

# TOWN Reminder



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Serving the town of South Hadley

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### Tigers win in biggest victory yet



## Fire District 1's salary budget fails

By Paula Ouimette  
pouimette@turley.com

SOUTH HADLEY – At Fire District 1's annual meeting last week, 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 Hadley 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.

Authier said the number of calls has increased so much that the Department has had to increase their staffing to meet the demand. Now, many of the staff are worried about whether

or not they will still have a job.

He said retaining qualified staff is a challenge, with towns across the country facing an emergency services staffing crisis.

"Towns are scrambling. When you get good quality people you want to keep them. It's a black eye for the District," he said.

With over 30 years in the fire service, Authier said not having the salary budget approved is "unchartered waters," and something he's never experienced before.

Authier said he believes there will be a special meeting to vote again, but if it fails to pass before the fiscal year ends, District 1 will be relying on neighboring communities for help in emergencies.

He said as of July 1, without a vote to approve the salaries, District 1 will be unable to pay its staff.

Please see **BUDGET**, page 6



Peer Leader Advisor Megan Lee gets ready to be driven by a student wearing Fatal Vision goggles.

## PREVENTING Driving Impairment

By Tina Lesniak  
Correspondent

SOUTH HADLEY - With prom and graduation season upon us, the community as a whole is looking out for the well-being of its teenagers. As part of that notion, several com-

munity and school groups came together to prevent the Fatal Vision experience at South Hadley High School on April 27.

This drunk driving awareness activity has students drive golf carts, with an adult, along a

Please see **DRIVING**, page 6

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## Appreciating our Senior Center Volunteers

**SOUTH HADLEY** – On Wednesday, April 26, eighty-five South Hadley Senior Center volunteers were recognized for their service and contributions to the Senior Center.

The annual volunteer celebration was held at the Senior Center and included entertainment by Jimmy Mazz, and a light lunch prepared and served by students from the South Hadley High School's Culinary Program. Each volunteer received a raffle ticket for the raffle and a small pot of garden flowers to take home.

Senior Center volunteers perform a variety of needed roles

such as assisting in the dining room and Woodlawn Café, answering the phone, and greeting members at the front desk. They also provide leadership and instruction for crafts, clubs and programs. They prepare the newsletter for mailing, pack the Brown Bag packages, and fundraise for the Center's programs and activities.

This year Senior Center volunteers provided 7,339 hours of support, which is equivalent to \$267,000.00 in savings for the Town of South Hadley!! Our Senior Center Volunteers Rock!!



## Celebrations in early May

### May 5 - A-Ray of Elvis at Buttery Brook Park

Come to Buttery Brook Park on May 5 from 5 – 6 p.m. for a free concert with A-Ray of Elvis. The concert will be held at the front pavilion (near the South entrance). Free lemonade, free chips & salsa and \$5 for margaritas will be available to celebrate Cinco de Mayo. This free concert is sponsored by the Friends of Buttery Brook Park, the Friends of the South Hadley Seniors and South Hadley Pickleball. All are welcome.

### May 12 - Mother's Day Hanging Flower Basket Sale

The Friends of the South Hadley Seniors are hosting their annual hanging flower basket sale on May 12 from 9 a.m. – 4 p.m. (or until sold out) at the Senior Center (45 Dayton St). Baskets are \$25 each. Cash, check and Venmo are accepted. Come early for best selection – rain or shine.

### 'Night Out' at Villa Rose to help MJD

**LUDLOW** —Villa Rose Restaurant at 1428 Center Street is donating 20% of the proceeds for dine-in or take-out orders from noon to 9 p.m. on Wednesday, May 24, to the Michael J Dias Foundation.

MJD offers programs to those in recovery.

The event is open to all. The patio will be open depending on the weather. Ample parking is available. For more information, call Karen at 413-304-0715 or call Villa Rose directly at 413-547-6667 for all take-out orders.

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# Growing Wild and Well

By Tina Lesniak  
Correspondent

SOUTH HADLEY - Over the last several years, the need for biodiversity and increasing pollinator plants has grown. To help the residents of South Hadley with working on these goals, the town's Conservation Commission is starting the Growing Wild South Hadley program.

"The goal is to promote biodiversity through planting native and pollinator species," explained Rebekah Cornell, conservation administrator/planner. The commissioners decided to start the program after discussing Douglas Talamy's "Homegrown National Park" idea, which is a national call to action "to regenerate biodiversity and ecosystem function because every human being on this planet needs diverse highly productive ecosystems to survive," according to its website.

"Residents recognize that planting native pollinator plants is important for many reasons - bees, butterflies, food systems, biodiversity to name a few," said Cornell. "But many residents don't know where to start. The commission wants to provide them the knowledge to do so and give them plants to get started."

To help residents achieve a more native, pollinator-friendly yard, the commission is holding several events to provide information and resources. The first event, "How to Create Natural Ecosystems in Your Yard," will be held Thursday, May 11 from 6 to 7:30 p.m. at South Hadley Public Library. The speaker will be Peggy MacLeod who co-founded Western Mass Pollinator Networks. The talk will focus on native trees, shrubs, and plants that draw in birds, beneficial insects, and other wildlife.

"It will be an introduction to the importance pollinators play in biodiversity and why

we should do this work," explained Cornell. "Biodiversity is essential for our ecosystems. Peggy will talk about why this is important from small insects to large oak trees."

In addition to a wealth of knowledge, attendees will get some tangible takeaways.

"Attendees will take home an insulated reusable grocery bag and will get a ticket for a chance to win one of several door prizes," noted Cornell. "Door prizes include books on environmental topics and a rain gauge."

The commission also has other events on the horizon. In June, it will host Heidi Dollard, the co-chair of the Massachusetts Pollinator Network Steering Committee. She will present "Transform Your Yard to Support Pollinators: A 12-Step Program" at the library on Thursday, June 8. This program will walk people through the steps of making their yards pollinator-friendly, including options for both larger and small changes. The commission also hopes to hold an event where it distributes pollinator and native plants, potentially in conjunction with the June 8 program.

These events are designed to help both those with some knowledge of pollinator-friendly plants and those who are just starting out. For those who want to get started but may have little to no experience with gardening, Cornell suggests starting small.

"It takes patience. Do a little research to understand your yard and landscape," said Cornell. "Plants can be particular with their needs. Most need a certain sun/shade or soil requirement to establish successfully."

But even these small changes can be tremendously helpful to pollinators and ecosystems.

"If every backyard in South Hadley had just a small area for pollinators it would make a big difference," said Cornell. "Be good to the earth. It's the only one we've got."

# Diverse opinions arise

In regards to revival of the South Hadley School District Diversity Committee

By Ben Hernandez  
Correspondent

SOUTH HADLEY - The old guard has become the new guard. With the return to normal coming after the chaotic pandemic period, questions about the future of the district resurfaced at the March 16 meeting, including questions concerning student engagement and reintegration. Enter the Diversity Committee. The elective task force, incorporated before Covid by principal Wood, advised educational staff on topics of inclusivity and social integration. With the return of in-person schooling, many believe that now is the time to reincorporate the program.

"It will pair nicely with [our] policy development suggestions," remarked Danielle Cook on the matter. The School Committee member proposed that recreating the Diversity Committee would provide a much-needed return to normalcy after the forced isolation imposed by the pandemic.

Kyle Belanger supported Cook's proposal and emphasized the importance of the role once played by the dissolved committee. He then highlighted the nuanced differences between it and

the existing Racial Justice task force.

"The Diversity Committee, in its very nomenclature, works with all issues of diversity," clarified Belanger as he made his case for the committee's re-institution. "While the Racial Justice Task Force is specifically working with racial justice."

The committee member identified the Diversity Committee as "a great peer group" for other educators, leveraging the different experiences of the members to provide an advisory role for the educational system as it re-acclimates to in-person learning. Reincorporating this panel, argues Belanger, allows the Racial Justice Task Force to resume its intended function within the school district, which is to "work at the policy level" rather than as a catch-all authority on identity politics.

"It really is a matter of instituting [inclusivity] top to bottom," Belanger summarized. "This is vertical alignment of issues [regarding] DEI."

DEI, which stands for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, remains at the forefront of the School Committee's minds. With the staggering drop of students enrolling in the South Hadley School District due to school choice programs and private enrollment in charter schools, the district faces significant challenges in coaxing students back to the region. Part of the issue, implied by social justice advocates on the committee, is the growing isolation felt between

students and their educational communities.

Cook reflected on this by sharing the former Diversity Committee's mission statement, which emphasized equal access and opportunity for all people within the community, as well as advocating for policies that promote diversity and inclusion. With attendance dropping in the public schools, there is no more opportune time than the present to regain lost faith in South Hadley's educational system.

However, the program does come with its detractors. Dr. Mark McLaughlin, interim superintendent, stated that there were some who felt that such reinstatement would reintroduce traditional arguments regarding the necessity of the committee.

"I think we have to be sure that we understand what the contemporary thoughts are relative to inclusion," reflected McLaughlin.

McLaughlin's comment is in reference to past criticisms that the committee disrupted the traditional flow of regular education, as past policies were identified by some as falling under the blanket of special education. McLaughlin pointed out that it was important to make clear distinctions between special and regular education.

"We are duty bound to provide the least restrictive environment," the interim superintendent concluded. "At the end of the day, we know that is what students deserve."

# Safe disposal of docs, e-waste offered at SHS

SOUTH HADLEY - The South Hadley High School Music Department is hosting an E-waste and shredding drive in the school parking lot on Saturday, May 20.

