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Annual holiday stroll celebrates the CHRISTMAS SEASON

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

SOUTH HADLEY – Every town has a unique and special holiday tradition, and for the Chamber of Commerce of South Hadley and Granby have hosted a Holiday Stroll for the past 36 years.

The Holiday Stroll has always been a night of fun, even on such a cold night as last Friday was, there was still much fun to be had.

People came to the common to enjoy a night of face painting, puppetry creations, photos with Frosty the Snowman, the Grinch, and Mr. and Mrs. Claus, and more.

Tower Theaters also offered a short holiday movie for free, making this year special and unique in and of itself.

The Berkshire Hills Music Academy and the South Hadley Community Band came to provide special holiday carols to be enjoyed through the night.

"There was a small but mighty crew who volunteered to set up the day of the stroll," said president of the Chamber Regina Zebrowski.

Over twenty local businesses came through to help sponsor the event, and several had booths and tables with activities, including Thirsty Mind and The Odyssey Bookshop, who had special events and activities to enjoy.

Please see **STROLL**, page 8



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Community support partnership

By Tina Lesniak Correspondent

SOUTH HADLEY/GRAN-BY – Amid rising costs and increasing needs, two community-focused organizations, Neighbors Helping Neighbors (NHN) and Granby to Go (GTG), are working together to address food insecurity and provide basic necessities for students and families in South Hadley and Granby. Through this partnership, they ensure no one is left behind, particularly during the holiday season.

Granby to Go originated as a program under NHN in 2016-2017, with the mission of providing weekend food bags to students in need. Over time, it evolved into a separate entity with its own budget and recently returned to operate as part of NHN while maintaining its independence. This collaboration allows the organizations to pool resources and expand their reach.

"They do tremendous things for the students and families in Granby," said Mary Lou Guarnera, executive director of Neighbors Helping Neighbors. "Together, we hope to expand to be able to offer a pantry that operates in Granby but that is not in the school, and is open to all Granby and South Hadley residents."

Please see **PARTNERSHIP**, page 5

Turley Photo by Emily-Rose Pappas Little Evie Rosado telling Santa and Mrs. Claus what she wants for Christmas.

Illustrator, author displays her art to be admired

Kids enjoy ice cream, photos with Santa

By Emily-Rose Pappas Staff Writer





Turley Photo by Emily-Rose Pappas Ruth Sanderson with her array of books, and the two newest releases she illustrated for her daughter, author Whitney Sanderson.

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

SOUTH HADLEY – One of the best gifts you can give a child is a book. Books open up a world of imagination, and allow for them to explore in new ways screens can't always do.

Sitting down with a child, opening up a book, and letting them turn the pages is a sure way to allow for them to turn the pages and admire the artwork and see the words.

Talented illustrator of one-hundred books, and author of twelve retellings and original children's stories, Ruth Anderson is one such artist that captures the essence of imagination.

With her retellings of classic tales like The Snow Queen,

Please see **AUTHOR**, page 12

epappas@turley.com

GRANBY – While most get-togethers with Santa involve some cocoa and cookies or a pancake breakfast, the public school's PTO had something else in mind.

The Ice Cream with Santa event had a great turnout, and after dinner, kids and their families got the chance to come to East Meadow last weekend to enjoy a customized ice cream sundae and a photo with Santa after dinner.

After the PTO stopped running for a brief time during COVID, it picked up again in 2022 with the new members ready to get started and bring it back to the kids of the Granby Public Schools.

The PTO works hard to build a community between the students and teachers and works to



Turley Photo by Emily-Rose Pappas

Ella, Reed, Nora, and Lillian smiling after telling Santa what's on their lists for Christmas.

Selectboard extends police chief's contract

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

SOUTH HADLEY - The Selectboard last week for a hybrid meeting and met with Police Chief Jennifer Gunderson to renew her contract and held two public hearings.

Chair Andrea Miles held the December 3 meeting, and she was accompanied by Vice Chair Jeff Cyr, Clerk Carol Constant, members Renee Sweeney and Nicole Casolari, and Town Administrator Lisa Wong.

Police Chief Contract

"We have one of the best chiefs there is, definitely in the state," said Wong. "I am very satisfied with her performance, and I look forward to a third three-year contract."

Since being sworn in in January of 2019, Chief Gunderson entered her first three-year contract, and came to the Selectboard to be approved for a third three-year contact which will begin in January of 2025.

"The chief has been a real good friend... and I think you are doing an amazing job for the community,' said Jeff Cyr.

"It's a great team. I really consider myself very lucky since I came into the community," said Gunderson.

The Selectboard moved to approve of the third three-year term for Jennifer Gunderson and thanked her for her work on outreach to and with the community.

Hazard Mitigation Plan Public Hearing

In the spirit of Town Administrator Lisa Wong's desire to see more work in climate sustainability and resilience, the Selectboard opened up a public hearing for a hazard mitigation plan. Mimi Kaplan, the Senior Land

Use and Environment Planner for the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission to create a plan to go before MEMA and FEMA for approval, with Sharon Hart remotely.

"The town has been working on updating the hazard and mitigation plan since early 2023, when it obtained a grant," said Wong.

Kaplan shared a presentation, explaining that a hazard mitigation plan is "any sustained action taken to reduce or eliminate long-term risk to people and property from natural hazards."

Hazard mitigation includes planning and zoning, open space preservation, education and outreach, and infrastructure improvements, and emergency preparedness includes evacuation plans, emergency shelters, radio and communications equipment, and emergency response drills.

South Hadley's hazard mitigation plan has needed an update for a while, and Kaplan shared a list of ideas to include in the new plan in order to secure the town more with this new plan.

This included mitigation capabilities like Stormwater Management Bylaws, burn permit regulations,

generators at critical facilities, tree management, and more.

Kaplan also shared specific vulnerabilities including a generator for Fire Department 2 and library, additional funding for culvert replacements, extreme heat that affects more vulnerable populations, keeping in mind areas prone to flooding, and make sure residents are signed up on Civic Ready.

The Selectboard heard from the public about the mitigation plans, expressing concerns over what kinds of issues may be found considering climate change.

Tax Classification Public Hearing

The members of both the Prudential Committee for Fire Departments 1 and 2 with the Board of Assessors came to the Selectboard for the public hearing of the Fiscal Year 2025 Tax Classification.

Associate Assessor Melissa Couture-Rimbold came on to give a presentation, laying out the open space discount, as well as a residential exemption and small commercial exemption that can be used to lower property taxes.

The property value within the community grew by 11.2% last year, and increased again this year by about 6.1%, as Couture-Rimbold explained, and shared the positive that the property values have only decreased three times in the last several years, showing a stable market.

Please see **CONTRACT**, page 5



PHOTO SUBMITTED BY JOHN WEST

Frosty comes alive with first snow

Noah Sjöström of South Hadley makes a snow man in the first snow of the season.

Holiday Bazaar bargain day

SOUTH HADLEY- Center Church, UCC, 1 Church St, is having a Holiday Bazaar bargain day on Saturday, Dec. 14, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Center Church had a very successful bazaar in November, yet are amazed what items are still available to purchase. Food merchandise is priced as marked, otherwise everything else is buy 1, get 2 free or 1/2 price. Come find a treasure that others missed. Look for pictures posted on Facebook and Craigslist. Before hitting the stores, check out the bazaar. The bazaar accept cash, check and Venmo.









TOWN OF SOUTH HADLEY 2025 REFUSE & RECYCLING SCHEDULE

HOLIDAYS: The following six holidays usually affect the collection schedule. These are the only Holidays which will alter curbside pickup. The following are the six holidays in 2025:

- New Year's Day, Wednesday, January 1st
 Memorial Day, Monday, May 26th
 Independence Day, Friday, July 4th
 Labor Day, Monday, September 1st
 Thanksgiving Day, Thursday, November 27th
 Christmas Day, Thursday, December 25th

When a holiday falls on a collection day, there is no service that day, and the week's schedule is moved to the following day. Each route will be pushed forward one day following the holiday, with Friday's pickup occurring on a Saturday.

Please note: The Police Department accepts unwanted medications and medical sharps in special kiosks in the lobby 24/7.

