrated Teacher

I can only say that your frustration is shared by many retirees from public service in States, which do not participate in the federal Social Security program, that is, neither the employee nor the State contribute to the federal Social Security program. There are about 26 states including California, which exempt at least some of their employees and themselves from paying Social Security payroll taxes, but those states are obligated to provide retirement benefits robust enough to offset the loss of Social Security benefits, which will occur later in life after the employee retires.

As controversial as these laws - the Windfall Elimination Provision and the Government Pension Offset - are, they have withstood legal challenges since they were enacted four decades ago. Because you have a "non-covered" pension from your state employment, WEP reduces any personal Social Security retirement benefit you may have earned elsewhere and, to your specific point, the GPO has eliminated the spousal benefit you might otherwise have been entitled to from your ex-husband.

Like you, many who are affected believe this to be unfair, but Congress has steadfastly failed to enact legislation to repeal these provisions or even to soften their impact. The likely reason is that Congress has evaluated the fundamental premise of the provisions and concluded they appropriately equalize the way benefits are paid to all Social Security beneficiaries.

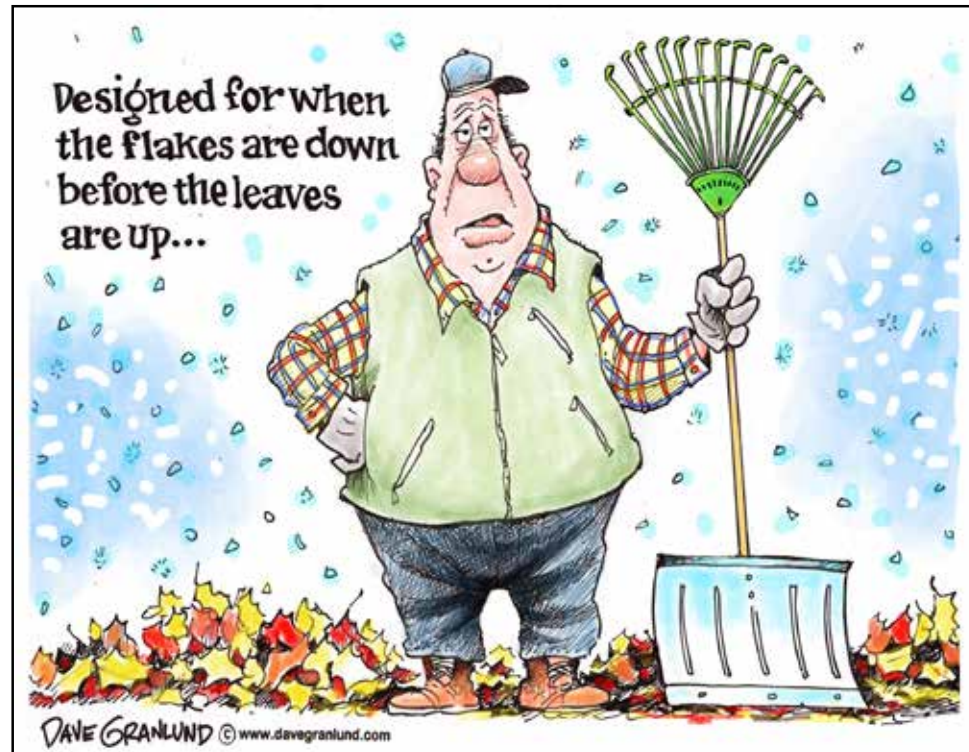
It might help to think of it this way: in normal circumstances, if one spouse has a personally earned Social Security retirement benefit, which is more than 50% of their partner's Full Retirement Age amount, no spousal benefit is paid (the spouse benefit is offset by the recipient's own SS retirement benefit).

The GPO, the provision which affects SS spousal and survivor benefits) applies that same logic for a spouse who has a "non-covered" pension earned outside of the Social Security program, their spousal benefit is offset by the amount of the person's own "non-covered" retirement pension. The one difference is that the GPO offset is actually a bit smaller (2/3rds of the non-covered pension vs. 100% offset for a spouse with their own SS retirement benefit).

Both WEP, which reduces SS retirement benefits and the GPO, which reduces spousal or survivor benefits, are consequences of working for a State which has chosen to not participate in the federal Social Security program, and those states are obligated to inform their employees of those consequences. I know that doesn't make your situation any less frustrating, but Congress "justifies" these provisions as being necessary to equalize how benefits are paid to all Social Security beneficiaries.

There are about 2 million beneficiaries affected by WEP and over 700,000 affected by the GPO, most of whom share your displeasure. Nevertheless, Congress has so far maintained both these provisions as originally enacted. If you wish to add your voice to those who believe WEP and GPO are unfair, you may wish to contact your federal Congressional Representatives to express that point.

Please see **SOCIAL SECURITY**, page 5



## Comments on CONGRESS

By Lee Hamilton

## Hamilton on Foreign Policy

*We can fix our broken politics*

Americans are fed up with politics.

That's the obvious conclusion of a recent survey by the Pew Research Center, which found many of us have "unrelentingly negative" views of politics and elected officials.