For a fee, you can recycle your electronics and shred your personal documents while help-

ing the music department. The fees are:

- Laptops / computer towers, flat-screen monitors, VCR/DVD players, keyboards, printers: \$20 an item.
- Air conditioners / dehumidifiers / microwaves: \$50 an item
- Shredding: \$25 a box

Find the South Hadley Music Parents Association on Facebook for a full list of acceptable items and prices.

For more information or if you have questions, email [shmpa@southhadleymusic.org](mailto:shmpa@southhadleymusic.org) with "e-waste" in the subject line.

# Local girls invited to learn outdoor skills



SOUTH HADLEY - Girls and their guardians are invited to camp for a free Intro to Outdoor Skills event at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday, May 31.

Girls will earn their first Girl Scout patch while learning basic campfire-building techniques, first aid and jackknife safety.

This event is for South Hadley and Granby girls going into kindergarten and first grade in the fall

and who are not currently Girl Scouts. It will be held at Camp Lewis Perkins, 9 Camp Perkins Road in South Hadley.

Parents or guardians who want to bring their girls to the event should RSVP by May 27 at [bit.ly/osshadleygranby](mailto:bit.ly/osshadleygranby). For more information on Girl Scouts, contact Hannah HLaprade@gscwm.org or 413-584-2602, extension 3604.

**TAG SALE - MOVING SALE**  
**Saturday, May 13 • 9 a.m.-4 p.m.**  
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# Opinion

## OPINION

### Waste Not, Want Not: Textile recycling in Massachusetts

By the Belchertown Energy and Sustainability Committee

With the implementation of Massachusetts' new ban on the disposal of textiles and mattresses, it begs the question of how we as both residents and consumers should be responding with both sustainability and feasibility in mind.

The new law from the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection, which added textiles and mattresses to the list of materials banned from disposal or transport for disposal in the state, went into effect last November. According to DEP, textiles are defined as bedding, clothing, curtains, fabric, footwear, towels and similar items.

The motivation behind this ban is the fact that virtually any textile can be reused, repurposed, or recycled if clean and dry. Even worn, torn, and stained items have recovery value. Right now, about 85% of the textiles currently being thrown away could have instead been donated, reused, or recycled. Massachusetts residents alone throw away six times more clothing, shoes, and other textiles than they donate, recycle, or repurpose.

This level of waste has dire consequences for the environment.

For Belchertown residents who need to recycle their clothing, mattress, and/or box spring, you can visit the Department of Public Works page on the town's website at [belchertown.org/dpw](http://belchertown.org/dpw). The page includes their link to the Beyond the Bin Recycling Directory, which will inform you on different locations in the state that will take your items.

On another note, as the consequence of a new MassDEP statewide ban on throwing away mattresses, box springs, and foundations, the Belchertown DPW set a \$100 disposal fee per piece/any size at the Belchertown Transfer Station & Recycling Center.

If you do not live in Belchertown you can call your local DPW and find out what arrangements they have made for mattress/box spring disposal. If you have a private trash hauler, you should call the company and ask for the arrangements and cost of bulk pickup, or locate a private junk removal service.

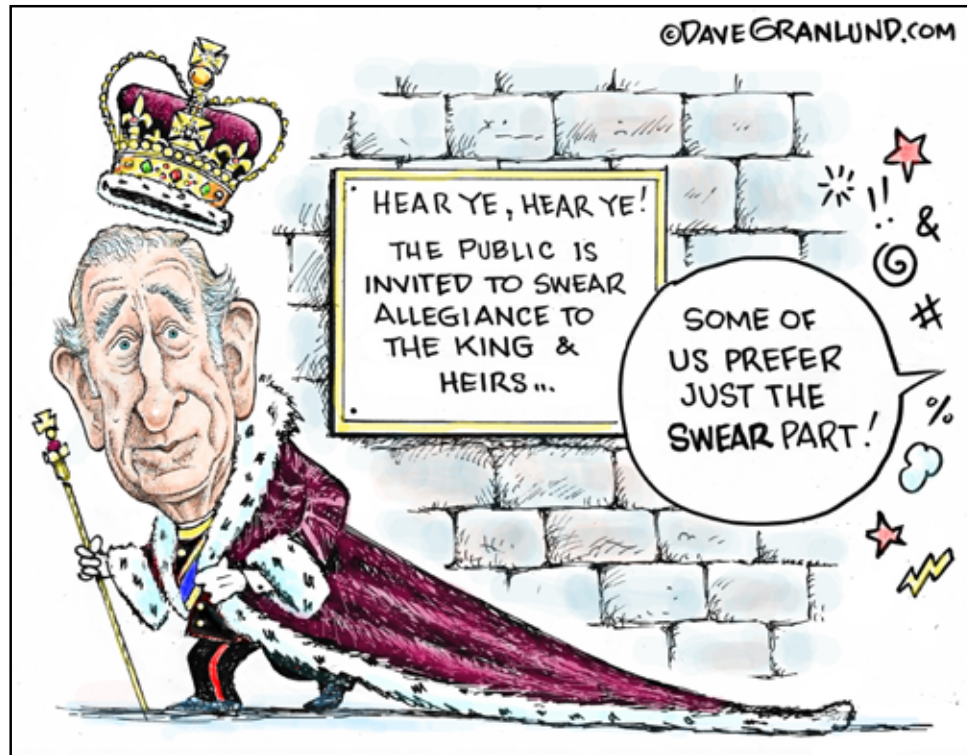
Be sure to check that the junk removal service will properly dispose of the items.

Aside from just complying with proper disposal, there are simple and practical steps that individuals can take to ensure that we are all being as sustainable as possible with our clothing. One of them is donation. As mentioned previously, MassDEP-supported Beyond the Bin Recycling Directory can also be a great resource to find nearby locations where you can drop off unwanted clothing, shoes and other textiles for donation to organizations that will resell, reuse, recycle or repurpose them. Certain clothing manufacturers and retailers have their own "take back programs," with brands including, but not limited to, Patagonia, The North Face, H&M, Levi Strauss & Co. and Nike.

You can also make sure that sustainable measures have been taken by the clothing companies to begin with. What we should be avoiding is the fast-fashion movement, a trend where consumers purchase affordable clothing, though cheaply made often by unethical labor practices, that quickly makes its way to the landfills.

Unlike those companies that show little regard for its purchasers, its workers, or the planet, there are well-known brands like L.L. Bean, Patagonia and North Face, that have a reputation for selling clothing made from recycled materials. While these brands come at a higher initial price tag, this alternative is also financially beneficial in the long term, as the longevity/durability of this clothing does not require you to replace them for years.

Please see **TEXTILE**, page 5



## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### More explanation of tax increase needed

I participated in South Hadley's Fire District No. 1 annual meeting and feel compelled to report the facts that I observed.

This annual meeting was to approve a budget for FY 2024, which begins on July 1, 2023. First, there was no negative sentiment expressed regarding the firefighters/paramedics/EMTs. I believe their service to the district is exemplary and all present would agree. The Prudential Committee, on the other hand, refused to provide details for most of their budget.

The primary issue arose when warrant article 5, for \$2.7 million in wages, was opened for questions. This one article represented more than 50% of the total budget. A quick review of the budgeted financials for fire department spending revealed a 17.8% increase in property taxes.

This represents an aggregate of a 35.7% increase in two years! The voters at this meeting expected an explanation for such a dramatic increase.

The Prudential Committee was asked for details on how the \$2.7 million was allocated and could not answer. The fire chief, who likely recommended most of the salary

budget in detail, was not called upon for an explanation. It was evident from comments expressed during and after the meeting, voters could not sanction funding for wages without an explanation.

Compounding the lack of detail from the Prudential Committee, the financial information in the annual report only became available that day. The meeting attendees received this report as they walked in the door.

In my opinion, the Prudential Committee rushed to schedule this meeting, unprepared and therefore unwilling to explain a whopping tax increase.

Questioning the budget in no way defunds the fire department. Note that last year's annual meeting took place on June 1, 2022. A meeting to review and approve the \$2.7 million salary budget can easily be scheduled between now and June 30, 2023. In the meantime, interested citizens and social media followers will be able to view the details as they are posted on the district website.

Kevin E. Taugher  
South Hadley

### Detached accessory dwelling units

South Hadley does not need second houses on residential lots.

We think it ill-advised to jeopardize South Hadley neighborhoods by passing a bylaw allowing detached ADUs. We need not trade what we prize in our beautiful town's special character in order to achieve the aims of providing diverse housing solutions when less invasive choices exist.

Attached ADUs address all the goals of equity, affordability, dignity and privacy for occupants without impinging on the privacy and dignity of nearby neighbors.

Our small, Western Massachusetts town need not solve its housing issues using the

same approach as densely built Boston.

In addition, let's be honest, ADUs of any kind will not solve the problem of housing affordability because they will be market rate units. To address affordability our town should continue working towards building affordable multi-unit dwellings in our two designated 40R districts. Let's take it one step at a time and get it right. Remember, there is no going back once this bylaw is passed by Town Meeting.

Bobbie Salthouse  
Robert Salthouse  
South Hadley

### Vote Yes on Attached, No on Detached ADU's

South Hadley Town Meeting Members:

On Wednesday, May 10th, South Hadley Town Meeting members will vote on the issue of Accessory Dwelling Units.

These "ADU's" are classified in two ways:

1) "Attached and Interior ADU's" are part of an existing house or can be an addition to this main house via a modular or prefabricated structure or a standard built addition.