Route #4 – Monday 2025	Route #5 – Tuesday 2025	Route #6 –Wednesday 2025	Route # 7 – Thursday 2025	Route # 8 – Friday 2025
January.13, 27February.10, 24March.10, 24April.7, 21May.5, 19June.2, 16, 30July.14, 28August.11, 25September.8, 22O c t o b e r6, 20November.3, 17December.1, 15, 29	January.14, 28February.11, 25March11, 25April8, 22May6, 20June3, 17July1, 15, 29August12, 26September9, 23October7, 21November4, 18December2. 16. 30	January2, 15, 29February12, 26March.12, 26April9, 23May.7, 21June.4, 18July2, 16, 30August.13, 27September.10, 24October.8, 22November.5, 19December.3, 17, 31	January3, 16, 30February13, 27March13, 27April10, 24May8, 22June5, 19July3, 17, 31August14, 28September11, 25October9, 23November6, 20December4, 18	January4, 17, 31February14, 28March14, 28April11, 25May9, 23June6, 20July5, 18August1, 15, 29September12, 26October10, 24November7, 21December5, 19
Abbey StGreenacre RdAbbey LnHarvard StOld WillimansettAnn StHelm StPlainville CirApple RdHickory PlPond RdBenger AvKaren DrRidge RdBenoit LnLawler DrSunset AvBrigham RdLois AveVictoria LnBrook StLombard StW Cornell StCarol Anne Dr Loretta StWillimansett StCarriage LnLyman TerYale StCharles StLyon GreenColumbia StMargaret StCornell StMemorial DrEagle DrMiller AvEasy StMt. View StForest DrNew Ludlow RdGlenn DrOakwood Cir(Plains Sch toOld Lyman RdGranby Line)Vincol St	Baker StLawrence AvBombardier AvLorraine AvCentral AvLos Angeles StCote BlvdLudlow RdDouglas AvMalcombGrace StMarion StGranby RdMiami St(Plains Sch toMichael DrNewton St)Pasadena StGrandview StPaul StHillcrest PkRalph AvHillside AvShadowbrook EstHollywood StStewart StJacob's WaySusan AvJohn LnTampa StLakeview AvWellington AvLaurie Av	Alvord PlNewton StBerwyn St(Lyman to Rt. 202)Berwyn St ExtOverlook RdBroad StPark AvCamden StPerkins StFoch AvPershing AvHaig AvQueen CirHunter TerRanger StJoffre AvRoosevelt AvLanders StViviani StLansing AvWashington AvLawn StWilson StLincoln AvWood AvLynch PlMaria DrMcKinley AvNountain Av	Bolton StMain StBridge St(Smith to Bridge)Carew StNorth StCenter StParker StEast Carew StPine Grove DrEast School StPleasant StElm StProspect StGaylord St(#8.#16)Grant StSchool StGraves StSmith StHarlow StSouth StIngram StWalnut StLamb StWarner StLathrop VlgLesperance Ct	Applewood LnMain St (Bridge to N.Main)Bardwell St Canal St(Bridge to N.Main)Canal St Carlton St Cordes Ct Croses CtNorth Main (Main to Rotary)Cottage Av Crescent Ln Tigh St Kimberly Dr Lathrop StOakley Dr Prospect St Crost St West Main St West Summit St Taylor St West Summit St Linda St Linden Dr Magnolia Ter
Route #9 – Monday 2025	Route #10 – Tuesday 2025	Route #1-Wednesday 2025	Route #2 – Thursday 2025	Route #3 – Friday 2025
January	January. .7, 21 February .4, 18 March. .4, 18 April. .1, 15, 29 May .13, 28 June .10, 24 July .8, 22 August .5, 19	January. 8, 22 February. 5, 19 March 5, 19 April 2, 16, 30 May 14, 29 June 11, 25 July. 9, 23 August 6, 20	January 9, 23 February 6, 20 March 6, 20 April 3, 17 May 1, 15, 30 June 12, 26 July 10, 24	January 10, 24 February 7, 21 March 7, 21 April 4, 18 May 2, 6, 31 June 13, 27 July 11, 25
September 2,15,29 October .13, 27 November .10, 24 December	September. 3, 16, 30 October 14, 28 November 11, 25 December 9, 23	September 4, 17 October 1, 15, 29 November	August	August 8, 22 September. 6, 19 October 3, 17, 31 November 14,29 December 12. 27



Kissing balls for a new porch

t's really funny that sometimes I have to consult my own columns to remember how to do something.

You see, now that the front porch is done, there is a new area to decorate, an area well-suited for kissing balls! My daughter and I were at the local garden center and there were so many beauties for sale.

Of course it would break my budget to buy one to go in the middle of each pair of columns, so it looks like I'll be making them myself.

The first thing you will need is a styrofoam ball. One that is six inches in diameter would make a good size kissing ball.

Then gather a coat hanger and some wire cutters. Snip away the hook and straighten out the rest. Insert it through the middle of the ball and bend one end as a hanger.

About 18 inches will be showing; it will look better if you choose a gold colored hanger. If not, you can always cover it later.

Getting the piece of wire into the dead center can be difficult, so use a long wooden pick to pre-make the hole. After that insertion will be easy.

Having a selection of greens on hand will make a pretty kissing ball. Scavenge the landscape for holly, yew, white pine, juniper and the like. Now it is time to insert clumps of greenery into the ball.

Styrofoam is very durable - great for holding all of these stems, but much more difficult to work with than floral foam. For that reason, all but the most rigid stems need to be put on wooden picks before they can be stuck into the ball.

Make small bunches of greenery about four inches long, holding their stems next to the pick and wrapping the attached wire to it. One by one insert these bunches into the styrofoam.

It is best to work randomly around the ball – setting the dimensions if you will, rather than starting in one place and working out. Being that it is round, it will be hard to put it down while working on it.

After a while you'll get into the swing of things by wiring a few bunches of greens, putting them in, wiring a few more and so forth. Finally, give it a good look. Is it a nice, round shape? Is there any foam showing? Where could it use a few berries?

Rose hips or winterberry, or even artificial berries will surely brighten it up, as will strands of ribbon wired to a wooden pick and inserted into the bottom. Wired ribbon is a good choice since it has a little shape; less droopy so to speak. It will be surprising just how much greenery it takes to make a kissing ball. When I am making wreaths or decorations of any sort I always continue harvesting even after I think I have enough, just as a bit of insurance. It's always better to have extra than have to stop everything and go picking again. One little factoid for cruise ship trivia: "Kissing bunches" in Old England were comprised of two intersecting circles of greens that were often decorated with fruit as well as figures of Jesus, Mary and Joseph. The "kissing" aspect came from the sprig of mistletoe that hung on the very bottom of the sphere – evoking the same response it does when hung by itself today.





Was your IRMAA article incorrect?

Dear Rusty:

In a recent article about Medicare's "Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount" and how IRMAA affects Social Security taxes, you described which income gets included in the IRMAA calculation. You said it is "your combined income from all sources, including 50 % of the SS benefits you receive." That 50% number might be true in some cases, but I think a more accurate, general answer is that "your taxable SS benefit is what gets added to IRMAA." For example, we have enough income every year that we are always taxed at 85% of our SS benefit, so 85% of our SS values get added to our IRMAA. The way your answer reads, a reader of the article might think everyone has 50% of their SS benefit added to IRMAA.

Signed: IRMAA Victim

Dear IRMAA Victim:

I think you may have confused two terms I used when describing Medicare's "Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount" or "IRMAA." I also used the term "MAGI" (Modified Adjusted Gross Income), and it's important to distinguish between those two terms.

provision applies, and IRMAA will affect how much your Medicare premium is. But MAGI is also used for another purpose to see if your SS benefits are taxable. Your MAGI consists of your Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) from your income tax return, plus any non-taxable interest you may have had, plus 50% of the SS benefits you received during the tax year IRMAA is a factor which will increase your monthly Medicare premium if your MAGI is over certain thresholds for your tax filing status. MAGI is used to determine if a higher Medicare premium applies, and it is also used to see if your SS benefits are subject to income tax. Your MAGI does, indeed, always use only 50% of the SS benefits you received during the tax year (not 85% in some cases). That's because the SS contributions included in MAGI relate to SS contributions your employer paid on your behalf. Only half of your received SS benefits are used to determine MAGI because that's the amount of your SS benefits attributable to your employer's contributions. Said another way, the SS payroll tax you personally paid while working was from your taxable

income, so it is not included in MAGI. But the amount your employer contributed was not taxable by the IRS and, thus, is included in MAGI. So, it's the portion of your SS benefits attributable to your employer which is included in MAGI. Thus, the terminology that MAGI is "your combined income from all sources, including 50% of the SS benefits you received during the tax year" is correct. MAGI is what determines how much of your SS benefits are taxable, but your MAGI also determines if IRMAA applies to your Medicare premiums.

Your benefits are taxable if, as a married couple filing jointly, your total MAGI exceeds \$32,000. If your MAGI is over the first threshold but less than the 2nd threshold (\$44,000 for married filers) then 50% of the SS benefits you received during the tax year are included as part of your income taxable by the IRS. But if your MAGI goes over the 2nd threshold (\$44,000 for married filers) then up to 85% of the SS benefits you received during the tax year will be included as part of your income taxable by the IRS.

In short, MAGI determines how much of your income is subject to taxation. But MAGI is also used to determine if IRMAA applies. And how much your MAGI exceeds the separate IRMAA thresholds determines what your Medicare premium will be.