It's understandable that people are discouraged. There are plenty of reasons to feel that way.

I'm not especially alarmed at the findings of the survey, however. The key thing is that we maintain an interest in improving our broken politics.

That's critically important.

If the American people were to get so turned off by politics that they refuse to participate, that would be a real problem for our democracy. Fortunately, there's evidence that we haven't reached that point.

Americans have long had a healthy skepticism about political power and those who wield it, but the Pew survey suggests distrust has reached new heights. Some 65% of those questioned said thinking about politics left them exhausted.

More than half said it made them angry. Only a few said it made them hopeful or excited.

Asked to describe U.S. politics in one word, many came up with "divisive," "corrupt" or "chaotic." Asked to identify the strong points of our politics, more than half couldn't come up with anything.

It's obvious that our politics are going through a difficult time.

Congress seems dysfunctional, struggling to pass spending bills to keep the government operating. A single senator has blocked promotions for hundreds of military officers.

Election campaigns are filled with personal attacks. Divisions threaten our support for allies, including Ukraine, a rejection of the adage that politics stops at the water's edge.

Partisanship has reached new heights, with Democrats and Republicans seeming to inhabit separate worlds. The one thing both sides agree on is that our politics aren't working.

Dissatisfaction with politics crosses political, social and demographic lines, according to the Pew survey. It is shared by White, Black, Asian and Hispanic adults. It affects old people as well as young people.

Nearly nine out of 10 Americans say politicians are more focused on fighting each other than on solving problems. Some 28% distrust both major parties, the highest figure in nearly 30 years.

It's common to hear people say that neither party cares about ordinary people. Americans distrust the executive and legislative branches of government, and a majority have a dim view of the Supreme Court.

Americans are rightly suspicious of the growing role that money plays in politics. About 85% said that the cost of election campaigns keeps good candidates from running and that special interests have too much influence on politicians.

Only about a quarter of the people rate the quality of political candidates as very or somewhat good, down 20 percentage points in the past five years.

You might expect this distrust and discouragement would cause Americans to disengage from politics. Fortunately, that doesn't seem to be happening.

The elections of 2018, 2020 and 2022 featured some of the highest voter turnout rates in decades. About two-thirds of eligible adults voted in 2020, the highest rate for a national election since 1900.

Those are very encouraging signs.

The public has ideas for improving our politics. In the Pew survey, majorities favored limits on campaign contributions and spending.

The survey found broad support for term limits on members of Congress and for age limits on elected and appointed officials, including Supreme Court justices. Elections this month in Kentucky, Ohio and Virginia drew strong interest and participation.

In another hopeful sign, more young people have been running for office - and often winning.

We Americans have always been an optimistic and forward-looking people, confident in our ability to solve problems and make progress. We're right to be unhappy with the condition of our politics, but we have the power and the ability to make our politics better.

*Lee Hamilton is a Senior Advisor for the Indiana University Center on Representative Government; a Distinguished Scholar at the IU Hamilton Lugar School of Global and International Studies; and a Professor of Practice at the IU O'Neill School of Public and Environmental Affairs. He was a member of the U.S. House of Representatives for 34 years.*

## 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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# Granby Town Clerk offers community reminders:

*Today is last day to register to vote for STM*

GRANBY – The Town Clerk has offered several reminders for the community about the upcoming Special Town Meeting, which will be held on Monday, Dec. 11, at the East Meadow School in the gymnasium at 7 p.m.

“All residents participating must be registered voters. Eligible voters will receive a card when checking in, the doors will open at 6:15 p.m. for check in,” Katherine A. Kelly-Regan, Granby’s town clerk, released. “Please park in between the two schools near the softball fields.”

Residents may view the warrant for this meeting at the following public buildings: Town Hall Annex, 215 B West State St.; Select Board’s office at the COA Building, 10 West State St.; Granby Post Office; Public Library; Public Safety Complex; Florence Bank; and Polish National Credit Union.

The warrant can also be viewed on

### SOCIAL SECURITY from page 4

*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 town’s website at granby-ma.gov.

Additionally, the last day to register to vote is Friday, Dec. 1.

“If you are not a registered voter and wish to participate at this STM, the last day to register to vote for this STM is Friday, Dec. 1,” Kelly-Regan released.

Residents may register anytime during regular office hours in the Town Clerk’s office; they may also pick up mail-in voter registration forms at the Granby Post Office, download a voter registration form, or register on-line with a valid MA Driver’s License or Mass ID by going to the town website, granby-ma.gov, under “Town Clerk Department - voter registration.”

Mail-in forms must be postmarked by Dec. 1, 2023, to be eligible to participate in this Special Town Meeting.

“If you are not sure on your voter status, please call the Town Clerk’s office for verification.”

Any questions or concerns can be directed to Kathy Kelly-Regan at the Granby Town Hall, 413-467-7178.

