

# TOWN Reminder

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## 'Great way to end the year'

South Hadley welcomes Asst. Principal

By Samuel Gelinas  
Correspondent

SOUTH HADLEY - Days before Christmas, South Hadley High School Principal Elizabeth Wood joined the School Committee meeting for the announcement of the town's new assistant principal, a hiring that Interim Superintendent Mark McLaughlin called "a great way to end the year."

*"We couldn't ask for a better candidate."*

ELIZABETH WOOD,  
High School Principal

"The high school had a successful assistant principal search, and we are really, really pleased to welcome Mary Bonavita as our new assistant principal at the high school," Wood said.

In mid-November, a special town meeting voted in favor of allocating \$61,000 for the creation of this position, with the hope that this will be a cost-effective way to reduce violence at the high school, which has sparked attention this year. The position has been established to provide an additional layer of support to students and staff; Bonavita's first day of work will be after the Christmas break.

Both Wood and McLaughlin offered their praise for Bonavita.

"We couldn't ask for a better candidate," Wood said.

McLaughlin shared that Bonavita was chosen from a long list of "good candidates," adding that "Mary was the one who rose to the top."

McLaughlin said this selection will not only be valuable for South Hadley, but also benefit the entire district. Expressing his gratitude, McLaughlin noted the efforts of the School Committee, Town Administrator Lisa Wong, and the Selectboard in "allowing us this opportunity to restore that position," and also thanked Wood for her efforts in spearheading the hiring process.

## Year in Review 2023

### Notable stories from 2023

As another year nears its conclusion, we reflect back on those stories that defined 2023. Here is a timeline of the community's most-important stories from the year, from breaking news, the schools, town government, events, and more.

#### January:

#### A magical start to 2023

Noah West, 2, of South Hadley, built his first snowman after the snow stopped in the beginning of January.



### Return of in-person author events brings renewed energy to Odyssey



SOUTH HADLEY - The packed schedule of authors making appearances at Odyssey Bookshop at the beginning of the year brought a renewed sense of energy and excitement to the authors and readers alike.

After having to hold most author events remotely over the last couple of years due to COVID-19, the staff at the bookstore is thrilled to be offering in-person events again.

"In-person events are more exciting, the attendees have more discussion with the authors, and both authors and attendees are energized by coming together in person," said Robin Glossner, adult events coordinator for Odyssey Bookshop. "There really is no substitute for it."

## Voters approve West Street building project

By Melina Bourdeau  
Correspondent

GRANBY - Voters approved a \$5.6 million project to renovate the former West Street School building to be used as municipal offices at the town's Special Town Meeting.

During the meeting, members of the West Street Building Committee spoke to the advantages of the project, which will use 44,000 square feet for existing and potential use for the town offices.

Committee member Micheline Turgeon said the building is currently being used for storage and the town insures the building for \$23,000 annually.

One of the reasons for the project is due to the fact the town is renting the Town Hall Annex building for \$25,000 annually and has 18 months to determine what to do with the offices within the building since the property owner is seeking to sell it.

The town is set to use \$1.8 million in ARPA funds, \$1.4 million in unspent prior general fund articles and \$2.3 million in unspent capital project articles.

The cost of the project includes installation and/or repairs of a sprinkler/fire protection system, windows and doors, the HVAC system, a water system and PCB and asbestos removal. The funding also covers Owners Project Manager's fees, designer/engineer fees and contingency, according to the future of the West Street building document on the town's website.

There are cost variables including the removal of an underground oil tank and the removal of universal waste and hazardous waste from the building.

However, the benefits of the projects outweigh the risks of higher cost items, according to the voters.

Turgeon said the savings of maintaining one building versus three for maintenance, plowing, heating and more is worth it as

Please see **VOTERS**, page 2

## 'Know Your Town' hosting events to meet candidates for local offices

SOUTH HADLEY - Know Your Town will host two events for the public to meet and learn more about candidates for local offices in the 2024 Annual Town Election on Tuesday, March 5, 2024.

The town election, which usu-

ally occurs in April, will coincide with the Massachusetts Presidential Primary Election. Know Your Town (KYT) is a local, nonpartisan organization that works to inform residents about local affairs, according to a press release.

"Mark your calendars and

plan to come and get to know the people seeking to serve our community," the group released.

#### Local Candidates Mee + Sign Event

Saturday, Jan. 6, 2024, from 10-11:30 a.m.  
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. To be on the ballot, candidates must collect signatures from local registered voters, who are not obli-

gated 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.

Please see **TOWN**, page 2

# Council On Aging: January is 'Diversity Month'

SOUTH HADLEY – The town's Council on Aging has announced January as "Diversity Month" in addition to several upcoming events:

## Diversity: Embrace it, share it, celebrate it!

Friday, Jan. 5, at 1:30 p.m.

Meet the Artist: Diego F. Salazar was born in rural Columbia in 1980. At the age of 18, he moved to New Jersey. Not knowing any English, he worked many jobs until in 2020, at which point a friend encouraged him to discover painting.

"Diego found his true passion for abstract-surreal art. He is inspired by many famous artists, such as Peter Max and Van Gogh," the COA released. "He also credits many local artists for providing him the support and courage to show his work today."

## Northeast Woodland American Indian Culture: "yesterday and today"

Thursday, Jan. 10, at 1:30 p.m.

Jenner Lee is enrolled with the Metis Nation of North America and the Northern Narragansetts. She grew up without knowledge of her Indian ancestry. She has spent her adult life learning and sharing the true history and culture of Northeast Woodland indigenous peoples.

## Puerto Rican cuisine

Tuesday, Jan. 16, 4:30 p.m.

South Hadley High School's Culinary Department, under the direction of Chef Adam Popp, present a dinner of Puerto Rican cuisine with cooking collaborations from local chefs. There will be a performance at 5:30 p.m. by Bomba De Aqui, a music company that performs and teaches Afro-Puerto Rican traditions throughout western Massachusetts and central Connecticut.

"Bomba De Aqui is directed by Brendaliz Cepeda. Brenda is the granddaughter of the great Bomba performer Rafeal Ceped and learned the art and its history in her family, first appearing on stage at the age of five," the COA released. "Their musical director (and Brendaliz's husband), Saul Penalosa is a well-known percussionist. Other ensemble performers include professional musicians, teachers, and skilled community members."

## Chinese Mahjong

Wednesday, Jan. 17, at 2 p.m.

Learn some Chinese Mahjong with the students and join them for a cookie social.

## Wofa Drum and Dance

Friday, Jan. 26, at 1 p.m.

Join for "a wonderful performance by Wofa," a West African Drum and Dance Company founded in 2009 by Alpha Kabisko Kaba at PVPA in South Hadley.

## Language with MacDuffie students

Wednesday, Jan. 31, at 2 p.m.

Learn some conversational language from the international students of MacDuffie School in Granby and then socialize with them over ice cream.

## New classes for the new year:

Beginning German Language: Mondays, 1 p.m.

Open Dance Party with Liz and Lucia: Mondays, 3:15 p.m. – 4:15 p.m.

Oil and Acrylic painting with Christiane: Wednesdays, 9:30 a.m. – noon

Genealogy Research and Discovery with Pat: Fridays beginning Jan. 12, 10:30 a.m.

Beginner Watercolor Bootcamp (Cost is \$3): Fridays, 9:30 a.m. – noon

## South Hadley Public Library

### Adult Programming

Are you a dissectologist - who is a person who derives great pleasure in solving jigsaw puzzles?

We have a Jigsaw Puzzle Swap

on Sat., Jan 13 at 10 am in the Community Room.

Starting January 2nd, you can drop off your puzzles of 500 or more and get a ticket that shows how many you dropped off. Then the morning of come and get new to you puzzles! Line up will be first come first served with tickets.

We have a few virtual programs this month that you can participate and watch from home - all warm and cozy -

Wed., Jan 17 at 6 pm via zoom enjoy "Notre-Dame: Arising from the Ashes."

Learn about the rebuilding of one of the most famous landmarks in Paris, France the Notre-Dame cathedral. Follow the developments on the restoration efforts as they continue around the clock! Sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/yeadvr28>, or on our website at [shadleylib.org](https://shadleylib.org), or call 413-538-5045 to register.

On Wed., Jan 24 at 6 pm via zoom participate in "Reset Your Daily Schedule for Wellness."

Kristen Herlihy is a psychologist and health coach. She will give you techniques and tools on how to integrate driven wellness into your day, while getting rid of emotional cluttering! This program is a benefit to anyone starting a new routine for the new year. Sign up at <https://tinyurl.com/52tkphwu>, on our website at [shadleylib.org](https://shadleylib.org), or call 413-538-5045 to register.