So, the article correctly states that IR-MAA only counts 50% of the SS benefits MAGI is what determines if the IRMAA received because that is what is included in

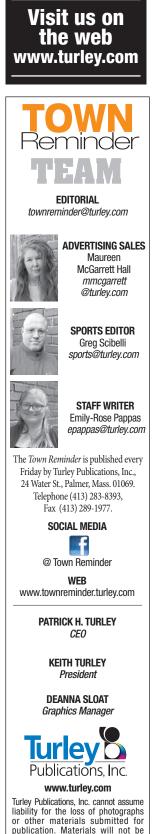
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Unsigned or anonymous letters will NOT be published.

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.



returned except upon specific request

when submitted

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.

MAGI (which is what determines if IRMAA applies). But the amount of SS which may be taxable income by the IRS could be up to 85% of benefits received during the tax year if your MAGI is high enough.

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support community journalism

Brunelle's Marina hosts second annual Holiday Market and more

By Tina Lesniak Correspondent

SOUTH HADLEY - As the winter months settle in. Brunelle's Marina in South Hadley is transforming its space into a hub of festive cheer and community activity. The second annual holiday market, spearheaded by Maddy Brunelle, president and general manager of Brunelle's Marina, is set to take place on Saturday, Dec. 14, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at 1 Alvord St.

"When I briefly lived in another state, weekends were always filled with events and activities, which sparked an idea," explains Brunelle. "I thought, why not use our space where people could shop or visit during the winter months?"

This inspiration led Brunelle to host vendor markets featuring local artists and artisans. Vendors, sourced through Facebook and word of mouth, offer a wide range of products, including wood boards, ornaments, stained glass, candles, jewelry, energy healing systems, and baked goods.

While some may assume we're only selling boats, our markets are much more," Brunelle adds. "They cater to holiday shoppers looking for unique gifts and items for themselves or loved ones.'

The market has quickly gained popularity since its debut last year, thanks in part to its location next to The Boathouse. Brunelle notes that the brunch crowd and visitors enjoying the scenic views contribute to the steady flow of attendees. This success has inspired her to introduce additional winter activities, including a wreath-making workshop.

"I'm always striving to stay current and offer fresh experiences," says Brunelle. "In the future, I plan to host charcuterie board workshops, yoga sessions, kids' activities, and even moms' night out events." With a heated showroom and ample space, Brunelle sees endless possibilities for creating engaging indoor winter experiences.

Winter is also a time for Brunelle's Marina to focus on its core boating business. The team works diligently to prepare for the upcoming season, maintaining and even expanding docks to ensure top-notch service. As a gesture of appreciation, the marina hosts an exclusive Dockers' Appreciation Party each year, celebrating customers who are part of the Brunelle's Marina family.

"Our employees go above and beyond to maintain the docks and even build additional ones for emergencies," explained Brunelle. "Winter is a time for planning, and we're excited to introduce new boating opportunities in the upcoming year." Details will be announced soon.

Meanwhile, the Lady Bea, a 49-passenger boat offering scenic cruises on the Connecticut River, has opened June through October 2025 bookings. Brunelle also plans to introduce new onboard activities, emphasizing the serene beauty of the river.

To ensure boats are ready for the next season, Brunelle's Marina offers comprehensive winterization services. These include inspections, preparation for cold temperatures, and shrinkwrap to protect against snow, wind, and pests.

"The main goal for the next season and the future is to focus on elevating the team's performance and maintaining Brunelle's Marina as the go-to destination for boating and enjoying the scenic views," said Brunelle. "The season doesn't end with summer."

By Melina Bourdeau Correspondent

GRANBY- On Dec. 5, the board unanimously accepted the chief's resignation, including waiving the required 60 days. Fire Chief Michael O'Neill submitted a resignation letter to the town's lawyer stating that Jan. 22, 2025, will be his last day.

During this time, O'Neill stated he intended to use his available sick time for that time window.

According to Town Administrator Chris Martin, according to O'Neill's contract, the board can accept it immediately.

Martin recommended accepting immediately.

"He's going to be an absent chief, period," he said. "You need a chain of command."

Selectboard member Crystal Dufresne asked what the procedure would be if the board accepted it immediately.

Martin said he spoke with Deputy Chief Tyler Yvon and asked if he would be the interim chief, and he declined.

"He feels we should try and find somebody from outside to serve as the interim chief until we can hire a permanent replacement." Martin said. "He declined to be internment but was willing to hold the fort as deputy."

He asked if any lieutenants were interested as well.

Martin also asked if he had any recommendations of who could serve and mentioned the former South Hadley District #2 Chief Todd Calkins.

"I don't know if he'd want to come

for a short-term basis just to guide the ship until we can find a replacement," he said.

Community

Granby Fire Chief resigns

Selectboard member Glen Sexton said he wanted to wait rather than accept the resignation immediately.

'I was hoping that the deputy chief would take it on for a little bit," he said.

Assistant Fire Chief Joe Fernandes came before the board at its Dec. 5 meeting

Sexton asked the difference between an assistant chief and a deputy chief.

'Technically, if the chief is not present, the top two tiers have the right to make decisions to keep the department moving forward," he said. "So, on Tuesday night, the deputy chief and I met with a huge part of the body, and we reviewed the situation.'

There are 39 active members. The staffing is already scheduled for December, and they are working on January.

'The next thing we have to work on is the budget going," he said. He added that he'd contacted retired fire chiefs to see if someone could do the day-to-day.

"We need to move as fast as possible to fill that because you can't put all the burden on the only six full-timers because they have to do calls," Fernandes said.

Sexton said his concern is that before an interim chief, there is one person responsible for the department.

The board advised Martin to use the previous job description on Monster.com but update the salary and due date to Jan. 14, 2025.

The board will decide on a hiring committee at its next meeting.

PARTNERSHIP from page 1

Both organizations see an uptick in donations and demand during the holiday season. NHN provides turkeys for Thanksgiving and other meats for Christmas, while GTG focuses on distributing food, clothing, and toiletries. However, as Guarnera emphasized the need doesn't just happen during the holidays.

"We would like to see the enthusiasm of holiday giving extend throughout the year," noted Guarnera. "Through our membership at the Food Bank, we can leverage one dollar to provide three meals. That's an outstanding return on the dollar, so we urge people to donate money. We recognize some want to donate tangible goods, and we certainly don't turn them down. As I said earlier, each can, each box, and all dollars are deeply appreciated and we strive to be the best."

Volunteers also play a vital role in cre-

over 1,095 pounds of food by amassing 1,166 pounds before Thanksgiving. Similarly, students like Mia Smith and Owen Randall have spearheaded toiletry drives and other initiatives to support their peers.

'Much of the success of getting donations has been having students help in many aspects of our program and seeing the need for the donations, especially fighting food insecurity among schoolage children," explained DeLong.As NHN and GTG look to the future, they aim to sustain the enthusiasm of holiday giving throughout the year. By advocating at local and state levels and sharing their model with other districts, they hope to inspire broader action against food insecurity.

'Today our program thrives with the help of dedicated student involvement, volunteers, and outside resources where we can help provide for the students and their families. We have seen students thrive when given the basics as food and basic needs as clothing. Our program has been dedicated to advocating and educating on food insecurity among school-age students.," DeLong said. This holiday season, the partnership between Neighbors Helping Neighbors and Granby to Go serves as a powerful reminder of what can be achieved through collaboration, compassion, and a shared commitment to helping those in need.



Grandparents: Donald & MaryAnn Dunbar, Ware

ating a welcoming environment, helping clients navigate the pantry, and even offering treats to pets.

Central to GTG's success is the involvement of students and community members. Judy DeLong, volunteer program manager for GTG, highlighted the role students play in organizing food drives, checking food expiration dates, and stocking shelves.

This year, student Austin Smith exceeded his personal goal of collecting

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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 2024. Pictures will be published the week of December 23-27, 2024.

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 Gazzette
- Chicopee Register Country Journal
- □ The Holyoke Sun
- Journal Register
- Ware River News □ The Wilbraham-
 - Hampden Times

Deadline for photos and forms is Monday, December 16, 2024

Sentinel Town Reminder

Quaboag Current

The Register

Events at SHPL

SOUTH HADLEY- The South Hadley Public Library will be hosting many events throughout December, for a full schedule or to register please visit www. shadleylib.org. For those that are feeling generous or want to help locally this holiday season, South Hadley Public Library is accepting food and toiletry donations for Neighbors Helping Neighbors. The local food pantry is seeking much needed soup, hot and cold cereal, canned meat, tomato products, shampoo, toothbrushes and toothpaste, deodorant and women's hygiene products. Please check the dates on food items and do not bring any expired items. Drop items off in the gift boxes under the tree by the elevator.

Adult Programs at SHPL

Come on down and bring a complete puzzle for our Jigsaw Puzzle Swap happening on Saturday, Dec. 14 at 10 a.m. Drop off a complete puzzle through Friday, Dec. 13 at the Library Front Desk. Get a ticket for each puzzle dropped off. All the puzzles will be available the morning of the swap, just bring the ticket to swap for the number of puzzles brought.