*tations 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](http://amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory) or email us at [ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org](mailto:ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org). Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.*

# Library to host holiday-themed events this month

GRANBY – The library has announced two upcoming events this month:

### Annual Holiday Knit Sale & Hot Cocoa Bar

Saturday, Dec. 2, from 10:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m.

The Friends of the Granby Public Library and the Library Knitting Group are sponsoring their Annual Holiday Knit & Basket Sale. Refreshments will include a free Hot Cocoa Bar for patrons from 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

“You may also pick up a clue sheet for our ‘Snowman Scavenger Hunt’ through the Town of Granby,” the library released.

All proceeds benefit Library Programming.

### There’s Snow Place Like Home Scavenger Hunt

The Granby Library is holding its third annual town-wide scavenger hunt starting on Saturday, Dec. 2.

“There are six missing Library Snowmen lost within the Town of Granby. Pick up your clue sheet at the Granby Public Library. Once you find all six snowmen, return the sheet to the library and receive a raffle ticket for one of the raffle prizes.”

Prizes are sponsored by the Friends of the Library and local businesses. There will be a prize for adults and one for children. Please contact the library for more information at 413-467-3320.

### Two upcoming nature story times and fun with Ranger Tasha.

The events are for ages three and up, and homeschoolers are welcome, according to the library.



Submitted Photo, Granby Public Library

The Granby Public Library has announced upcoming events for December, including a town-wide scavenger hunt to find six missing “Library Snowmen” in town.

### What Animal Is It?

Tuesday, Dec. 5, at 10:30 a.m.

“Learn how to identify what animal you hear outside by the sound it makes. Check out feathers from local birds, fur from a gray fox, and more.”

### Animal Tracking

Tuesday, Dec. 12, at 10:30 a.m.

“How do you know what animal track you see in the snow? Make a track mold, identify some skulls and pelts.”

All library programs are free of charge and open to the public. The Granby Free Public Library is located at 297 East State St., Granby. Call the library at 413-467-3320 during open hours for more information.

# Warm up to Assisted Living

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**IONA** from page 1

into the hands of people that really need them.”

Dobbins said the program has grown thanks to collaboration with a number of other agencies, such as the New North Citizens’ Council, which takes the meals made at Iona’s and distributes it to patrons who visit their address on Main St.

The Citizens’ Council’s stated mission is to “provide advocacy, public and human services to Hampden County residents,” according to its website. “For the purpose of enhancing the preservation and support of the family resulting in the improvement of quality of life.”

The event was opened to South Hadley as well, through collaboration with Michael Slater.

“The Boy Scouts came by and delivered meals to seniors in South Hadley,” Dobbins said.

Other local organizations that have helped to make this program a success include Follow My Steps, Orchard Covenant Church, Just Love Ministries, Seeds of a Father, the Vox Church, and Tapestry Health.



**Ana Jewell held trays distributed for Thanksgiving.**



**Kelly Dobbins serves food to people at his restaurant’s Thanksgiving food drive.**

The Indian Orchard restaurant has moved to South Hadley due to rising rent costs, but continues to service the area of Springfield and Indian Orchard. Iona’s next food drive will be a meal for veterans and seniors to be held on New Year’s Day, which will be their third year.

For more information about Iona’s Kitchen, call them at 413-322-8045, or visit their website at ionaskitchen.com.



Submitted photos  
**Kelly Dobbins stood behind Kevin Green, surrounded by members from the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity.**



# Eclectic vintage shop, artists studio opens

**By Dallas Gagnon**  
*Staff Writer*  
dgagnon@turley.com

PALMER – An eclectic, vintage shop and artists gallery opened their doors at 1500 N. Main St.

“The Victorian” will provide locals a convenient shop close to home, offering quality painter’s products, painted furniture, unique gifts, candles home decor, and more.

The shop features a wide variety of Fusion Mineral Paint products, including materials to re-purpose, refurbish and re-imagine furniture.

“Fusion Mineral Paint is primarily a furniture paint,” said owner Julia Dias. However, she said the paint works well on a variety of materials, such as wood, metal, glass and fabrics.

In addition to the mineral paint, The Victorian will also offer milk paint, stains, antiquing glazes, a variety of decorating waxes and both natural and synthetic paint brushes.

The shop caters to artists seeking to add a splash of color to their homes and get creative with refinishing their furniture.

“I always wanted to open my own shop,” said Dias.

She holds a bachelor’s degree in fine arts with a focus on interior design from UMASS Amherst.

Dias’ experience allows her to provide guests with expertise and a wealth of knowledge in design as well as the Fusion Mineral Paint product line.

“I live for making what is old new again,” said Dias. “It’s exciting.”

She added the Victorian age has always been her favorite period in time, prompting her to scout out the perfect location for her shop.

“It has always been a dream of mine to have a Victorian. The



Submitted Photos

**The Victorian is located at 1500 Main St., in Palmer, in the former Moulton Insurance building.**



**The Victorian carries Fusion Mineral Paint for furniture re-purposing and re-finishing.**



**For sale are 100% soy candles made in the USA.**



**Shown is the shopping area in the building, with items in display cases, which are for sale.**



**The building is a Queen Anne Victorian, decorated to accentuate the charm and authenticity of the building’s architecture.**

building is a Queen Anne with all the traditional moldings,” said Dias.

