

TOWN Reminder



FREE
December 22, 2023
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'It's a Wonderful life'



A young Roger Farnsworth holding an early prototype of what would become the band uniforms.

Tigers remember their former band director

By Samuel Gelinias
Correspondent

SOUTH HADLEY - John Sullivan was an eighth-grade clarinet player within a somewhat impoverished South Hadley band before the "Farnsworth era."

At the time, the high school band didn't have the membership to sustain itself, and so Sullivan, even as an intermediate band member, had been playing clarinet at the high school football games.

It was at this time that Roger Farnsworth had been starting his career in Columbus, Ohio, when he had been offered a job here in South Hadley to be mu-



A performance in Tralee, Ireland, on the Reviewing Green with dignitaries from the Irish government in a national flag exchange with band directors Roger Farnsworth and Frank Fuller.

sic director in 1965. He took the job—a position he would then hold until 1980.

Little did he expect to see the transformation the program would undergo. In just a few short years, the program would

go from borrowing eighth-grade musicians to performing at a wide range of venues, including prestigious assignments such as Richard Nixon's Inauguration, the Parade of Champions in Philadelphia, traveling to

Tralee, Ireland, Tijuana, Mexico, and other major opportunities over this period.

Over the course of his tenure, Farnsworth oversaw the band's

Please see **BAND**, page 5

MSBA invites Mosier Elementary into eligibility period

SOUTH HADLEY - The Massachusetts School Building Authority has voted to invite Mosier Elementary School into its eligibility period.

Announced Dec. 13 during a Zoom meeting by the MSBA Board of Directors, the unanimous vote of acceptance is the first step in securing state funds for replacement or renovation of the school building.

Statements of interest, a required vote and document to apply for MSBA funding, were previously submitted to the MSBA in 2012, 2018, and 2019 for Mosier, according to a press statement. The most recent statement of interest was submitted in April 2023 after a vote of support from the South Hadley School Committee and Selectboard.

"South Hadley will work diligently, flexibly, and collaboratively alongside the MSBA to achieve their vision for attaining the best outcomes for students, families, taxpayers and the community with a new building," said Senator Jacob Oliveira.

South Hadley was one of 19 municipalities voted into this eligibility period out of 63 submissions. Constructed in 1969, Mosier Elementary School houses three grade levels in a 62,237-square foot building. Portable classrooms were added in 1998, previously used at the middle and high schools, intended for a few years' use. Those same por-

Please see **MOSIER**, page 2

Buttery Brook Park's 'Santa Land'



Camden Harnas visits with Santa at the event.



Lilliana, Vivienne, and Meredith Kuczynski with Santa.



Lillian Schmitter with Santa at Santa Land, which lasted eight nights.

Submitted Photos



Baby's First Christmas

2023





John Jude O'Connor
January 22, 2023
Parents: Kaitlin O'Donnell & John O'Connor, Stoneham
Grandparents: Jim & Chris O'Donnell, Ludlow
Madeline Spinoso, Medford
John O'Connor, Hebron, NH



Raelynn Brown
July 20, 2023
Parents: Ryan & Ashley Brown, Hampden
Grandparents: Art & Lynn Anderson, Wilbraham
Rick & Joanne Brown, Monson



Jace Daniel Jagnarine
November 21, 2023
Parents: Jason & Sarah Jagnarine, South Hadley
Siblings: Justin & Juliette Jagnarine, South Hadley
Grandparents: Paul & Sally Samlall, South Hadley

MOSIER from page 1

table classrooms are still in use today.

"Principal Flynn and her staff have been doing an excellent job at promoting resilience and results at Mosier Elementary for so many years," said South Hadley School Committee Chair Eric Friesner. "The vote by the Massachusetts School Building Authority is a testament to South Hadley Public Schools commitment to advocating and advancing the needs of all of our students."

As noted in the 2023 statement of interest, most of the issues facing Mosier Elementary

School relate to the structural integrity of the building itself, with officials noting the portables pose a real possibility of catastrophic failure at any time.

"Throughout the school year, hundreds of students from Grade 2 through Grade 4 attend the school and deserve a safe learning environment. I have seen firsthand the issues that exist throughout the building and its portable classrooms," said State Representative Daniel Carey.

The 270-day eligibility period is not an invitation to a feasibility study and it does not guarantee an invitation to the MSBA's capital pipeline. However, it will assist the MSBA in

identifying early in the process whether a district is ready to manage and fund a capital project.

"We are very excited about this next chapter and look forward to working with the community to create a new building that our students, staff, and parents deserve," said Mosier Elementary School Principal Cindy Flynn.

Next steps for South Hadley include the formation of a Mosier Elementary School Building Committee, among other requirements. The town has set aside \$1.4 million in a stabilization fund for a Mosier feasibility study. The full 2023 Mosier Elementary School Statement of Interest can be found on the school website at www.south-hadleyschools.org.

For more information, please contact Interim Superintendent Mark McLaughlin at 413-538-5060.

SOUNDS OF THE HOLIDAY



Submitted Photos

Musicians entertained the crowd at Santa Land in Buttery Brook Park.

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FREE ESTIMATES



Local candidates meet and sign event upcoming

SOUTH HADLEY - Know Your Town of South Hadley will host a Local Candidates Meet and Sign Event on Saturday, Jan. 6, 2024, from 10-11:30 a.m. in the Community Room, South Hadley Library, 2 Canal St.

“Stop in and meet prospective candidates and be part of our local election process by

signing some nomination papers,” a press statement reads. “To be on the ballot, candidates must collect signatures from local registered voters, who are not obligated to vote for that candidate. Enjoy coffee/tea and nibbles, and learn more about those running for town-wide offices or to be precinct-based Town Meeting Members.”

Nomination papers available for March Town Election

SOUTH HADLEY - Nomination papers for the 2024 Town Election in March are available until Thursday, Jan. 11, 2024 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. - 4 p.m. and Fridays from 8:30 a.m. - noon. Accommodations for appointments outside of regular office hours are available, a press statement reads.

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:

- Town Moderator - 1 Seat - 3 Year Term
- Selectboard - Two seats - Three-year term
- School Committee - Two seats - Three-year term
- Board of Health - One seat -

- Three-year term
- Municipal Light Board - Two seats - Three-year term
- Board of Assessors - One seat - Three-year term
- Housing Authority - One seat - Three-year term
- Trustee Free Public Library - Three seats - Three-year term
- Planning Board - Two seats - Three-year term
- Town Meeting Members - Eight seats per precinct - Three-year term
- Town Meeting Member - Two seats, Precinct A - Two-year term
- Town Meeting Member - One seat, Precinct C - Two-year term
- Town Meeting Member - One seat, Precinct C - One-year term

Once the candidate has obtained all the needed signatures, nomination papers must be returned to the Town Clerk’s Office by 5 p.m. on Tuesday, Jan. 16, 2024 for signatures to be certified. The Annual Town Election will be held on Tuesday, March 5, 2024, in conjunction with the Presidential Primary.

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@southhadley.ma.gov. For more information about voting and elections in South Hadley, visit southhadley.org/Elections.

