

# TOWN Reminder

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## Golf tournament raises funds for veterans' memorial fund

By Emily-Rose Pappas  
Staff Writer  
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**SOUTH HADLEY/GRANBY** – One of the ways the community can honor our veterans is through the Mathew J. View Memorial Fund, based in Granby, which operates in memory of veteran Mathew J. View.

“We were very honored to be chosen as the nonprofit for this event,” said Crustal Dufresne, who started the Memorial Fund for her brother, Mathew. “The fund was set up in 2016 to honor active military members and veterans in Mathew’s honor. Mathew passed away in 2015, and 3 friends and I got together to establish this fund.”

The South Hadley and Granby Chamber of Commerce hosted a Golf Tournament, which they do annually to raise money for a non-profit, at Ledges Golf Course in South Hadley, where 16 teams participated in the tournament.

“There’s something special about seeing local businesses, community members, and nonprofits all come together for a day of connection, fun, and purpose,” said Chamber member Michele Lyman. “My favorite part was watching people who might never cross paths during their workday laughing, sharing stories, and genuinely enjoying themselves while supporting something meaningful.”

The Chamber has hosted golf tournaments for the past four years, starting with a “Nine and Dine” with a 9-hole tournament, and has since expanded to 18 holes, which is now the “Chamber Cup Classic”.



Photos submitted by Maria Laplante

**Above: The winning team of the golf tournament holds the Chamber Cup.**

**Right: Ready, aim, fire!**

“Supporting The Mathew J. View Memorial Fund means a lot to me because it’s a chance to give back to a cause that truly makes a difference in people’s lives,” said Chamber President Steven Laplante. “I believe that when we use the Chamber’s platform to lift organizations doing good work, we help build a stronger, more caring community. For me, it’s not just

Please see **GOLF**, page 5



## Operation Backpack is kicking off its 2025 mission

By Emily-Rose Pappas  
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**SOUTH HADLEY/GRANBY** – Operation Backpack has been a part of our community for the past 12 years and has provided backpacks and school supplies for kids in need across South Hadley, and now, Granby students will be able to access this resource as well.

After starting with the Neighbors Helping Neighbors ten years ago, Adams took it on after volunteering

there, where she is now gathering supplies, filling, and distributing backpacks to the community from her home.

“Sheila has been a wonderful partner from the beginning,” said Mary Lou Guarnera, operator of Neighbors Helping Neighbors. “She wants the students to have a good start to the school year, and she can help them during the year, too.”

Because Neighbors Helping Neighbors does outreach to Granby, Operation Back-

Please see **BACKPACK**, page 8



File photo

**A backpack ready to be filled and go to a child in need.**

## Selectboard holds pair of joint meetings

By Emily-Rose Pappas  
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**SOUTH HADLEY** – The Selectboard hosted two joint meetings last week, one for the Appropriations Committee to review the Annual Year-End Transfers, and one with the School Committee to interview three candidates for the open seat on the committee.

The July 8 meeting was held by Chair Jeff Cyr, as

well as Vice Chair Nicole Casolari, Clerk Carol Constant, and members Andrea Miles and Renee Sweeney.

The Appropriations Committee had six members present and came forward for their joint meeting with the Selectboard regarding year-end transfers.

The Selectboard would like to remind everyone that the South Hadley Public Library and the Senior Center are both cooling shelters for those who need to escape the heat.

### Joint Meeting: Appropriations Committee

As a part of the standard municipal budget cycle, the Appropriations Committee has come forward to share its annual year-end budget transfers with the Selectboard, with Assistant Town Administrator Chuck Rombolletti sharing the report.

“The transfers allow us to close out the year in good financial standing, ensuring no deficits remain in any general fund account,” said Assistant Town Administrator Chuck

Rombolletti.

The town accountant has put together a list of transfers for the Appropriations Committee and the Selectboard to vote for approval.

The first transfer, from the Police personnel and salaries budget to the other expenses budget, was to take in the amount of \$12,000 for some unexpended and urgent repairs and replacements.

These included patrol ve-

Please see **SELECTBOARD**, page 8

## Resident celebrates her 101st birthday amongst friends

By Emily-Rose Pappas  
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**GRANBY** – The Council on Aging hosted a special birthday party for Jeannette “Jan” Boczon, who turned 101 today, and was celebrated during lunch with cake and fun facts about the year she was born, 1924.

“I am awed to be having this party,” said Boczon. “I had no idea they were going to do this.”

Jan lived her life in the neighboring communities of Holyoke, South Hadley, and finally settled in Granby, where she comes to the senior center to brighten everyone’s days.

“I love her spunk and her opinions,” said Lynn Szaban, who has known Jan for a year now.

“A lot of people sit around her, and I know a lot of people love her,” said Susan George. “She’s a delight. I want to live to be her age and be just like her.”

Boczon has one daughter, Tina Lucier, and two grown grandsons, and spends her time living in Granby, remem-

bering her past and spending time with her new friends at the Granby Senior Center.

“I love that Granby is very quiet,” said Boczon. “I came across some photos of where I used to live in South Hadley, and they always do a lot of events, which was fine, but I like the quiet.”

Boczon and her friends at the South Hadley Senior Center were a part of a choral group, where they sang together and were the best of friends.

“We would sing together, but not that good,” Boczon said with a smile. “We sang a little bit off-key, but so what? We had fun together, and I miss them.”

She talked about her time growing up during the Great Depression, and how she grew to be thankful for what she had in life, counting her blessings.

Boczon spends her time now playing Michigan Rummy with pennies, as well as card games and of course, bingo, with her friends at the Granby COA.

“My mother is very resil-

Please see **BIRTHDAY**, page 10



Turley photo by Emily-Rose Pappas

**Tina Lucier and her mom, Jan Boczon.**

## Highlighting the Commission on Disabilities

By Emily-Rose Pappas  
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**SOUTH HADLEY** – July is National Disability Pride Month, and it commemorates the signing of the Americans with Disabilities Act, which was signed on July 26, 1990.

The ADA makes it so that it is illegal to discriminate against anyone with disabilities and helps to ensure there are equal opportunities in employment, public accommodations like ramps and elevators, transportation, and other areas like playgrounds with wheelchair accessible parts.

Disability Pride Day happened on the same day as a signing, and Chicago later hosted the first Disability Pride Parade in 2004.