The Victorian was built in 1868 and is 155 years old.

Shoppers will not only have access to a Fusion Mineral Paint carrier locally, but they will also experience the charm of the old Victorian.

The shop features an array of colors, furnishings and art;

some Victorian style, others more abstract.

Vintage style “sassy talkin’ towels,” are on display, adding style and humor to the main shopping area.

For those interested in purchasing, duplicates are for sale.

Additionally, vintage-style match boxes are available for purchase, delicately wrapped in wax paper and sealed with a postage stamp.

products available at the shop will expand within the upcoming year, including the introduction of a parlor styled tea room.

While the room is not yet ready for renting, guests will eventually have the option of renting a Victorian-themed space equipped with art, comfortable vintage furniture, tea table near a decorative fireplace and a large, antique Victrola player.

Guests interested in adding a Victorian touch to their home also have the option of purchasing from a collection of vintage glassware.

Dias thanked and credited her husband, Joao Dias, for all he has done to make her dream come true.

Dias is inviting all to stop by today for all of your unique holiday shopping needs.

Shop is open Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays 11 am to 5 pm and Saturdays 11 am to 2 pm.

The Superior Dry Good Vintage Stick matches are a perfect compliment to those interested in gifting a locally sourced, 100% soy, 1803 candle.

Dias said the shop is Victorian themed to add an element of creativity and charm to the guests’ experience.

“After the first of the year, we will offer Fusion Mineral Paint workshops” said Dias.

She added services and







# SPORTS

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## Tigers cap great season with Turkey Day win

HOLYOKE – Last Thursday morning at a sun-splashed Roberts Sports Complex, South Hadley won the “Battle of the Bridge” with a big win over Holyoke 20-6. All of the scoring took place in the second half as the Tigers scored a touchdown in the third quarter to take the lead. Holyoke would score in the fourth, but the Tigers managed a pair of touchdowns to get the game out of reach late. For Holyoke, Nathan Pok had a 10-for-25 day passing for 133 yards. Owen Dawson led South Hadley with 142 yards rushing on 19 carries with two touchdowns. Noah Marion scored a touchdown for the Tigers as well and Julius Hebenth had 69 yards rushing.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com  
Brayden Koske gets a big block for the Tigers.



Julius Hebenth takes the handoff and heads up the field.

Jasiel Ramos and Brady Currier get a tackle.



Noah Marion takes off toward the left sideline.



Owen Dawson prepares to stiff-arm a Holyoke opponent.



Noah Marion gets the handoff.



Goalie Drew Alley kicks away in the all-star event.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com  
All-stars Gianna Roy, Drew Alley, and Lauren Marjanski represent the state finalist Tigers in last Monday's all-star game.

## Tigers participate in all-star event

SPRINGFIELD – Last Monday evening at Pope Francis High School, the Senior All-Star Games were held. Two games took place, with Class C and D playing in one game and Class A and B playing in another. The games featured the best senior players from all Western Mass. High School girls soccer programs.

## UMass hosting Pioneer Valley Tip-Off

AMHERST – The Pioneer Valley Tip-Off is a student-run high school basketball showcase featuring some of the best talent in Central and Western Massachusetts. The PVTO was started in 2011 by Scott Moses and Pat Salle, both students at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst and it continues to be entirely student-run by the McCormack Student Leaders Club today. The PVTO is held each December on the University of Massachusetts Amherst campus, where we strive to create a professional environment for fans and players alike. This year's event will be held on Dec. 9 and 10 and will feature teams from throughout the region. A schedule is online at www.pioneervalleytip-off.com. All games will be held at the Mullins Center on the UMass-Amherst campus.



# Team effort results in big shutout of Utica

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds (10-8-1-0) put together a total team effort and dominated the Utica Comets (6-6-3-0) in a 7-0 shutout win inside the MassMutual Center on Saturday night in the team's Hockey Fights Cancer game.

Vadim Zherenko got the start in the net for the T-Birds and had a perfect performance, stopping all 33 saves he faced on the night for his first career AHL shutout. In the opposite crease, Utica goaltender Isaac Poultier surrendered seven goals on 29 T-Birds shots in the loss.

It was a special night for the Bitten family, as the team donned lavender jerseys for the game to support Will and Sam Bitten and the Bitsy's Army cause. Bitsy's Army was created by the brothers to raise awareness for those battling cancer and to honor their late cousin Martin Piche. Piche tragically passed away from

brain cancer back in 2021.

Springfield had several prime scoring opportunities in the opening minutes. Nathan Walker saw linemate Adam Gaudette sneak behind the Utica defense on the left side, threading the team's top scorer a perfect breakaway pass. Unfortunately, Gaudette's shot was stopped by the left pad of Poultier.