### Ongoing Programming

Tuesday Night Knitting Group  
Tuesdays 6 pm – 8 pm  
Trustees Room

Join the library's Tuesday Night Knitters for some quality knitting and crocheting time. All skill levels are welcome.

Hello Sunshine Book Club  
First Wednesday Evenings of the Month at 7:30 pm  
Trustees Room

A book discussion group focusing on selections from Reese Witherspoon's Hello Sunshine book club.

Gatehouse Writer's Group (Online Writing Group)  
Every Friday Online via Zoom from 10 am – Noon

Contact Linda Rowland-Buckley at [rowbuc1998@gmail.com](mailto:rowbuc1998@gmail.com). Our library writing group, the Gatehouse Writing group, the Gatehouse Writers, is a supportive peer-led environment open to all levels and styles. The group philosophy is a simple one: every person is a writer, and every writer deserves a safe environment in which to experiment, learn and develop their craft. This group is led by Linda Rowland-Buckley and Richard Buckley.

Mahjong at the Library

First and Third Friday's of the Month from 1 pm – 4 pm  
For experienced Players

Spanish Conversation Circle  
3rd Saturdays of the Month at 10:30 am

An opportunity for Spanish speakers to practice their language skills. Participants should have some basic conversational skills to join the group. This is NOT a language class.

## SOUTH HADLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY

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## VOTERS from page 1

well as having a building large enough to suite the town's needs.

"We need a plan for our future and start kicking the can down the road," she said. "It is our opinion that this project will present the town with a building that is completely free of hazardous material, capable housing all existing offices, storage of all documents and records in one location capability of housing additional office space for town growth, capable of conducting town elections and town meetings, providing a safe location for seniors and all their needs, make it easier for companies and contractors to conduct business in town."

One important aspect of the project, which was described by Finance Committee Chair John J. Libera Jr. as four projects wrapped into one, is the removal of a single wall oil tank.

"That's the first thing they're going to do before they do anything else is start drilling holes around to find out whether or not there's any leakage from that tank," he said.

The second, third and fourth parts, so to speak, are the relocation of the offices from the Town Hall Annex building, consolidation of all the offices in one place in Granby and using funds that were already allocated by the town rather than having to raise taxes.

Resident Heather Howes asked if the oil tank project was more expensive than the town anticipated, what would happen to the funding.

"Are these funds then allocated all towards the oil tank is it stopped and then there's another vote?" she asked.

West Street Building Committee member Kevin O'Grady said yes, and "then we'll come back and say okay, this is what we cost for the tank and see what we have left and try to do what we can with the project or start back at square one."

Resident David LaPlante asked where the funding would come from for the offices.

Turgeon answered that the offices will be moving their own furniture.

"We just have to renovate the room itself. Like I said, light, paint, what is required and maybe some walls or

space like that, but they're bringing other things with them," she said.

In opposition of the project included proposals to use request the residents propose ARPA projects and use the ARPA funding for the oil tank removal.

There were questions regarding using funds for the Granby Jr. Sr. High School, but members of the Finance Committee said if the town were to spend over 30 percent project fund limitation that would trigger state requirements to renovate the building to become ADA compliant.

There was an attempt to amend the article made by resident Lisa Petraglia, who proposed using the ARPA funds to remove the oil tank and hire a designer.

Town Moderator Lynn Mercier said the amendment was outside of the scope of the project and outside the description, so it couldn't be considered.

Discussion on the project was ended after a resident proposed calling the questions and voters approved the article with a simple majority.

## TOWN from page 1

### Annual Town Election Candidates Night

Thursday, Feb. 22, 2024, from 6-8 p.m.

Community Room, South Hadley Library, 2 Canal St.

KYT's annual Candidates Night forum "provides a unique opportunity to hear from those seeking Town Offices, either for re-election or as new candidates." Candidates will introduce themselves and respond to moderator questions from audience submissions. The public is invited to

attend in-person, or to view the program live at Channel 15 or online at their website.

The event is also recorded and available for viewing later at: [shctv15.com](https://shctv15.com).

Candidate information is requested by KYT and details provided are published at: [www.knowyourtown.org/election-info/meet-the-candidates](http://www.knowyourtown.org/election-info/meet-the-candidates).

The polls will be open on March 5, 2024, from 7 a.m. – 8 p.m. for in-person voting on election day, and all precincts vote at South Hadley High School, 153 Newton St. In-person early voting will be avail-

able between February 24 and March 1, 2024. Voting-by-Mail will also be available, and the last day to apply for a mail-in ballot is Tuesday, February 27, 2024 at 5 p.m., according to Know Your Town.

For details: [www.southhadley.org/elections](http://www.southhadley.org/elections).

Saturday, Feb. 24, 2024, is the last day to register to vote in the March 5, 2024, elections, and the Town Clerk's office will be open that day from 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. Or, visit [www.VoteInMA.com](http://www.VoteInMA.com) to check or update your registration, register to vote, or track your returned mail-in ballot.

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Submitted photo

A visitor to the South Hadley Senior Center uses one of the LED full-page magnifiers. Those devices and audio amplifying units are available at the center and town offices to help residents, particularly seniors, with vision and hearing issues.

## Town uses grant to equip public spaces with audio, visual aids

SOUTH HADLEY — Nearly 25 percent of the town's population is 65 or older and with that in mind, officials found ways in February to make it easier for those experiencing age-related issues to access services and programs.

As part of the Age and Dementia Friendly South Hadley initiative, Emergency Management/Health Director Sharon Hart leveraged a Public Health Excellence Grant from the state to purchase auditory and visual aids available in town buildings,

including the Senior Center, where the audio units can be used on-site or checked out to use at home or elsewhere.

The audio units are a sound amplifier that can be used with a headset or earbuds and the full-page LED magnifiers enlarge and brighten printed material, such as documents or books. The magnifiers cost \$110 each and the audio devices are \$180 per unit.

"It's a small price to pay to assist those in our community," Hart said.

# Year in Review 2023

## February:

### Teacher contracts ratified

SOUTH HADLEY — Amy Foley, representing the South Hadley Education Association, said she was happy to report to the School Committee at its Feb. 2 meeting, that all contract agreements were ratified.

However, she said nearly half of the school district's teachers voted against ratification.

"As you know, in a year in a half, we'll be sitting down again to negotiate our next contract. And unfortunately, the fact that 46 percent of the teachers voted against the current agreement tells me that the next time around the settlement needs to be much improved," Foley said in February.

"We need to begin now to work together to secure what is best for our students in South Hadley and that is to keep, and get, the best educators.



### Council on Aging brings new light to senior's lives

SOUTH HADLEY — The Council on Aging, located at 45 Dayton St., is unlike any other around. Many may see the events that are going on every week at the center and feel underwhelmed. After all, how much fun can a senior center really be?

Well, Sandy Farnsworth argued that the Council on Aging is what you make it.

"We have tons of events that happen every week here," said Farnsworth. Handmade quilts lined the clean walls of the center as she walked down the halls.

"This room is where we have our movie nights, we have popcorn and snacks," said Farnsworth as she pulled down the huge movie screen and pointed

to a projector, really giving folks the full movie theatre experience.

Just down the hall is the fitness room. Colored bright green with floor-to-ceiling mirrors on the walls and kept cool year-round, this room is home to many different events.

"We have yoga and even a lady who comes in and teaches a drumming class," said Farnsworth.

For those who prefer a more relaxed activity, the billiards room would be the perfect place. Even sporting bar-style lights, this room holds three billiards tables and is open each day for anyone to come and play.



We want to thank all of our friends and clients for their support in 2023 and wish them a Happy, Healthy and Prosperous New Year!

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# Opinion



## Are spousal benefits always a factor?

**Dear Rusty:**

Both my wife and I have worked our entire lives.

When we retire, will we both be entitled to full benefit amount each or will there always be a spousal factor in there? Also, how are those benefits calculated – based on your highest salaries throughout your career, or your ending salaries when you retire?

*Signed: Looking Ahead*

**Dear Looking:**

Prior to retiring from work is a smart time to investigate how Social Security will fit into your golden years. To answer your second question first, each person's personal SS retirement benefit is based on the highest earning 35 years over their entire lifetime, with earlier years adjusted for inflation.

The person's Average Indexed Monthly Earnings, essentially the person's lifetime average inflation-adjusted monthly earnings amount, is first determined.

Using AIME, the person's Primary Insurance Amount is calculated using a special benefit formula which will yield a PIA of about 40% or less of the person's AIME. The PIA is the amount received if benefits start in the month full retirement age or "FRA" is attained, as you can see, Social Security likes acronyms.