‘Tis the season for giving at the library

SOUTH HADLEY - During the month of December, the main library at 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, we are accepting food and toiletry donations for Neighbors Helping Neighbors, Inc.,” the library released. “They are a client-choice

food pantry in South Hadley that serves over 150 families in South Hadley and Granby.”

“With more and more people experiencing 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.

“You may also make monetary donations instead by clicking the ‘Donate’ button on nhn-foodpantry.org or their Facebook page. Please, no expired items,” the library added. “Take advantage of our convenient open hours for your holiday giving this season.”

HAPPY ANNIVERSARY



Submitted photos
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Carrignan of South Hadley.

Richard and Lorraine Carrignan were married on January 9, 1954.

Carrignan's to celebrate 70 years

SOUTH HADLEY – Mr. and Mrs. Richard Carrignan of South Hadley are celebrating their 70th wedding anniversary.

Richard and Lorraine Carrignan were married on January 9, 1954, at the Immaculate Conception Church in Holyoke, MA. Their marriage has been blessed with three children, the late Robert Carrignan, Cecile Carrignan of So Hadley, and Denise Bondoni of Plymouth, MI, five grandchildren and four great grandchildren. They have been residents of So Hadley for over

fifty years.

Richard, a veteran of the US Air Force, worked for Hano Business Forms for over thirty years. Upon his retirement, he later worked another twenty years as a dedicated driver for the So Hadley Council on Aging. This position allowed him to honor and serve his aging peers.

Lorraine worked for the Belchertown State School and later as a Certified Nurse’s Aid for Meadowbrook Nursing Home. She especially enjoyed bringing her singing talents to

entertain her residents. The couple also sang in the church choir for St. Patrick’s Church in So Hadley alongside their closest friends. Praying for family and those they meet regularly has defined their purpose. They have experienced both triumph and tragedy and have realized how important it is to focus not on what they have lost, but rather focus on what they have left. On their platinum anniversary, their family wishes them continued health, humor and an abundance of love.

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Small Grants Available to South Hadley Falls Businesses

The Town of South Hadley is offering Falls Business Improvement Grants to provide commercial businesses, nonprofits, and commercial property owners in South Hadley Falls with financial support for the enhancement of small businesses through reimbursable grants of up to \$1,500.

The grant is structured as a reimbursement of a property or business owner’s investment in eligible storefront façade enhancements or other eligible business improvements.

The Town of South Hadley anticipates funding 8 to 10 projects of up to \$1,500 each.

Grant application and more information online here:
<https://www.southhadley.org/1299/South-Hadley-Falls-Business-Improvement->

ARMY • MARINES AIR FORCE • NAVY COAST GUARD

By Hank Houghton,
Vietnam veteran

Twass the night before Christmas, he lived all alone,
In a one bedroom house made of plaster and stone.
I had come down the chimney with presents to give,
And to see just who in this home did live.
I looked all about, a strange sight I did see,
No tinsel, no presents, not even a tree.

No stockings by mantle, just boots filled with sand,
And on the wall pictures of far distant lands.
With medals and badges, awards of all kinds,
A sobering thought came to my mind.
For this house was different, so dark and dreary,
The home of a soldier, now I could see clearly.

The soldier lay sleeping, silent, alone,
Curled up on the floor in this one bedroom home.
The face was so gentle, the room in such disorder,
Not how I pictured a United States soldier.
Was this the hero of whom I'd just read?
Curled up on a poncho, the floor for a bed?

I realized the families that I saw this night,
Owed their lives to these soldiers who were willing to fight.
Soon round the world, the children would play,
And grownups would celebrate a bright Christmas day.
They all enjoyed freedom each month of the year,
Because of the soldiers, like the one lying there.

I couldn't help wonder how many lay alone,
On a cold Christmas eve in a land far from home.
The very thought brought a tear to my eye,
I dropped to my knees and started to cry.
The soldier awakened and I heard a rough voice,
"Santa don't cry, this life if my choice;

I fight for freedom, I don't ask for more,
My life is my God, my country, my corps."
The soldier rolled over and soon drifted to sleep,
I couldn't control it, I continued to weep.
I kept watch for hours, so silent and still,
And we both shivered from the cold evening's chill.

I didn't want to leave on that cold, dark, night,
This guardian of honor so willing to fight.
Then the soldier rolled over, with a voice soft and pure,
Whispered, "Carry on Santa, it's Christmas day, all is secure."
One look at my watch, and I knew he was right.
"Merry Christmas my friend, and to all a good night!"

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

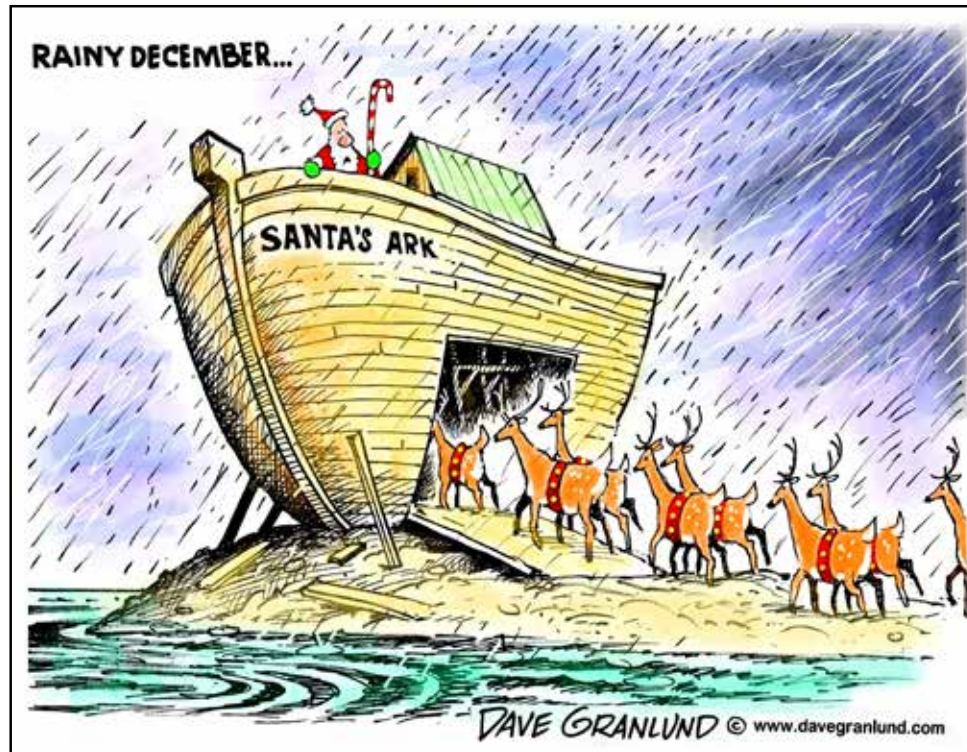
'Santa Land' a success!

Dear Editor,

Santa Land at Buttery Brook Park was a huge hit on some of the eight nights that we were open this year, all because of the extraordinary volunteers who helped Santa and Mrs. Claus pull this off! From the South Hadley High School Elves to the Friends of the Park, all were tremendous. Of course, it was the young and even older families who were the big hit and everyone enjoyed visiting with Santa. We wanted to give an extra thank you to the musical performances who helped keep our families entertained while they waited in line. Better Beginnings donated the coloring books, and hot chocolate and cookies were provided by the Friends. The Park staff did an outstanding job on the lights and decorations this year and they couldn't have done it better. What a success. Thank you to all who came and those that volunteered.