A Night of Classical Vibes with David Van Tassel on Wednesday, Dec. 18 at 6 p.m. This is a night of classical and classically inspired music. Van Tassel, who is now 16, has been passionately studying music since he was 3 years old and piano since he was 9 years old. He especially loves the musical compositions of Franz

SOUTH HADLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY



Liszt, Fredric Chopin, and Sergei Rachmaninoff. Come sit back, enjoy the live pianist, and forget the day's troubles.

Children's Programs at SHPL

Solstice Storytime on Friday, Dec. 20, and Winter Storytime on Friday, Dec. 27, both at 4 p.m., in addition to all the regular weekly Storytimes, rhyme times, playgroup (including a Saturday playgroup on Dec. 28), Comics & Crafts, and Lego & Games.

Don't miss the special events this month:

Colorful Clay Tiles Workshop on Monday, Dec. 30 at 2:00 for kids ages 8-18

Stuffed Animal Sleepover taking place Monday, December 30 through Tuesday, Dec. 31

Countdown to Noon Year party on Tuesday, Dec. 31 from 10 a.m. to noon.

Visit the library anytime to borrow an item from the STEM collection, the Chemistry Adventure program, or check out the puzzle swap. During school vacation, the library also has a Winter Scavenger Hunt around the children's area. This month, the coloring table will have paper strips so little artists can make paper chains; bring them home for decoration, or add them to the library paper

chain.

Teen Programs at SHPL

There is a different game selection for this month's Xbox1 sessions on Tuesdays, Dec. 17 at 3:30 p.m. This month features a new program with Magic the Gathering on Saturday, Dec.14 from 10:45 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. Come play Magic with new friends. This month there will not have the Teen Night Craft. Instead, there will be afternoon craft, DIY Disco Balls on Tuesday, Dec. 31 at 4 p.m.

The Teen Takeaway craft this month is Winter Mason Jar. See Bethany for more details or to sign up. Patrons only need to sign up once. Teen Takeaways are available every month. Reach out with any questions through email (broberts@ cwmars.org) or call the library 538-5045 and ask for Bethany. See the Teen Room door for more information.

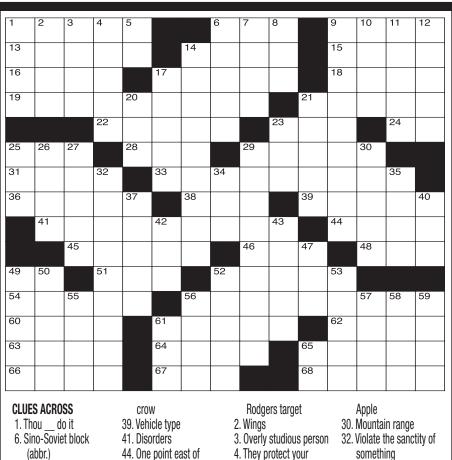
Gaylord Memorial Library Programs

Come check out our newly expanded Seed Library. Thanks to a donation of seeds from Rocky's Ace Hardware, there will be lots to choose from, especially vegetables.

For kids, we have Story Time every Friday at 10:30 a.m. with Miss Janet.

Open Crafts for Kids is on Thursday, Dec. 19 from 3 to 6 p.m. and Lego Club meeting Thursday, Dec. 26 from 3 to 6 p.m. On Saturday, Dec. 21 from 10:15 to 11:45 a.m. join in for Holiday Games like dreidel and pin the nose on Rudolph.

CROSSWORD PUZZLE



'Tis the Season for Giving

SOUTH HADLEY— During the festive month of December, the main library, 2 Canal St., will be accepting more than just book donations. For those that are feeling generous or want to help out locally this holiday season, the library is accepting food and toiletry donations for Neighbors Helping Neighbors, Inc., a client-choice food pantry in South Hadley that serves over 150 families in South Hadley and Granby.

With more and more people experi-

CONTRACT from page 2

However, this means that owners of an average single-family home here in South Hadley will see an increase of about \$105 to their tax bills, jumping from \$5,361 in FY24 to \$5,467 in FY25, making it a 1.97% increase.

Regarding the tax rates for the Fire Districts and their surrounding residents, Fire District 1's is seeing a drop in their tax rate from \$2.24 to \$1.96, and Fire District 2's will see an increase in their tax rate from \$2.18 to \$2.23.

The Selectboard and the Prudential Committee unanimously voted in favor of a one-for-all class of property for the Fiscal Year 2025 taxes. encing economic hardship and needing food assistance, please consider donating. NHN is seeking much needed soup, hot and cold cereal, canned meat, tomato products, shampoo, toothbrushes and toothpaste, deodorant and women's hygiene products, drop items off in the gift boxes under our tree by the elevator. Individuals may also make monetary donations instead by clicking the Donate button on nhnfoodpantry.org or their Facebook page. Please no expired items.

Master Plan

Miles shared that there is a new liaison from the Selectboard to the Master Plan Implementation Committee is needed.

Renee Sweeney, who was once the liaison, had to step away from the position, and Carol Constant agreed to take on the role as liaison.

"One of the things that the board will continue to work on, is continuing to work on the DEI Project," said Wong.

She shared that she wanted to see the next big push from the community to be on climate and sustainability, especially after receiving the Green Community status.

"We would look at initiating some training, looking at some grants, but trying to figure out how to integrate that," said Wong.

9. Brainstem part 13. Town in New York state 14. Little (Spanish) 15. Continent 16. Retch 17. Short-billed rails 18. Small period of time (abbr.) 19. Confused 21. A team needs one 22. Woman in ancient times 23. Republican Party 24. Spanish be 25. "The Godfather" character Johnny 28. Not around 29. City in Zambia 31. A type of beginning 33. Numb 36. Gurus 38. Small, gray-headed

southeast valuables 45. Indian soldier 5. The Volunteer State 46. Tree type 48. Midway between 7. Horse mackerel south and southeast 8. Jackson and Diddley 49. It cools your home are two 51. Corn comes on it 9. Splendid displays 52. Ship's deck 54. A way to bake 11. A daughter or your 56. Improvised 60. Butterfly genus 12. German surname 61. Baseball fields have them 62. Designated space 17. Romanian city 63. Discharge 20. Energy 64. Two of something 21. Makes less hot 65. Once more 66. Part of your face 25. Former CIA 26. Set an example for 67. Tax collector 68. Cassia tree others **CLUES DOWN** person 29. One from the Big 1. One-time Aaron

34. Supervises flving 35. Talks 6. Non-hydraulic cement 37. Persian male given name 40. Born of 42. Forcibly take one's possessions 10. Mountain in NE Greece 43. Discounts 47. Knockouts brother or sister 49. Posh Colorado destination 14. Having more than one 50. Form of therapy husband at a time 52. British rock band 53. Type of virus (abbr.) 55. The U. of Miami mascot is one 23. Gas diffusion electrode 56. Volcanic crater 57. Middle Eastern nation 58. Sinn , Irish organization 27. Support of a particular 59. Ethiopian lake 61. Bits per inch (abbr.) 65. Equally

EARLY DEADLINE For All Advertising & CLASSIFIEDS

All Papers Will Deadline Thursday, Dec. 19 at Noon for Publication Dec. 23 - 27 All Papers Will Deadline Friday, Dec. 27 at Noon for Publication Dec. 30 - Jan. 3







Santa Claus needs some ice cream, too!

ICE CREAM from page 1

support them by providing events where they can get to know each other outside of the classroom.

"I love helping with the children and supporting the teachers," said Leslie Baran, the PTO's Treasurer and a former teacher.

"I really enjoy being able to serve the community," said Rebecca Robinson.

The PTO has a candy cane grams program, where kids and their parents can purchase a gram to send to someone else, and the money goes back into creating events for the students and teachers to enjoy.

"It's about helping the schools and engaging with the community," said the PTO co-chair Audrey Siudak. "It's so I can be involved with the school my kid is in. We're trying to give back to the schools in any way we can."

The PTO is also selling umbrellas and stickers with the school logo on it, so that you can carry around your school spirit with you wherever you go.

The PTO works hard to ensure

that the students and teachers can have some time to pause and have some time to participate in something fun that normally wouldn't be able to be found inside the classroom.

"It's a lot of fun to see families and the community coming together to help the schools," said co-chair Elizabeth LaGuerre.

"It's a fun group and bunch of us, and we really enjoy putting things together for the kids," said Maria Ross.

The teachers really benefit from these special PTO events especially and make it so that they can see the kids outside of a teacher-student setting and relationship, which helps them learn more about the kids in their classroom, and how to interact with them.

"I'm a teacher, so I get to know the parents in a capacity I normally wouldn't," said Sara McNutt. "It's nice to be able to put things together for the kids, including my own."

"Being able to create events that bring the community to the schools is my favorite part," said Erica Marsh.