Since you and your wife were both born after 1959, FRA for both of you is 67. The age when you claim benefits, relative to your FRA, determines how much you'll get. Claim before FRA and your benefit is reduced; claim after your FRA and your SS retirement benefit will be more (up to age 70 when maximum is reached); claim at your FRA and your benefit will equal your PIA – the full (100%) amount you've earned from a lifetime of working.

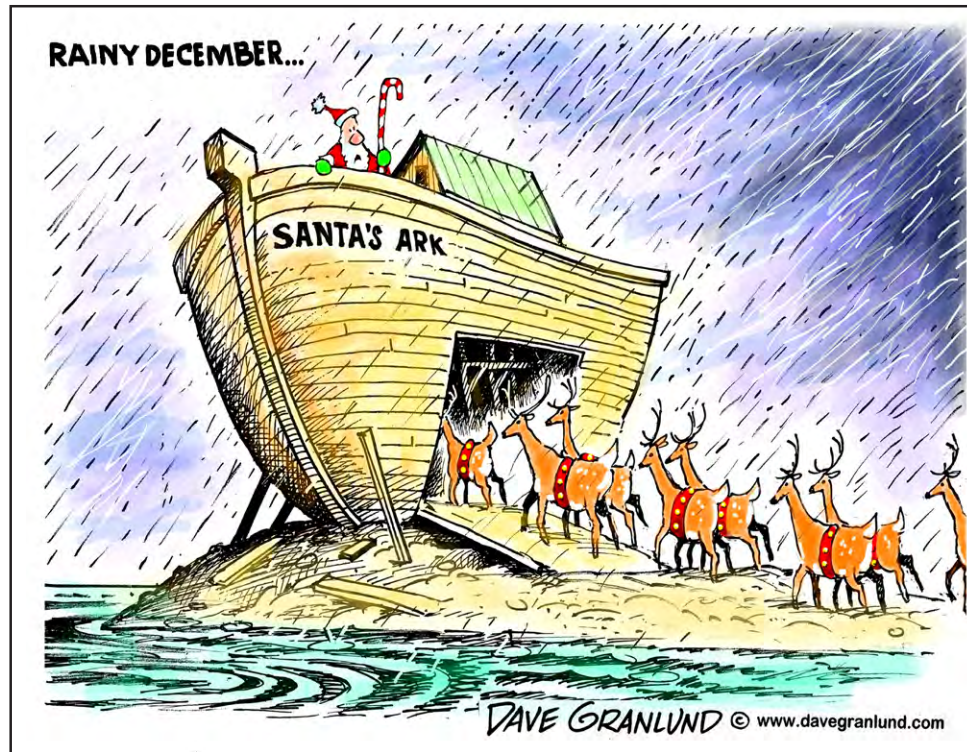
Spouse benefits only come into play if the PIA for one of you is less than 50% of the other's PIA. In that case, the spouse with the lower PIA gets a "spousal boost" to their own SS retirement benefit when claimed.

The amount of the "spousal boost" will be the difference between the lower PIA and half of the higher PIA, but the amount of the "spousal boost" (as well as the person's own SS retirement amount) will be reduced if benefits are claimed before full retirement age. Any time SS benefits are claimed before full retirement age, those benefits are permanently reduced.

If one spouse is entitled to a "spousal boost" from the other, the spousal amount will reach maximum at the recipient's full retirement age. Thus, if the lower earning partner's highest benefit will be as a spouse, then that spouse should not wait beyond their FRA to claim. If, instead, the lower earning partner's own SS benefit at age 70 is more than their spousal amount, waiting longer than FRA to claim could be prudent, depending on life expectancy.

So, as you can see, deciding when to claim Social Security benefits should consider many things, including financial need, work status if claiming before FRA, marital status and life expectancy. But it is your lifetime earnings which determines your SS retirement benefit amount, and it is how your FRA entitlements compare to each other that determines whether spousal benefits will be paid.

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



## Hamilton on Foreign Policy

### Kissinger left complex foreign policy legacy

Possibly no one had more influence on American foreign policy in the late 20th century than Henry Kissinger, who died last month at age 100. In his long and active career, he advised presidents, carried out policies and initiatives, and was a highly visible figure around the world.

While it's early to pronounce judgment on his legacy, it's clear that his impact is deeply mixed. His accomplishments were both positive and negative. He was respected and he was reviled.

Kissinger is the only person to have served as national security adviser and secretary of state at the same time, positions he held in the Nixon and Ford administrations. He was brilliant and secretive, and he wasn't much focused on the human cost of his policies.

He was interested in strategy, not values. He showed little interest in democratic governance or transparency. A creature of the executive branch, he seemed to almost scorn the idea of three separate and coequal branches of government.

You sometimes got the impression he had contempt for Congress.

I was not close to Kissinger, but our paths did cross on foreign policy matters. I served in Congress, and we approached policy from different perspectives. Coincidentally, we were both connected to the commission that investigated the 9/11 attacks.

Kissinger was the original pick to chair the group, and former Sen. George Mitchell was to be vice chair. Both stepped down because of perceived conflicts of interest.

Former New Jersey Gov. Tom Kean chaired the 9/11 Commission, and I was vice chair.

Kissinger's view of the world, which he characterized as sober realism, may have been influenced by his background as a Jew who spent his childhood in Nazi Germany, before his family fled and settled in New York. He was a very talented man and, wherever he went, in academic, policy circles and government, he rose to power very quickly.

In the 1970s, Kissinger was widely praised for his diplomatic work. When he was named secretary of state in 1973, a Gallup Poll found him to be the most respected man in the world.

He engineered President Richard Nixon's historic visit to China in 1972, opening



Courtesy of the Wells Library Lee Hamilton Photo Collection  
**Rep. Lee H. Hamilton is shown shaking hands with Secretary of State Henry Kissinger in this circa 1969 photo; with Rep. William Broomfield in the background.**

the door to improved U.S.-Chinese relations and ultimately reshaping the geopolitical map. He promoted détente with the Soviet Union, helping to reduce Cold War tensions.

In the Middle East, his tireless shuttle diplomacy improved relations between Israel and its neighbors. These were real accomplishments.

Kissinger shared the 1973 Nobel Peace Prize for negotiating the agreement that ended the Vietnam War. His critics found that highly ironic.

During the war, Kissinger orchestrated the U.S. bombing and invasion of Cambodia, which expanded the conflict and fueled a civil war that eventually brought the Khmer Rouge to power, resulting in up to three million deaths. The Cambodia disaster was Exhibit No. 1 for critics who accused Kissinger of war crimes, but he was also tied to a brutal military coup in Chile, Indonesia's bloody invasion of East Timor, a violent civil war in East Pakistan and other foreign policy disasters.

Kissinger later had a lucrative career in consulting. He clearly enjoyed being a celebrity, rubbing elbows with rich and powerful people and being photographed with glamorous women.

He became a great figure on the social circuit in Washington. Getting Kissinger to attend your dinner was a big achievement.

Henry Kissinger left quite a stamp on American foreign policy. He was a master of developing strategy and exercising power.

But American greatness isn't just about using force and gaining advantage. It also relies on our faith in democratic governance and our belief in human rights and the dignity of all people.

There's a place for sober realism, but American foreign policy should be grounded in our values.

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

## OPINION PAGE/ LETTERS POLICY

Letters to the Editor have a maximum of 350 words. We require writers to include their name, address and phone number in order for our office to authenticate authorship prior to publication. Addresses and phone numbers are not published.

Unsigned or anonymous letters will NOT be published.

We reserve the right to edit or withhold any submissions. Libelous, unsubstantiated allegations, personal attacks or defamation of character are not allowed. Deadline for submissions is Wednesday at noon.

Please email (preferred) letters to [townreminder@turley.com](mailto:townreminder@turley.com). Mailed letters can be sent to Town Reminder, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069.

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# Year in Review 2023

## March:



Jane Samlall and Esme Okraska-Helm as Elsa and Anna.



Nora Proulx and Elena Carpentier as young Anna and Elsa.

(Courtesy Photos by Stefani Holmes)

## MESMS brings 'Frozen' to life

SOUTH HADLEY – After months of hard work, rehearsals, and set building, the Michael E. Smith Middle School drama club presented "Frozen Jr." in March.

Under the direction of Ste-

fani Holmes and Dr. Theodore Blaisdell, the cast of 60 middle school students have worked since early fall to stage the production.

"I'm looking forward to the magic on stage," said Holmes

in March. "It's always a joy to see these kids take the risk to audition, try something new, go on stage in front of 400 people and wow them. They surprise themselves at what they can do, and we are so proud of them!"

## Vietnam War veterans honored with ceremony



Brian Willette, commander of the South Hadley American Legion Post 260, speaks during a ceremony to honor Vietnam War veterans at the South Hadley Public Library.