2) "Detached ADU's" are separate buildings, which can be half as large as the main house. The limit is 900 square feet, but, when attached porches, decks, and garage stalls are included, these detached ADU's look like full-sized second houses on lots already occupied by a single-family home. These second houses would impinge on the right to privacy and enjoyment of neighbors' backyards, which are most people's sanctuaries and areas to relax and en-

Please see **LETTER**, page 5

## 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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**TEXTILE** from page 4

A more affordable hybrid option is buying those higher quality long-lasting goods from secondhand stores, where you can still get the benefits for a fraction of the price! For residents, all of these options can be found at retail stores in and around Hadley.

The textile disposal ban should be a wake-up call to us as consumers and citizens. It gives us an opportunity to look at new ways of recycling, donating, reusing, and shopping. In providing this information to you, we seek ways in which to create a healthier environment and economy for our town, our state, and ultimately our planet. As always, feel free to contact us at [energycomm@belchertown.org](mailto:energycomm@belchertown.org) to ask us questions and/or make suggestions.

**LETTER** from page 4

joy nature and the outdoors.

It is very important to note, contrary to what you might have heard, all ADU's, attached/interior and detached, can be rented to anyone, not just to relatives. These are not just in-law suites or guest houses. This point is paramount: anyone may rent them.

We all want to add to the rentable housing stock in our town. Attached/interior ADU's are a gentle solution. All the goals and objectives of ADU's can be achieved without compromising our precious backyards. The elderly, handicapped, relatives, young couples, anyone can be accommodated via Attached/Interior ADU's. This is a balanced and fair approach that makes everyone happy.

We are all on the same side here. We want more rentable units made available, and yet we want to preserve the character of single-family neighborhoods and ensure the right to privacy and the enjoyment of the back yards of abutters.

I urge Town Meeting Members to support Attached/interior Accessory Dwelling Units and to reject the concept of detached ADU's which are in reality second homes on lots in residential neighborhoods.

Martha Terry  
South Hadley

# South Hadley Library activities for May

May is a terrific month to visit the South Hadley Public and Gaylord Memorial libraries. Both libraries feature outdoor spaces that invite readers to relax and spend some time enjoying nature.

Inside the buildings are a full schedule of free public programs for all ages. Stop in at South Hadley Public Library at 2 Canal Street or Gaylord Memorial Library at 47 College Street (or go to [gaylordlibrary.org](http://gaylordlibrary.org)) to see what's new.

Need a library card? Just go to [shadley.cwmars.org/eg/opac/register](http://shadley.cwmars.org/eg/opac/register) to complete the online application or sign up in person.

**Upcoming programs include:**

**Adult Puzzle Swap  
(Take a Puzzle - Leave a Puzzle)  
10 a.m. Saturday, May 6**

Have Jigsaws over 500 pieces? Want a new puzzle or two? Visit our swap and bring a complete puzzle to swap it for a new one. Up to 3 puzzles are allowed to be swapped and you must take as many as you bring.

**Job Seekers and Networking Group  
10 a.m. Tuesdays, May 9 and 23**

Come and get the information you need to find that position you are looking for. Network and find like-minded individuals to help you achieve your goals. In the Trustees Room. Related:

May 10 – Interview Prep/Strategy  
May 17 – Interview Practice  
Wednesday Evening sessions from 6-8 p.m. Sign up at [tinyurl.com/you2th934](http://tinyurl.com/you2th934)  
May 24 – Interview Practice

**Office Hours with  
Rep. Dan Carey, Sen. Oliveira  
4:30-5:30 p.m. Tuesday, May 9**  
Meet with legislators Sen. Jake Oliveira and Rep. Dan Carey and their staff in the Trustees Room.

**Virtual Adult Writers Group  
11:30 a.m. Saturday, May 13**  
Limited to six participants. Writing workshops give writers of all experience the chance to foster their writing in an

environment geared towards improvement. Writers come with work they have already written and share it with peers who then provide feedback (positive and constructive). This general workshop accepts all writing. A facilitator from InfinityEd will be here to guide conversation. Register at [tinyurl.com/5n7ur73m](http://tinyurl.com/5n7ur73m). For more information call 413-538-5045 or email [dsmelcer@cwmars.org](mailto:dsmelcer@cwmars.org).

**Library Dances by Maureen Shea  
11 a.m. Saturday, May 13**

Dancing and writing are temporal and timeless, concrete and ephemeral, meditative and explosive. The relationships between writing and dancing have inspired this series of Library Dances.

**Drop in Chess for Adults and Teens  
6 p.m. Wednesday, May 17**

Grab a chess board from the Circulation Desk and play with other community members.

**Spanish Conversation Circle  
10:30 a.m. Saturday, May 20**

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.

**Virtual Author Talk:  
Not Funny by Jena Friedman  
2 p.m. Saturday, May 20**

When sixteen-year-old Georgia Avis discovers the dead body of thirteen-year-old Ashley James, she teams up with Ashley's older sister, Nora, to find and bring the killer to justice before he strikes again. Register at [libraryc.org/shadleylib/26544](http://libraryc.org/shadleylib/26544)

**Author Talk: Were You Close?  
by Ann Pinkerton**

**6 p.m. Wednesday, May 24**

When people learned about her brother's accidental death, they often asked his sister, the only girl and the baby of the family, "Were you close?" The question, seemingly straightforward, haunted her and begged for a deeper answer, requiring an exploration that took a decade. Pinkerton invites the reader along on her own journey as she searches for a greater understanding about who her brother was. Join us in the Community Room.

**Wendell Warriors Drumming Group:  
Come Out and Play**

**6 p.m. Wednesday, May 31**

Drum teacher Jafar Manselle and his performance group will first play a set of West African drum rhythms. All drums and percussion instruments to be provided by the teacher, however if anyone has their own djembe drum, feel free to bring it.

**Funnel Painting for teen  
4 p.m. Tuesday, May 16**

Teens come and make their own funnel painting. All supplies will be provided. No sign up needed. Check out the Teen Room door for more information. Craft will take place in the Craft Room.

**Herb Gardening for teens  
4 p.m. Wednesday, May 31**

Teens come and make their own small herb garden! All supplies will be provided. No sign up needed. Check out the Teen Room door for more information. This will take place in the Teen Room.

Please see **LIBRARY**, page 13



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**May 31, 2019**



SAVING THE EARTH ONE STEP AT A TIME – Seniors Justin Taylor and Emma Rahilly led the Climate March that ventured from South Hadley High School to Town Hall.



**BELCHERTOWN PUBLIC SCHOOLS**  
**SCHOOL CHOICE PROGRAM**  
**2023-2024 SCHOOL YEAR**

The Belchertown Public School District is now accepting applications for the following School Choice openings for the 2023-2024 school year:

Grade K	2	Grade 7	10
Grade 1	4	Grade 8	10
Grade 3	4	Grade 9	5
Grade 4	4	Grade 10	5
Grade 5	1		

The Belchertown Public Schools combine innovation and tradition to provide positive educational experiences for all of our students through quality programs, dynamic teaching and healthy relationships.

The deadline for submitting a **complete** application is 4:00 p.m. on **Friday, June 2, 2023.**

The selection of non-resident students for admission will be in the form of a random drawing when the number of requests exceeds the number of available spaces. There will be two drawings for this purpose. The first will take place on June 2, 2023, and in the event of unexpected additional openings, a second drawing will be conducted on August 4, 2023.

The application and guidelines can be downloaded at [www.belchertownps.org](http://www.belchertownps.org) or picked up at 14 Maple St., Belchertown, MA 01007.

*The Belchertown School District does not discriminate in the admission of any child on the basis of age, sex, gender identity, race, religion, color, national origin, sexual orientation or ancestry, athletic performance, physical handicap, special need, academic performance, disability or proficiency in the English language in accordance with applicable laws and regulations.*

**BUDGET** from page 1

The Department has 26 full-time members including Authier, and 15 call firefighters. The South Hadley Professional Firefighters Union Local 5048 represents 25 career firefighters.

Without a staffed fire department, insurance rates will increase for homeowners, Authier said.

“There’s a lot of the public that don’t know what’s happening,” he said. “We’re trying to reassure them.”

District 1 Clerk/Treasurer Kari Scytowski said Article 5 of the annual meeting warrant covered the chief’s salary, fire department wages, ambulance wages, overtime and stipends, administrative and clerk/treasurer wages, district elected officials, as well as town Assessors, Treasurer and Clerk.

The fiscal year 2024 salary budget total requested is \$2,717,538.35.

The District’s FY 24 operating budget was approved at the annual meeting, Authier said, which will allow them to fuel up the firetrucks, but he’s unsure if there will be anyone to drive them come July 1.

“In my wildest dream, I never thought that the salaries of the firefighters wouldn’t be funded,” Authier said.

**DRIVING** from page 1

course while wearing Fatal Vision goggles, which distort vision and simulate impairment from alcohol and marijuana.

“If doing this event stops one student from driving under the influence, then it was well worth doing,” said Steve Fleming, director of the South Hadley Drug and Alcohol Coalition and a retired South Hadley police officer. He started the event several years ago.

The event offers high school juniors and seniors the chance to see what effect being impaired really has on their abilities.

“The students can either drive with the goggles on and experience what it’s like to drive intoxicated or try to do the sobriety tests while wearing the goggles,” explained Megan Lee, the advisor to South Hadley High School’s peer leaders group. “This year we also had students who were not able to drive wear the goggles while being passengers. An adult drove so they could experience what it is like to be intoxicated in a moving vehicle and how much the goggles distort their vision.”