The work of the Springfield penalty killers got their team on the board first. While creating pressure in Utica's zone, Walker found Matthew Peca for a one-timer in the high slot after stripping a Utica skater of the puck in the left-wing corner. The captain fired home a perfect one-timer for a shorthanded goal, his fifth goal of the year, which gave the T-Birds a 1-0 lead at 13:16. The score would remain 1-0 as the teams entered their dressing rooms for the first intermission.

Exactly halfway through

the second period, the T-Birds struck once again. Defenseman Matthew Kessel controlled the puck at the blue line before firing a low shot toward Poultier. Although Poultier made the initial stop, MacKenzie MacEachern was there to backhand the rebound home for his fourth goal of the season to make it 2-0 Springfield. The scoring did not stop after MacEachern's goal. On a power play, Will Bitten snapped a shot on goal from the hash marks. Poultier made the initial stop, but T-Birds forward Mikhail Abramov was there to clean up the rebound with a snapper from the left side. Abramov's goal made it 3-0 with 6:32 to go in the period.

As the period drew to a close, defenseman Dylan Coghlan was taken down from behind by Comets forward Kyle Criscuolo. In response, Wyatt Kalynuk stood up for his teammate and engaged in a fight with Criscu-

olo. Kalynuk's fight fired up his teammates and the crowd, but there would be mayhem that would follow. After a scrum ensued with multiple players going at it, Gaudette and Utica defenseman Cal Foote were given fighting majors with just 13 seconds left in the period. The T-Birds held on to the 3-0 lead, setting the stage for a third period out of the movies.

The T-Birds added to their 3-0 lead in the third, as Zach Dean ripped a shot home for his first professional goal of his career to make it 4-0 at 4:09 off a 2-on-1 rush. The scoring party would continue after Dean's goal, as Bolduc capitalized for Springfield's second power play marker of the night at 9:54, beating Poultier on the stick side with a perfectly placed wrist.

It was a poetic night for the Bitten family. With 7:02 to go in the game, Will took the puck and raced up ice before dancing

around a Utica defender to go in alone on Poultier. Bitten faked a slapper before slipping a five-hole shot into the twine before pointing skyward in celebration. The poetic script got better just a few minutes later when Will tipped in a Coghlan shot for his second of the night. Sam also recorded a milestone on his brother's second tally, as he notched his first AHL point on the secondary assist.

After having just three points in his first 14 games of the season, Will tallied two goals and two assists on this night alone. It was one of five multi-point performances by Springfield skaters on the evening.

The T-Birds return home next Friday, December 1 for another Deuces Wild Friday to take on Wilkes-Barre/Scranton. Puck drop is set for 7:05 p.m. at the Thunderdome.

## Papermen to join Union Hockey League

HOLYOKE – Brian Pratt, president of the Holyoke Papermen Hockey Club, recently announced his team's participation in the newly-formed Union Hockey League. The UHL consists of 16 teams in the northeast and Midwest and is a senior level semi-professional league. Pratt said the Papermen are putting together their roster at this point.

"We have 14 skaters and two goalies signed, looking to add about 8 more players," Pratt said. "We have four pre-season games in December and 20 regular season games starting Jan 5."

The schedule for the league has not been released yet and Pratt did not say where the Papermen would be playing their home games. Closest to Holyoke are Fitzpatrick Rink, state-run facility right in Holyoke next to Holyoke High School's Roberts Sports Complex, and nearby is Olympia Ice Center in West Springfield. More information will be forthcoming about the team and the new league as the Papermen prepare to participate in the new league. For more information, go to: <https://www.unionhockeyleague.com/>.

## Railers sweep Thunder

GLENS FALLS, NY – The Worcester Railers HC (7-6-2-1, 17pts) took down the Adirondack Thunder (7-4-2-0, 16pts) on Saturday night by the final score of 4-2 in front of a crowd of 4,297 at Cool Insuring Arena. The Railers are back at home against the Kansas City Mavericks this Wednesday, November 29th at 10:05 a.m. ET.

Neither team scored in the first period as Tristan Lennox was excellent in net for Worcester in the first. He made 15 saves on 15 shots to open the game. Scoring opened in the second as Worcester's Anthony Callin (1-0-1) put Worcester ahead 1-0. Adirondack responded with two straight goals from Travis Broughman (1-0-1) and Yushiro Hirano (1-0-1) to give the Thunder the 2-1 lead heading into the third. Worcester scored three unanswered in the third from Ashton Calder (1-0-1), Jake Pivonka (1-1-2), and Zach White (1-0-1) to seal the win and the weekend sweep, 4-2.

Both goalies were solid in the first period for Worcester and Adirondack as Tristan Lennox turned away 15 shots for the Railers, while Jeremy Brodeur made 7 saves for the Thunder. Two of Lennox's saves came in the dying seconds of the first as the Thunder headed down ice on an odd-man rush. Lennox sprawled across the ice and denied Travis Broughman with an

outstretched right leg to keep the game level going into the second.