SOUTH HADLEY – In March, the South Hadley Public Library opened its doors for a solemn gathering to honor all veterans who served in the Vietnam War, and especially to remember the native sons from South Hadley, and those six from Western Massachusetts who still remain missing in action. An empty chair, draped in a cloth emblazoned with MIA represented their absence.

The evening's annual commemoration of Vietnam War Veterans Day was significantly amplified since this year it coincides with the 50th anniversary of the American Armed Forces final departure from Vietnam, and the return of the POWs who had been held captive throughout that long conflict.

Several groups participated in observing this special conjunction by offering their remembrances, expressions of gratitude, or physical tributes. Representatives from the South Hadley American Legion Post 260, the South Hadley Sons of the American Legion, the South Hadley Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3104 and The Military Order of the Purple Heart were all present.

## April:

## Fire District 1's salary budget fails at annual meeting

SOUTH HADLEY – In the spring, at Fire District 1's annual meeting, district taxpayers voted down the funding of salaries for the Department's firefighters and EMT/paramedics.

Fire Chief Robert Authier said the decision made at the April 27 meeting isn't just concerning for District 1 staff, but also for residents of South Had-

ley and neighboring communities.

"We're a very busy Department," Authier said. "Our call volume has gone up every year."

Last year alone, the department responded to over 3,000 calls for emergency service including mutual aid. Many of those mutual aid calls were for advanced life support.



South Hadley won an award from the Massachusetts Council on Aging.

## South Hadley wins dementia-friendly award

SOUTH HADLEY – On April 4, the Senior Center held an Age and Dementia-friendly Kick-off Forum that would've inspired a sharp salute from the likes of Teepa Snow, the well-known dementia specialist.

At the meeting, South Hadley received an official designation as a dementia-friendly commu-

nity, joining the more than 160 other towns currently in Massachusetts.

"This is a certificate of recognition," said Patty Sullivan, leader of the Dementia Friendly Massachusetts initiative, as she presented the award to South Hadley Town Administrator Lisa Wong.

## Education

### Local student makes Syracuse dean's list

SOUTH HADLEY – Resident John Gauthier, a sophomore at Syracuse University, has made the School of Engineering dean's list for the third straight semester. Gauthier is majoring in Aero-

space Engineering with a minor in Math, and has a GPA of 3.938. He is also a member of the AIAA. Currently, he is pursuing internships for the coming summer.

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**April:**

# Year in Review 2023



Turley Publications, Photo by Matty Anderson

## Gaylord library art exhibit's 'the art of book covers'

Professor Lisa Iglesias's Painting 1 class is displaying their artwork at Gaylord Library of Mount Holyoke College. Each painting depicts a replication of a book cover chosen by the artist. Their paintings and the respective books will be on display until September.

**May:**

## Prough is Volunteer of the Year

**SOUTH HADLEY** - South Hadley resident Kim Prough received the Joseph W. Taylor Volunteer of the Year Award for her dedicated service to the town over the years.

Prough's work with Neighbors Helping Neighbors and at Buttery Brook Park earned her the esteemed award.

"Our lives have changed for the better from this person's efforts and the community she has fostered here in our town," said Andy Rogers, director of the recreation department, at the town meeting's award presentation. The award came as a surprise to Prough who had not been notified ahead of time.

The award, given for the first time since the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic, is chosen by the recreation department and commission.



**May:**



Turley Publications, Photos Courtesy of Michael Slater

The Scouts and Scoutmasters paying their respects during the ceremony

## South Hadley celebrates Memorial Day

**SOUTH HADLEY**— The flag at Town Hall flew at half-mast on Memorial Day in May, as scouts showed their unwavering gratitude to the brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for our country.

It was a beautiful spring afternoon, with a slight breeze sweeping across the town and breathing life into hundreds of flags that decorated South Hadley. From the cemeteries to Town Hall our little

town was painted red white and blue as a sea of flags danced across our streets and decorated our homes.

The presence of the scouts was felt in stride on Monday, from Cub Scout Pack 303 to Troop 303 of the Boy and Girl Scouts. One member of Ship Troop 303 attended on behalf of the Sea Scouts, who were there in spirit but at sea physically.

## World War II airmen honored annually on Mt. Holyoke

**HADLEY** – In May, on the summit of Mt. Holyoke, a small group of military people and civilians gathered to honor the 10 young airmen who lost their lives in a fatal crash on this mountain on May 27, 1944.

These men, slightly more than two decades old themselves, had joined the U.S. Army Air Force where they were training intensely for combat in Europe.

The crew consisted of a pilot, co-pilot, navigator, bombardier, engineer with his assistant, radio operator with his assistant, and two gunners. As a team they were learning how to maneuver a B-24 Liberator, a massive bomber plane with extremely heavy wings, four engines and with an empty weight of more than 18 tons.

This was to be one of their last training missions before they would be sent to England to join what had become an air war against Nazi Germany.



The road to the memorial monument for the airmen lost in the fatal 1944 crash ascends to the summit of Skinner State Park.

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# Year in Review 2023

## June:



The presentation of diplomas.

## Spirit of resilience guides Class of 2023

SOUTH HADLEY – In June, family, friends, staff, faculty, and members of the community gathered in Mount Holyoke College’s Chapin Auditorium to celebrate South Hadley High School Class of 2023’s commencement ceremony.

The 123 young scholars of the Class of 2023 proceeded to

their seats to the grand music of Edward Elgar’s “Pomp and Circumstance.” Waving hands, whistles, camera-clicks and shout-outs sounded from random spots in the auditorium as the soon-to-be fledged walked up the center aisle.



Student Council Co-President Esther Nguire delighted with her diploma.

## July:



Meg Clancy in the “ark” with her friends.

## Clancy retires after 37 years

SOUTH HADLEY – Youth Services Librarian Meg Clancy retired in July after 37 years at the South Hadley Public Library.

She described how after ten years as a library administrative assistant she actually fell

into her position in the wake of the debilitating stroke of her predecessor. Although uncertain at the time whether Youth Services was the right path for her, she beamed a smile and said, “but I found out I loved it, and so I stayed.”



Photo Credit: South Hadley Police Department

Lt. Mark Baran was sworn in as Lieutenant over the summer.

## Lieutenant receives promotion

SOUTH HADLEY – At the end of July, the police department’s Mark Baran was recently sworn in as Lieutenant.

Lt. Baran, a lifelong resident of South Hadley, was appointed as a reserve officer in February 1995 and became a full-time officer in February 2001, according to a statement from the South Hadley Police Department.

In July of 2005, he was promoted to Sergeant.

“During his time at SHPD, he has been assigned as a patrol officer, Field Training Officer, Shift Supervisor, Training Sergeant, Accreditation Manager, PACE Team member, and Peer Support member,” the police department released.

## July:



Submitted Photo

Floodwaters submerging parking lot at Brunelle’s Marina.

## Brunelle’s Marina expressed gratitude for local community support amidst flooding

SOUTH HADLEY – In July, Brunelle’s Marina extended heartfelt appreciation to the local community for their unwavering concern and support in the wake of the flooding on the Connecticut River.

The outpouring of solidarity and assistance from community members has been invaluable during this challenging time, Brunelle’s released.

“The team at Brunelle’s Marina wishes to express profound gratitude for the overwhelming support and patience demonstrated by the community during this unprecedented and arduous period. The spirit of unity displayed by the residents is a testament to the resilience and compassion that defines our community,” the business released in July.



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# Year in Review 2023

## August:



Courtesy Photo, Lisa Wong

The swearing-in ceremony for the new Assistant Town Administrator/Human Resources Director was held at the library. Charles "Chuck" Murphy Romboletti was sworn in by Town Clerk Sarah Gmeiner and accompanied by his wife and two children.

## South Hadley welcomes new assistant TA

SOUTH HADLEY - For Chuck Romboletti, the new assistant town administrator and human resources director, the position is both a natural next step in his career and a coming home.

"When I saw the position posted, I thought it could be the perfect fit. I had known about South Hadley from growing up in the area and always thought the town had a lot to offer," Romboletti said. "I have great memories as a kid visiting McCray's, the Summit House, the Mount Holyoke botanic gardens, movies and dinner at the Village Commons, and baseball at the Beachgrounds."

In front of community members and colleagues, Romboletti was sworn in on Aug. 7 at South Hadley Public Library with his wife and two young children by his side. After his swearing in, Romboletti has jumped right into the job.



Leslie Hennessey in her office at the South Hadley COA.

## Community says goodbye to COA Director

SOUTH HADLEY – At the end of the summer, Council on Aging Director Leslie Hennessey resigned from her position, and her work in town had not gone unnoticed.