It’s an insight that the students really need to understand and one that will hopefully keep the students from making poor choices about driving while under the influence.

“I do think that it had the intended effect of having them



**A South Hadley High School student attempts to walk while using the Fatal Vision goggles.**

experience what it is like to drive under the influence and how dangerous it is,” said Lee. “Many students, as they were getting out of the golf cart, said that they would never do this and that it scared them how dan-

gerous it was.”

The event stems from the combined work of the high school’s peer leaders, School Resource Officer Joshua Helems, the South Hadley Drug and Alcohol Coalition and vari-

ous members of the town’s police and fire departments.

South Hadley Police Sergeant Douglas Percy has the Fatal Vision goggles and works to get the golf carts for the event and set up the course on the high school’s turf field. He heads up the alcohol division for the police department, according to Lee.

“The kids really enjoyed the experience and it really opened their eyes to the effects of driving under the influence of alcohol or marijuana,” said Lee.

This event is just one of the several that the schools and community groups work collaboratively on throughout the year. The peer leaders also team up with the police department to do “sticker shocks” at local liquor stores to remind the clerks and businesses not to serve alcohol to people under 21 years of age. The “sticker shock” program usually entails peer leaders or other youth groups placing stickers on bags or alcohol items at local liquor stores reminding clerks to check identification or for customers not to buy for underage people. Such incidents tend to happen before events when underage people might be seeking out alcohol such as the Blarney Blowout at the University of Massachusetts in Amherst or high school prom and graduation season.

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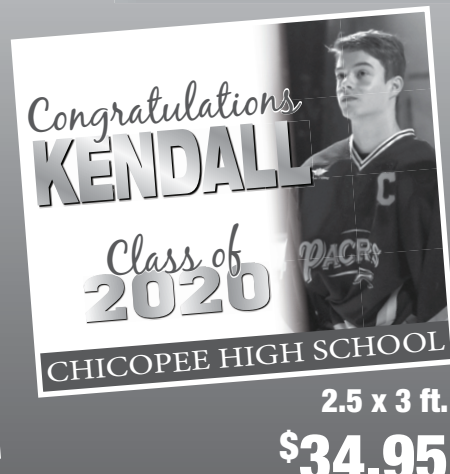
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Gabriella Diaz flying her kite.

**By Matty Anderson**  
Staff Writer  
manderson@turley.com

**SOUTH HADLEY**—Mount Holyoke College celebrated Pangy Day Friday afternoon, on the Pageant Green, to keep an age old tradition alive.

Pangynaskeia Day, or Pangy Day, is a combination of three Greek words, which roughly translates to “whole woman making” or “cultivating the total world of women.”

This springtime tradition has been around for more than 20 years. The first Pangynaskeia Day was on April

25, 1980. It’s part Earth Day, part May Day, part spring- fever-inspired fun.

Pangy Day is filled with food, fun and festivities. It’s often referred to as “the best day ever at MHC.” The celebration includes an all-college picnic on the Pageant Green, below Gettell Amphitheater, where food and flowers are shared.

The festival featured a number of optional events for students to attend including performances, V8’s final jam, a film premier and the iconic maypole dance. The maypole dance is a tradition where students gather on Skinner Green



(Turley Publications, Photos by Matty Anderson)

Sarah Garijo and Sam Benson serving cotton candy to students.

around the ritual maypole to dance in a spiral while braiding colorful ribbons around the pole.

Whether you want to play games or just kick back and relax on a picnic blanket, Pangy Day is the perfect occasion. There was music, games, face-painting, crafts, food vendors and any outdoor activity students could imagine.

Gabriella Diaz, a politics and romance double major, enjoyed flying her kite in the beautiful spring breeze, said, “It’s nice to finally be able to participate in school traditions after lockdown. This is my first year celebrating Pangy

Day.”

Another group of students had a blast joking around and playing pass. Audrey Pun, an art history major said, “This has been a great community bonding experience and celebration of spring.”

Sarah Garijo, the area coordinator, and Sam Benson, an associate director, were thrilled to spread happiness in the form of cotton candy.

The Mount Holyoke Volleyball team and friends also showed off their skills at the volleyball net. The girls said, “This is our first Pangy Day and we’re having a great time. What a cool tradition.”



Audrey Pun and friends playing catch.



A group of students tossing disc.



A list of events and activities that took place on Friday.

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# Bright spot therapy dogs light up campus center

By **Matty Anderson**  
Staff Writer  
manderson@turley.com

AMHERST – Last Wednesday, UMass Amherst welcomed Bright Spot Therapy Dogs and their handlers to help students de-stress with finals on the horizon.

April McNally, the health promotion specialist at UMass Amherst College, and Michelle Karb, the executive director of Bright Spot Therapy Dogs, collaborate every year before midterms and finals.

McNally said “This collaboration has been happening for 10 years. The goal of these events is to connect with students, offer a space where they can connect with therapy dogs and provide access to resources that support their wellbeing.”

Students like Swetha Baskaran did their part by promoting the event in order to make this resource more accessible to peers and assisting McNally in any way possible.

The collaboration proved to be a wonderful opportunity for members of Bright Spot Therapy Dogs to participate in a large group event. It is the largest college visit that Bright Spot Therapy Dogs organizes.

One student who has been working

hard on his senior thesis told McNally, “This is literally the best thing that has happened to me in months.” Avery Kolenski, a junior majoring in geography said, “It’s nice to have dogs around after a long day of classes.”

Not all heroes wear capes, some wear disco-themed collars like Gwen, a six-year-old greyhound who reported for duty with her handler Wayne Desroches. “I always love when people recognize Gwen, when some students talk about their college experience, a highlight for them is having dogs pay them a visit when they need it the most,” said Desroches.

Kodi, a 10-year-old all-star with a tennis ball made an appearance at the event alongside his handler Patty Cowden. “Kodi is very zen, he’s the calmest dog, people call him the doggy-lama.” said Cowden.

On the eve of his third birthday, Marty, a golden retriever, boosted students’ spirits alongside his handler Marjarie Shearer. Shearer said, “He makes everyone happy wherever he goes, he raises my spirit and re-centers people in many ways.”

Winnie, a six-year-old poodle and her handler, Naomi Rosenberg, were the final pair to say goodbye to their UMass friends.

Rosenberg said, “She’s really special because she always seems to know exactly what someone needs. When playing with toddlers, she’s really gentle and rolls the ball to them slowly. My mom said, ‘she’s the calmest dog in the world,’ but as you see today she’s also energetic and loves to play with people.”

As Rosenberg left, she jokingly called Winnie to her side, saying, “Come on stinky,” which got a laugh from nearby students.

Junior, Sakshi L, said, “This was a huge burst of serotonin.” Another junior, Nina Balagula said, “This really brightened up my day.”

After reflecting on an afternoon well spent with her own faithful canines, Betty and Sophie, Karb said, “I think animals can do what people can’t. They love unconditionally and seem to know how to support us without any guidance.”



Kodi, the doggy-lama himself.

(Turley Publications photos by Matty Anderson)



Michelle Karb’s very own dogs – Betty and Sophie.



Winnie and her handler, Naomi Rosenberg.



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# Junior art studio exhibit at Mount Holyoke College

By **Matty Anderson**  
Staff Writer  
manderson@turley.com

SOUTH HADLEY – Mount Holyoke College’s Studio Art Professor, Xuan Pham’s Junior year students created a successful and visually stunning studio art exhibit.

The primary goal of this course is to provide strategies for each student to develop an individual studio art practice. Through experimentation, thematic development, strong sketchbook skills and research, students developed and articulated a conceptual focus in their own art production.

By Wednesday, April 6, the last day of class, students had met their goal and displayed their strongest thematic artwork in an exhibition located in room 302 of the Art Building.

Xi Stoddart, a studio art major minoring in religion, combined their passions in a series of religious themed artwork. They said, “I’m a creator, spiritual seeker, and reflector of the divine. What I create is often inspired by it and puts visuals to the history and mythology of Episcopal Christianity, my cradle religion.” Xi works with a variety of materials and methods, such as printmaking, drawing, paper crafts and painting.

A.J Fulmer, an artist from Gloucester Massachusetts said, “I work a lot with figuring out my own experiences with addiction, transness and belonging.” Their hometown manifests itself through ocean motifs, specific catch species, train tracks, themes of alienation, community and identity. They create art in “traditional mediums,” such as paintings, drawings and 2D illustrations.

“My work is an exploration of the preternatural: that which lies just beyond the boundaries of traditionally accepted reality and encroaches on the realm of

dreams, fantasies, fears, spirits, visions, or wishes.” Their work in charcoal and graphite drawing, printmaking and book arts investigates that which is beyond nature.

Aya Schramm from Herrenberg Germany said, “As a non-binary and disabled artist, my work focuses on my experiences with disability and pain in the modern world; the main intention of my art is to understand my own purpose and path in the world.” Their art features relief prints made from screen prints on fabrics, in combination with installation and performance arts, as well as painting techniques and traditional tattooing.

Ember Lann is a multimedia artist with a passion for drawing people, sewing, creating characters and worlds. They said, “Art for me is a release and escape. I delve into worlds others have created and the world I am creating myself to take a break from reality; sewing allows me to create three dimensional art with a function, either as a toy or something worn as clothing.”