Buttery Brook Santa Land
Linda Young

Opinion



Cookies made with a familiar herb

This weekend was supposed to be the weekend when all four of us partook in a cookie-making marathon.

Usually, we start baking right after Thanksgiving, but this year the kids were involved in a play, then a concert, and alas, there was no time. We started out strong yesterday and then I began to feel a little funny.

By midafternoon I was definitely under the weather and that was it for my cookie-making. We got two batches in before I left the kitchen.

One is an almond covered thumb print, and the second is a coriander cookie – one of my all-time favorites. It must have been a favorite to a few other folks along the line because the recipe dates back to the early 19th century!

I tried them for the first time at Old Sturbridge Village's Christmas by Candlelight some years back and making them has been a tradition in our house ever since. Why don't we take this opportunity to learn about a very versatile plant.

Most gardeners already know that Coriander (*Coriandrum sativum*) is one of the few herbs that goes by two different names depending on the part of the plant used.

Its foliage, known as Cilantro, is used fresh in a number of culinary delights. When the plant goes to seed, known as Coriander, it can be used in that stage as well, eaten whole, crushed or powdered.

I liken cilantro to being the "marigold" of the herb world. Either you love the smell/taste of it or you hate it.

I, for one, immensely dislike it and if given the chance to pick it out of my salsa I will certainly do it! Even in a restaurant.

I found it interesting to learn that some people possess a genetically predisposed aversion to it, according to studies by Charles J. Wysocki of the Monell Chemical Senses Center in Philadelphia. To me it has a bitter taste that I have a hard time describing beyond that. Dirty? Soil-like?

Most people that do dislike it have a similar lack of descriptive ability; they just can't

put their finger on it, but they don't like the taste...or the smell of it. It's funny that when my oldest daughter received her Ancestry DNA results, she was shown not to possess the genetic aversion. Well, she didn't get that from me.

Cilantro is often used in salsa and other Mexican, Asian and Italian dishes including curries, sauces, salads and soups. If you prefer to grow the plant more for its greens and less for its seeds, manage it as you would spinach.

Sow seeds in the ground in the cool of the season and in succession every two weeks. It dislikes being transplanted but doesn't mind pot culture.

Harvest greens rather aggressively – about one-third of the plant at a time. Just like spinach, there are slow-to-bolt varieties to choose from such as aptly named "Slow Bolt" and "Longstanding". Cilantro's flowers are edible, and they attract lots of beneficial insects such as lady beetles, parasitic wasps and syrphid flies.

Coriander seeds, on the other hand, have a pleasant (at least to me) fragrance once dried. The scent is easier to pin-point too; nutty and spicy (ever so slightly) come to mind.

Coriander seed is also well known in various ethnic cuisines and is a favorite in spice blends, curry being the most popular. It is also used in the making of a number of distilled spirits, herbal liqueurs and Christmas cookies as I have come to find out and favor!

The Herb Society noted that during World War II coriander seeds were coated in white or pink sugar and thrown from carnival wagons, earning the name "confections" or "confetti." When the seeds were replaced by balls of colored paper the name confetti stuck.

Take this one to your next game of Cruise Ship Trivia!

It is easy to harvest the seeds. Simply let the heads dry to brown right on the plant. Clip them and place inside a paper bag; as they dry further, they will open, and the seeds will pop out.

Even if you are only interested in harvesting the seeds, multiple plantings (or a big garden patch) are necessary to get a decent-sized harvest. Let a few drop their seeds and you will be blessed with a few self-sown plants next spring.

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 31 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.

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.

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BAND from page 1

expansion, starting from rough shape and evolving to become a focal point of South Hadley's culture.

"It wasn't just the high school band, it was the town of South Hadley's band," Farnsworth recalled.

Several of Farnsworth's students, including Sullivan, recently gathered under orange stage luminaires at South Hadley's media studio located within the high school to make a documentary on this "renaissance" era of the band's history. It is expected to be released to the public in the fall of 2024.

And how does drum up membership for a wilting band seemingly overnight? Go to where the kids are, it turns out. Farnsworth would sweep the hallways to recruit new members. According to Farnsworth, "showing interest to the kids is something they'd hardly seen," and as a result many responded to these informal hallway invitations.

Karen Mard Gladwin shared her story through laughter as she thought back to her recruitment. Farnsworth approached her when she had been singing as part of the music program, and had no previous experience with instruments other than the piano.

Imperatively, he told her that she "should play alto horn." Her response: "Okay, sure. What does that look like?"

It was neither knowledge nor "out of the womb" talent that was recruited. Rather, the potential to learn and participate was what he looked for, and Gladwin would go on to play from November of 1965 until her graduation in 1969.

According to Farnsworth, "kids from the very first day were willing to do what it took to get a fuller sound."

Even with membership, a vital part of getting a fuller sound required funding. To respond to that need, the band took to the streets, going door-to-door with candy and selling ads within event programs.

George Baker joined in January of 1966 and would play through his senior year in 1969. He remembered the candy sales eventually bringing the band outside of the borders of South Hadley and into Chicopee and Amherst. The program had built up so much notoriety that of all the houses he had sold to, he only ever remembers one which had not heard of the Tiger Marching Hundred.

Sullivan, who had been among the leading candy sellers, recalls that, "selling candy seemed to occupy everything I did for the first, maybe second year. You carried around buckets with candy and knocked on every single door. Would sell for hours on end."