“I enjoy working towards and for inclusion. There is also considerable creativity and a solution-oriented perspective,” said Tay Silveira, Chair of the Commission on Disabilities.

The Commission began in November of 2019, and

its first meetings were held in early 2022, during the pandemic, where they began to find ways to make the town of South Hadley more accessible for all.

Tay Silveira has been the Chair of the Commission for the past three years, and officer elections are coming up at a future meeting, but Silveira has

The town of South Hadley has a Commission on Disabilities, whose main function is to, according to the Commission’s website:

“The function of a disabilities commission is to advise and assist municipal officials in ensuring compliance with federal and state disability laws; review policies and activities of municipal departments and boards as they affect persons with disabilities; provide information, referral, advocacy and technical assistance to individuals, businesses and organizations in all matters

Please see **DISABILITIES**, page 2

## Trash carts have arrived for new trash system

By Emily-Rose Pappas  
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SOUTH HADLEY – Josh Broderick, Public Works Director, announced in the South Hadley Bulletin an update regarding South Hadley's new trash system involving carts that were delivered to homes in June.

The trash-collection days will remain the same, and the only changes coming in include the delivery of trash and recycling carts which should have already been brought to your residence.

"On July 1, 2025, the town of South Hadley curbside trash collection will transition from the current green bag pay-as-you-throw system with dual-stream recycling to an automated cart collection system and a single-stream recycling collection," Broderick said.

All South Hadley homes

received a 65-gallon trash cart and a 95-gallon recycling cart, with only condominium complexes having a choice for a 35-gallon cart.

"These carts will be the property of the town, assigned and distributed to your property," said Broderick.

A 35-gallon cart will hold three 13-gallon trash bags, a 65-gallon cart will hold five to six 13-gallon trash bags, and a 95-gallon trash cart will hold seven to eight 13-gallon trash bags.

"You can use whatever trash bag you prefer for disposal into the trash cart," said Broderick.

The cart lid must be closed completely, and for the trash to be picked up, the lid must be closed. For the recycling carts with single-stream recycling, you can add paper, cardboard, bottles, cans, and glass into the same cart, but it must also be able to have the

lid close completely.

"If you have more trash or more recyclables that can fit into the carts, there are two options: one, you can hold them until the next collection day, or two, you can bring them to the Recycle Center Tuesday through Saturday, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m.," said Broderick.

The Recycling Center is closed from noon to 1 p.m. for lunch, and access requires a valid sticker which can be picked up at the collector's office or at the DPW office. You are also asked to make an appointment time for entry, and can do so on the town website under Public Works on the "bookoo" website.

The Recycling Center is cashless, and you can find fees for the disposal on their website, and for more information or to ask any questions, you can contact the DPW at 413-538-5030.

## Granby Library's youth summer reading program is here

GRANBY – Join the club! We are excited to announce The Granby Library's free Summer Reading Program for 2025, "Level Up at Your Library" which starts on June 20!

We have fun activities and great prizes to win. Kids birth through age 11 can sign up at the Children's Desk and get a folder (which they keep all summer) including a log sheet, calendar of events and more. Reading 15 minutes a day helps prevent learning loss over the summer.

Read (or be read to) anything you want from home or on the go, simply mark off on the included log calendar for each day that you read for 15 minutes (read 10 min. to the youngest participants)!

All participants get a free book, free Cindy's Ice Cream cone coupon prize pack when they log 25 days of reading. Participants can stop in for raffle tickets for our weekly raffle baskets and stickers to decorate their folders.

The completed reading log is kid's entry to the two main prizes - \$175. gift certificate for Mystic Aquarium & sea fun puzzle/ book and a \$100 gift certificate for Magic Wings & a butterfly hatchery set.

### Silly Pet Photo Contest

Capture your pet on camera looking silly! Photos will be voted on & the silliest pet in photo will win a \$50. gift certificate for Granby Grain. Drop off /email a photo through August 1 to: janicemcardlepl@gmail.com

Don't fur-get! "Reading Buddies" is bark at the library! It's a grrreat, low-stress way to gain confidence in your reading. For kids in K & up. Sign up for a slot: June 12 & 26 and July 10 & 24.

### Level Up with Games

July 22- 26  
Minecraft Madness!!  
with Jungle Jim  
Friday, July 25 at 11 a.m.

A fast-paced, interactive show that brings the world of Minecraft to life with: Building Block Madness Tournament, Balloon Firework Rocket Show, Zombie Chase Challenge & an Awe-inspir-

ing giant 6-foot balloon finale. You don't want to miss this! Weeklong Minecraft table. Play "Findcraft." This week's raffle basket is Minecraft themed.

### Level Up with Superheroes

July 29- August 2  
Lego Superheroes:  
Wed- nesday, July 30 3pm.  
Create a Superhero or Dogman (he's a hero too) Lego mosaic using a pattern card. Pre-register, space is limited. Kids keep the Lego. Ages 4 & up Drop in to color a Dog Man sheet & make a Dog Man badge July 30- Aug.2. Enter a superhero raffle with your weekly raffle ticket.

### Guess What Book is in the Jar July 16 - 30

If you guess what book is shredded in the jar you win a "munch & play" prize basket!

### Would You Rather "Ice Cream Edition"

July 22 - August 2  
Fill out a "Would you Rather" sheet for a chance to win free ice cream! Sheets for younger & older kids.

Drop in crafts are all "while supplies last."

Stop in or call the library at 413-467-3320 during open hours to pre-register for programs.

Granby Library hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, and Friday from 10:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., Thursday 10:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Saturday 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Check out "Granby Library Children's Room" page on Facebook for updates & news!

### Teen "Got Summer Reading Program" at the Granby Library

June 20 - August 22, 2025, for students entering grades 7 - 12  
Teens, read your required Summer Reading books or just for fun books and you'll have a chance to win one of several great prizes at the Granby Library!

You may also buy a great book from a special selection, with 1 raffle ticket. For each book you read this summer, teens fill out a raffle ticket in the teen room. Keep

track of the books you read on a "Got Summer reading" sheet that you pick up at the library or download on our website under "Young Adult." Bring this sheet into the library after you've read 1 book for a free coupon for a Cindy's Drive In ice cream cone.

Teens, also come on in & cool down this summer, there's always something to do in the Young Adult Room. Check out the craft & board game cart, plus the following activities!