Grace Sanford works primarily with gouache paints on panels, watercolors, acrylic paint, woodworking, relief printmaking and etching. They said, “I’m driven by a sense of love for the world around me and a fascination with how it works. My work considers human relationships with our ecosystem, themes of self-protection, community care, and the idea of person and landscape.”

Imaane Patel, an artist from Mumbai India, uses various mediums to explore facets of her own identity, culture, health, and lived experiences. The mediums she has worked with include: film photography and associated darkroom processes, watercolors, woodworking, ceramics, screen printing and knitting.

Isabelle Hettlinger, is an artist whose work is ambiguous and encourages her audience to



Xi Stoddart posing with their artwork.



Safe Harbor, by AJ Fulmer.

interact with it. She enjoys textiles due to the versatility the medium offers. She said “I m

Please see **ART SHOW**, page 13



Coral Home by Sydney Zobel.



Art by Isabelle Hettlinger.



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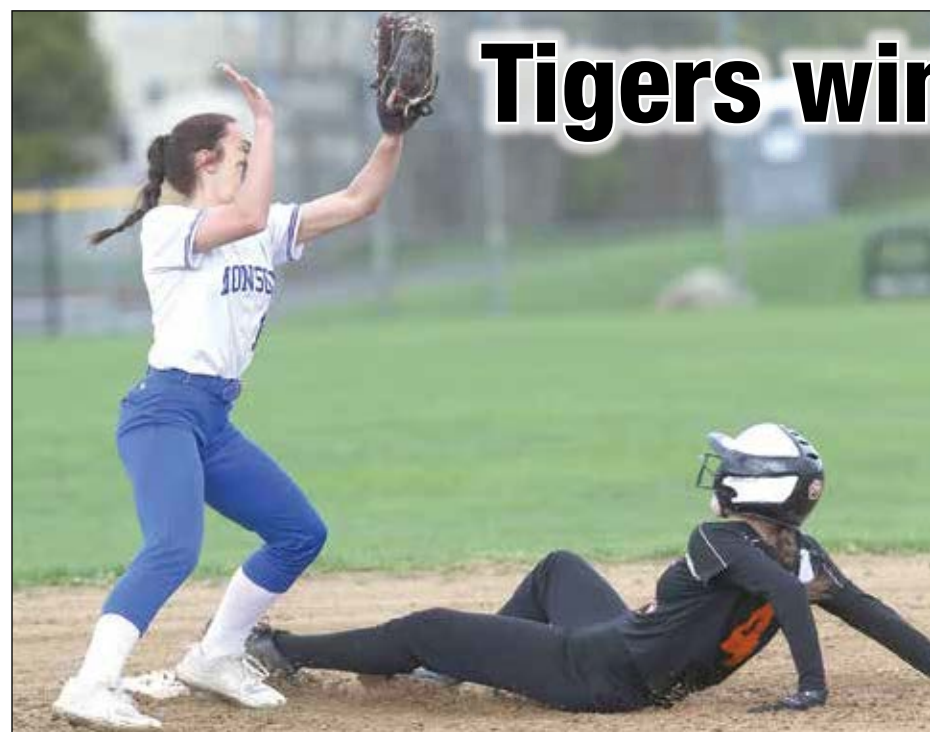


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Erin Bullough slides into second base.



Isabella Schaeffer fires to the plate during her matchup with Monson.



Jenna Bobrowski fields a grounder.

## Tigers win in biggest test yet

By Tim Peterson  
Sports Correspondent

SOUTH HADLEY—After being swept by Monson during the 2022 regular season, sophomore Isabella Schaeffer and her teammates on the South Hadley varsity softball team really wanted to win the first meeting of this season between the Suburban West League rivals.

The contest, which took place at the South Hadley softball diamond, was scoreless until the bottom of the sixth inning. The Lady Tigers managed to put three runs on the scoreboard during that frame and Schaeffer stranded a runner in scoring position in the top of the seventh, as the home team celebrated a thrilling 3-0 victory against the Lady Mustangs, last Monday afternoon (April 24).

“We lost to Monson twice last year, which gave us a little extra motivation coming into today’s game,” said Schaeffer, who’s a hard throwing righty. “I got into a groove early in the game and everything just fell into place for us.”

Entering the contest, both teams were tied for first place in the league standings with a 6-0 record.

The Lady Tigers, who had an 8-1 overall record won their eighth game in a row since losing a non-league home game to Amherst in the season opener.

“This was just a wonderful game between two very good softball teams,” said first-year South Hadley head coach Junior Perez. “It was scoreless until the sixth inning. We were able to take advantage of a couple of mistakes.”

The Lady Mustangs (7-2), who are defending league champions, lost for the first time since a home loss to Wahconah



Photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Ara Powers frames a pitch.

Regional in the second game of the regular season. They posted 7-2 and 1-0 victories against South Hadley a year ago.

“We’re two evenly matched softball teams and it was an awesome game today,” said Monson head coach Jill Carneglia. “We did make a few mistakes in the sixth inning, which rattled us a little bit. Playing a close game like this one will help us in the long run.”

It was an incredible performance in the middle of the circle by Schaeffer.

She didn’t allow any runs on just one base hit with a career-high 19 strikeouts and two walks.

“Schaeffer has thrown a perfect game and a couple of no-hitters so far this sea-

Please see **TIGERS**, page 11

## NECBL announces full schedule for 2023 season

SOUTH HADLEY – The 2023 New England Collegiate Baseball League (NECBL) first pitch is slated for June 6, as Commissioner Sean McGrath has announced the full schedule for the 29th playing season.

All eyes will be on Dodd Stadium in Norwich, Connecticut on June 6, as the league kicks off its season with the Mystic Schooners hosting the Newport Gulls in the lone matchup of opening day. Ten other teams, including the defending champion Martha’s Vineyard Sharks, will get to work on June 7th, with six games on tap, while Sanford is the last team to open their season, part of a seven-game schedule on June 8th that includes the first doubleheader of the year.

In 2022, Martha’s Vineyard claimed their first league championship with a 2-0 sweep of the Vermont Mountaineers. That completed a prolific season for the Sharks, who had hosted the 2022 NECBL All Star Game and earned a Wild Card berth in the postseason. On their way to the championship, Martha’s Vineyard knocked off both of the top seeds, the Bristol Blues and the

Please see **NECBL**, page 11



Emily Piligan gets ready to shoot.



Ellie Britton advances up the field.



Photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com  
Caitlin Dean makes a run for it.



Maddy McArdle carefully receives a pass.

## Tigers win rematch with Comp

SOUTH HADLEY – On Tuesday afternoon, South Hadley girls lacrosse defeated Chicopee Comprehensive 15-3. The win would bring the Tigers to

5-3 overall. In the victory, Margaret Watkins had four goals for the Tigers while Rachel Yabra, Ava Asselin, Raquel Losty, and Audissey Hill had two goals each.

# Thunderbirds make large donation to Rays of Hope

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds announced a donation of \$30,000 to the Rays of Hope as a result of proceeds from the live jersey auction during the T-Birds’ 6th Annual Pink in the Rink game on March 11.

Thunderbirds President Nathan Costa and Vice President of Sales & Strategy Todd McDonald presented a check to the Rays of Hope earlier this week inside the MassMutual Center. This year’s Pink in the Rink game set new records for total funds generated, and the MassMutual Center came out in full force with a sixth straight “Pink” night sellout crowd of 6,793.

Established in T-Birds’ inaugural season in 2016-17, “Pink in the Rink” serves as a kickoff to the Rays of Hope fundraising efforts each March to shine a light on breast cancer awareness outside of the traditional October

awareness month. Each year, the fundraising efforts culminate in the annual Rays of Hope Walk & Run in October. Since the establishment of this staple night, the Thunderbirds have generated more than \$100,000 for the Rays of Hope Foundation, all of which stays local in Western Massachusetts in hopes of finding the cure.

Proceeds for this donation were raised primarily via the post-game live jersey auction, as every Thunderbirds player had his jersey sold to directly benefit the Rays of Hope. In addition, Chris Hayes, General Manager of Oak View Group Hospitality, the food and beverage partner for the MassMutual

Center, contributed toward the donation total through the sales of Pink Whitney beverages throughout the evening.

“Pink in the Rink once again proved to be one of the most special nights of our historic season,” said Costa. “We share in the Rays of Hope Foundation’s pride for our community and our fanbase for their steadfast support year in and year out. We want to congratulate the Rays of Hope on their 30th anniversary and are proud to continue such a meaningful partnership that celebrates so many brave women and men in Western Massachusetts who have not only survived breast

cancer but also thrived in generating awareness through their Rays of Hope family.”

“We’re sending our signature big pink hug to the Springfield Thunderbirds and their fans for illuminating HOPE in our community,” said Kathy Tobin, Director of Annual Giving and Events for the Baystate Health Foundation. “As we kick off Rays of Hope’s 30th Anniversary, we reflect on those who have helped us get to this moment. We may not have a cure for breast cancer yet, but we have made lifesaving breakthroughs in treatment and the research continues. Importantly we have a big extended family of support here in western Massachusetts. Thank you to the T-Birds for lifting our survivors up!”

Since its inception in 1994, Rays of Hope has raised over \$16.6 million to support the women and men living in west-

ern Massachusetts touched by breast cancer. Funds also support vital research at the Rays of Hope Center for Breast Cancer Research.