Anthony Callin (4th) unleashed a perfect wrist shot from atop the right circle on a spinning feed from Todd Goehring to give the Railers the first goal of the game. Both Callin and Goehring now have points in four straight games. The Thunder struck back with two straight goals to wrap up the second. Travis Broughman (2nd) picked up a Grant Jozefek rebound and deked around Lennox to tie the game 1-1. Four minutes later, Yushiro Hirano (6th) scored on the power play in his third straight game, putting the Thunder ahead 2-1 going into the third.

Ashton Calder (8th) extended his team lead in goals thanks to a great forecheck from Worcester. Keeghan Howdeshell and Jake Pivonka forced the Thunder defense to turn over the puck. As Howdeshell found it beneath the goal line, he passed it to Calder in front who beat Brodeur five-hole to tie the game 2-2. Jake Pivonka (7th) found the puck alone in the slot about a minute later and beat Brodeur clean glove side to make it a 3-2 Railers lead. Zach White would finish things off with an empty-net goal with just 6.9 seconds left to give Worcester the 4-2 win, picking up all four points this weekend and sweeping the Thunder in Glens Falls.

VFW from page 1

za presented a \$5,000 check to both the Amherst Survival Center and Ludlow Veterans Center food pantry. The Amherst Survival Center offers community meals, a food pantry and fresh food distribution, among several other services, to residents in need. The Ludlow Veterans Center maintains a food pantry for its veterans that is open twice a week to help supplement their food needs. Mendoza presented another \$5,000 check to South Hadley's Neighbors Helping Neighbors food pantry on the Mass Appeal television show.

"Food insecurity affects a large number of local families, especially during the holidays," Slater said. "For us, it was an opportunity to support our local community."

The food pantry donations are just one of the many ways that the VFW Post helps not only local veterans and their families but the larger community as well.

"Each of these pantries provides an amazing level of support to veterans here in western

Massachusetts, but our goal is not only to take care of veterans but to support our community in its entirety," Slater said.

To that end, Slater and the post are looking to explore bringing back the Bag the Community food drive next year. The drive began more than a decade ago and ran successfully until the COVID-19 pandemic. Each year, on the Saturday of Martin Luther King Jr. weekend, community and student volunteers would blanket the town, dropping off empty paper bags to be filled by residents with non-perishable food donations or monetary gifts. Those same volunteers would return to pick up the donations on Monday, sort them through, and get them to the local food pantry. Slater said the goal is to bring back the food drive before the 2024 holiday season.

"The VFW will also be looking to partner with different agencies and organizations over the next few years to increase our involvement in the community, especially now that we cover South Hadley and Amherst," Slater said.



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TOTAL Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_

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# Public Notices

## THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS TOWN OF SOUTH HADLEY OFFICE OF TAX COLLECTOR NOTICE OF TAX TAKING

To the owners of the hereinafter described land and to all others concerned, you are hereby notified that on **December 18, 2023 at ten o'clock AM** at 116 Main Street, South Hadley, pursuant to the provisions of General Law Chapter 60, Section 53, and by the authority vested in me as Collector of Taxes, it is my intention to take for the Town of South Hadley the following parcels of land for non-payment of taxes, liens and/or betterments, due thereon with interest and all incidental expenses and costs to the date of taking, unless the same shall have been paid before that date.

### LIST OF PARCELS TO BE TAKEN

**GRANDVIEW LUMBER COMPANY, INC. f/n/a GRANDVIEW VILLAGE, INC:** A certain parcel of land situated at Grandview Street containing 12,076 SF of land more or less as shown on South Hadley Assessors Map 0016-0174-0000 and as described in Hampshire County Registry of Deeds Book 1183, Page 181.

FY2004 Real Estate Tax -\$41.64  
FY2004 Fire District #1 Tax -\$4.84

**GRANDVIEW LUMBER COMPANY, INC. f/n/a GRANDVIEW VILLAGE, INC:** A certain parcel

of land situated on Hillside Ave containing 1.36 acres more or less as shown on South Hadley Assessors Map 0006-0019-0000 and as described in Hampshire County Registry of Deeds Book 1183, Page 181

FY2004 Real Estate Tax - \$61.75  
FY2004 Fire District #1 Tax -\$7.18

**GRANDVIEW LUMBER COMPANY, INC. f/n/a GRANDVIEW VILLAGE, INC:** A certain parcel of land situated on Grandview Street containing 23,021 SF more or less as shown on South Hadley Assessors Map 0006-0008-0000 and as described in Hampshire County Registry of Deeds Book 1183, Page 181

FY2004 Real Estate Tax - \$50.26  
FY2004 Fire District #1 Tax -\$5.85

**GRANDVIEW LUMBER COMPANY, INC. f/n/a GRANDVIEW VILLAGE, INC:** A certain parcel of land situated on Grandview Street containing 15,473 SF more or less as shown on South Hadley Assessors Map 0006-0004-0000 and as described in Hampshire County Registry of Deeds Book 1183, Page 181

FY2004 Real Estate Tax - \$44.52  
FY2004 Fire District #1 Tax -\$5.18

**GRANDVIEW LUMBER COMPANY, INC. f/n/a GRANDVIEW VILLAGE, INC:** A certain parcel of land situated on Grandview Street containing 1.5 acres more or less as shown on South Hadley Assessors Map