### Play "Would You Rather? Pizza Edition!"

July 8 - August 22  
It's all about the slice... win free pizza! Pizza sticker sheets, guessing jar - How many slices of pizza gummies are in the jar? Drop in to play! 1 time per teen.

### Unmask the Title of the Shredded Book in the Jar...what's its true identity?

Win a goodie basket! Through July.

### Summer Long

June 20 - August 22  
Build the Granby Library Lego Tower Each time you stop in grab a handful of Lego, add to the tower. How high can we go?

### Help us build an art gallery!

Create a post it note masterpiece and add it to our collection. We are excited to see what you can make on a tiny square! Summer long.

### Weekly Drop-In Activities in the Young Adult Room & Take Home Crafts

New crafts start on the following dates & go until we run out of craft items.

Check our calendar for newly added activities!

July 19 on: Drop in to create "Black Out Poetry". Take Home Craft Kits - sand mandala.

August 2 on: Drop in for DIY duct tape fun. Guessing Jar - Twin Snake Gummies. Take Home Craft Kits - Junk Journal Kit.

\*\*1 of each activity per teen 11-18 yrs. while supplies last.

## South Hadley COA's special events for July

SOUTH HADLEY – With the hot summer upon us, keep in mind that the South Hadley Council on Aging and Library are both Cooling Centers to get out of the heat!

The COA's Summer Concert Series begins with Wild Bill & Big Trouble on Thursday, July 17 at 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Tickets include a mouthwatering BBQ lunch and the concert for just \$8.

The July Art Exhibit features Ross McNamara. Come and meet the artist on July 11 at 12:30 p.m.

Come to the COA for Fun Fridays in July: Join us every Friday in July for free ice cream, live music and a variety of vendors selling handmade goods.

On Friday, July 18 at 8:30 a.m., we will be hosting a delicious breakfast for just \$3.00.

On Wednesday, July 23 at 1:30 p.m., come to a special information session on Understanding Online News & Media.

On Wednesday, July 23 at 2 p.m., join us for a trip

to Buttery Brook Farmer's Market. Sign up at the Welcome Desk to join us.

On Thursday, July 24 at 1:30 p.m., a representative from Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Massachusetts will provide information for individuals approaching Medicare eligibility.

On Monday, July 31 at 1:30 p.m. Neil Broome will be sharing an eclectic and entertaining look at the stunning country of Switzerland. Don't miss this inspiring visual adventure!

### DISABILITIES from page 1

pertaining to disability; and coordinate the activities of other local groups organized to meet the needs of persons with disabilities."

"There are some disability related matters that are outside our scope, but the Commission on Disabilities exists, in part, to support various disability related matters within the Town. We can be engaged for various disability related purposes," said Silveira. "Our scope includes the physical environment and also programs and services, for example."

Right now, the Commission on Disabilities has a vacancy, and there is also a vacancy for the Human Rights

Commission, both of which help to serve our community.

"Anyone interested in serving on the COD or as a COD appointee to the Human Rights Commission may consult the qualifications and apply," said Silveira.

You can learn more about the commission on their website, by going to <https://www.southhadley.org/1016/Commission-on-Disabilities>, and people who are interested in serving can apply, and they can be reached at [cod@shadley.org](mailto:cod@shadley.org).

"Members of the public are also encouraged to contact us or join a meeting. We typically meet the 3rd Wednesday of the month, but sometimes

need to reschedule," said Silveira. "The next meeting will be on Wednesday, July 23, at 5 p.m. via Zoom."

A few times a year, you can find the Commission at the Senior Center with a table of information people can utilize, and they are working alongside other departments in order to find other ways to bring these resources to those who need them.

"As we continue to grow as a local Commission, we will continue to expand our outreach and ability to support local efforts to improve accessibility for everyone and the overall experience of people with disabilities," said Silveira.

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# Sweet Babu's: a hug in a bag

By Tina Lesniak  
Correspondent

SOUTH HADLEY - What started as a heartfelt tribute to family traditions and a love for baking has blossomed into a most beloved granola brand. Sweet Babu's, founded by Chelsea Beaudry of South Hadley, is more than just a granola company—it's a story of heritage, healing, and homemade goodness.

Beaudry's journey began in her grandmother's kitchen. "I started teaching myself how to bake when my Gramma could no longer do it for our family gatherings. It turned out I was really good at it!" she says. Baking quickly became a therapeutic outlet and a way to share joy with others. After becoming a mother, Beaudry became more intentional about the ingredients she used. "I started baking a lot more from scratch... one of those things was granola," she explains.

What began as holiday gifts for teachers, friends and neighbors quickly turned into a business idea. "People loved

it so much that they started asking if they could buy it," Beaudry recalls. During the pandemic, she perfected her recipes, created a logo, and launched the business at an event at Apex Orchards—selling out on day one.

The name Sweet Babu's is deeply personal. "My Gramma gave the best hugs, and often before she hugged us, she would be silly and wrap her scarf around our heads and say, 'my little babushka!'" Babushka is a Polish word for an old woman," explained Beaudry. "This lasted into my adolescent and teenage years, and then once I had my own kids, I started doing it to them. When it came time to name the business, I wanted it to mean something. I thought of Gramma and then I thought Babushka's but that's a popular bakery name. We played around and ended up with Sweet Babu's - the rest, as they say, is history."

What sets Sweet Babu's granola apart is its commitment to quality and creativity. "We make granola, but better," says Beaudry. "We use better

ingredients sourced locally and from small organic farms across the country." Sweeteners like Shelburne Honey Co. raw honey and North Hadley Sugar Shack maple syrup are essential to the unique flavor profiles. Bestsellers include Apple Crisp, Blueberry Muffin, and Banana Bread, each developed with care and instinct. "We don't have the same base for all of the flavors," she adds. "All of our flavors are real ingredients you can taste."

From humble beginnings, Sweet Babu's now has a growing footprint, with granola available in nearly 200 stores across New England—including Big Y—and in popular farmers markets like Northampton's Tuesday Market and the Amherst Farmers Market. Customers nationwide can also purchase online at [www.sweetbabus.com](http://www.sweetbabus.com) or on Vitacost.com.

Despite the brand's ex-

pansion, Beaudry remains grounded. "In South Hadley, I'm still just the small-town girl I've always been," she says. "I still just feel like a regular mom who made some recipes that people really like."