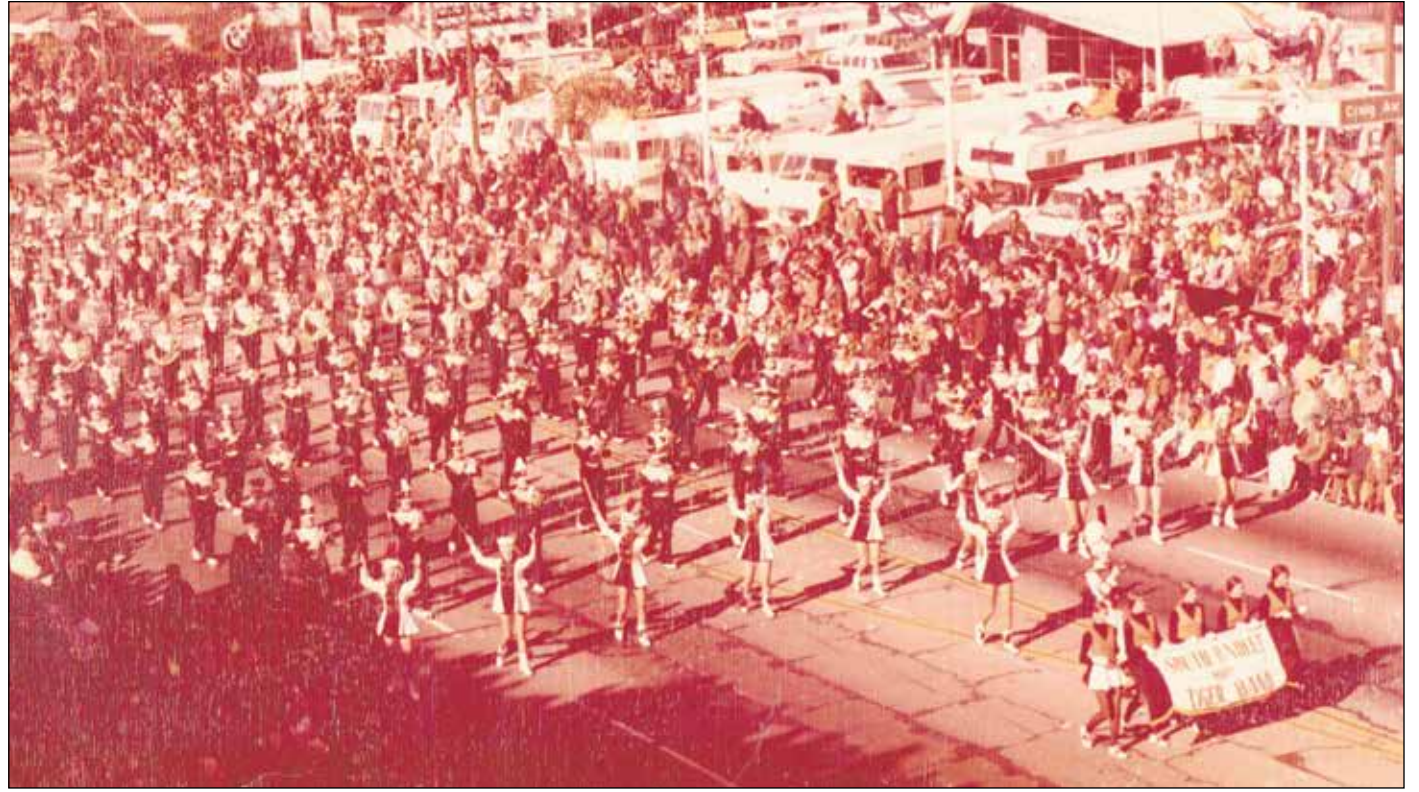
Sullivan would go on to participate in band and orchestra for three quarters of his college experience, sharing that after years of routinely committing himself to the band, "the band gave you a place to be," and, "when I think about my closest friends, they were all in the band."

The band's kindness, however, was not to be taken for weakness. While "the band had a whole lot of camaraderie," and was "very welcoming," Sullivan also testified to the structure and dedication that was expected of members.

"Once a part of the band you need to play the music...there was an awful lot of peer support."

According to Farnsworth, "it was really serious...band was sacred; no goofing around."

Kids that would come with excuses, such as, "sorry, Mr. Farnsworth, I would love to join, but a second language would be more useful for colleges," Farn-



The South Hadley High School "Tiger Marching Hundred" Band performing in the 1974 Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena, Calif., led by Drum Major Craig Parker, Lead Majorette Nancy Hylemon, and Band President Steve Boisvert.

sworth would call up the schools from his office, explain the situation, and the schools themselves would agree with Farnsworth—that being part of the band program would be more advantageous on their resumes because of the work ethic and long-term dedication required to be a part of the program.

This sort of individualized attention was a signature of his methodology. A driven and focused attitude was something shared, as a result.

"Seniors wouldn't allow sloppy uniforms, or fumbling over music," Sullivan remembered. "We don't want excuses, we want results," was the instilled mentality, said Farnsworth.

Concerning uniforms, Sullivan reminisced the feeling of excitement and pride which accompanied having their uniforms tailor-made, rather than hand-me-downs.

"Oh my gosh, I'm going to have a uniform that actually fits me."

Farnsworth was the architect of this system of welcome, support, and the drive for perfection. His philosophy was based on a foundation of non-hypocrisy; the principle that a superior should be willing to do everything expected of those under his or her leadership.

As Farnsworth put it: "I'm not going to make rules I can't keep."

"I wouldn't have kids do anything I wouldn't do—when the kids were in the rain, I was too...the kids knew I was fighting for them."

Farnsworth set a rigorous expectation, not only for his students, but for himself. Early mornings and late nights were his routine. He would teach band, a theory class, and choir, which would leave him with three or four periods a day for one-on-one instruction with the band members. He arranged a rotation in which every band member would miss one class a month to spend a period dedicated to practice.

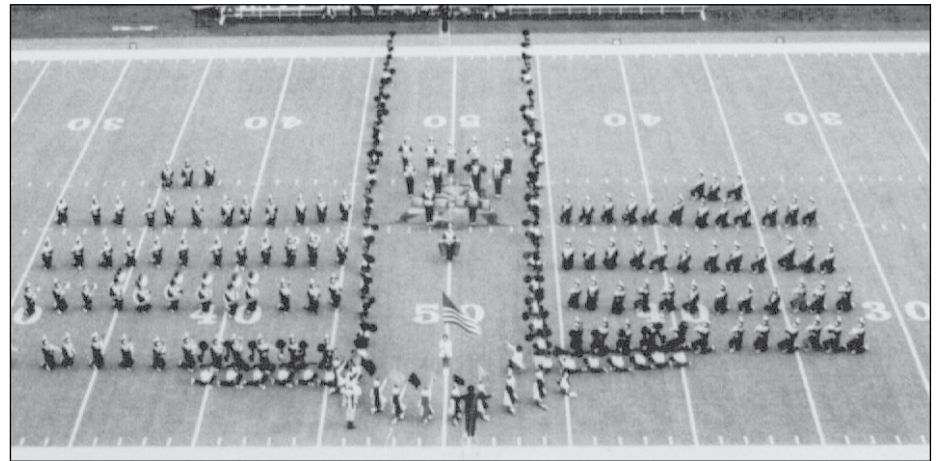
Believing that he had to "have the opportunity to teach them," that opportunity was not limited to the school day, or even between the business hours of 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

"I don't need a prep time; I never once had lunch. I was in my band room giving lessons," he shared.

His schedule would face the "wrath" of his wife when he would consistently stay until 8-9 p.m. teaching.



Farnsworth and Sullivan pictured with (left to right) Dan Pease, South Hadley's Studio Manager, High School Principal Elizabeth Wood, and alumni Beth Moynihan Ballard, who are organizing a documentary on the band expected for the fall of 2024..



Submitted Photos

A performance at a New England Patriot Football game, followed with a performance at the Parade of Champions in Philadelphia.

"You have time at [8 p.m.], I'll be here," was the way he approached his job. "It was never about me...I never asked for a raise or a soft schedule...it was all about the band."

This may give the reader an impression that this was his dream career, when in reality, "the last thing I wanted to do was be a high school band director...but I liked to eat, and I had a fifth son on the way...and they liked to eat."

Farnsworth describes his high point as seeing how his students turned out, and said even now he continues to receive

friendly, happy, thank-filled calls from his students of more than a half a century ago. "How many teachers get to say they get calls like that?"

The fuel that ignited the band can be attributed to Farnsworth's openness, discipline, and can-do mentality which persevered over his fifteen-year tenure. He remembers that "somehow, the kids built up a pride that was second to none."

That "somehow" seems to be Roger Farnsworth himself.

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Seniors



Submitted Photos

Santa visits the COA

South Hadley residents spend some time with Santa at the Council on Aging. (L to R) Joy Hines, Dawn Berard, and Tessa Berard (with Santa).