The T-Birds Foundation was established in 2018 with a mission of serving the Springfield community and the Pioneer Valley beyond every win and loss through a focus on providing and supporting initiatives in the areas of health and wellness, youth enrichment, and civil service. During the 2022-23 season, the T-Birds Foundation raised more than \$131,000 for charitable causes in Western Massachusetts.

This year’s Rays of Hope Walk & Run Toward the Cure of Breast Cancer will be held on Sunday, October 22. For more information, visit [Baystate-health.org/Raysofhope](http://Baystate-health.org/Raysofhope) or call 413-794-8001.



## Run for Rice’s 5K Road Race set for June 3

WILBRAHAM – The 11th annual “Run for Rice’s 5K Road Race” will be held on Saturday, June 3 at 9 a.m. This popular, family-friendly 5K road race begins at Christ the King – Epiphany Church, 758 Main Street, Wilbraham, and winds through a flat, fast course in surrounding neighborhoods, ending at Rice Fruit Farm across the street from the start. Pre-registration fee for runners and walkers is \$20, while day-of-race registration is \$25. Ages 18 and under registration is \$15 including day-of registration.

The first 150 registered runners by May 20 will receive our famous race t-shirt featuring the “Running Apple” logo, and all registered runners will receive a free Rice Fruit Farm ice cream with their bib number on day of race only. Cash prizes will be awarded in several categories, and all proceeds benefit the Rice Nature Preserve maintenance fund of the Minnechaug Land Trust.

Race day registration will be open from 7:30 a.m. until 8:45 a.m. On-line registration now available at [RunSignUp.com](http://RunSignUp.com), and paper registration forms can be downloaded at the Minnechaug Land Trust website [www.minnechauglandtrust.org](http://www.minnechauglandtrust.org).

## 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.

## TIGERS from page 10

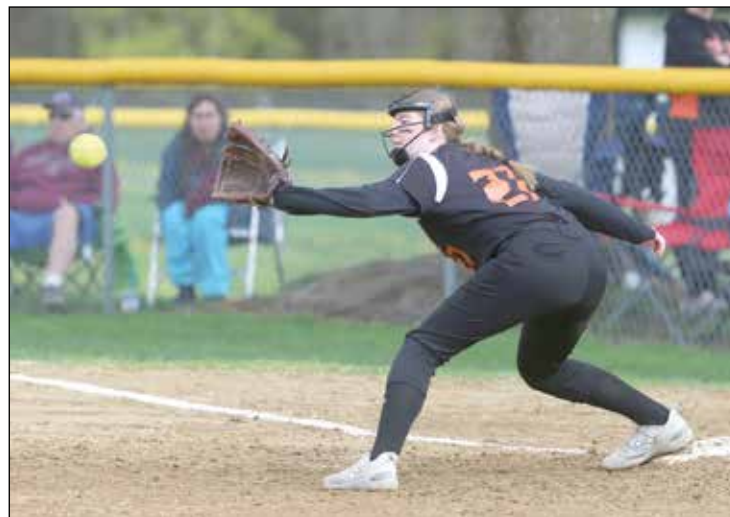
son,” Perez said. “She now has 123 strikeouts. She’s a very important player for us and the future is very bright for us.”

The Lady Mustangs threatened to take an early lead in the top of the first inning.

With one-out, Monson sophomore second baseman Natalie Hull lined a single that found a hole between the Lady Tigers first and second basemen into right field. After the next batter struck out, sophomore Molly Szado, who was the Lady Mustangs starting pitcher, was intentionally walked. The move paid off as Schaffer ended the opening frame with her third strikeout.

“It was very important for us to keep Monson from scoring a run in the first inning,” Schaffer said. “It gave us some momentum.”

Schaffer would strike out the side in order in the second, third, fifth, and sixth innings. She also added two more K’s in the fourth inning, which were sandwiched around a ground out to the shortstop by Szado.



Photos by David Henry [www.sweetdogphotos.com](http://www.sweetdogphotos.com)

Sophia Butler stretches for the out at first.

“The South Hadley pitcher throws very hard,” Carneglia said. “She’s the best pitcher that we’ve faced so far this season. Molly also pitched very well in today’s game.”

Szado, who’s also a righty, allowed three runs on only one base hit with ten strikeouts and five walks.

Szado walked the Lady Tigers leadoff hitters in both the first

and second innings, but the home team couldn’t push across any runs in those two frames.

South Hadley’s best scoring chance came in the second when sophomore shortstop Karli Carmody walked and advanced to second on a sacrifice bunt by sophomore first baseman Sophia Butler. After Carmody stole third base, Szado buckled down and struck out the next two batters

ending the threat.

Szado would retire eleven batters in a row before junior right fielder Amaya Dunn drew a walk with two outs in the bottom of the fifth.

South Hadley had runners on first and second with no outs in the sixth inning when Schaffer hit a flyball, which was misplayed by the right fielder for a two-base error.

Junior catcher Ara Powers, who broke up Szado’s no-hit bid with an infield hit, scored the game’s first run on the play. Senior centerfielder Ruth Pietrzykowski drove home the Lady Tigers other two runs with a ground ball single into shallow left field.

Szado walked for the second time with one out in the seventh inning. She moved to second base on a passed ball before Schaffer ended the ballgame with a strikeout and a groundball out.

South Hadley, who hasn’t won the league title since 2006, will be looking to sweep the season series when they travel to Monson on May 15.

## NECBL from page 10

Mountaineers, who had each tied an NECBL record with 32 regular season wins.

The anticipated rematches of the championship series will take place on June 27 on the Vineyard and July 12 in Montpelier.

Comprising 13 teams for the 2023 season, the league will once again operate with a three-division alignment. The Coastal Division will feature five teams (Martha’s Vineyard, Mystic, Ocean State, North Shore & Newport), while the North Division (Keene, Vermont, Sanford, Upper Valley) and West Division (Bristol, Valley, North Adams, Danbury) will each include four teams.

Once again, all teams will play a 44-game slate in which they will play each of their divisional opponents seven times. Coastal Teams will play each non-division opponent twice, once at home and once on the road, while teams in the North Division and West Division will play non-divisional opponents three times apiece.

The league is grateful to the work of Ben Grannan, Ph.D., As-

sistant Professor of Business Analytics at Queens University (NC) for taking on the complex task of creating the 2023 schedule. Grannan had to balance each team’s facility availability, the number of intra- and inter-division matchups, travel considerations, double-headers, off-days, and more.

“The combination of computers and subject matter expertise is the current best practice to create sports schedules,” explained Grannan. “Specifically, analytical models are used to track the potential home team, away team, and date of each baseball game during the season. The best schedule satisfies as many items as possible from the list of submitted NECBL team requests as well as the league requirements. Most importantly, the league office participates in a feedback loop to review the schedule and identify any nuances missed by the computer.”

Sunday, June 23rd will see the league’s best gather at historic Fraser Field in Lynn, Massachusetts for the 2023 NECBL All-Star Game, presented by Metro Credit Union. The All-Star Game features the

NECBL’s top talent, with players from all NECBL organizations showcasing their skills in front of scouts from every Major League Baseball (MLB) organization.

In the final week of the season, each of the league’s 13 teams will play solely against division rivals in hopes of qualifying for the 2023 NECBL Postseason, which will feature six teams (the three division winners and three wildcards who have the next three highest winning percentages league-wide after the division winners).

The division winners with the top-two regular season winning percentages will earn first-round byes, while the third division winner will battle the wildcard team with the lowest win percentage, and the wildcard teams with the best and second-best win percentages will also face off in a single-elimination wildcard round matchup.

The top seed/division winner will then meet the advancing team that is the lowest remaining wildcard team, while the second-highest seed/division winner faces the highest remaining wildcard team in the best-of-three semifinals be-

fore the last two teams standing square off in a best-of-three NECBL Championship Series for the right to hoist the Fay Vincent, Sr. Cup.

The final games of the regular season will be held on Saturday, July 29, with the following day (July 30) open for makeup games before the postseason begins with the Wild Card games on Monday, July 31.

The semifinals series will be played from August 1-3, and the final two teams will play for the championship from August 4-6.

All NECBL games will be streamed live on the NECBL Network, powered by BlueFrame Technology. The NECBL Network is available on both your desktop and mobile/tablet devices, as well as Roku, Amazon Fire TV, Android TV and Apple TV 4th Gen.

Rosters are filling up, and you can check out who is coming to play for your favorite team by heading to their team page at [www.necbl.com](http://www.necbl.com). Make sure to follow these players all spring long as they compete for their colleges and tune up for their summer in the NECBL.

## Meet the authors for reading and more at Odyssey Bookshop

SOUTH HADLEY — The Odyssey Bookshop at 9 College Street regularly hosts authors for an intimate discussion about their work. Upcoming visits include:

### Justin Cronin in person 7 p.m. Thursday, May 11

Justin Cronin talks about his new novel, "The Ferryman."

#### About the Book

From the New York Times bestselling author of "The Passage" comes a riveting standalone novel about a group of survivors on a hidden island utopia where the truth isn't what it seems. Founded by the mysterious genius known as the Designer, the archipelago of Prospera lies hidden from the horrors of a deteriorating outside world. In this island paradise, Prospera's lucky citizens enjoy long, fulfilling lives until the monitors embedded in their forearms, meant to measure their physical health and psychological well-being, fall below 10%. Then they retire themselves, embarking on a ferry ride to the island known as the Nursery, where their failing bodies are renewed, their memories are wiped clean, and they are readied to restart life afresh. About the Author

Justin Cronin is the New York Times bestselling author of "The Passage," "The Twelve," "The City of Mirrors," "The Summer Guest," and "Mary and O'Neil." His work has been published in over 45 languages and sold more than three million copies worldwide. A writer in residence at Rice University, he divides his time between Houston, Texas and Cape Cod.