Sweet Babu's continues to innovate, with new seasonal flavors and even maple-roasted nuts joining the lineup. During the holidays, Beaudry adds creative treats like hot cocoa granola and chocolate-dipped granola chunks to the mix.

Beyond business, community impact remains central. "Our mission is to support our communities by how we source our ingredients and also by giving back however we can and since that pantry, and their director Mary Lou Guarnera, have a special place in my heart, we'll continue to keep supporting them and our town by giving everyone a hug in a bag with Sweet Babu's Granola."



Submitted photo

Chelsea Baudry, owner of Sweet Babu's, with a selection of her products.

## South Hadley Band to host doc preview

SOUTH HADLEY -The townspeople of South Hadley are invited to attend the Preview Party for the documentary "The Town with the Band," which highlights the legacy of Dr. Roger W. Farnsworth and the South Hadley Tiger Marching Hundred band from 1965 to 1980. This free event is scheduled for Saturday, August 23 at 1 p.m. at the South Hadley High School auditorium. The film has a runtime

of approximately one hour and fifteen minutes, and will be followed by a Q&A session featuring former Band Director Dr. Farnsworth and former Associate Band Director Frank P. Fuller. For further information please contact Charlene Malanowski Mahoney at [cmahoney192@gmail.com](mailto:cmahoney192@gmail.com) or Karen Kawalec Quinn at [jkequinn@gmail.com](mailto:jkequinn@gmail.com).

## Get ready for the class of 1975's 50th reunion

SOUTH HADLEY - Save the Date! South Hadley High School Class of 1975 50th reunion will be held on October 4, 2025. For more information and to be added to

our email list, please contact either Karla (Koenig) Zukowski at [kzukowski57@comcast.net](mailto:kzukowski57@comcast.net) or MaryPat (Fenton) Krumsiek at [mpkrumsiek@aahoo.com](mailto:mpkrumsiek@aahoo.com).

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INSURED AND CERTIFIED



# Opinion

## SOCIAL SECURITY

### Matters

By Russell Gloor

## Why can't I get my Social Security payment plus my Railroad Pension from my ex-spouse?

### Dear Rusty:

I have a question. I now get a Railroad Pension from my ex-husband. I did not know it was from the Social Security Administration. I want to collect my SS benefits and my Railroad pension. Can I do that? I do not understand why I cannot collect both. Please advise.

### Thank you. Signed: Railroad Ex-spouse

### Dear Railroad Ex-spouse:

Railroad pension benefits and Social Security benefits are fully coordinated – that is, your Railroad pension payment from your ex-spouse already includes your earned Social Security retirement benefit. That's because the two government agencies, Railroad Retirement Board and Social Security Administration work together and pay your benefits in one single payment, usually managed by the RRB if some of your benefit includes a railroad pension component. The RRB and SSA are two separate government agencies, but they fully coordinate benefits for beneficiaries.

This is exactly the same as if you were collecting regular SS ex-spouse benefits instead of RR benefits from your ex-husband; your personal SS retirement benefit is always paid first, and you receive an additional amount (a spousal boost) from your ex-husband. In your case, your "spousal boost" is the difference between your personally earned SS retirement benefit at your Full Retirement Age and half of your ex-husband's Tier I Railroad retirement benefit amount at his full retirement age. A railroad pension usually consists

of two pieces – a Tier I benefit and a Tier II benefit, with Tier I benefits being the equivalent of the pensioner's Social Security.

Your ex-spouse benefits under the RRB are handled the same way. The two agencies fully coordinate with each other, evaluate your SS entitlement, and then reduce the amount of your RRB Tier I ex-spouse benefit by your SS retirement amount and pay both amounts together. In this way, you only get one payment, consisting of both your earned SSA component and the RRB component. And whenever there is a railroad component, the RRB is usually responsible for making pension payments.

You may find the information at this RRB website helpful: [https://rrb.gov/RB-9/Social\\_Security\\_Benefits](https://rrb.gov/RB-9/Social_Security_Benefits) and you can also contact your local RRB field office by accessing this link: <https://www.rrb.gov/Field-Office-Locator>.

*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.*

## In the eye (or nose) of the beholder

So many things in life are a matter of preference, and there is no exception when it comes to likes and dislikes in the garden.

Take, for example, the hydrangea in my front yard that is truly a kaleidoscope of blues, purples and magenta. My husband prefers all blue hydrangea flowers, and would love if I would give the bush a watering of "Miracid" so that it will conform more to his liking.

But alas, I tend to enjoy the circusy feel, and will probably continue to let it do its thing without any help from me. Likewise, if you prefer the pink shades instead, you can use lime to make the soil more alkaline.

Do you ever wonder how this process works? It's a matter of making aluminum ions more readily available or not, and that process is pH dependent.

Another area where he and I tend to disagree is whether or not Bugbane, *Actaea* (formerly *Cimifuga*) racemosa, deserves a place in our perennial border. The plant is really unique, in that it sends up loads of four-five foot tall white flower spikes, even in the shade.

It's a beefy plant once full grown. I consider it a "specimen" like the Peony or Baptisia, where one will do the trick.

The flowers are blooming now and will continue to put on a show for a good few weeks.

So, you ask, what is the problem? Simply put, it's the smell. The plant reeks. It's all for good, though, since the acrid smell lures flies to pollinate it!

My husband loathes the smell and has given it the not

manding and are best known for their use in a shady border. Most will burn if planted in the sun, although golden leaved varieties seem to fair better in sunnier locales. In general, most varieties look great paired with Astilbe and Ferns.