0016-0171-0000 and as described in Hampshire County Registry of Deeds Book 1183, Page 181

FY2004 Real Estate Tax - \$109.14  
FY2004 Fire District #1 Tax -\$12.69

Donna Whiteley  
Collector of Taxes

12/01, 12/08/2023

## PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

- 1 Email all notices to [notices@turley.com](mailto:notices@turley.com)
- 2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

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

visit [www.publicnotices.turley.com](http://www.publicnotices.turley.com)

## Applications being accepted for 2024 Grand Colleen

**HOLYOKE** – The St. Patrick's Committee of Holyoke will present the 2024 Grand Colleen Pageant on Jan. 6, 2024, at Holyoke High School at 7 p.m. and are accepting applications now through Dec. 27. Eligibility requirements are: must be female, single, (never have been married or have had a child), no less than 17 years old by March 17, 2024 and a senior in high school; no more than 24 years old by March 17, 2024 (age requirement for 2024 only and will revert back to 22

in 2025), resident of Holyoke or South Hadley, must claim Irish ancestry, completion of a resume. We look forward to receiving your application and resumes. Applications are available online at: [holyokestpatricksparade.com](http://holyokestpatricksparade.com). Contestant Orientation and Tea is scheduled for Dec. 30 at 11 a.m. at Wyckoff Country Club. For questions or concerns contact Kathy Dulchinos, Colleen Coordinator at 413-592-4945.

## COMMITTEE from page 1

The Committee also acknowledged and appreciated the approval given by the Capital Planning Committee for a new scoreboard at the high school.

Principal of South Hadley High School Elizabeth Wood joined, petitioning the Committee to approve a listing of added extracurricular opportunities that will be available to students for the 2024-25 school year. These additions include courses such as a more com-

prehension and memory-based English class, college prep history of sports, a class on good vs. evil, which will be a discussion on "Wicked" and "Wizard of Oz," and a strength and conditioning class.

"All other classes remain intact," Wood said.

Wood praised the creativity of instructors and students as they brainstorm compelling extracurricular choices.

The Committee anonymously voted in favor of the proposed additions to the course catalog.

## Public Safety

### Granby Police

*Editor's Note: The Granby Police Department responded to 260 calls for the week of Nov. 10 through Nov. 23. Those arrested are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. The Granby Police Department provides all information.*

#### Monday, Nov. 13

9:21 a.m. – A motorist reported a minor two-car accident. Granby Police responded. There were no injuries. An accident report was completed.

#### Wednesday, Nov. 15

1:07 p.m. – A resident reported receiving a phone call regarding shutting his electricity off if they did not pay with gift cards. The caller knew it was a scam and wanted the department to know.

5:09 p.m. – A motorist reported a two-car accident. Granby Police and Fire responded. There were no injuries. An accident report was completed.

#### Thursday, Nov. 16

2:05 p.m. – A motorist reported a two-car accident with airbag deployment. Granby Police and Fire responded. There were no injuries. An accident report was completed.

3:46 p.m. – A motorist reported a minor two-car accident in the parking lot. Granby Police responded. There were no injuries. An accident report was completed.

#### Friday, Nov. 17

5:06 p.m. – A motorist flagged down an officer to report that they had just struck a deer with their vehicle. There were no injuries, and an accident report was completed.

#### Saturday, Nov. 18

5:23 p.m. – A motorist reported that they had just struck a deer with their vehicle. There were no injuries, and an accident report was completed.

#### Tuesday, Nov. 21

7:01 a.m. – Motorists reported a two-car accident. Granby Police and Fire responded. One operator was transported to the hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. An accident report was completed.

10:32 a.m. – A motorist reported a disabled vehicle at this location. The tire fell off the vehicle, causing it to be disabled and damaged. An officer responded the vehicle was towed, and an accident report was completed.