On her last day in the office, members of the community celebrated her career in South Hadley with a cake and flowers; Hennessey had served as director of the South Hadley Council on Aging (COA) since June of 2016.

"I've really enjoyed this position," Hennessey said. "I have had a great seven years here."

In her seven years with the COA, Hennessey experienced the transition into a new facility, the pandemic, and efforts to provide programming that reflects the ever-changing needs of the senior community.

"I'm ready to do something different now; I am going to miss our members, folks in different town departments who I have had a pleasure working with and collaborating with, and have formed partnerships with," Hennessey said.

She commended the COA's whole staff.

## Back to school SNAPSHOTS



Sharing a sweet treat together, Colton, Braden, and Taylor Kouflie start the school year.

SOUTH HADLEY – Students were welcomed back to school on August 31 for the 2023-24 school year.



Turley Photos by Tina Lesniak, Correspondent

Wheeler and Carilyn Remillard pose on their first day of fourth and second grades.

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 Our artist of the month is Diego! Diego F. Salazar was born in rural Colombia in 1980. At the age of eighteen, Diego moved to New Jersey. Not knowing any English, Diego worked many jobs until In 2020, a friend encouraged him to discover painting. Diego found his true passion for abstract surreal art. He is inspired by many famous artists, such as Peter Max and Van Gogh. He also credits many local artists for providing him with the support and courage to show his work today.  
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Ava Asselin takes a free throw.



Kiki Ramos attempts to pass under pressure.



Maddie Soderbaum holds the ball near the end line.

## Young Tigers put together win over Hampshire

SOUTH HADLEY – After a slow start, South Hadley girls basketball is finding its scoring touch. Last week, the Tigers scored a pair of wins, one of them a 65-34 decisive win over Hampshire Regional. In the victory, four Tigers had double digits with Drew Alley leading all scorers with 14 points. Ava Asselin had 12 points and Kate Phillips and Cara Dean had 11 points each. South Hadley is now 3-2 heading into 2024.



Drew Alley flies for the shot.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com  
Cara Dean goes after the ball.

## Rams win third straight

GRANBY – After a loss to start the season, Granby girls basketball has won three straight, including a 38-31 triumph over Ware High School on Tuesday, Dec. 19. The Rams slowed down scoring a bit in the second half, but their defense held up after building a good lead in the second quarter. Granby was led by Aubrey Parent with 12 points followed by Autumn Sicard with a 10-point performance. Granby was off for the holiday vacation and returns to action on Jan. 4.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com  
Brenna Moreno flies for the layup.



Eleanor Szlosek eyes the hoop before shooting.



Myline Laliberte goes for long-range jump shot



Mike Beaulieu is pressured near the boards.

## Amherst keeps Chicopee co-op winless

AMHERST – Last Monday at Orr Rink, Amherst Regional hockey defeated Chicopee 6-1. The Pacers, which now have a five-school co-op that includes Chicopee Comprehensive, South Hadley, Granby, and the Pioneer Valley Chinese Immersion Charter School, is 0-3 to start the season but did score its first goal of the season in the first period of the contest. Chicopee's co-op was scheduled to host the Holiday Classic mini-tournament at Fitzpatrick Rink in Holyoke earlier this week. Agawam and Gardner were among the scheduled participants in the tournament.



Caleb Lundgren holds the puck looking to make a pass.



Connor McDonnell, of Granby, goes after a puck behind the goal.

Stephen Samson tries to clear the defensive zone.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

## Sports

# T-Birds coach gets call to NHL, named interim coach of Blues

*Daniel Tkaczuk will take over as interim head coach in Springfield*

SPRINGFIELD – On Dec. 13, St. Louis Blues President of Hockey Operations and General Manager Doug Armstrong announced the team has relieved Craig Berube of his coaching duties and named Springfield Thunderbirds head coach Drew Bannister interim head coach. Bannister will travel to St. Louis on Wednesday and serve his first game behind the bench on Thursday when the Blues host the Ottawa Senators.

Bannister, 49, has spent the past three seasons with the

Blues' AHL affiliate in Springfield, leading the team to a 93-58-19 regular-season record.

The Belleville, Ontario, native has also guided the Thunderbirds to consecutive playoff appearances, including 2021-22, when they won the Eastern Conference and reached the Calder Cup Final.

Bannister began his coaching career in the Ontario Hockey League (OHL), where he spent three seasons as an assistant with Owen Sound and three as head coach with the Soo Greyhounds. He also served as head coach of the AHL's San Antonio



Rampage and as an associate coach with the Utica Comets. As a player, Bannister's career spanned over 20 years and included 164 NHL regular-season games between the Tampa Bay Lightning, Edmonton Oilers, Anaheim Mighty Ducks, and New York Rangers.

In addition, Thunderbirds general manager Kevin Maxwell has announced that Daniel Tkaczuk will take over the head coaching duties in Springfield on an interim basis.

Tkaczuk, 44, joined the St. Louis Blues organization in

2016 as an assistant coach with the club's AHL affiliate, the Chicago Wolves. After spending the 2017-18 season as a Skills Coach with the Blues, he rejoined the AHL affiliate as an assistant coach under Bannister in 2018, a role he has held ever since, including a promotion to Associate Head Coach in 2022.

The Toronto, Ontario native began his coaching career in the OHL as an assistant coach with the Owen Sound Attack from 2011-15 before spending the 2015-16 season with the Kitchener Rangers. Tkaczuk and Bannister were co-assistant coaches with Owen Sound from 2012-15.

Tkaczuk was the sixth overall draft pick in the 1997 NHL Draft by the Calgary Flames and played 12 professional seasons in both North America and Eu-

rope. As a member of the Saint John Flames, Tkaczuk captured a Calder Cup championship in 2000-01. He was tied for second among Flames skaters with 10 goals in the Calder Cup Playoffs that season.

In 286 AHL games with Saint John, the Worcester Ice-Cats, Bridgeport Sound Tigers, Charlotte, Syracuse, Rochester, and Hartford, Tkaczuk posted 59 goals and 109 assists for 168 points. He was a career point-per-game performer in the playoffs, scoring 14 goals and adding 17 assists in 29 career Calder Cup playoff contests. Tkaczuk also skated in 19 NHL games with Calgary, putting up 11 points (four goals, seven assists) in the 2000-01 season.

## Granite State announces Pro Stock Series 2024 schedule

WALPOLE, N.H. – Granite State Pro Stock Series officials announced Friday the schedule of events for the 2024 racing season. The series slate includes a nine-race championship battle spread from May to October, with the championship event taking place at Lee USA Speedway's October-fest weekend.

The Granite State Pro Stock Series will visit five different tracks in 2024: Lee, Star Speedway, Claremont Motorsports Park, Riverside Speedway and Speedway 95. The schedule begins with the annual 100-lap spring event at Star Speedway in Epping, New Hampshire, this year on Saturday, May 4 with a Friday night practice on May 3. From there, teams will roll to Claremont Motorsports Park for the Memorial Day weekend, with a main event set for Sunday, May 26.

On Saturday, June 8, the series will make the first of two visits to Lee USA Speedway. That will be followed by the first of two races at Hermon, Maine's Speedway 95 on Saturday, June 16. After a few weeks off, the schedule continues with a return to Claremont for Independence Day weekend on Friday, July 5 with a special event.

The high-banks of Hudson International Speedway will host the series again on Sunday, July 14, while Riverside Speedway returns to the schedule with an event on Saturday, August 10. The final two events of the year will take place at Speedway 95 on Sunday, September 15 and Lee's Octoberfest weekend, where the champion will be decided, on Saturday and Sunday, October

5-6.

"Our 2024 schedule is shaping up to be one of the best in our history," Mike Parks, President of the Granite State Pro Stock Series, said. "Return trips to places like Star, Speedway 95, Lee USA and Riverside, mixed with us getting back on the high-banks of Hudson, will produce an exciting championship battle for fans to follow during the summer of 2024."

Additional information regarding the 2024 Granite State Pro Stock Series schedule including event registrations, rules and more will be available soon. For the latest news, fans and teams are encouraged to visit [gpsss.net](http://gpsss.net) and follow the series on social media.

**2024 Granite State Pro Stock Series Schedule**  
**Saturday, May 4** - Star Speedway - Epping, N.H.  
**Sunday, May 26** - Claremont Motorsports Park - Claremont, N.H.  
**Saturday, June 8** - Lee USA Speedway - Lee, N.H.  
**Sunday, June 16** - Speedway 95 - Hermon, Maine  
**Friday, July 5** - Claremont Motorsports Park - Claremont, N.H.  
**Sunday, July 14** - Hudson International Speedway - Hudson, N.H.  
**Saturday, August 10** - Riverside Speedway - Groveton, N.H.  
**Sunday, September 15** - Speedway 95 - Hermon, Maine  
**Saturday/Sunday October 5-6** - Lee USA Speedway, Lee, N.H.