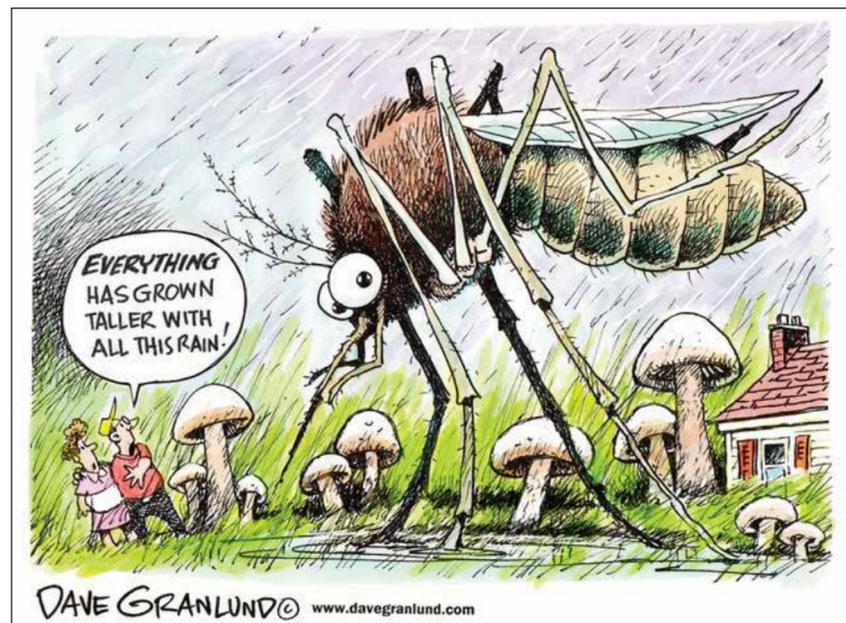
I've mentioned the "take it or leave it" attitude in prior columns towards the smell of Marigolds. I am definitely a "take it" girl on this one. In fact, the fragrance, in and of itself, transports me back to the Grange Hall of my youth and their annual summer fair where I would, and still do enter the flowers in the "Cut Flower" category.

Both the larger doubled petal African and the smaller French types are represented. Besides looking good in the vase, Marigolds are said to repel aphids and other insects from neighboring plants, and supposedly even able to keep underground nematodes at bay.

Maybe they are worth the odor. Or maybe the fragrance? You be the judge.

*Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 33 years she has held the position of staff horticulturist at Old Sturbridge Village. She enjoys growing food as well as flowers. Have a question for her? Email it to [pouimette@turley.com](mailto:pouimette@turley.com) with "Gardening Question" in the subject line.*

Hostas are not very de-



raise awareness that grape jelly is a sticky danger for the delicate birds. They said, "It has become common practice for people to put out jelly for orioles. However, when it is this warm, the jelly melts and sticks in other bird's feathers and feet." The group recommends buying bird-safer jelly from a specialty store or feeding orange halves.

### Brimfield bird report

I received an email recently from a Brimfield resident. He said, "It's been a different spring/summer in the yard this year. I didn't see the first Baltimore oriole until June when a male showed up at the bird

bath and a few days later a female showed at the bird-bath. In previous years we have had a couple of pairs in the yard. I offer jelly and oranges during migration and then just oranges later in the year. I've only seen catbirds at the oranges, no orioles."

He saw a juvenile red-bellied woodpecker following an adult male around and begging for food recently. The catbirds are seen frequently and use the birdbath regularly. He has a couple pairs of



Cooper's hawk

rose-breasted grosbeaks as well. Several years ago, he saw 11 rose-breasted grosbeaks in the yard at the same time. He has not seen an indigo bunting this year. Although he saw great crested flycatchers and house wren earlier in the spring, they did not stay and use the nest boxes in his yard as they did last year.

### Nesting osprey

He also said in his email, "In Warren last week I saw one osprey nestling in the nest on South

Street, but on a visit today there was no sighting of the chick, but an adult was perched on the nest."

### Alarming statistic

He also said, "Unfortunately the reports that there are billions of fewer birds in the country now than there were in the 1970s is very evident to anyone who has watched birds since then. Very sad what we humans have done to the planet." He said, "On another depressing note, there are way fewer butterflies in the yard this year."

### Phoebes

Every year Eastern phoebes return to nest in my yard. Recently, I saw a fledgling following an adult around begging for food.

*People may report a bird sighting or bird related experience by calling me at 413-967-3505, leaving a message at extension 100, emailing [mybackyard88@aol.com](mailto:mybackyard88@aol.com) or [edowner@turley.com](mailto:edowner@turley.com) or mailing to Barre Gazette, P.O. Box 448, Barre, MA 01005.*

## 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.

## Turley Election Policy

This newspaper will print free self-submitted statements of candidacy only four weeks or more out from the election. All candidates running in both contested and uncontested races are asked to submit their statements to the editor to include only biographical and campaign platform details. Total word count for statements is limited to between 300-500 words maximum. Please include a photo. We will not publish any statements of candidacy inside the four weeks from election threshold. To publish any other campaign publicity during the race, please contact our advertising representatives. We also do not allow personal attacks against other candidates or political parties in statements of candidacy, nor do we publish for free any information about key endorsements or political fundraisers.

Letters to the editor of no more than 250 words from supporters endorsing specific candidates or discussing campaign issues are limited to three total per author during the election season. No election letters will appear in the final edition before the election. We reserve the right to edit all statements of candidacy and letters to the editor to meet our guidelines.

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By Ellenor Downer

My neighbor has a Cooper's hawk in his yard. Cooper's hawks are common woodland hawks and skilled fliers.

They will fly at high speed through cluttered tree canopies in pursuit of other birds. They may be seen at the forest edge or a field taking a few wingbeats followed by a glide.

Males are smaller than the females. They build the nest and supply nearly all the food to females and young during the nesting period.

During migration, ridge tops in both the East and West are great places to spot Cooper's hawks in large numbers. Coopers hawks perch upright and have a long, rounded tail with dark banding. The band at the end of the tail is white. They have a small, hooked beak.

Adults have a gray back, reddish barred chest and red eyes. They also have a black cap.

Cooper's hawks are similar to sharp-shinned hawks, but are larger. They inhabit deep forest to backyards.

### Grape jelly warning

I received a link about the dangers of feeding grape jelly to hummingbirds from a Granby resident. The link said, "Bird experts are raising the alarm that a common practice done to attract some birds is actually killing hummingbirds. Raptor Education Group, Inc. said just this week they had three adult ruby-throated hummingbirds brought in covered in grape jelly. One had already died. The others are alive, but struggling."

The central Wisconsin nonprofit shared photos to

**GOLF** from page 1

about donating money; it's also about raising awareness and inspiring others to get involved."

"I love that the Chamber and the Fund all have members who volunteer their own time for causes that they are passionate about. We all work to make our community better and to bring positive change to the local community," said Dufresne.

The Chamber donated a check of \$500 towards the fund, and they hosted the dinner at the end of the night, where people gathered after a long day of golf, enjoying the day despite the heat and sudden rain.

"It was very nice to meet new people and to see people

coming together to raise money to give to local nonprofits and local businesses," said Dufresne.