Council on Aging announces holiday closures, updates

SOUTH HADLEY - The town's Council on Aging will be closed Monday, Dec. 25, for the Christmas holiday.

Additionally, the COA has announced the upcoming changes:

Café: The café will be closed on Dec. 26 and Dec. 27.

Evening Yoga: There will be no class on Dec. 26.

Stretch & Go, Fitness Basics: There will be no class on Dec. 26 and Dec. 28.

Seated/Standing Yoga: There will be no class on Dec. 28.

Zumba: This class will be on hiatus until February.

The COA will host the following events in the new year:

Discovering Dinosaurs with Fred Venne of Amherst College
Tuesday, Jan. 9, at 5 p.m.

Lifelong Learning Lecture Series

Tuesday, Jan. 23, at 5 p.m.

This is a collaborative series with Mt. Holyoke College. The Jan. 23 event is titled "Navigating the Climate Crisis: Global Carbon Story, Mitigation Efforts, and Mount Holyoke College's Path to Carbon Neutrality."

"Thank you to the Travel Club for sponsoring this eight-month series," the COA released.



I'm 65 and working; can I collect ex-spouse benefits?

Dear Rusty:

I turned 65 earlier this year and I still work full time.

I was divorced four years ago after 38 years of marriage, but my ex-husband has been collecting Social Security for at least 10 years now. Can I start collecting Social Security and still work full time? And can I collect my ex-husband's amount if it is more than mine and what is the best way to achieve this? When I went to my local SSA office, they said they had no way of knowing that.

Signed Working: Divorcee

Dear Working Divorcee:

Although you are eligible to claim Social Security at age 65, because you are working full time you may wish to wait a bit longer to do so. That's because Social Security has an "earnings test" which applies to anyone who collects benefits before Full Retirement Age and you have not yet reached yours.

The earnings test imposes a limit on how much you can earn before SS takes away some of your benefits. If you exceed the annual earnings limit (\$22,320 for 2024), Social Security will want back \$1 in benefits for every \$2 you are over the limit and you will need to repay that, usually by having future benefits withheld. If you significantly exceed the limit, you may even be temporarily ineligible to receive SS benefits until you either earn less or reach your full retirement age (FRA) of 66 years and 8 months.

So, if your earnings from working will significantly exceed the annual earnings limit, which changes yearly, it's likely that your wisest move would be to wait longer to claim your Social Security. As a bonus for doing so, your monthly payment will have grown and will be higher when you claim later. The earnings test no longer applies after you reach FRA.

Regarding benefits from your ex-husband, you cannot collect his instead of yours. What you may be able to do, when you claim your own benefit, is to get an additional amount, which brings your monthly payment up to 50% of his. In order for that to happen, you would need to satisfy the following criteria:

You are not currently married.

The personal benefit you are entitled to at your FRA must be less than 50% of your ex-husband's FRA entitlement.

If the above are true, when you claim your own SS retirement benefit you will also get a "spousal boost" to bring your payment up to what you're entitled to as an ex-spouse. The amount of the spousal boost, if you claim Social Security at your FRA, will be the difference between half of his FRA entitlement and your FRA entitlement. If you claim your benefit before your FRA, not only will your own benefit be reduced for claiming early, but the amount of your spousal boost will also be reduced. Benefits claimed before FRA are always reduced.

Whenever you decide to claim Social Security, you will be automatically deemed to be filing for benefits from your ex-husband as well (you shouldn't need to apply separately). You've already satisfied the basic criteria of at least 10 years married to get benefits from an ex-spouse and, if you satisfy the above criteria as well, you will be entitled to a spousal boost when you claim.

But your current earnings from working full time will likely affect your eligibility to collect Social Security benefits at this time, so waiting until your full retirement age to claim may be your best choice.

If you will only slightly exceed the annual earnings limit you can consider claiming earlier, as long as you are comfortable with receiving a permanently reduced amount, and the prospect of not getting benefits for a number of months if you exceed the earnings limit, the number of months you will go without benefits depends on how much you exceed the limit by.

The Association Mature Citizens Foundation and its staff are not affiliated with or endorsed by the Social Security Administration or any other governmental entity. This article is intended for information purposes and does not represent legal or financial guidance. It presents the opinions and interpretations of the Association Mature Citizens Foundation's staff, trained and accredited by the National Social Security Association. To submit a question, visit amacfoundation.org/programs/social-security-advisory or email us at ssadvisor@amacfoundation.org. Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.



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Griff Soderbaum gets the open shot.



Jack Loughrey eyes the hoop.

Tigers suffer first loss

SPRINGFIELD – Last Wednesday night, South Hadley boys basketball was defeated at SICS 69-57. It was the first loss of the season for South Hadley after opening the season with two straight wins. The Tigers trailed throughout the game, and even had a strong fourth quarter, but it was not enough to come back in the matchup. Jack Loughrey had a big game with 29 points. Tim Loughrey had seven points.



Eliza Speak wrestles at 138 pounds.



Johnson Bishop starts from the referee's position.



Noah Hambley holds his dribble as he looks to get around an opponent.



Noah Rivera takes the shot.



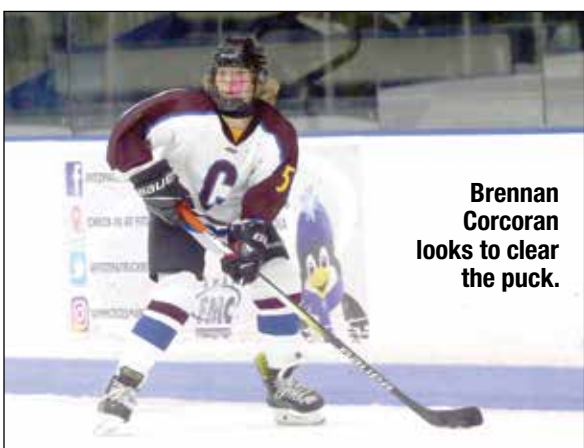
Junior Ramsey gets the takedown.

Turley photos by Gregory A. Scibelli

Rams take part in Knight-Hawk

HOLYOKE – Last weekend, Granby wrestling took part in the Knight-Hawk Classic at Holyoke High School. The Rams have been to the

event in the past and came in 16th out of 19 schools competing. As a team, the Rams had 43 points with a third and fourth place finisher.



Brennan Corcoran looks to clear the puck.



ABOVE: Connor McDonnell heads up the ice after taking possession.

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com



AT LEFT: Caleb Lundgren sends a pass up the ice.



Nathan Robitaille reaches out to grab the puck.

Pacers co-op suffers shutout

HOLYOKE – Last Saturday, Easthampton defeated Chicopee 5-0 at Fitzpatrick Rink. The Pacers, which now co-op with Chicopee Comprehensive, South Hadley, Granby, and PVCIC, were not able to get on the scoreboard and have just one goal in three games this season, all defeats.

RIGHT: Tyler Denison heads into the offensive zone.

Sports

Thunderbirds suffer 1-0 shutout against Bears

HERSHEY, PA – The Springfield Thunderbirds (14-9-2-0) could not solve the top-ranked defense in the AHL, as the Hershey Bears (22-6-0-0) skated off with a narrow 1-0 triumph on Sunday inside Giant Center.