## Olympic Men's Basketball team among eligible Hall candidates

SPRINGFIELD – The Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame announced the list of eligible candidates for the Class of 2024, including several high-profile, first-time nominees, including the 2008 U.S. Olympic Men's Basketball Team ("Redeem Team"), Vince Carter, Seimone Augustus, Bill Laimbeer, Rick Barnes, Mike Fratello and Penny Taylor.

A first look at the list of eligible nominees will be provided by "NBA Today" on ESPN, hosted by Malika Andrews, with Class of 2023 Hall of Famer Becky Hammon, Kendrick Perkins, Chiney Ogumike, and Brian Windhorst. A complete list of eligible candidates can be found below.

Finalists for the Honor's Committee for the Class of 2024 will be announced on Friday, February 16, in Indianapolis, Indiana, during NBA

All-Star Weekend.

The entire Class of 2024 will be unveiled during the NCAA Final Four in Phoenix, Arizona, on Saturday, April 6, in a nationally televised broadcast.

The announcement time and broadcast network for both the Finalist and the Class Announcement will be announced in the near future.

Enshrinement weekend will begin at the Mohegan Sun on Friday, August 16, with the Tip-Off Celebration and Awards Gala, followed by the Enshrinement ceremony on Saturday, August 17, at Springfield's historic Symphony Hall.

VIP Packages for the Hall of Fame Enshrinement Weekend will go on sale on Friday, February 16. All single-event tickets to the Ceremony, Tip Off Celebration, and Awards Gala, as well as other ancillary events, will go on sale on

Saturday, April 6, at 12:00 p.m. EST. All packages and tickets will be available for purchase at [hoophall.com](http://hoophall.com).

The complete listing of events and pricing will be released by Feb. 1.

The Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame also announced changes to its election process that will more carefully examine candidates from the International, Men's Veteran's, Women's Veteran's, and Contributor Committees. Since 2011, the Hall of Fame has allowed these categories to be stand-alone 'direct-elect' committees with the objective of ensuring candidates who may have 'fallen through the cracks' received focused and specialized consideration in these various categories. The Election Process Committee has determined that this objective of more acute consideration has been met during this 12-year period, and now candidates put forth from these categories will revert back to the previous and traditional process of being presented for final consideration to the Honors Committee for election.



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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 al-

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# September:

# Year in Review 2023



Courtesy Photo, South Hadley Police Department

## National Police Woman's Day

In honor of National Police Woman's Day, held on Sept. 12, the South Hadley Police Department extended thanks in a recent statement on social media to "the hard-working women of the South Hadley Police department for all they do."

## Preschool, kindergarten students welcome new year



Madison and Lucas Kennedy pose before the first day of kindergarten.



Bryson Riley is all set for the first day of preschool.



## September: AG office rules SHELDT violated state meeting law

By **Walter Hamilton**  
Correspondent

SOUTH HADLEY – The state Attorney General's office declared at the end of September that the SHELDT commission violated the state Open Meeting Law when it failed to provide "any summary of the actual discussions" at a December 20, 2022, closed-door session called to discuss a new contract for the town-owned utility's general manager.

The contract was approved in a January 2023 open session by a 3-2 vote. Commission Chairman John Hine and Commissioners Denise Presley and Paul Dubosh voted to approve the one-year contract that granted General Manager Sean Fitzgerald an 8.5 percent raise and a \$25,000 bonus.

Fitzgerald's salary has increased by 28 percent in six years, from \$159,500 in 2017 to \$221,336 this year, not including one-time bonuses. Bonuses in that

time have totaled \$50,000.

Former commission member Gregory Dubreuil voted against the contract on Jan. 26 and resigned on Feb. 6 from the commission, blaming a "decline in transparency" within the board. Member Kurt Schenker also voted against approving the contract that he considered excessive in light of a 28 percent upward "adjustment" in the charges for electricity in 2022.

In a Sept. 25 letter to South

Hadley Electric Light Department (SHELDT) lawyer Katharine Shove, of the Springfield firm of Brodeur McGan, PC., KerryAnne Kilcoyne, Assistant Attorney General of the Division of Open Government, ordered the SHELDT commission to amend the minutes of its December 2022 executive session to accurately summarize its discussion of the manager's contract, and within 30 days certify that office that it has done so.

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# Year in Review 2023

## October:



Celtic Calamity at the Old Firehouse Museum.

Submitted Photo, Showcase South Hadley organizers

## Showcase South Hadley event sees success

SOUTH HADLEY – Despite its rainy weekend, event organizers said the Showcase South Hadley event held in October was a “major success” that saw many different events and activities in town.



Suly Fay, 10, Tristan Fay, 10, and Shayla Fay, 7, getting ready for a Trunk or Treat at Mosier School.

## HALLOWEEN HAPPY FACES



Fourth-grader Ava Diroma.

## Kari Kastango swam the entire 410-mile river

SOUTH HADLEY – Resident Kari Kastango became the first person to swim the entire length of the Connecticut River in October.

The Connecticut River Conservancy (CRC) announced that Board of Trustees member and South Hadley resident Kastango completed a swim of the 410-mile river, with the final stretch of the swim having taken place on Oct. 15 at the mouth of the Connecticut River in Old Lyme, Conn.



Courtesy Photos, Kari Kastango/Connecticut River Conservancy

**Kari Kastango has become the first person to swim the entire length of the Connecticut River.**

Spectators gathered to watch and cheer on Kastango; a riverside celebration followed shortly after with speakers including Kastango, CRC’s new Executive Director Rebecca Todd, and the Director of the Friends of the Silvio O. Conte National Fish and Wildlife Refuge, Markelle Smith.

Kastango’s motivation is to “raise awareness for the immense significance of the Connecticut River, all the efforts taken to reverse the river’s historic water pollution problems, and the ongoing collective action to keep the river clean, healthy, and swimmable for future generations.”

# CAREER and Education

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This special section is circulated into all 12 of our papers, those papers include. **The Sentinel, The Chicopee Register, The Sun, The Register, The Wilbraham-Hampden Times, Agawam Advertiser, Country Journal, Town Reminder, Quaboag Current, Journal Register, Ware River News and Barre Gazette.**

The 2024 Career & Education edition publishes **the week of January 10th-12th**  
 Space reservation deadline is January 3rd.

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is offering a great resource for the communities it serves by showcasing the career & education opportunities available locally.

November:

Year in Review  
2023



Submitted Photo

Handbag winner Lisa Caivano pictured with three of the "handbag models," Firefighters Corey Calkins and Dylan Koske and Police Sergeant Barry O'Connor.

Handbag Bingo brings community together

SOUTH HADLEY – Three hundred and forty people played "Designer Handbag Bingo" in November to benefit two local charities, the Friends of the South Hadley Seniors and the Friends of Buttery Brook Park.

Additionally, more than 25 volunteers were on hand to make this event happen, including District 2 Fire Chief Todd Calkins and several of his firefighters, Sergeant Barry O'Connor from the South Hadley Police Department, Steven Laplante of

ERA M. Connie Laplante Real Estate (who coordinated the volunteer wait staff for the night), deejay Scott Dubey, the Beer Guy, firefighter Leigh Savary (photographer), Jim Como from St. Theresa's Church, and volunteers from both Friends' groups.

"This is our third time hosting this event and each time, I'm filled to the brim with gratitude for the overwhelming generosity and support of our volunteers and participants" said Kim Prough, event coordinator.

Veterans Day 2023

SOUTH HADLEY - Led by the South Hadley American Legion Post 260 and Sons of the American Legion Squadron 260, local veterans and residents came together to recognize Veterans Day on Nov. 11.

David Jubinville from Sons of the American Legion Squadron 260 served as Master of Ceremonies. The South Hadley Boy Scouts and Sea Scouts served as color guard and laid the ceremonial wreath, followed by the ringing of the Bells of Peace, honoring all who served our nation in both war and peace.

The South Hadley VFW also participated with the sounding of Taps.



Submitted Photos

Local veterans and residents came together to recognize Veterans Day on Nov. 11.

December:



Submitted Photos

Buttery Brook Park's 'Santa Land' a success

SOUTH HADLEY – Earlier this month, Santa visited South Hadley's own Buttery Brook Park to visit with members of the community. A holly, jolly way to round out the year!

Camden Harnas visits with Santa at the event.



A Place at the Table was created by the Friends of the South Hadley Seniors to bring South Hadley's seniors and veterans together for a community meal.