"It meant everything [to be able to support the Fund]," said Lyman. "This Fund honors someone who was deeply loved and respected in our community. Being able to support the legacy of Mathew J. Vieu and help families in crisis through this event was both humbling and powerful. It added a sense of meaning that went beyond just playing golf."

The dinner was full of people smiling and having a good time while eating food, sharing stories, and celebrating their nonprofit partner.

"Just a huge thank you to the sponsors, golfers, volunteers, The Ledges staff, and

the board members who all helped bring this together. It takes a village to pull off something like this, and our village showed up. We're already looking forward to next year," said Lyman.

You can visit the Fund's website, [www.MJVM.org](http://www.MJVM.org), to learn more about future events where you can donate towards the Memorial Fund, or to learn more about the non-profit itself.

"The fund would like to thank the chamber for featuring us as their nonprofit and for donating \$500 to the fund. We would also like to thank the gentleman who donated his earnings from the 50/50 raffle to the fund! It was very heartwarming and greatly appreciated," said Dufresne.



Photos submitted by Maria Laplante

Regina Zebrowski, Mary Lou Guarnera, and Julie Gentile.



Michele Lyman (center) presents Crystal Dufresne (left) with a check for \$500 from the Chamber.



Matching in blue and white.



Stopping for a pose while hitting holes-in-one.



Delicious food, good friends, and supporting a good cause are perfect reasons to smile.



A stunning view with perfect weather for the perfect day to support a worthy cause.



Getting ready to have some fun, and making sure to stay hydrated.



The Chamber Cup, waiting to go home with the winning team.



Crystal Dufresne addressed the people who came out to enjoy some golf together.



Kim Prough and her teammates after a perfect day on the course.

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# SPORTS

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## Tigers defeat B-Town Black in tough match



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com  
**Cara Dean pops up a pass.**

**SOUTH HADLEY** – Last Monday night, South Hadley A Girls summer soccer scored a 1-0 shutout of Belchertown Black as both teams returned to action in the Pioneer Valley Summer Soccer League. Belchertown fell to 2-6 while South Hadley is 3-5 and tied for the No. 8 spot with nine points in the A Division playoff picture.



**Simone Quinn circles around the ball.**

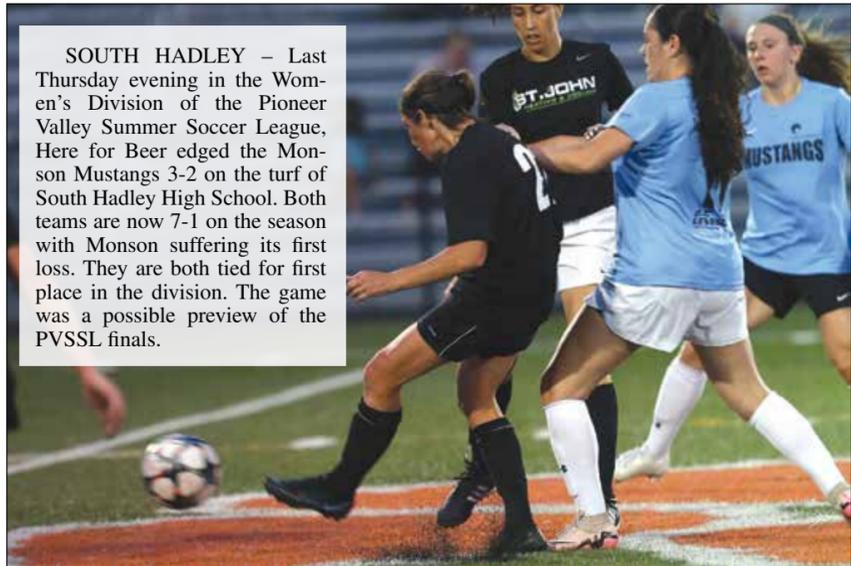


**Ally Fleury looks to avoid an opponent.**



**Hannah Haesaert sends a pass away.**

## Here for Beer hands Mustangs first loss



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com  
**Liz Maggi is pressured.**



**Cassie Ashwell heads up the field.**



**Joanna Mull, of Belchertown, sends a free kick away.**

**Taryn Carriveau, a recent Chicopee Comp graduate, makes a stop on the ball.**



**Macie Bolton tries to keep possession of the ball.**



**Katie Gilhooly, a 2025 Comp graduate, fights for the ball.**

## Extra time goals hurt Pioneers in draw

**By Tim Peterson**  
*Sports Correspondent*

**LUDLOW**—The task wasn't a very difficult one for the Western Mass. Pioneers entering the regular season finale against rival Vermont Green FC.

The Pioneers needed a victory to clinch the top spot in the USL League Two Northeast Division table for the first time since 2021.

The home team held a 2-0 lead in the 90th minute before referee Stephanie MacFarland decided to add 10 minutes of stoppage time. That's when everything fell apart for the Pioneers like a house of cards.

The Green managed to score two goals during extra time and last Friday night's match, which was played in front of the largest crowd of the regular season at historic Lusitano Stadium, ended in a 2-2 draw.

"I've never been involved in a soccer game before where the referee added ten minutes of stoppage time," said Pioneers captain Aidan Kelly. "We just crumpled under the pressure, but it's something that we're going to learn from. It's very disappointing, but we're look-



**Robert Lyons eyes an opponent up the field.**

ing forward to the playoffs now."

Longtime Pioneers head coach Federico Molinari was upset with how the home match ended.

"I have no words to describe tonight's game," Molinari said. "We played very well until extra time. There isn't anything we can do about it now."

The scoreboard clock Please see **PIONEERS**, page 7

was stopped when the match reached the 90th minute. MacFarland kept the rest of the time. Soccer is the only sport that uses a clock where the players and fans have no idea when the match is going to end.

While it was a heartbreaking way to end the regular season, the Pioneers (10-1-3), who lost, 2-0, to the Green on June 17, were scheduled to host the Long Island Rough Riders in an Eastern Conference play-in match on Tuesday night.

"We've qualified for the playoffs again," Molinari said. "We just have to prepare for Tuesday's playoff match now."

The Pioneers qualified for the playoffs for the sixth time since 2019. They've also finished in second place in the Northeast Conference standings in each of the past four seasons.

Vermont (12-0-2) captured the League title for the first time since joining USL League Two in 2022.