The Ice Cream with Santa night was just one of many events that the PTO has put together, and with the services of photographer Brian Marsh taking professional photos with Santa, it made the night even more special.

You can find the PTO on Facebook, and they are always looking for volunteers to come and help make these events possible, like the parents who brought toppings for the ice cream sundaes.

The holiday season is meant to be a time of giving, and coming together as friends and family, and whether it be at home, or ice cream sundaes with Santa, there's no end to what you can do to make this season magical.



Isabela and Sofia showing off their fabulous face paint during their photo with Santa.



Jaxon, Jason, and Lucy taking a photo with Santa.



The high schoolers who volunteered for the night to help the kids make some ice cream sundaes.





Turley Photos by Emily-Rose Pappas The Granby PTO all together in their festive sweaters, hats, and leggings with Santa.

Sitting together at the table at the end of a wonderful night eating ice cream and meeting Santa.



From Florence Bank, Bridget Champagne, Nicolle Marceau, and Katie Myslinski having a good night and sharing some well-desired hand warmers on a cold night



Turley Photos by Emily-Rose Pappas Israel and Sophia taking a photo with Santa and Mrs. Claus.



Tryston Tolliver, Lisa Foley, and Sandy Leclair with Polish National Credit Union giving out fun treats to share with kids.

Annual holiday stroll celebrates the CHRISTMAS SEASON



From Tree of Life Early Learning Center, Tracie Kennedy, Madison Kennedy, and Smantha Kowel with the Grinch.

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STROLL from page 1

"This iconic community event has grown each year and continues to be well attended. It truly is an amazing feeling to keep this tradition going," said Zebrowski. The DPW worked to help with

The DPW worked to help with snow and ice removal last minute after the unexpected snow storm last week, and an officer from the police department set up a table and tent, complete with coloring pages of new comfort dog Murphy.

"As I look back it was such a frigid night and yet the Commons were bursting with families. I am grateful to the businesses, the South Hadley Electric light Department, Police Department, Fire Department, DPW and, the volunteers including the Board of Directors, Staff and committee members from the SHG Chamber for bundling up, supporting and helping to make this a success," said Zebrowski.

Kids got to get some hot cocoa and get their faces painted, create some special crafts, and so much more as they waited excited to welcome Santa Claus aboard the District 2 Fire Engine.

"I am so proud and grateful to be part of a community that stands together and supports each other on a daily basis," said Zebrowski. "I look forward to the Joy and Holiday Spirit this brings to our amazing community."

While every year there is tree



Representatives from People's Bank taking a photo with Frosty the Snowman: Emily Kyser, Melanie White Lindsay Santana, and Anthony Penna.

lighting, entertainment, and photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus, the Tower Theater came to offer kids a choice of two holiday specials to enjoy, including Troll's Holiday and Angela's Christmas. The hard work put in by the community, and its local businesses, highlights the dedication of the community, and fellowship found within a tight-knit community.

It's okay to not want to stay in one spot!

Maureen McGarrett Hall

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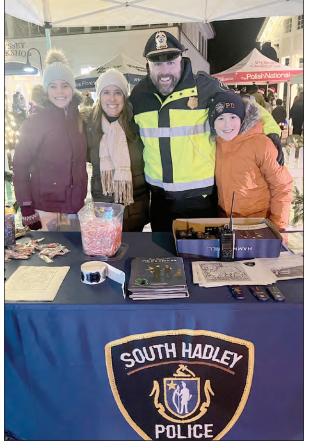
413-364-4994 realtybymaureen@gmail.com



A special family photo with Santa.

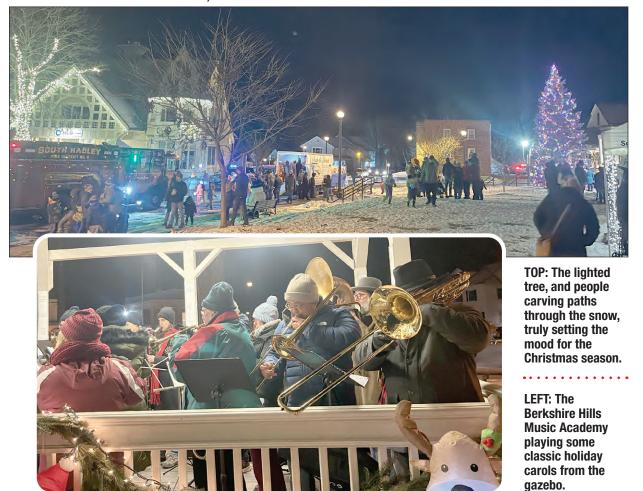


Members of the Buttery Brook Commission, Reilly Malone, Kim Prough, Kristina Malone, and David Bernier.



The O'Connor family, with Sargeant Barry O'Connor and Lily, Abby, and Brady at the Police Department's table, with coloring pages of new comfort dog Murphy.











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The co-op hopes to have an improved season after struggling last year.

For the second straight year, Chicopee will co-op with four other schools.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

CHICOPEE - Last year, Chicopee's coop ice hockey team had a tough first season together. The Pacers won just one game with five schools combining to form one team. This year, starting with Saint Paul this Saturday afternoon, the Pacers hope to start a winning campaign. The Pacers then travel to Amherst on Dec. 19. The co-op consists of players from Chicopee, Chicopee Comprehensive, South Hadley, Granby, and the Pioneer Valley Chinese Immersion School. Their home games are played at Fitzpatrick Rink.



Their season opener is against Eastern Mass. opponent Saint Paul.

Lawsuits lead to more compliance of scheduling rule

By Gregory A. Scibelli gscibelli@turley.com

means they won two games af- mine rosters when it comes to

the Western Mass. finals, which said. "They are used to deter-

COLLEGE: Anischik makes second-team

WESTFIELD — Three Owls were named to All-Con-

shutouts. Theroux was even better in his intra-conference ference honors this week by the regular season play. In seven Massachusetts State Collegiategames, Theroux sported a 4-1-Athletic Conference headlined2 record, a 0.80 GAA, and 41 saves for a .891 save percentage. All of Theroux's conference regular season wins were shutouts. Theroux cut his goals-against in half from last fall as he let in 35 a year ago. He also improved his save percentage .063 percent from last year, with one more win and three more shutouts. Theroux was second in the MASCAC in saves, third in save percentage, and fourth in goals against average. Mazza has been named a second-team midfielder and this is Mazza's first bid to all-conference honors. Mazza tallied ten total points this season on three goals and four assists. Mazza improved this season as he had one more point and assist from a season ago but scored two game winning goals compared to

PALMER – If you go on the Arbiter Live website to look at your favorite team's schedule, you will notice the end of every season has anywhere from one to three "filler dates."

These filler dates were the subject of lawsuits filed by Minnechaug and Monson High Schools after their failure to comply with the rule resulted in forfeits being assigned to Monson, Minnechaug, and Pathfinder for either Western Mass. or nonplayoff games played following the end of the regular seasons.

The forfeits were meaningful in terms of determining the schools' power ranking for the state tournament. Minnechaug and Monson were successful in securing a court injunction and did not take the forfeits. Pathfinder did not attempt to use legal means to reverse the forfeits, and the boys soccer team made

ter the regular season that were changed to losses for their MIAA ranking.

More than a dozen other schools including Northampton also were affected by the issue. Many other schools that did not have playoff teams, found themselves unaffected by the issue. But now, nearly every school as of this week had placed filler games at the end of their regular season.

Agawam High School Athletic Director Karen Gomez said filler dates were also placed on many wrestling schedules to comply with the MIAA's rules on determining how many playable dates a team is having.

Though it is not strictly enforced as of yet, more enforcement of posting varsity rosters on the Arbiter site could be down the line.

"Rosters are supposed to be posted and updated," Gomez the playoffs as well."

Gomez says she has to back on the site and make sure rosters are updated for the playoffs to ensure JV players added to rosters for tournament are included.

When looking at an individual team's schedules, most teams play 16 to 18 regular season contests. The filler dates are then replaced by Western Mass. playoff games or "nonplayoff" games. Some of those nonplayoff games are needed, however. A team that finishes the regular season with a 7-9 record can get into the state tournament with a .500 record. The nonplayoff games played by that team then mean something as they can use them to finish season 9-9 and qualify.

The Arbiter website is exclusively used now for schedules, rosters, and score postings. The results are used by the MIAA to quantify Power Rankings for tournament seeds.

by Westfield State goalkeeper Luke Theroux (Chicopee, Mass.) after being named to first-team all-conference.

As this weekend to remember wraps up for the newly crowned MASCAC men's soccer champions, the Westfield State Owls, more awards are coming their way. Theroux was named first-team all conference goalie, Sonny Mazza (East Longmeadow, Mass.) was awarded second-team midfielder, and Charlie Anischik (South Hadley, Mass.) was awarded second-team defense.