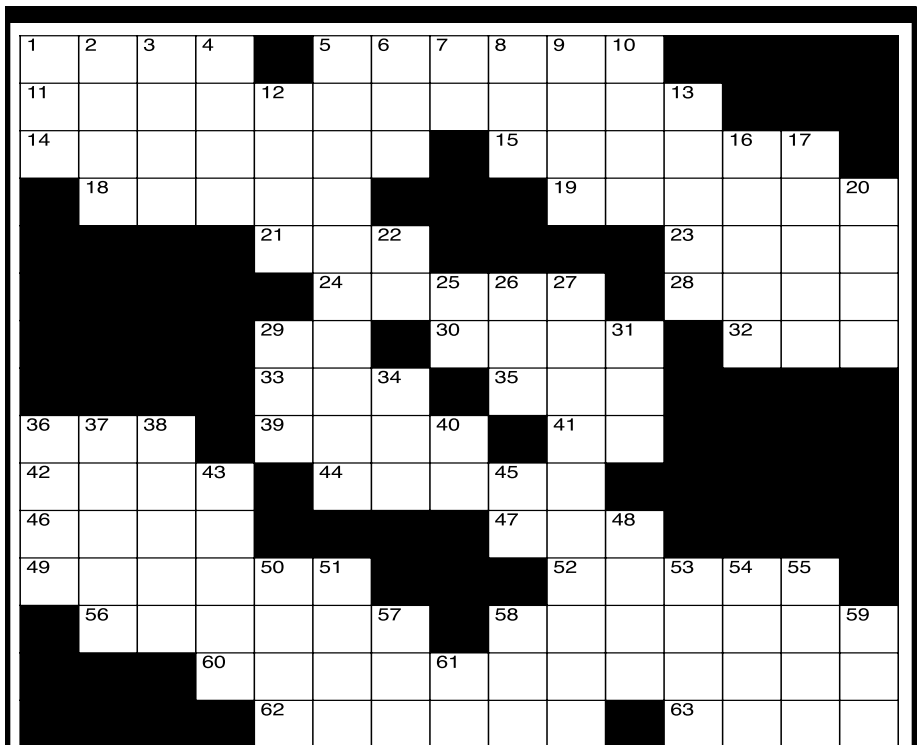
#### Wednesday, Nov. 22

6:49 a.m. – A motorist reported that a utility pole appeared to be leaning toward the roadway on Porter St. near Easton. National Grid was notified.

5:11 p.m. – Several motorists reported a three-car accident. Granby Police and Fire responded. There were no injuries, and an accident report was completed.

#### Thursday, Nov. 23

7:47 p.m. – A motorist stopped at the station to report that they had just struck a deer in front of the public safety complex. There were no injuries, and an accident report was completed.



#### CLUES ACROSS

1. Old English letters
5. Sculpture
11. Showing up again
14. Tie the knot again
15. Washington city
18. Stiff structures in invertebrates
19. Mark over a vowel
21. Explosive
23. Popular race: \_\_\_ 500
24. Pile up
28. Mint
29. Commercial
30. A minute amount (Scottish)
32. Small Eurasian deer
33. Baseball stat
35. Numbers cruncher
36. Japanese masked drama
39. Gasteyer and de
41. Blood group
42. Assist in wrongdoing
44. Language spoken in Cameroon and Chad
46. Grayish-white
47. A woolen cap of Scottish origin
49. Microorganism
52. Place under prohibition
56. Calm, dependable
58. Congressman
60. Force
62. As a result of this document
63. One of two main branches of Islam

#### CLUES DOWN

1. Make a mistake
2. Gordon and Snider are two
3. Geographical region of Finland
4. Ejected saliva
5. A way of performing
6. Scotland's longest river
7. One of the six noble gases (abbr.)
8. Body art
9. Two-toed sloth
10. Electronic counter-countermeasures
12. Foolish person (Brit.)
13. Of the wind
16. Grand home
17. Sound
20. English river
22. Symbol indicating ownership
25. Exclamation of surprise
26. Pouch
27. Apart from
29. Satisfaction
31. The bill in a restaurant
34. Sea bream
36. Port in southern Japan
37. Double-reed instruments
38. Center
40. South Dakota
43. An orderly crowd
45. Indicates position
48. \_\_\_-pedi
50. Nonsense (slang)
51. Republic of Ireland
53. Nocturnal flyers
54. American state
55. Clusters in fern fronds
57. Patriotic women
58. A person's brother or sister
59. Breed of sheep
61. Popular film "Despicable \_\_\_"



# Event raises funds for mental health, suicide prevention programs

REGION – A recent event organized by three high school seniors was described as a huge success, raising nearly \$6,000 for mental health support and suicide prevention programs.

The second annual “You’re Not Alone” preseason high school basketball tournament took place Nov. 18-19 at the South End Community Center in Springfield. The two-day, 10-team event, sponsored by many local community organizations, was organized by three seniors of the varsity boys’ basketball team at Belchertown High School, Jackson Couchon, Cal Orzech, and Tyler Marino.

The aim was to raise awareness and funding for mental health support and suicide prevention programs.

“Our community has witnessed firsthand the devastation that suicide can cause. My teammates and I are hoping that with this tournament, we can raise awareness for this very important issue, by bringing students together from multiple schools for a fun event, while at the same time raising funds and awareness to address this issue,” Marino said.

“It’s more important than ever before that we make mental health and suicide prevention

education in schools a priority,” said American Foundation for Suicide Prevention (AFSP) Executive Director of Massachusetts Jessica van der Stad. “We’re grateful for the captains and seniors of Belchertown’s Varsity basketball team—and their very supportive community—for putting together this event which helps to increase awareness, raise funds to save lives, and remind us that we are not alone.”

Submitted Photo

Event organizers Jackson Couchon, Cal Orzech, and Tyler Marino.



**Come Visit Santa,**  
*Mrs. Claus and his elves at his cabin in Buttery Brook Park*

**Dec. 7, 8, 9, 10**  
**Dec. 14, 15, 16, 17**  
**5:30 - 7 p.m.**

**Free Hot Chocolate and a Cookie**

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**BUTTERY BROOK PARK**  
*Donations Welcome*

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