### Han Kang in person 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 16

Han Kang presents her new novel, "Greek Lessons" and will be joined in

conversation by Franny Choi.

#### About the Book

An intimate, dazzling novel about the saving grace of language and human connection. In a classroom in Seoul, a young woman watches her Greek language teacher at the blackboard. She tries to speak but has lost her voice. Her teacher finds himself drawn to the silent woman, for day by day he is losing his sight. Soon the two discover a deeper pain binds them together. For her, in the space of just a few months, she has lost both her mother and the custody battle for her 9-year-old son. For him, it's the pain of growing up between Korea and Germany, being torn between two cultures and languages and the fear of losing his independence. Greek Lessons tells the story of two ordinary people brought together at a moment of private anguish.

#### About the Author

Han Kang was born in 1970 in South Korea. A recipient of the Yi Sang Literary Award, the Today's Young Artist Award, and the Manhae Prize for Literature, she is the author of The Vegetarian, winner of the International Booker Prize, Human Acts, and The White Book.

#### About Franny Choi

Franny Choi is the author of three poetry collections, "The World Keeps Ending" and the "World Goes On" (Ecco, 2022), "Soft Science" (Alice James Books, 2019) and "Floating, Brilliant, Gone" (Write Bloody Publishing, 2014), as well as one chapbook, "Death by Sex Machine" (Sibling Rivalry Press, 2017). She is a Kundiman Fellow, a 2019 Ruth Lilly and Dorothy Sargent Rosenberg Fellow, a recipient of Princeton University's Holmes National Poetry Prize, and a graduate of the University of Michigan's Helen Zell Writers Program. Her poems

have appeared in the New York Times, the Nation, Paris Review, and elsewhere. She lives in Western Massachusetts with her partner and their cat.

### Eileen Myles in person 7 p.m. Monday, May 22

Eileen Myles reads from their new collection, a "Working Life."

#### About the Book

From "one of the essential voices in American poetry" (New York Times) comes a rich new collection of expansive, light-footed, and cheerfully foreboding poems oddly in tune with our strange and evolving present. The first new collection since "Evolution" from the prolific poet, activist and writer is a "Working Life" unerringly captures the measure of life. Whether alone or in relationship, on city sidewalks or in the country, their lyrics always engage with permanence and mortality, danger and safety, fear and wonder. a "Working Life" is a book transfixed by the everyday: the "sweet accumulation" of birds outside a window, a cup of coffee and a slice of pizza, a lover's foot on the bed. These poems arise in the close quarters of air travel, the flashing of a landscape through a train window, or simply in a truck tooling around town, or on foot with a dog in all the places that held us during the pandemic lockdowns.

#### About the Author

Eileen Myles (they/them, b. 1949) is a poet, novelist and art journalist whose practice of vernacular first-person writing has made them one of the most recognized writers of their generation. Pathetic Literature, which they edited, came out in Fall of 22. a "Working Life", their newest collection of poems, is out in April. They live in New York and in Marfa, Texas.

### Raja Shehadeh in person 7 p.m. Tuesday, May 23

Palestinian lawyer and activist Raja Shehadeh talks about his new memoir, "We Could Have Been Friends, My Father and I: A Palestinian Memoir."

#### About the Book

A subtle psychological portrait of the author's relationship with his father during the 20th-century battle for Palestinian human rights. Aziz Shehadeh was many things: lawyer, activist, and political detainee, he was also the father of bestselling author and activist Raja. In this new and searingly personal memoir, Raja Shehadeh unpicks the snags and complexities of their relationship. A vocal and fearless opponent, Aziz resists under the British mandatory period, then under Jordan, and, finally, under Israel. As a young man, Raja fails to recognize his father's courage and, in turn, his father does not appreciate Raja's own efforts in campaigning for Palestinian human rights. When Aziz is murdered in 1985, it changes Raja irrevocably. This is not only the story of the battle against the various oppressors of the Palestinians, but a moving portrait of a particular father and son relationship.

#### About the Author

Raja Shehadeh is Palestine's leading writer. He is also a lawyer and the founder of the pioneering Palestinian human rights organization Al-Haq. Shehadeh is the author of several acclaimed books including Strangers in the House, Occupation Diaries, and Palestinian Walks, which won the prestigious Orwell Prize

### Corinne Demas in Person 7 p.m. Wednesday, May 31

Corinne Demas launches her new

Please see **BOOKSHOP**, page 13

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**ART SHOW** from page 9

particularly interested in domestic spaces, windows and the barriers between inside and outside. I created a series of paintings based on textiles.”

Ivy Xue, an interdisciplinary artist from Beijing China said, “The process of creating my art involves working with glitter-glass pieces and text inscriptions to create a layered effect that represents the physical details of memories that may become blurry over time.” She added, “My hope is that my use of various media like painting, sculpture, and prints can capture the ephemeral nature of memory.”

Min Yoon, from Korea, began studying abroad after middle school; first in the Philippines, then in Canada where she began taking art classes. She said “With the extensive amount of time being away from the people I care about the most, my works focus on the expression of my emotional experience with the conception of physical disconnection and absences and limitations brought by the time differences.”

Olive Rowell said, “I spent a lot of time at my grandmother’s tiny home, in rural New Hampshire. The house truly functions as a family museum. Examples of this can be seen in hand-crafted family albums my great grandmother created.” Though she works with an array of media, she is most often drawn to textiles, printmaking and found objects

Ruby Henry, a mother and scholar, is completing a bachelor’s degree in psychology and studio art. After she gave birth her clothes no longer fit, so she focused on making clothing in class. She said, “My body has felt unfamiliar and confusing to me at times. As my technical sewing skills have improved,



Art by Grace Sanford.

I’m no longer satisfied with garments from fast-fashion conglomerates.”

Sydney Zobel is a western Massachusetts-based ceramic artist who explores childhood through playful drawings on porcelain clay. Her vessels are hand built instead of thrown on the wheel to accentuate the artist’s craft. She said “It is my hope that viewers will feel that my pieces are approachable from the handmade quality and the sense of youthfulness.”



Art by Min Yoon.

Professor Xuan Pham said, “This is their second show. Imagine, within a span of one semester students showed up and made two professional studio exhibits.

They really showed up for this class. I’m just a proud teacher.”

**BOOKSHOP** from page 12

novel “The Road Towards Home.”

*About the Book*

In this witty, warm novel by award-winning author Corinne Demas, unexpected changes bring two retirees together on a voyage of self-discovery from past regrets to the true meaning of happily ever after. Widower Noah Shilling considers Clarion Court to be less an independent living community and more a prison. But there may be hope for the place yet. The newest resident is bold, eccentric, rule-breaking Cassandra Joyce--whom, as it turns out, Noah met long ago in college. As Noah and Cassandra get reacquainted, major changes at Clarion Court force them both to reevaluate their living situation. When Noah invites Cassandra to rough it with him at his Cape Cod cottage, the old friends must decide whether they should risk embarking on the next stage of their journey together.

*About the Author*

Corinne Demas is the award-winning author of 38 books, including five novels (“The Writing Circle”), two short story collections, a memoir, “Eleven stories High, Growing Up in Stuyvesant Town, 1948--1968,” a poetry chapbook, a play, and numerous books for children. She is a Professor Emerita of English at Mount Holyoke College and a Fiction Editor of The Massachusetts Review.

Doors open for in person events at 6:30 p.m., unless otherwise specified.

Registration for all events is at [odysseybks.com](http://odysseybks.com). For more information, call 534-7307.

**LIBRARY** from page 5

**FOR KIDS**

*Monthly Take & Make Craft: Wooden Airplane*

Children up to age 10 are welcome to stop in for our monthly Take & Make craft. This month we are offering a Wooden Airplane. NO pre-registration is needed. Just pop into the Children’s Room and grab a bag. Supplies are limited so ONE per child please so more kids will be able to participate. Craft bags are available while supplies last.

**STEM To Go Kits**

Do your kids want a hands-

on way to learn about science, technology, engineering and math? Check out our new STEM kits. Kits are available to borrow by adult patrons who have signed the STEM Kit Loan Agreement. One kit per family may be checked out for a period of one week. Interested? Ask the Youth Services staff for more information or to sign up.

**Story Time & Rhyme Time**

Families are invited to join us for Story Time every Monday and Thursday morning at 10:30 for an assortment of picture books followed by an age-appropriate craft or other fun activity. While geared for birth to age 5,

we welcome older children to participate if desired. Join us in the Storytime/Craft Room.

**CFCE Wednesday Playgroup**

Every Wednesday we host Dana from the Coordinated Family Community Engagement Program who presents a fun filled program with stories, games, circle time, music and more for children from birth to 5. Older siblings are always welcome to attend too. Playgroups take place at 10:30 a.m. except on the first Wednesday of the month when the playgroup will take place at 3:30 p.m. Watch the library website for what the weekly themes will be and join

us in the Children’s Room.

**Chess Club for Kids & Teens is back**

Children and teens are invited to join us for our returning Chess Club beginning on Wednesday, April 12, at 4 p.m. Any skill level from beginner to advanced can participate. Instructor Andy Morris-Friedman will teach how to use all the pieces and winning strategies. Each session runs for an hour and a half. More sessions will be held on April 19, May 3, 10 and 17. Children in grade three and below must be accompanied by an adult. Pre-registration is not required but encouraged. Call the library

at 413-538-5045 or stop in to reserve your spot. Adults welcome if space permits.