Theroux has been awarded first-team all-conference goalie honors in just his sophomore season. Theroux tallied a stat line of 18 goals against, a 1.26 goals against average, 74 saves, a .804 save percentage, and eight wins with five of those wins coming as

Please see **COLLEGE**, page 13

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South Hadley

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Boys Basketball

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Thursday, Dec. 12	Away	Belchertown	7 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 16	Home	Easthampton	7 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 18	Away	Baystate	7 p.m.
,		Academy	· F
Friday, Dec. 20	Home	Monson	7 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 23	Home	Monument Mtn.	7 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 4	Home	Bethlehem	12 p.m.
,		Central	r
Aonday, Jan. 6	Away	Hoosac	7 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 8	Home	Belchertown	7 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 10	Home	Northampton	7 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 14	Away	Easthampton	7 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 16	Home	Baystate	7 p.m.
indiodal), bain 10		Academy	, buin
Tuesday, Jan. 21	Away	Monument Mtn.	7 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 24	Home	Renaissance	7 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 27	Home	Frontier	7 p.m. 7 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 30	Home	Hoosac	7 p.m.
Monday, Feb. 3	Away	Amherst	7 p.m. 7 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 5	Away	Greenfield	7 p.m. 7 p.m.
Monday, Feb. 10	Away	Granby	7 p.m. 7 p.m.
violiday, 1 co. 10	rivay	Oranoy	/ p.m.
	Girls Ba	asketball	
Thursday, Dec. 12	Home	Wahconah	7 p.m.
Wednesday, Dec. 18	Home	Northampton	7 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 20	Away	Hampshire	7 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 27	Home	Amherst	7 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 3	Away	Chicopee Comp.	7 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 6	Home	Pope Francis	7 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 7	Away	Taconic	6 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 10	Away	Amherst	7 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 13	Home	Hoosac	7 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 17	Home	Taconic	6:30 p.m
Monday, Jan. 20	Away	Wahconah	7 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 22	Away	Monson	7 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 27	Away	Belchertown	7 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 31	Home	Hampshire	7 p.m.
Monday, Feb. 3	Away	Hoosac	7 p.m.
Thursday, Feb. 6	Home	Monson	7 p.m.
Monday, Feb. 10	Away	Drury	7 p.m.
Tuesday, Feb. 11	Home	Quaboag	7 p.m.
	Ice Hock	ey (co-op)	
aturday Dag 14	A	Saint Daul	5
Saturday, Dec. 14	Away	Saint Paul	5 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 19 Saturday, Dec. 21	Home	Amherst	8 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 21	Away	Peabody Southwick	4 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 20	Away		1 p.m.
•	Away Home	Agawam Oakmont	3 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 4 Wednesday, Jan. 8	Home	Taconic	1 p.m. 7:30 p.m
Saturday, Jan. 11			
Monday, Jan. 13	Away Home	Easthampton Taconic	2 p.m. 7 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 15	Away	Agawam	7 p.m. 7 p.m.
		Montachusett	
Saturday, Jan. 18 Monday, Jan. 20	Away Home	Southwick	5 p.m. 3 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 24	Away	Easthampton	3 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 29	Home	McCann Tech	5 p.m. 7 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 1	Home	East Boston	7 p.m. 2 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 5	Home	Amherst	2 p.m. 4 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 8	Home	East Boston	3:50 p.m
Tuesday, Feb. 11	Away	McCann Tech	7 p.m.
Saturday, Feb. 15	Away	Assabet Valley	5 p.m.
acaroay, 1 00. 15	1 1 1 1 4 J	Tech	5 P.m.

Granby

Boys Basketball

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5 p.m.

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7 p.m. 5 p.m.

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3:50 p.m.

7:30 p.m.

Thursday, Dec. 12	Home	Renaissance	7 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 16	Home	Palmer	7 p.m.
Thursday, Dec. 19	Away	Southwick	7 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 23	Away	Gardner	7 p.m.
Friday, Dec. 27	Away	Belchertown	7 p.m.
Monday, Dec. 30	Home	Ware	7 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 3	Away	Duggan	7 p.m.
Monday, Jan. 6	Home	Monson	7 p.m.
Thursday, Jan. 9	Away	Renaissance	7 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 14	Away	Palmer	7 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 17	Home	Southwick	7 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 21	Away	Ware	7 p.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 28	Home	Easthampton	7 p.m.
Friday, Jan. 31	Away	Monson	7 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 5	Home	Hoosac	7 p.m.
Friday, Feb. 7	Away	Monument Mtn.	7 p.m.
Monday, Feb. 10	Home	South Hadley	7 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 12	Home	Hopkins	7 p.m.

Girls Basketball

Friday, Dec. 13 Tuesday, Dec. 17 Thursday, Dec. 19 Monday, Dec. 23 Friday, Dec. 27 Friday, Jan. 3	Away Home Home Away Home	Lee Easthampton Athol Smith Academy Ware Renaissance	7 p.m. 7 p.m. 9 a.m. 7 p.m. 7 p.m. 7 p.m.	
Monday, Jan. 20 Saturday, Jan. 25 Monday, Jan. 27 Wednesday, Jan. 29 Monday, Feb. 3 Thursday, Feb. 6 Friday, Feb. 7 Monday, Feb. 10	Home Away Away Away Away Home Home Away	Lee Hampshire Renaissance Hopkins McCann Tech Ludlow Hopkins Southwick	7 p.m. 1:30 p.m. 7 p.m. 7:30 p.m. 7 p.m. 7 p.m.	

Ice Hockey (co-op)

Saturday, Dec. 14	Away	Saint Paul
Thursday, Dec. 19	Home	Amherst
Saturday, Dec. 21	Away	Peabody
Thursday, Dec. 26	Away	Southwick
Monday, Dec. 30	Away	Agawam
Saturday, Jan. 4	Home	Oakmont
Wednesday, Jan. 8	Home	Taconic
Saturday, Jan. 11	Away	Easthampton
Monday, Jan. 13	Home	Taconic
Wednesday, Jan. 15	Away	Agawam
Saturday, Jan. 18	Away	Montachusett
Monday, Jan. 20	Home	Southwick
Friday, Jan. 24	Away	Easthampton
Wednesday, Jan. 29	Home	McCann Tech
Saturday, Feb. 1	Home	East Boston
Wednesday, Feb. 5	Home	Amherst
Saturday, Feb. 8	Home	East Boston
Tuesday, Feb. 11	Away	McCann Tech
Saturday, Feb. 15	Away	Assabet
-	•	Valley Tech

Wrestling

Knight-Hawk Saturday, Dec. 14 Away

T-Birds stay on track with big OT win

SPRINGFIELD — The Springfield Thunderbirds (12-9-1-0) clawed back from 1-0 down after 40 minutes and emerged with a 2-1 overtime victory over the Rockford IceHogs (8-10-3-0) before a sold-out crowd of 6,793 on Saturday night at the MassMutual Center.

After the two clubs exchanged chances in the opening five minutes, the opening period brought very little in the way of offense against Springfield netminder Vadim Zherenko or Rockford goalie Mitchell Weeks.

The T-Birds were uncharacteristically sloppy in the defensive zone, and a pivotal turnover at 2:59 of the second period resulted in Rockford's opening goal as Cole Guttman picked off a loose puck in the middle of the zone and slipped a five-hole shot through Zherenko to make it 1-0 IceHogs. It marked the first time in eight games that the T-Birds allowed the first goal of a game.

Offense did not come easily for Springfield, as the home team was outshot 16-6 in the middle period. Zherenko was at his best, making a pair of other breakaway saves on Guttman among his 24 denials through 40 minutes of play.

Zherenko rose up to make a game-changing stop in the opening seconds of the third, as he stretched out with the left leg to stonewall Samuel Savoie on a breakaway bid to keep the score at 1-0.

Less than three minutes later, Tyler Tucker continued his torrid goal-scoring weekend, flipping a point shot over Weeks on the glove side, bringing about a Teddy Bear storm and equalizing the game, 1-1.

It appeared as if the Thunderbirds had taken the lead just a few moments later when a Michael Buchinger shot bounded high in the air and into the blue paint. Matthew Peca jabbed the loose puck across the goal line, seemingly making it a 2-1 Springfield lead. Despite being called a goal on the ice, the officials gathered and ultimately waved off the tally, and the 1-1 tie carried to the end of regulation.

The T-Birds rewarded their netminder in the extra session at 3:42 with their 19-year-old phenom stepping into the spotlight. After Aleksanteri Kaskimaki fed the puck through neutral ice to Dalibor Dvorsky, a 2-on-1 developed with Tucker joining the rush. Dvorsky patiently curled the puck to the middle of the ice around a sprawled defender before launching a perfect shot gloveside on Weeks to give Springfield its second overtime win in as many nights.

The rookie's team-leading 10th goal of the season also went down as his first overtime game-winner as a pro. Springfield has now won four straight games and is 8-1-1 in its last ten games, springboarding the team into third place in the Atlantic Division standings.