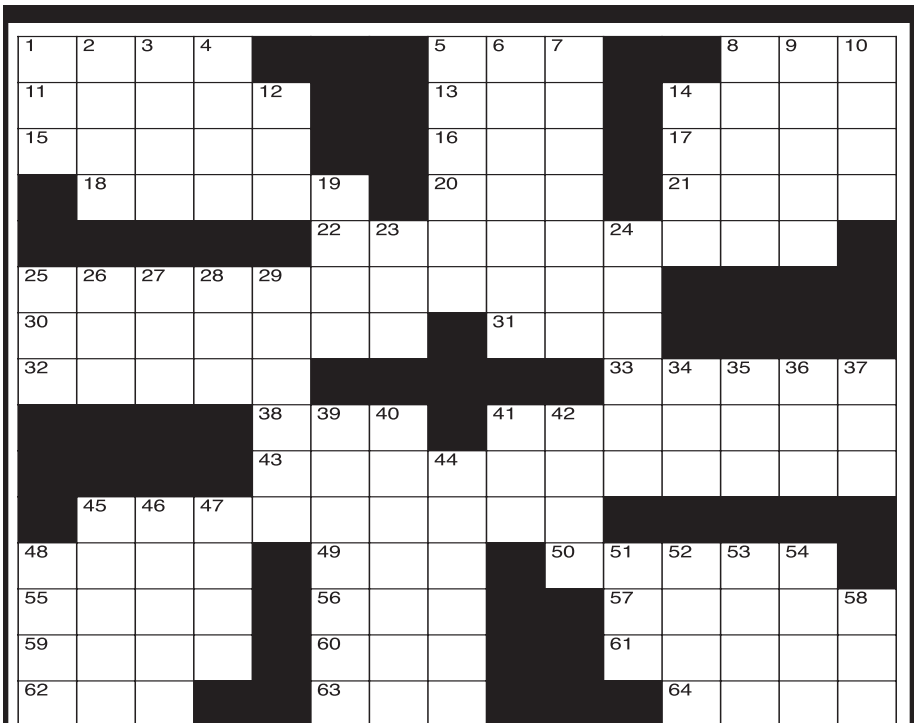
'A Place at the Table' brings seniors, veterans together

SOUTH HADLEY – "A Place at the Table" was created by the Friends of the South Hadley Seniors to bring the town's seniors and veterans together for a community meal.

An event was held in November, and there was no set price; instead, it was a "pay what you can meal," according to event organizers.

"We wanted to offer a meal where all would feel welcome and cost would not be a barrier to attend," said Kim Prough, president of the Friends of the South Hadley Seniors.

The meal served nearly 100 seniors and veterans with some of the meals being delivered to those who physically were not able to attend.



CLUES ACROSS

- 1. A way to injure
- 5. Mutual savings bank
- 8. Rock TV channel
- 11. Large number of fish swimming together
- 13. Military mailbox
- 14. Female of a horse
- 15. Category
- 16. City
- 17. Breezed through
- 18. Officer who bears a mace
- 20. Tax collector
- 21. "Cheers" actress
- 22. Pauses before acting
- 25. Extracted information from a wave
- 30. Tendency to revert to something ancestral
- 31. No seats available
- 32. Nocturnal rodents
- 33. Moves gently to

and fro

- 38. Not good
- 41. A way to ready
- 43. One who makes something better
- 45. Things associated with American history
- 48. Ancient Phoenician fertility god
- 49. A continuous portion of a circle
- 50. Volcanic craters
- 55. Units of electrical resistance
- 56. Gamble on
- 57. Ethiopian town
- 59. One point east of northeast
- 60. Polynesian garland of flowers
- 61. Spiritual leader of a Jewish congregation
- 62. State of fuss
- 63. Keyboard key
- 64. Partner to relaxation

CLUES DOWN

- 1. "The world's most famous arena"
- 2. Polite interruption sound
- 3. Private school in New York
- 4. Refuse of grapes
- 5. Tomei, actress
- 6. Adult beverages
- 7. Supporter
- 8. Papier-\_\_\_, art material
- 9. Forests have them
- 10. Most ancient Hindu scriptures
- 12. Downwind
- 14. Marketplace
- 19. Flowering plant genus
- 23. Street where nightmares happen
- 24. Admirer
- 25. Dip lightly into water
- 26. When you hope to get there
- 27. Partner to cheese

- 28. Egg
- 29. A way to disqualify
- 34. South American plant
- 35. Fold-away bed
- 36. Debbie Harry album "\_\_\_ Koo"
- 37. Swedish krona
- 39. Displaying warmth and friendliness
- 40. Official orders
- 41. Bowling alley necessity
- 42. Stray
- 44. About milk
- 45. Expressed pleasure
- 46. Caribbean dance
- 47. If not
- 48. \_\_\_ fide (Latin)
- 51. Swiss river
- 52. Hebrew calendar month
- 53. One easily swindled
- 54. Point that is one point south of southwest
- 58. Small island (British)

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- Work in the extreme cold and heat
- Have a valid driver's license
- High school degree or GED

Send letter of interest and resume to: William Sullivan, Interim Principal; Gateway High/Middle School, 12 Littleville Road, Huntington, MA 01050  
Deadline: January 5, 2024  
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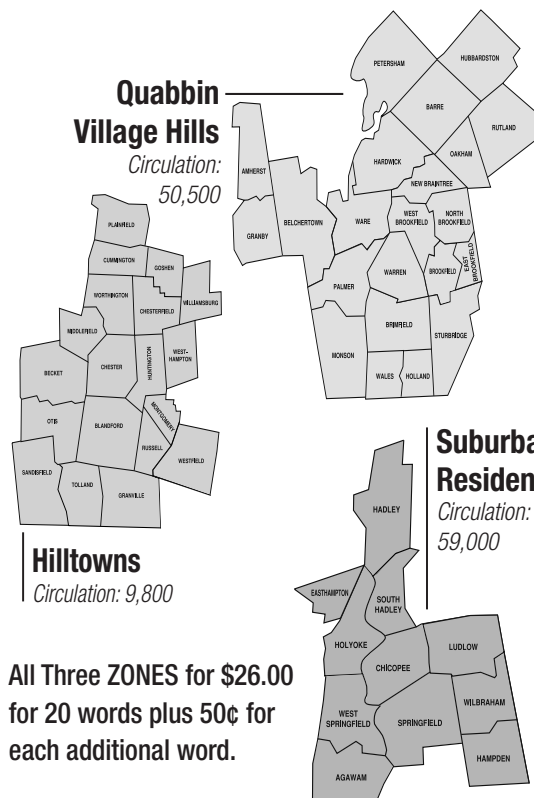
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THE LUDLOW REGISTER  
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# Granby Clerk announces reminders

GRANBY – The Town Clerk’s office has released information on the 2024 Annual Census.

“The 2024 Annual Census will be mailed out at the beginning of January, to avoid any voting problems please mail back your census,” the Town Clerk released. “Compliance with this state requirement provides proof of residence, it protects voting rights, veteran’s bonuses, housing for the elderly, and related benefits.”

The Annual Town Census does not register a person as a voter or change their party enrollment.

“You must fill out a voter registration form or a change of enrollment card. This can be done by going on-line at www.sec.state.ma.us and go under ‘Elections,’ or for more information on voter registration call the Town Clerk’s office.”

Also included with the Census will be a flyer pertaining to voting, office hours, dog licensing, and a schedule for the landfill pickup.

“Please continue to check our website at www.granby-ma.gov for any further information on any of our town affairs,” the Town Clerk’s office released.

For dog licenses, the Annual Census contains a pre-registration form, and this is the first notice for the 2024 dog licenses. Dog licenses are valid from April – April of each year, however, those who wish to pre-register their dogs for 2024 may follow the instructions on the form and return it with the Census, or wait until March or April and stop by the office to license your dog.

Please note that after May 1, 2024, a \$25 late charge may be applied along with the annual dog fee.

“Thanking you all in advance for your cooperation with this mailing.”

For any questions or concerns please call the Town Clerk’s office- 467-7178.

# South Hadley Chorale to resume rehearsals

## New singers welcome

SOUTH HADLEY - The South Hadley Chorale will resume rehearsals for its annual March concert on Wednesday, Jan. 3, 2024, from 7-9 p.m. at All Saints’ Church, 7 Woodbridge St., South Hadley.

The program features the John Rutter edition of “Gabriel Faure’s Requiem,” Paul Basler’s “Missa Kenya,” plus works by Chorale conductor Anita Anderson Cooper. Rehearsals will continue on Wednesday evenings until the concert on Sunday, March 24, 2024.

New singers are welcome to join, according to a press release. There are no auditions, although most singers have had some choral experience.

Interim Conductor Anita Anderson Cooper is a well-known area musician, conductor, teacher, and composer.