**Need Books Delivered? Check out the Homebound Delivery Service**

The Gaylord Memorial Library continues to offer a Homebound Delivery Service to residents of South Hadley who have health or transportation issues. Books and other library materials are delivered and picked up on a monthly basis. If you, or someone you know would like to learn more and sign up for Homebound Delivery, visit: [gaylordlibrary.org/homebound-delivery/](http://gaylordlibrary.org/homebound-delivery/) or call 413-538-5047.

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**WATER DEPARTMENT - FIRE DISTRICT NO.1 438 GRANBY ROAD SOUTH HADLEY, MA 01075** JOB POSTING FOR BILLING CLERK. The Board of Water Commissioners - Fire District No.1, South Hadley is seeking a qualified individual for a billing clerk with hours from 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday through Friday. Responsibilities include maintaining accurate records/files of accounts; process/check meter readings; bank deposits; enter/post payments; customer service skills inclusive of answering phones and processing requests. Problem solving, organizational skills and computer experience a must. Must be proficient in computer skills including Microsoft applications such as Word and Excel. Three-to-five-year record of people/customer service skills, attention to detail and self-motivation. Applicants must have at a minimum, a High School Diploma or G.E.D as well as a valid driver's license. A pre-hire drug test will be required. Starting pay is competitive with excellent benefit package. Application must be filled out at the Water Department office located at 438 Granby Road, South Hadley, MA Monday through Friday between the hours of 8:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. Application Deadline will be May 12, 2023 Equal Opportunity Employer

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# Public Notices

## GRANBY PLANNING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

In accordance with MGL Ch. 40A, Sec. 11, the Granby Planning Board will hold a public hearing on **May 22, 2023, at 5:15 PM**, at 1 Library Lane, Old Carnegie Library, Top Floor, Granby, MA. The nature of the hearing is to consider the petition of Jason Aller (Applicant) / 185 West State Street LLC (Owner), seeking Special Permit under Sections 6.2 of the Granby Zoning Bylaws and applicable of Section III – Regulations, 3.5.10 – Sale of used motor vehicles at 185 West State Street, and known as Assessors' Map 3-D1-1 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. James Trompke, Chair Granby Planning Board 05/05, 05/12/2023

## TOWN OF SOUTH HADLEY PLANNING BOARD NOTICE OF VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARING

The Planning Board will hold a virtual public hearing on **Monday May 22, 2023 at 6:45 p.m.** for a Special

Permit application filed by Baltazar Dental to expand a non-conforming structure for the purpose of establishing a dentist office at 2078 Memorial Drive, and is identified on Assessor's Map 7 Parcel 123, pursuant to the Zoning Bylaw 255-7 (existing uses, building and structures; nonconforming uses); Article IX (special permits); and the Zoning Dimensional Regulation Schedule.

The public hearing will be

conducted virtually on Zoom.

Persons may join as follows:  
URL to join: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89942201273?pwd=cUo5UG16YlN0TmMyTONjRzFBNFNoZz09>

Or join by phone: +13052241968, Webinar ID: 899 4220 1273 Passcode: 689595

The property is located within the Residence A-1 zoning district and is an existing office building.

The application is on file in the Planning & Conservation Department Office (Room U6) in Town Hall and posted at [www.southhadley.ma.gov](http://www.southhadley.ma.gov) under 'Permit Applications' - Special Permit' under section 'Memorial Drive (2078) - Dentist Office' or viewed at: <https://www.southhadley.org/1181/Special-Permits>. Any person interested in, or wishing to be heard, should appear/join the hearing at the

time and in the manner designated. The public hearing is being conducted in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 40-A, Section 11, Massachusetts General Laws and the enacted House Bill 58 as filed on March 1 2023, an Act making appropriations for the Fiscal Year 2023.

Joanna Brown, Clerk South Hadley Planning Board 05/05, 05/12/2023

## Town Reminder OBITUARY POLICY

Turley Publications offers two types of obituaries.

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

The other is a **Paid Obituary**, costing \$120, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice and may include a photograph. **Death Notices & Paid Obituaries** should be submitted through a funeral home to: [obits@turley.com](mailto:obits@turley.com).

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

**Please check the accuracy of your legal notice prior to submission (i.e., date, time, spelling). Also, be sure the requested publication date coincides with the purpose of the notice, or as the law demands. Thank you.**

## PUBLIC NOTICES ARE NOW ONLINE

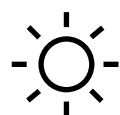
- 1 Email all notices to [notices@turley.com](mailto:notices@turley.com)
- 2 Access archives and digital tear sheets by newspaper title.
- 3 Find a quick link to the state of Massachusetts' public notice web site to search all notices in Massachusetts newspapers.

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

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

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#### Experience Required:

Must have experience driving individuals with disabilities (15 passenger van experience a plus)

#### Educational Requirements:

High School Diploma/ GED/or Equivalent

#### Other Requirements:

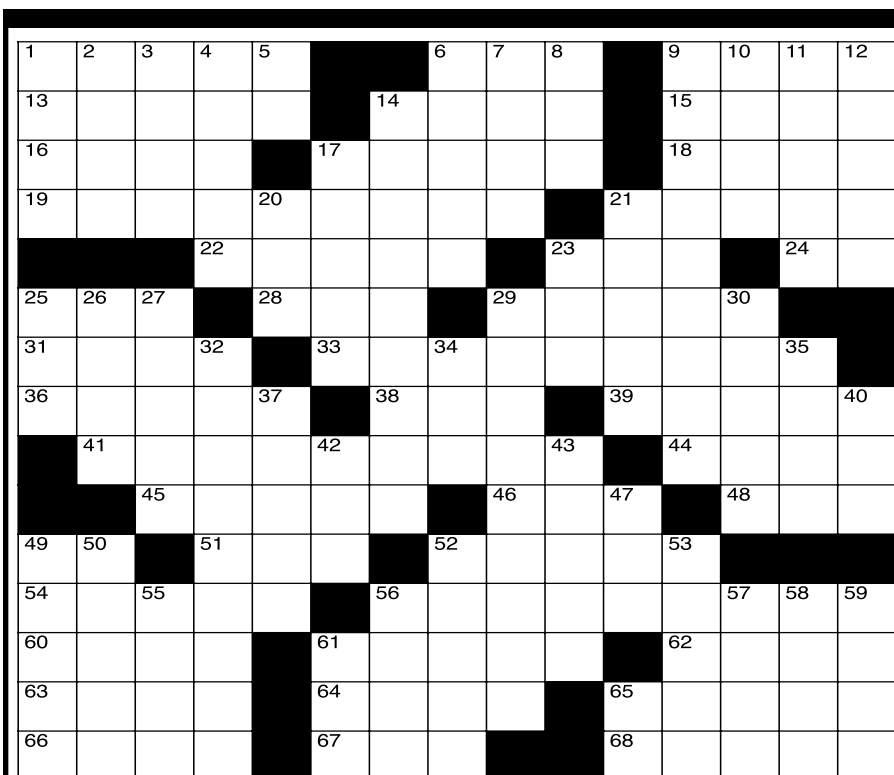
Ability to lift 30 lbs comfortably, a valid driver's license and clean driving record. Drug Screen, CORI, SORI and Fingerprint check required.

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# Crossword Puzzle



#### CLUES ACROSS

1. Dull and flat
2. A call used to greet someone
3. Part-time employee
4. Emaciation
5. "Westworld" actor Harris
6. Gains possession of
7. Relaxing spaces
8. 23rd star in a constellation
9. Northern grouse
10. Monetary unit of Bangladesh
11. Manila hemp
12. Unites muscle to bone
14. Makes deep cuts in
17. 18-year period between eclipses
20. Member of a people inhabiting southern Benin
21. Synthetic rubbers
23. Unwelcome rodent
25. Expression of creative skill
26. Some is red
27. Seems less in impressive

#### CLUES DOWN

1. Actor Damon
14. Type of missile
15. Japanese ankle sock
16. Grave
17. Japanese industrial city
18. People of southern Ghana
19. Particular designs
21. Device fitted to something
22. Infections
23. Pirates' preferred alcohol
24. Expression of sympathy
25. Rock guitarist's tool
28. Neither
29. Ancient city of Egypt
31. You \_\_ what you sow
33. Ruined
36. Narrations
38. Body art (slang)
39. Fencing sword
41. Apartment buildings
44. Type of missile
45. Fathers
46. Extremely high frequency
48. Type of school
49. Incorrect letters
51. Two-year-old sheep
52. Nasty manner
54. One who accepts a bet
56. Indian prince
60. Asian country
61. Rhythmic patterns in Indian music
62. "Uncle Buck" actress Hoffmann
63. Detailed criteria
64. Son of Shem
65. Talked wildly
66. Discount
67. Not good
68. Growing out
29. Harry Kane's team
30. Gland secretion
32. Action of feeling sorrow
34. Disallow
35. Deceptive movement
37. More dried-up
40. Crimson
42. Actress Ryan
43. Adherents of a main branch of Islam
47. Accomplished American president
49. Side of a landform facing an advancing glacier
50. Sheep breed
52. Appetizer
53. Broadway actress Daisy
55. Influential film critic
56. NY Giants ownership family
57. Type of script
58. Assist
59. London park
61. Bar bill
65. In reply indicator



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