The T-Birds next embark on one of their longest road trips of the season, beginning with a Saturday contest in Wilkes-Barre against the Penguins on Dec. 14 at 6:05 p.m. at Mohegan Sun Arena at Casey Plaza.

Worcester Railers fall to Maine Mariners

WORCESTER - The Railers 4-3 loss to Maine Saturday night dropped their record at the DCU Center to 3-6-1 in 2024-25. That compares with a .500 mark on the road at 6-6-0.

There is no logic to it, nor is there any specific area or

Swimming (co-op with Holyoke)

I	Wednesday, Dec. 18	Home	Turners Falls	4 p.m
I	Monday, Dec. 23	Home	Hampden Charter	4 p.m
i	Friday, Jan. 3	Home	Minnechaug	5 p.m
ļ	Tuesday, Jan. 7	Home	Easthampton	4 p.m
1	Friday, Jan. 10	Away	Monson	4:30 p
l	Tuesday, Jan. 14	Home	Hampden Charter	4 p.m
I	Friday, Jan. 17	Away	Chicopee	4:30 p
I	Tuesday, Jan. 21	Away	Renaissance	4:30 p
	Monday, Jan. 27	Away	Turners Falls	4:30 p
l	Wednesday, Jan. 29	Home	Renaissance	4 p.m
1				

Wrestling

Saturday, Dec. 14	Away	Knight-Hawk	10 a.m.
Tuesday, Dec. 17 Saturday, Dec. 21	Home Away	Tournament Duggan Mohawk Duals	6:30 p.m. 9 a.m.
Tuesday, Jan. 7	Home	Mahar	6 p.m.
Saturday, Jan. 11 Wednesday, Jan. 15	Away Home	Quabbin Duals Granby	10 a.m. 7 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 22 Saturday, Jan. 25	Away Away	Frontier Mt. Greylock	7 p.m.
Wednesday, Jan. 29	Home	Tournament Franklin Tech	9 a.m. 7 p.m.
Wednesday, Feb. 5	Away	Athol	6:30 p.m.

	Thursday, Dec. 19	Away
	Friday, Dec. 27	Away
p.m.	Thursday, Jan. 2	Home
p.m.	Saturday, Jan. 4	Away
p.m.	Wednesday, Jan. 8	Away
p.m.	Saturday, Jan. 11	Away
30 p.m.	Wednesday, Jan. 15	Away
p.m.	Saturday, Jan. 18	Away
30 p.m.		•
30 p.m.	Wednesday, Jan. 22	Away
30 p.m.	Saturday, Jan. 25	Away
p.m.		v
	Wednesday, Jan. 29	Home
	Saturday, Feb. 1	Away
	Tuesday, Feb. 4	Home
10 a.m.	57	
30 p.m.		-
- I.		

	Tournament	10 a.m.
у	SICS	6 p.m.
у	Monument Mtn.	8 a.m.
ıe	Smith Voke	7 p.m.
у	Norton	10 a.m.
у	Frontier	7 p.m.
у	Quabbin Duals	10 a.m.
у	South Hadley	7 p.m.
у	Franklin Tech	9 a.m.
	Duals	
у	Athol	6:30 p.m.
у	Mt. Greylock	9 a.m.
	Tournament	
ıe	Mahar	7 p.m.
у	Southington, CT	8 a.m.
ie	Franklin Tech	7 p.m.
		•



areas that Worcester needs to be better at.

"I don't think there is any one thing you can put on that," coach Bob Deraney said. "There is nothing that significant that says why we've been better on the road than at home."

Some of the Railers' home losses have been lopsided and interesting. This one was headed that way but turned out to have a thrilling, if disappointing, finish.

Worcester fell behind early, 2-0 and the Mariners eventually stretched that lead to 4-1. Then the Railers came alive late in the third period, scoring goals at 11:07 and 18:29, but could overcome the early deficit.

Griffin Loughran, Anthony Repaci and Anthony Callin had the Worcester goals. Owen Pederson, Justin Bean, Jimmy Lambert and Matthew Philip scored for the Mariners, who snapped a four-game losing streak.

Callin was one of the Railers best players last season. His goal late in the third period was a beauty, a high hard snap shot from the right circle with Worcester having an extra skater, and his first of the year.

"I think it's huge," Deraney said of that goal. "I know it's been weighing on him. He's been second-guessing himself, gripping the stick too tight, all those things that happen to a guy who cares so much and wants to contribute to the team."

Please see **RAILERS**, page 13

TOWN Reminder



A ship sailing towards a sunset, and certain adventure, from The Golden Mare, the Firebird, and the Magic Ring.



A magnificent firebird from The Golden Mare, the Firebird, and the Magic Ring taking flight.



Two whimsical pieces from the Mother Goose collection of stories.



The magic of Cinderella's encounter with her fairy godmother painted with brilliant details.



Cinderella, Goldilocks and the Three Bears, Mother Goose, and many more, her books make an excellent gift and opportunity for kids to see and hold a book of beautiful art.

Sanderson was hosted by the South Hadley Public Library on Monday, and there she had her books to sell, as well as art prints, tasty treats, and signed and wrote a message to each person who purchased a book inside the front cover.

Sanderson has been writing for about thirty years, and illustrating books for countless authors for over forty-five, her love for art only growing with each book.

"I've always had a passion for it," Sanderson said. "From the time I was very young, all I wanted to do was draw. I love detail work, and I would sit and draw each blade of grass."

Her love for fine details and realism in her work is reflected in where her inspiration is drawn from great artists like N.C. Wyeth and Norman Rockwell.

She was also inspired by the works of the Hudson River School, and found encouragement from her professors ar The Paier School in Connecticut, where she got a degree in art.

"I didn't really need much encouragement. It's all I wanted to do, and to be able to do it full time is a wonderful blessing," said Sanderson.

She found a love in recreating and retelling many wellknown fairytales,

A little one already in love with Sanderson's original work, A Castle Full of

Cats.

but wrote many of her own, including A Castle Full of Cats, A Storm of Horses, and a collection of her artwork in a volume called Golden Dreams: The Art of Ruth Sanderson.

She also recently released a new 2025 calendar, filled with her beautiful portraits of unicorns, and illustrated two new children's books written by her daughter, Whitney Sanderson.

Good Morning Farm Animals and Good Night Farm Animals, written by Whiteney Sanderson, showcase the talent of this mother-daughter team, and you can find a special story time on January 4, 2025 at 10:30 a.m. to hear them both.

Ruth Sanderson's first ever book was an illustrated 75th anniversary edition of The Little Engine that Could in 1976, and from there, she went on to illustrate many, many more.

"My favorite part is the planning stages, putting together story boards to organize the drawing, and then see it get executed in the final piece," Sanderson said.

Twenty-one framed pieces of her art work is hung up in a gallery in the community room of the library, and will stay hung up until the end of January, so be sure to stop by to admire her exquisite detail work, and try to guess which stories the paintings are from.

> Turley Photos by Emily-Rose Pappas



The Snow Queen, majestic and regal, with a polar bear.

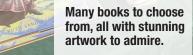


Signing A Castle Full of Cats with a personalized message and a little doodle of a cat.



Sanderson's beuaitufl art pieces for her retelling of Goldilocks and the Three Bears.





SERVICE DIRECTORY

To advertise on this page call the Town Reminder at 283-8393

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Town election papers available

SOUTH HADLEY— Nomination papers for the April 8, 2025 Town Election are available until Thursday, Feb. 13, 2025 in the Town Clerk's Office at Town Hall, 116 Main St., South Hadley. Nomination papers may be obtained during office hours, Monday through Thursday, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. and Fridays from 8:30 a.m. to noon. Appointments outside of regular office hours are available. Any changes in hours will be posted to the Clerk's webpage at www.southhadley. org/clerk.

Interested candidates must be registered voters in the town of South Hadley. To appear on the ballot, candidates must obtain nomination papers from the Town Clerk's Office and have them signed by local registered voters. Town-wide offices require 50 signatures on nomination papers from registered voters in South Hadley. Town Meeting Member offices require 10 signatures from registered voters in their respective precinct. It is recommended that prospective candidates obtain more than the minimum number of signatures.

Papers for the following seats will be available: Selectboard, One seat, Threeyear term; School Committee, One seat, Three-year term; School Committee, One seat, One-year term; Board of Health, Two Seats, Three-year term; Municipal Light Board, Two seats, Three-year term; Municipal Light Board, One seat, One-year term; Board of Assessors, One seat, Three-year term; Housing Authority, One seat, Five-year term; Trustee Free Public Library, Three seats, Three-year term; Planning Board, One seat, Threeyear term; Town Meeting Members, Eight seats per precinct, Three-year term; Town Meeting Member, One seat, Precinct A, Two-year term; Town Meeting Member, One seat, Precinct A, One-year term; Town Meeting Member, Two seats, Precinct C, Two-year term; Charter Commission, Nine Seats, Approximately Twoyear term, dependent on whether or not the question receives enough signatures to appear on the ballot. Once the candidate has obtained all the signatures needed, nomination papers must be returned to the Town Clerk's Office by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Feb. 18, 2025 for signatures to be certified. Interested candidates may direct their questions and comments to the Town Clerk's Office by phone at 413-538-5030, ext. 6183 or by email at elections@ southhadleyma.gov.