When the Green made their annual visit to Lusitano Stadium a year ago, they clinched a playoff berth with a 3-1 victory over the Pio-



**Jaiden Williems gets the quick touch.**

Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

# Thunderbirds reveal schedule for upcoming 2025-26 season

SPRINGFIELD – The Springfield Thunderbirds, the proud American Hockey League affiliate of the St. Louis Blues, released their full schedule for their 2025-26 regular season on Thursday in conjunction with the AHL. The T-Birds will be celebrating their 10th year as an AHL member club during the upcoming campaign, as well as their fifth playing season in affiliation with the Blues. Springfield has qualified for the Calder Cup Playoffs in three of its past four seasons.



The Thunderbirds will begin their regular season on home ice for a sixth consecutive season when they play host to the defending Eastern Conference champion Charlotte Checkers on Saturday, Oct. 11 at 6:05 p.m. inside the MassMutual Center for Opening Night.

Fans are advised that all Saturday games at the MassMutual Center will now start one hour earlier at 6:05 p.m. for the 2025-26 season.

The Thunderbirds will face every Eastern Conference team at least twice during the 2025-26 regular season, except for the Cleveland Monsters. Once again, the AHL season will

consist of all 32 clubs playing 72 games (36 home, 36 away).

Springfield will play 54 games against Atlantic Division opponents, including 27 at the MassMutual Center. Their most frequent opponents are the Providence Bruins, who will visit the Thunderdome six times, including 6:05 p.m. puck drops on Saturday, Dec. 6, Saturday, Dec. 27, Saturday, Feb. 21, and Wednesday, March 11. The two teams will also square off on New Year's Eve for a 3:05 p.m. matinee on Wednesday, December 31, as well as a 7:05 p.m. puck drop on Wednesday, March 25.

The home-ice portion of the I-91 rivalry series against the Hartford Wolf Pack begins on Saturday, Oct. 25 at 6:05 p.m., and the two foes will square off five times in each building during the 2025-26 season. Other I-91

game dates include Friday, Jan. 9 (7:05 p.m.) and 6:05 p.m. puck drops on Saturday, Jan. 31, Saturday, April 11, and Saturday, April 18.

The Bridgeport Islanders will also make five appearances in Springfield against the T-Birds, starting with a 7:05 p.m. contest on Friday, Nov. 7, followed by meetings on Saturday, Nov. 29 (6:05 p.m.), Sunday, Dec. 28 (3:05 p.m.), Friday, Jan. 2 (7:05 p.m.), and Friday, Feb. 20 (7:05 p.m.).

The most frequent visitor from Pennsylvania is the Lehigh Valley Phantoms, who visit the Thunderdome on Saturday, Jan. 10 (6:05 p.m.), Friday, Jan. 30 (7:05 p.m.), and Wednesday, April 15 (7:05 p.m.). Springfield will also host two games each against the Hershey Bears and Wilkes-Barre/Scranton Penguins.

The Thunderbirds will also play 18 games (9 home, 9 away) against North and Central Division opponents. The Iowa Wild are the lone Western Conference team on the T-Birds' schedule, visiting Springfield on Friday, March 6 (7:05 p.m.) and Saturday, March 7 (6:05 p.m.).

## PIONEERS from page 6

neers. The first meeting of the 2024 regular season ended in a scoreless draw.

The overall series record between the two squads is now tied 3-3-2.

The Pioneers posted a pair of 1-0 victories against Vermont during the 2023 regular season.

Since suffering the shut-out loss at Vermont back in June, the Pioneers had gone 5-0-0 and outscored their opponents, 18-1 during that span.

The start of last Friday's contest was delayed about 30 minutes due to a thunderstorm.

The Pioneers starting goalie was Trey Sheppard, who started a home match for the first time this season.

"We decided to go with him (Sheppard) tonight," Molinari said. "He's been training with us the whole season and he deserved a chance to play."

Sheppard, who'll be a sophomore on the Amherst College men's soccer team in the fall, started his first match of the season for the Pioneers on the road against New England FC, which was a 3-1 victory on July 7.

During the third minute, Sheppard made an outstanding save on a shot taken by Arnaud Tattevin resulting in a corner kick.

The Western Mass. squad took a 1-0 lead following a free kick goal during the 41st minute.

Gustavo Barbosa booted the ball into the box with his left foot from the right sideline near the Pioneers bench. Juan Hermoso, who's a defender, headed the ball into the right corner of the net past Vermont goalie Niklas Herceg. It was Hermoso's third goal of the season.

"It was very important for us to score the first goal of the match," Hermoso said. "I saw the ball heading towards me, and I was able to head it into the net. It was a great feeling."

A year ago, Hermoso was a senior on the University of Charleston men's soccer team, which lost to Lynn University, 3-2, in the NCAA Division 2 finals.

It was the first time that Vermont, who only needed a tie to finish in first place, had trailed in a match this season.

The Pioneers had a couple of other scoring chances early in the second half before Israel Neto blasted a shot into the back of the net in the 64th minute. Barbosa was credited with his second assist.

Twenty minutes later, Neto had another shot on



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com

Jose Suarez Monaco tries to make a stop. PioneersE



Goalie Rees Sheppard punts the ball away.



Juan Hermoso chases after a loose ball.

goal, but Herceg was able to make the save.

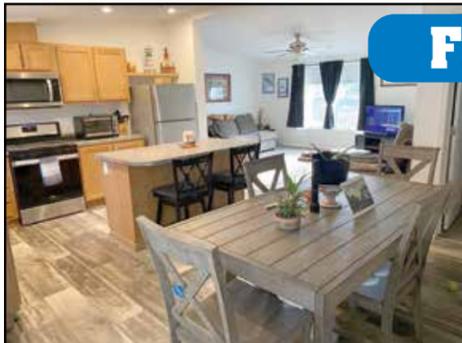
The visitors cut the deficit in half following a goal from Zach Zengue.

A couple of minutes later, Owen O'Malley, who had entered the match in the 69th minute, lined a shot from the top of the box over Sheppard that landed in the right corner tying the match.

Then the Vermont players raced across the field and celebrated with their many supporters, who made the three hour trek to Ludlow from Burlington.

It wasn't the way the Pioneers players wanted the regular season to finish, but they had a clean slate entering Tuesday's home playoff match.