The battle of the Eastern Conference's two best defensive teams lived up to that billing in the opening 20 minutes, as neither Springfield's Malcolm Subban nor Hershey's Hunter Shepard showed nerves in their goal crease. Subban had a trio of high-danger denials off odd-man rushes, including a right-pad kick out on a Jimmy Huntington breakaway. Shepard had his own sterling saves, including a point-blank snapper from Kean Washkurak.

The biggest fireworks of the period came in the form of mitts dropping between former T-Bird Dylan McIlrath and Sam Bitten less than four minutes into the action. The early scrap between two of the toughest customers in the AHL added a big boost to both benches but ultimately did not lead to either team cracking into the scoresheet in the first 20 minutes.

As difficult as it was for the teams to establish in the first, it became even more difficult in

a second period that saw only seven combined shots between the two teams, with Subban stopping four Hershey attempts and Shepard blocking three Springfield offerings, forcing the scoreless draw into a final period.

The game gave every indication that the first goal would be pivotal, and at 5:31 of the third, Pierrick Dube finally got on the board for the Bears, blasting a slapper that glanced off Subban's left shoulder and squeaked across the line just moments before a T-Birds defender could get to the goal line to save it.

The winger's 14th of the season proved to be the only tally, as Springfield could not dent Shepard the rest of the way. Former Bear Jakub Vrana had perhaps the best chance to tie the game on a one-timer from the right circle, but Shepard slid from right to left to deny the chance, and Springfield succumbed to their first shutout defeat of the season. The two teams will have a grudge match on Friday night inside the MassMutual Center as the T-Birds begin a seven-game homestand. Puck drop on Friday is set for 7:05 p.m. for another Deuces Wild Friday.



Shenette declares for modifieds tour

WORCESTER – Driving the No. 8, John-Michael Shenette will chase the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour Rookie of the Year honors in 2024. When the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour begins a 16-race schedule in February at New Smyrna Speedway in Florida, Shenette plans to be in attendance. It will be the first race in his quest to compete in a majority of the races on the schedule to chase the prestigious award.

Formerly based in Thompson, Connecticut, Shenette is the CEO of Eighty-Two Services, a General Contractor located in Concord, North Carolina. The team, Eighty-Two Autosport, will also contest additional SMART Modified Tour and Open Modified events when available in 2024.

Shenette made his debut on the NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour at Langley Speed-

way in 2023 and finished 12th. He also competed in events at North-Wilkesboro Speedway and Martinsville Speedway prior to the end of the season.

"We're excited for 2024," John-Michael Shenette said. "Last year was about putting a car on the track. We struggled with a mechanical issue that plagued us at all three events and prevented us from logging laps. All-in-all, it was a good year - we were able to build a great group, add a second car and square away all the bits and pieces that it takes to run. The NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour is the best of the best in modified racing, if not NASCAR as a whole. Our team is ready for the challenge. Chasing the prestigious Rookie of the Year award is on our bucket list, but we're also looking for consistency and to chase our first career win in Modified in 2024."

Shenette was born in Worcester, and started racing at 7-years-old at Thompson Speedway Motorsports Park's "Little T" track in Connecticut. He's raced on and off his entire life - running in the Pro Stocks, Thompson Modifieds, PASS Super Late Models, ARTS Trucks, Karts and now Tour-Type Modifieds 30 years later.

Shenette and his NASCAR Whelen Modified Tour team, led by crew chief Scott Morin and car chief Stephen Robinson, will open the 2024 season at New Smyrna Speedway on Saturday, February 10, as NASCAR opens their 76th season of racing. For more information on the team, fans are encouraged to follow the team on Facebook on their new page, Eighty-Two Autosport, for the latest news and information, including race day updates.

Worcester Railers fall short to Thunder

GLEN FALLS, NY – The Worcester Railers HC (8-11-2-2, 20pts) fell short to the Adirondack Thunder 13-6-2-1, 29pts), on Saturday night by the final score of 4-1 in front of 3,841 fans for their Teddy Bear Night at the Cool Insuring Arena.

The Thunder extended their win streak to 4 games. The Railers will head back home to face the Trois-Rivières Lions at 5:05 pm on Friday, December 23rd, as one of their three "Home for the Holidays" matchups.

The Thunder scored the first three goals of the game as Patrick Grasso (10th) and Nico Blachman (2nd, 3rd) put Adirondack ahead 3-0 after two. Joey Cipollone tallied his first professional goal on a tip-in out in front before Ryan Smith (11th) gave the Thunder back their three goal lead, and delivered the game's final score of 4-1.

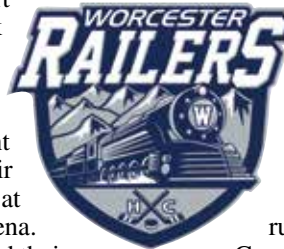
The first period saw a lot of physicality which led to a total of 24 minutes in penalties. It all started with a Rock 'Em Sock

'Em fight toward center ice with Railers forward Jake Schultz

(0-0-0) and Adirondack defenseman Darian Skeoch (0-1-1). Adirondack let the teddy bears fly early in the period after an odd-man rush goal by Patrick Grasso (1-0-1). Grasso received a pass by Grant Jozefek (0-1-1) from across the slot, moving left to right, to beat Henrik Tikkanen on his high glove side. The next goal didn't come until the 16th minute when the Thunder Forward Ryan Smith (1-2-3) placed a low shot on net from in-between the dots on the rush to give a rebound opportunity to Forward Nico Blachman (2-0-2) and beat the outstretched blocker of Henrik Tikkanen. The Thunder lead the period in shots on goal 13-5.

The second period was a lot quieter compared to the first. Henrik Tikkanen made a lot of high-quality saves throughout the period. Blachman and the Thunder would break through, however. After a failed offensive zone entry by the Railers, Adirondack's Forward Erik Middendorf (0-1-1) entered the right half of the Railers' defensive zone slowly and stopped at the top of the circle. He found Blachman crashing towards the net late and blasted it past Henrik Tikkanen's low blocker side from the high slot to make it a 3-0 game with 4:37 left in the period. The Thunder led the period with shots on goal 9-8.

The Railers finally got on the board early in the third period after a blast from the left point by Ryan Verrier (0-1-1) that was then deflected in the slot by Joey Cipollone (1-0-1) for his first professional goal. The Thunder would capitalize on a breakaway opportunity in the middle of the third after Colin Felix's (0-1-1) minor penalty expired. Felix passed the puck up to the speedy Ryan Smith who elevated the puck upstairs where it hit the crossbar, hit a Railers back-checker, and inadvertently ended up in the back of the net to make it 4-1 Thunder. The Thunder led the period in shots on goal 11-9.



Man sentenced for burglary, attempted kidnapping in 2021

AMHERST - A man who broke into an Amherst home in the middle of the night in March of 2021, stole several items, and then attempted to flee the house with a 20-month-old toddler has been sentenced to serve 8-10 years in state prison followed by five years on probation.