South Hadley to create Affordable Housing Trust Board

SOUTH HADLEY—Calling all residents! South Hadley is forming our first Affordable Housing Trust and they need residents to help shape the future of affordable housing in our community. An Affordable Housing Trust is a vital tool for addressing local housing needs. It will create and preserve affordable homes by managing funds and partnering with developers, nonprofits, and other stakeholders to make housing more accessible for all.

We're looking for volunteers with expertise in:

Real Estate

• Development

RAILERS from page 11

Repaci scored shorthanded at 11:07 to make it 4-2. He converted a pass from Matt DeMelis. Repaci continues to have a memorable, and perhaps in the long run, unprecedented season. He was 1-1-2 Saturday night and is 16-8-24 in 22 games.

Repaci is up to 160 points in a Worcester uniform. He is tied with IceCats forward Marc Brown for third most in city history.

The Railers could not find any offensive traction until the game was almost over. Maine had the best of things by far, both in terms of time of possession and quality of scoring chances.

The first period was an omen of things to come. About three minutes after the Banking & Finance

Affordable Housing

• and residents who live in affordable housing are encouraged to apply

If you're passionate about making a difference and have the skills to guide South Hadley's housing future, consider applying. Help us ensure that South Hadley remains a vibrant, inclusive, and affordable place to live.

Applications are due by Dec. 20 at 11 a.m.

For more information, or if you're interested in applying, contact Anne Capra, Director of Planning & Conservation, at acapra@southhadleyma.gov

puck drop the Railers incurred three consecutive icing calls in a span of 30 seconds. Then Pederson scored from 15 feet out at 7:37 into the period and Bean put one over Michael Bullion's glove at 9:23 to make it 2-0.

Loughran's goal was a thrilling one.

Early in the first period he caused a turnover that turned into a breakaway, but he got in too deep and Maine goalie Ryan Bischel stopped him. This time he was set up by a great pass from Connor Welch and zoomed in at top speed. His wrist shot from between the circles was essentially unstoppable.

Lambert made it a 3-1 game at 6:39 of the third period, beating Bullion from the side of the net. Philip scored on a breakaway at 17:54.

the switch back this season

to defense and has really

helped keep opposing of-

fenses have less opportu-

nities at Theroux.

June M. (Shipman) Bagg

June M. (Shipman) Bagg, of South Hadley, entered into eternal peace on Wednesday, Dec. 4, at home.

She will be deeply missed by her beloved husband of over 55 years, Lyndon Bagg, and her cherished children: Eric Bagg and his wife Megan of South Hadley, and Barbara Caricato and her husband Paul of Clyde, NC. June was a proud and devoted grandmother to her five

grandchildren: Charlotte, Evangeline, Logan, Calvin, and Caleb, who all brought her immense joy.

June is also survived by her siblings: Raymond Shipman and his wife Sarah of Hadley, her sister Yvonne LaBarge and her husband Les of Hadley, her sister Beverly Gibson, and her husband Scott of Rochester, NY, and many loving nieces and nephews. She is predeceased by her sister Donna Chapley, as well as her parents, Raymond and Agnes Shipman of Hadley.

Born on August 20, 1948, June grew up in the village of Hockanum in Hadley, MA. She worked as a secretary at her father's plumbing business before dedicating herself to raising her family as a devoted wife and mother.

June was a member of St. Patrick's Parish in South Hadley, where she participated in the Ladies' Guild and enjoyed being part of the bowling league. Known for her boundless energy, June loved gardening and could often be found tending to her plants in the warmer weather or sharing cookies and candy canes with children visiting the Bagg family's Christmas tree stand on Rt. 47 every December.

Her love, kindness, and dedication to her family and community will be fondly remembered and deeply missed.

Calling hours will be on Friday, Dec. 13 from 4 p.m. until 7 p.m. at the Beers & Story South Hadley Funeral Home, with a brief ceremony and prayers to conclude the evening at 7 p.m.

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DEATH NOTICE

bıtuar

June M. (Shipman) Bagg Died Dec. 4, 2024 Services Dec. 13, 2024

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



Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

The other is a **Paid Obituary,** costing \$225, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: obits@turley.com.

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

COLLEGE from page 10

last season's one. His first one came at Elms College on September 4 in a 4-1 victory while his second one was the only score in a 1-0 victory over Bridgewater State on October 26, scoring in the final minute of the match. Mazza has been a consistent offensive weapon for the Owls as he is tied for second on the team in assists and third in points.

Anischik has been awarded second-team defense in just his second year as an Owls athlete. Anischik tallied three points this season and one assist and a game-winning goal on September 14 as the Owls defeated UMass-Dartmouth 3-2 at home. Anischik scored his game-winner on a penalty kick late in the second half to pull the Owls past the Corsairs. Anischik made

PUBLIC NOTICES

Email all notices to notices@turley.com

- Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
- 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

Early Deadlines for all LEGAL NOTICES... **All Papers** Happy New Year! Will Deadline Thursday, Dec. 19 **All Papers** at Noon for Will Deadline Friday, Dec. 27 **Publication** at Noon for Dec. 23-27 **Publication** Happy Holidays! Dec. 30-Jan. 3

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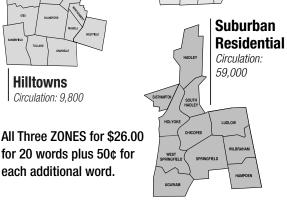




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29	Base Price \$30.50	30	Base Price \$31.00	31	Base Price \$31.50	32	Base Price \$32.00
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OUR CLASSIFIEDS REACH 50 COMMUNITIES EVERY WEEK!

AMHERST FARMERS' MARKET open at the Bang's Community Center

By John Woodside Correspondent

AMHERST – The Amherst Winter Farmers' Market, after missing the 2023-2024 season, is back. On Saturday, Dec. 7, the winter market opened its doors. A busy day, and with more than 20 vendors, the building was packed.

A guitarist, Bruce Coburn, sang folk songs as shoppers perused the open aisles of the market. There were jars of honey when you first walked in, and Dave Drugan, owner and operator of the Buzz Off Bee Company. They have been producing honey for 10 years. Honey and wax are their mainstays as well as many different products from the hive.

Bakers, produce, beautiful candles, soap, books for sale and hats from alpaca were offerings at the Market.

The Bread Basket, a Mennonite bakery in Russell, sells bread, whoopie pies, and donuts. Berkshire Mountain Bakery, a chain which has grown in recent years, has bread available in shops throughout the state, selling fresh sourdough and their signature sandwich loaves.

Carol from White Buffalo Herbs has been in business for 34 years. 120 organic herb products from the plants that she grows such as stress



relievers, tinctures and teas. She is a community herbalist and innovator selling a germ-killing lavender, alcohol, and eucalyptus spray designed for sanitation during the COVID pandemic.

Chase Hill Farm sells cheese, meat and eggs and have been mongering cheese for more than 10 years. Next to Chase Hill Farm is the Booch Company offering locally manufactured kombucha.

150-gallon batches every week and the glass bottles are sold in shops and markets throughout the area.

Coconut candles made from bee's wax, soy, and coconut itself were also available.

The candles have triple wood wick, giving it "a nice crackling noise," when it burns. They have an interactive booth at the Hampshire Mall, which lets customers make their own candles.

Arron, owner and operator, hopes to one day have a candle that is completely coconut originated, from the base to the container to the packaging.

Micro greens greenhouse is operated by Alex, a former UMass horticulture student, who learned the trade in school and has continued selling the greens at markets throughout the area.

This marks the first Amherst Winter Market serving farmers and citizens. The market will continue every Saturday, same hours, through December. In the New Year, bi-weekly will be the schedule. That is on the second and fourth Saturdays in January, February and March.

The Amherst Winter Farmers' Market is held at the Bang's Community Center.



Alex, a former UMASS horticulturist, stands before his micro greens.



Mennonite bakers, Abby and Janette, from The Bread Basket in Russell.



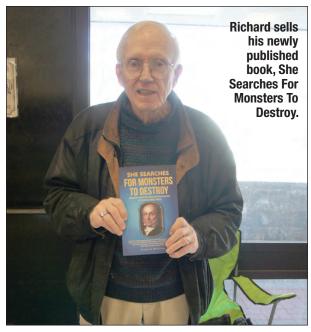




Turley photos by John Woodside Mike from Quabbin Hill sells CBD and produce.

Dave Drugan of Buzz Off Bee Company has been in business 10 years.

Bruce Coburn sings for tips.





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