“She received degrees from Westminster College, Boston University, and Delta State University,” a press statement reads. “She also directs the chorus of the Paul R. Baird Middle School in Ludlow and conducts the Smith College Handbell Choir.”

The South Hadley Chorale is made up of 50 singers from 16 communities. For more information, please visit www.southhadleychorale.org or call 413-533-3833.

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**Turley Publications, Inc.**  
[www.turley.com](http://www.turley.com)

### GRANBY ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS AND GRANBY PLANNING BOARD JOINT PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

In accordance with MGL Ch. 40A, Sec. 11, the Granby Zoning Board of Appeals and Granby Planning Board will hold a joint public hearing on **January 22, 2024, at 5:45 PM**, at 1 Library Lane, Old Carnegie Library, Top Floor, Granby, MA. The nature of the hearing is to consider the petition of Paul and Teresa Mason (Owner/Applicant), seeking a Special Permit and Site Plan Approval for an antique shop in an accessory barn building, under Sections 6.2 of the Granby Zoning Bylaws and applicable of Section III – Use Regulations, 3.7.3 Home Shop at 4 Porter Street, and known as Assessors’ Map 9-B-A-3 in the town of Granby, MA.

The complete applications and plans are available for public inspection during regular business hours (9:00AM – 3:00 PM, Monday-Thursday, and 9:00AM – 12:00 PM Fridays) at the Selectmen’s Office located in the Granby Senior Center Building, 2nd Floor, 10-B West State Street, Granby, MA 01033.

Anyone wishing information and/or to be heard on this matter should appear at the time and place designated.

In addition to the above hearing, the Board of Appeals and Planning Board intend to conduct public meetings following said hearings as time permits. This notice is given pursuant to Chapter 40A and Chapter 39, Section 23B of the Massachusetts General Laws.

Kathleen Bronner, Chairman  
Granby Board of Appeals  
James Trompke, Chairman  
Granby Planning Board  
12/29/2023, 01/05/2024

### Sale Of Motor Vehicles Under G.L. C.255 Sec. 39A

Notice is hereby given by **Hampshire Towing, 650 New Ludlow Rd., South Hadley, MA 01075**, pursuant to the provisions of G.L. C. 255, Section 39A, that a **SEALED BID** auction with **bids due Monday, January 8, 2024 at 9 a.m. Vehicles will be available for viewing** between the hours of 9 a.m. and 12 p.m. by appointment only. **Please call 413-534-5373 for appointments.**

The following motor vehicles will be sold to satisfy our garage keeper’s lien thereon for storage, towing charges, care and expenses of notices and sale of said vehicles:

**2014 Hyundai Sonata**  
KMHEC4A40EA111506  
Susan Kowinski  
936 Grayson Dr., Apt 325  
Springfield, MA 01119

**1999 Honda Accord**  
1HGCG6671XA026404  
Iris Marin  
290 Oak St  
Holyoke, MA 01040

**2004 Volvo XC70**  
YV1SZ59H841135113  
Justin Carlotta  
51 Hamilton St.  
Holyoke, MA 01040

**2013 Hyundai ACCENT**  
KMHC75AE1DU118967  
William Plazas Jaramillo  
536 Pleasant St., Apt. 3  
Holyoke, MA 01040

**2011 Nissan Altima**  
1N4AL2AP3BN500362  
Dominique Dent  
354 Hampden St., Apt. 1R  
Holyoke, MA 01040

**2000 Mazda Protégé**  
JM1BJ2224Y0243533  
Barbara Rios  
443 Tokeneke Rd.  
Holyoke, MA 01040

**2005 Chevrolet TrailBlazer**  
1GNND13S552127910  
Robert Cardinal  
1370 Worcester St., Apt. 2L  
Springfield, MA 01151

**2004 Honda Civic**  
1HGEM229X4L013880  
Lucy Alcantara  
223 Drexel St.  
Springfield, MA 01104

**2006 Chevrolet Equinox**  
2CNDL73F166072600  
Shannay Diaz  
508 Grayson Dr.  
Springfield, MA 01119

**2006 Mercedes-Benz CLK**  
WDBTK56GX6T060169  
Dakota Mullen  
60 Skeele St.  
Chicopee, MA 01013

**2020 BMS 124**  
L5XBUMEC0L1601075  
Owner Unknown

**2020 Tao DBX1 Dirt Bike**  
L9NYLXHC6L1010291  
Owner Unknown

**2016 Tao Tao AT125-F**  
L5NWAFTL1G1070338  
Owner Unknown

**2008 Chrysler PT Cruiser**  
3A8FY48B58T224761  
Maria Colon  
17 Ruskin St.  
Springfield, MA 01108

**2002 Hyundai SANTA FE**  
KM8SC73D32U178662  
Robert Drew  
332 Rowley St.  
Agawam, MA 01001

**1997 Chevrolet Camaro**  
2G1FP22K6V2134834  
Kira Nadeau  
102 Main St.  
Somerville, CT 06072

**Boat & Trailer**  
No VIN  
Ramon Cordero Otero  
657 State St., Apt. 1BB  
Springfield, MA 01109

**Boat on Trailer**  
No VIN  
Owner Unknown

**2020 Honda Grom Base**  
MLHJC7512L5202512  
Owner Unknown

**2007 Nissan Altima**  
1N4AL21E57C141680  
Dhyon Moulton  
202 Rockport St.  
Meridianville, AL 35759

**2005 Honda Accord**  
1HGCM55845A092374  
Angel Alicea  
24 Dwight St., Apt. 37  
Agawam, MA 01001

**2004 Lexus ES 330**  
JTHBA30G345022344  
Ivonne Denizac  
5 Madison Ave.  
Springfield MA 01105

**2002 Acura RL**  
JH4KA965X2C014257  
Yolanda Laspina Santiago  
419 Montcalm St., Apt. 318M  
Chicopee, MA 01020

**2004 Subaru Outback**  
4S3BH675147618592  
Damarys Ruiz Guzman  
560 S. Summer St., Apt 11F  
Holyoke, MA 01040.

**2004 Ford Crown Victoria**  
2FAPF74WX4X115912  
Rita Parzych  
44 Juniper Ct.  
Greenfield, MA 01301

**2009 Audi A4**  
WAUDF48H99K008128  
Ryan Moores  
507 Appleton St.  
Holyoke MA 01040

**KTM Dirt Bike**  
VIN is removed  
Owner Unknown

**2001 Toyota Corolla**  
2T1BR12E41C505740  
Juanita Marrero  
109 Maple Ave.  
Uncasville, CT 06382

**1992 Geo Prizm**  
1Y1SK546XNZ019054  
Louise Richard  
349 Haydenville Rd.  
Leeds, MA 01053

**1999 Ford F-150**  
1FTRX17W0XNC02093  
Richard Leblanc  
44 Pearl St.  
Holyoke, MA 01040

**Suzuki Quad Runner**  
1SAAJ49A912102286  
Owner Unknown

**2006 Hummer H3**  
5GTDN136668271088  
Alan Hall  
114 Brayton Hill Ter.  
North Adams, MA 01247

**2014 Chevrolet Traverse**  
1GNKVGKD2EJ326331  
Timothy Cairney  
212 Alana Dr.  
Northbridge, MA 01534

**2001 Jeep Cherokee**  
1J4FF48S11L563395  
Autumn Brooks  
48 Pine Lodge Park  
Williamstown, MA 01267

**2003 Mazda Mazda6**  
1YVFP80C435M02121  
Bristol West  
PO Box 258806  
Oklahoma City, OK 73125

**1999 Honda Civic**  
1HGEJ8246XL037498  
Anna French  
111 High St.  
Gloucester, MA 01930

**2014 Kia Soul**  
KNDJN2A28E7037782  
Zulifer Marquez Castello  
308 Walnut St., Apt. 1L  
Holyoke, MA 01040

**1994 Toyota Camry**  
4T1SK12E6RU437102  
Stuart Pierson  
130 Merida St.  
Springfield, MA 01104

**2010 Audi A5**  
WAUCKAFR1AA060218  
Robert Woodson  
105 Dalton Ave.  
Pittsfield, MA 01201

**2004 Mercedes-Benz C-Class**  
WDBRF81JX4F446802  
David Cabrera  
118 Bradley St.  
East Hartford, CT 06118

**1997 Buick LeSabre**  
1G4HP52K4VH534374  
David Harris  
80 Florida St., 1st Fl  
Springfield, MA 01109

**2007 Honda CRF450R**  
JH2DE05807M505596  
Jose Vega Lopez  
91 Mosher St., Apt. 403  
Holyoke, MA 01040

12/22, 12/29/2023, 01/05/2024

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Town Reminder

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