Before Hampshire Superior Court Judge James Manitsas, Jimmy Sanchez, 39, of Amherst, pleaded guilty to charges of: kidnapping a child under 16; breaking and entering in nighttime with intent to commit a felony; burglary with assault upon an occupant; stealing in a building; assault and battery; breaking and entering in nighttime with intent to commit a felony; attempted larceny in a building; and two counts larceny under \$1,200.

The incident unfolded in the early hours of March 13, 2021, when Sanchez broke into a Spring St. home in Amherst, according to a press statement from the office of Northwestern District Attorney David E. Sullivan.

"The occupants of the home were awakened, confronted Sanchez, and wrested the toddler from his arms as he attempted to flee the house," the press statement reads. "Sanchez then fled the scene. The toddler sustained minor injuries in the incident. The police arrived shortly afterwards and launched an investigation."

Please see **SENTENCING**, page 12

Follow Turley Sports on Instagram

Turley Publications sports department has recently joined Instagram. You can find our account by searching "turleysports." We will regularly feature samples of photos that you will see in our publications on a weekly basis. Please follow and share with your friends and loved ones. We will be featuring photos from all 11 of our sports sections, but as always, you can see all the photos that appear by subscribing to your local paper or picking up a copy in your community.

Granby Police Logs

Editor's Note: The Granby Police Department responded to 187 calls for the week of Dec. 8 through Dec. 14. Those arrested are presumed innocent until proven guilty in a court of law. The Granby Police Department provides all information.

Friday, Dec. 8

9:31 a.m. – Multiple 911 calls reporting a three-car accident. Granby Police and Fire responded. A South Hadley ambulance was requested as well. Two parties were transported to the hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. An accident report was completed.

Saturday, Dec. 9

12:32 p.m. – While on patrol, an officer performed a random plate query and discovered that the vehicles registration was revoked due to no insurance. The vehicle was stopped and the op-

erator was issued a criminal citation for operating with a revoked registration and no insurance.

6:36 p.m. – Granby Police and Fire responded to a report of a single vehicle that struck a tree. The operator was transported to the hospital with non-life-threatening injuries. An accident report was completed.

Sunday, Dec. 10

2:03 a.m. – Granby Police and Fire responded to a report of a single vehicle that struck a tree. There were no injuries and an accident report was completed.

Tuesday, Dec. 12

9:12 a.m. – A resident reported that someone opened a credit card account in their name and tried to access their Social Security account. An identity theft incident report was completed.

11:37 a.m. – An officer observed a known party operating a motor vehicle with a suspended driver's license. The vehicle was stopped and the operator was issued a criminal citation for operating with a suspended driver's license.

11:37 a.m. – The vehicle from the previous stop struck another vehicle while pulling over causing minor damage. An accident report was completed.

10:56 p.m. – Granby Police and Fire responded to a report of a single vehicle that struck a fence, bushes, and mailboxes. There were no injuries. See next log entry.

11:28 p.m. – Lorenzo Ainslie, 20, of Ludlow, was placed under arrest for operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol, minor possessing alcohol, possessing an open container of alcohol in a motor vehicle and crossing marked

lanes.

Wednesday, Dec. 13

1:49 p.m. – While on patrol, an officer observed a motor vehicle traveling at a high rate of speed. Radar confirmed that the vehicle was traveling at 64MPH in 35MPH zone. The vehicle was stopped and the operator was issued a civil citation for speeding.

8:46 p.m. – A resident reported that someone ordered a phone utilizing their personal information but had it delivered to an abandoned residence. An incident report was completed.

Thursday, Dec. 14

9:49 a.m. – A resident came to the station to a report a fraudulent transaction. An incident report was completed.

Granby High School announces first quarter Honor Roll

GRANBY - Granby Jr./Sr. High School has congratulated the following students, who have achieved Honor Roll for the first quarter of the 2023-2024 school year.

Seventh Grade Maximum Honors

Allisandra Crowley, Jocelyn Curran, Andrew Grabherr, Addison Hill, Jack Krupski, Natalie Parent, Macie Pelletier, Mia Smith, Marcella Tapia, Zachary Vega, Kara White 7 th Grade High Honors – William Ariza, Rowan Cook, Eli Hunter, Arianna Mislak, Marley Skipton, Avery Tip-ton-Wolmart

Seventh Grade Honors

Honor DeCarlo, Audree Flowers, Ruby Murdza, Scott Parsons, Stella Siudak, Kaylee Vincelette, Jonathan Vulpe

Eighth Grade Maximum Honors

Gianna Capone, Noah Chambers, Ralph El Aouji, Vitaly Gavel, Adrien Harrington, Chase Hauschild, Analise Huertas, Sophia Labonte, Colin Sicard, Kaelynn Slapski, Richard Sweet, Isabella Tetreault 8 th Grade High Honors - Abigail Esquivel, Aiden Gardner, Wyatt Kennedy, Emma

Murphy

Eighth Grade Honors

Emery Baldwin, Liam Baldwin, Lauren Barlow, Makayla Dennis, Henri Dufault, Amelia Gardner, Abigail LaDuke, Liam McKinnon, Isaac Simpson, Kaileen Smith, Rayden Sok, James Vulpe, Jacob Weglarz, Carli Zobka

Ninth Grade Maximum Honors

Meredith Bartosz, Brenna Moreno, Lauren Piercey, Eleanor Szlosek, Kalli White 9th Grade High Honors - Tessa Healey, Madelyn LaPointe, Lydia Pike, Jaidyn Roberge, Nathan Walsh

Ninth Grade Honors

Daniel Brown, Sydney Chateaufneuf, Kyrsten Gaj, Morgan Justin 10th Grade Maximum Honors – Kaitlyn Curran, Benjamin French, Braeden Gallagher, Keith Patterson

Tenth Grade High Honors

Emma Beaulieu, Allison Charron, Angenice Cortes, Quinn Fuller, Daniel Hackert, Maxwell Kennedy, Mylin Laliberte,

Scarlett LaRose, Faith Ramos, Addison Scott, Blake Swett, Isabella Woods

Tenth Grade Honors

Richard Beaulieu, Angelina Fuentes, Durant Garden, Braydon LaDuke, Jared Lapite, Daniel Santiago, Stephen Szlosek Eleventh Grade Maximum

Jena Abbott, Nathan Benson, Margaret Crawford, Cassandra Flaherty, Cole Fuller, Gavin Kennedy, Alexis Lapite, Cheyenne Laramee, Cameron LeBlanc, Ava McFarland, Autumn Sicard, Austin Smith

Eleventh Grade High Honors

Raymond Colon, John Crawford, Bear Lacharite, Gavin Moreno, Jonathan O'Connor, Emma Parsons, Stewart Szlosek 11th Grade Honors – Junior Alcantara Garc-es, Xavier Arroyo, Aiden Beach, Quinlin

Cook, Brianna Houghton, Lydia Kicza, Justin Merced, Jaedyn Pike, Olah Roller, Ava Saunders, Maxwell Seymour, Cody White 12th Grade Maximum – Zachary Auclair, Chloe Castro, Andrew Feldman, Jessica Holubowich, Cindy Kusumo, Tia Looney, Thomas Merced, Phillip Silchuk

Twelfth Grade High Honors

Sara Lessard, Neil Lindberg, Kam-dyn Lopez, Connor McDonell Brandon Menard, Margaret O'Connor, David Silchuk, Noel Summerlin

Twelfth Grade Honors

Ciara Charest, Brandie Dumais, Rhea Gagnon, Sophia Gagnon, Nicolas Grand-mont, Peyton Justin, Nikolas Misiaszek, Maya Nott, Corey Rondeau, Grace Roy, Emily Tremblay



Submitted Photo

PVPA students were able to act out roles in the justice system.

Students participate in mock trials

SOUTH HADLEY—The Pioneer Valley Performing Arts Charter Public School’s middle school students were transformed into trial lawyers recently as they presented their case before Judge Nielsen at the Holyoke Juvenile Court-house.

Following ten weeks of participating in the Discovering Justice Program, where they studied the justice system and learned about legal advocacy and their rights, students acted out the roles of prosecution and defense in a fictional case involving a student suspension, Tik-Tok and a school’s anti-bullying policy. A volunteer jury composed of PVPA family members, faculty and staff decided the case based on the presentation of facts, and the group celebrated afterwards with a pizza party for participants and family.

The Discovering Justice’s Mock Trial

Program at PVPA was mentored by PVPA History Teacher and Mock Trial Coach Gary Huggett, with support from volunteer Judge MaryLou Rup. The participants met after school for 10 weeks to explore the judicial system, analyze a legal case, and practice the civic skills needed to persuasively argue their case in court. They were also supported by high school students who are currently on PVPA’s Mock Trial team, including two alumni of the Discovering Justice Program.

PVPA’s Mock Trial team has a strong winning history, having won the western region of the statewide competition every year since 2000, continuing on to states every year and placing second statewide for the past two years. PVPA students can audition for the Mock Trial Team beginning in 9th grade.

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
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60					61				62		63		
64					65						66		
67					68						69		

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Droops
- 5. Subatomic particle
- 10. Not in danger
- 14. Nursemaid
- 15. Black band worn in mourning
- 16. Long song in opera
- 17. Edible seed of a Philippine tree
- 18. Chicago political family
- 19. Pursues pleasure from one place to another
- 20. Appetizer
- 22. Hill (Celtic)
- 23. Simple shoe
- 24. Songs to one you love
- 27. Secret activities
- 30. Upset
- 31. Popular hot drink
- 32. Body art (slang)
- 35. Fired
- 37. Blood relation
- 38. Identical
- 39. Porticos
- 40. Partner to cheese
- 41. Type of sword
- 42. Enough (archaic)
- 43. Surface layer of ground
- 44. Cotton fabric woven like satin
- 45. Choose for a post
- 46. Father
- 47. Tell on
- 48. Indian title of respect
- 49. Fonts
- 52. Fencing sword
- 55. Mock
- 56. Vaccine developer
- 60. Atmosphere surrounding a person or place
- 61. Marten with a short tail
- 63. Chinese temple
- 64. Invests in little enterprises
- 65. Popular cut of meat
- 66. Charity
- 67. Iron-containing compound
- 68. River in Northern Europe
- 69. One point east of southeast

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Exhausts
- 2. Genus of fish related to gars
- 3. Impudent behavior
- 4. Adherents to Islam
- 5. They come after A
- 6. Spoke
- 7. Room to receive guests
- 8. About opera
- 9. End-blown flute
- 10. Heroic tales
- 11. Member of a Semitic people
- 12. Dog's name
- 13. Opposite of west
- 21. Political divisions in ancient Greece
- 23. Ocean
- 25. Cool!
- 26. Young woman about to enter society
- 27. One from central Caucasus
- 28. Indian city
- 29. A way to serve ice cream
- 32. Emaciation
- 33. Escort aircraft carrier
- 34. Italian city
- 36. Mythical settler of Kansas
- 37. Unhappy
- 38. High schoolers' test
- 40. Measured in pace
- 41. Satisfies
- 43. Gullible person
- 44. Enclosed space
- 46. Substance used to color something
- 47. Shirt type
- 49. Discover by investigation
- 50. ___-Castell, makers of pens
- 51. Semitic Sun god
- 52. Grads wear one
- 53. French river
- 54. Part of a cap
- 57. Digestive fluid
- 58. Metrical foot
- 59. Body part
- 61. Very fast airplane
- 62. Supplement with difficulty

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Education



Submitted Photo

Kayla Roy of South Hadley was inducted into Western New England University's Chapter of Epsilon Iota Honor Society.

South Hadley resident inducted into WNEC's Epsilon Iota

SOUTH HADLEY - Epsilon Iota, the Western New England University chapter of Rho Chi Pharmacy Honor Society, celebrated the induction of nine members from the PY3 Pharmacy Class at an event held on Nov. 16.

South Hadley Resident Kayla Roy was among those inducted.

The Rho Chi Society, established in 1922, is an international honor society "dedicated to fostering high scholastic achievement, fellowship among students in pharmacy, and the promotion of

pharmaceutical sciences," according to a press statement.

"Western New England University's College of Pharmacy prepares students for their role of 'Pharmacist as Educator.' The cross-disciplinary approach to teaching includes the theoretical and practical aspects of pharmacy, and also promotes the development of leadership, professionalism, advocacy, and a commitment to community service," a press statement reads.



Submitted Photo

AIC students are inducted into Psi Chi, the International Honor Society of Psychology, during a ceremony on campus on Nov. 30.

Local students among those inducted into AIC Psychology Honor Society

GRANBY - Two residents were among the eighteen AIC students recently inducted into Psi Chi, the International Honor Society of Psychology.

The induction ceremony was held in the AIC Campus Center on Nov. 30; Lauren Hartling and Nora Young are both Granby residents.

"The college recently reinstated its chapter of one of the largest honor societies in the country. Psi Chi was found-

ed and 1929 with a mission to recognize and promote excellence in the science and application of psychology. To be inducted into Psi Chi is an esteemed honor," a press statement reads. "Students must be in the top 35 percent of their class, have a major or minor in psychology, and have excelled in their psychology courses."

"Congratulations to these students, their professors, and chapter advisers," the press statement reads.

SENTENCING from page 8

Sanchez was arrested the following day inside a laboratory on the UMass Amherst campus, attempting to steal a laptop. In an interview with Amherst Police, he admitted to stealing items from the home, said he took the baby as a way to escape the house without harm to himself or others, and stated that he had no desire to

harm the child. During the investigation, police also discovered Sanchez had taken items from other homes in the area leading to additional charges. Sanchez was initially arraigned in Eastern Hampshire District Court on March 15, 2021, subsequently indicted and arraigned in Hampshire Superior Court on March 28, 2021. He has been held without bail since.

In court, Northwestern Assistant Dis-

trict Attorney Matthew Russo recommended a sentence of 10-12 years in state prison followed by five years on probation. Defense attorney Daniel Solomon recommended a sentence of 4-5 years in state prison followed by probation. While on probation, Sanchez will have to undergo a mental health evaluation and follow any recommended treatment, stay away from the victims and their residences, and

stay off the UMass Amherst campus.

"We are pleased with the outcome of today's hearing. The significant state prison sentence provides justice to the victims in the wake of an unthinkable incident," ADA Russo said. "We hope that they can regain a sense of safety in the community and that this brings some closure from which they can begin to move forward."

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