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#### CLUES ACROSS

- Resorts
- One point south of southwest
- Musical performances
- Matched
- Four-footed animal part
- Express severe disapproval of
- Type of leaf
- Preparatory
- Walk heavily
- Succulent plants
- Rectangle of grass
- Lump in yarn
- Too
- Foot (Latin)
- Afflicts
- Smoothed
- Mind (Greek)

- Tampa ballclub
- Semitic language
- Sheltered sides
- Ocean
- Electronic point of sale
- Thrust a knife into
- 12th month (abbr.)
- Ringworm
- Father of Aoris (Greek myth.)
- Fighting back
- Cease to exist
- Insects in adult stage
- Freestanding sculpture
- Caps
- Repents
- Brown and Wallace are two
- Moved quickly

#### CLUES DOWN

- Goes bad
- Yard structure
- They \_\_\_
- Marine invertebrate
- European river
- Office supplies firm
- Physically abused
- Service stations in Australia
- Kills
- Liquid body substances
- Particular to a given individual
- Brave or noble act
- Sicilian city
- Conqueror
- Elected officials
- Type of 'pig'

- Drop of viscous substance
- Monetary unit of Spain
- Guarantees
- Coloring materials
- Reddish browns
- Square measure
- Will not
- Canned fish
- Appeared
- Six (Spanish)
- Took off
- Negligible amount
- Posts in a Greek temple
- Witnesses
- Phil \_\_\_, former CIA
- Places to park
- Guns
- Dance to pop music



#### COMMENTS?

SHPlanBoard@southhadleyma.gov

### Route 202/33 Corridor Rezoning Listening Session



6:30 PM  
MONDAY  
JULY 28TH

You are invited to a Hybrid Public Listening Session during the next Planning Board Meeting to share your thoughts on rezoning the Route 202/33 Corridor

#### South Hadley Senior Center, 45 Dayton Steet

or join via zoom with the log-in below:

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Webinar ID: 883 6779 2636 Passcode: 231475 or by Phone: (646) 558-8656

USE THE CODE OR LINK BELOW FOR MORE INFORMATION:



#### UPCOMING DATES:

- 9/8 PLANING BOARD PUBLIC HEARING
- 11/4 SPECIAL TOWN MEEITNG

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**BACKPACK** from page 1

pack is joining them, allowing for families in both towns to utilize the pantry as well as the school supplies.

"Granby students can benefit from Operation Backpack as Sheila includes both South Hadley and Granby in her annual project," said Guarnera. "She seeks donations from the businesses in towns, hoping they will want to help our young people have a successful school year."

"First, I would like to express my Thanks for a successful 2024 school year. I need to thank St. Pat's parishioners, First Congregational Church, and many businesses and individuals in the community," said Sheila Adams. "Last year, with the support of the community, I gave out 211 filled backpacks."

The goal this year is to surpass the number of backpacks from years in the past to help as many kids across both towns as possible.

"The feeling of seeing a child receive their new backpack and then open it up and see everything they have received is just so gratifying, and it just tugs at my heart," Adams said.

With everything costing an-arm-and-a-leg nowadays, it can be difficult for some families to afford these school supplies, especially with some children dealing with homelessness, living with grandparents, or in low-income families.

"My theory is no child will go to school without a backpack and the supplies they need to be successful in school," said Adams. "These children are our future. If we don't take

care of them now, when will we be?"

The program needs backpacks for grades Pre-K to 12 for boys and girls. Supplies needed include rulers, colored pencils, crayons, yellow highlighters, scissors, pencil sharpeners, colored markers, subject dividers, 1" ring binders, lined wide-ruled filler paper, calculators, zippered pen and pencil holders, USB zip drives, black composition books, 1, 2, and 3 subject notebooks, and colored portfolio folders with pockets.

"I don't turn away from anybody who needs help. I fill the backpacks and get them to the families," Adams said. "I enjoy doing it. I've met some great families along the way. I like paying forward what I do."

Adams works hard to put up flyers in the community and send letters to businesses requesting donations of supplies for grades Pre-K to twelve.

"When I started doing this, I really felt this was something I wanted to stick with and do. I just love it," Adams said.

You can find drop-off boxes at several locations around South Hadley for any and all donations you wish to give to the project.

Adams receives sponsorship from the congregation of St. Patrick's Church in South Hadley, and in addition receives money and donations from local businesses and community members.

"Being retired from Baystate Medical Center, I wanted to get into some good things here, and this was really gratifying when I was doing it, and it just has grown and grown," Adams said.

The Neighbors Helping Neigh-

bors Food Pantry will have a notice with her contact information in a flyer in each bag of food they give out so that families in need can utilize this opportunity.

"So far, the community has been absolutely wonderful to me, and they know me well," Adams said. With the help of the community, Adams hopes to bring a smile to the faces of more students every year.

Schools in South Hadley have her contact, and the counsellors reach out to Sheila Adams with requests for replacement supplies as the students go through the year.

"I need to thank the community for supporting Operation Backpack in 2023," Adams said. "St. Patrick's parishioners, all businesses in South Hadley... have been so generous in helping me do this each year."

You can find drop-off boxes at several locations around South Hadley.

Drop-off boxes can be found at Berkshire Bank at 74 Lamb Street, St. Patrick's Church at 30 Main Street, and Neighbors Helping Neighbors at 30 Carew Street. More include Newton Street Dental at 488 Newton Street, Westfield Bank at 32 Willimansett Street, or Adams' house a 36 Chestnut Hill Road, and please call her ahead of time or for pick-up at 413-536-5316.

"Remember, investing in our students now will lead to a better future for all of us. Let this be my 12th year of doing this, the greatest year ever," said Adams.

You can contact Sheila Adams via her email, shoperationbackpack@yahoo.com, or by calling her at 413-536-5316.

**SELECTBOARD** from page 1

hicles that had tires in need of replacement, urgent cruiser repairs, the replacement of two unrepairable shotguns, and a plumbing repair that was needed in the men's shower.

The second transfer deals in a surplus in the library's other expenses budget that can cover the total of \$9,600 to cover salary adjustments "not captured in the town's waging class plan", said Romboletti.

The third and last transfer is from the Group Health Insurance Plan to the Selectboard's other expenses account, and the Town Report account for a total of \$10,145 for postage overruns, and a small coverage for the printing of the town annual report, which fluctuates year-to-year.

The Selectboard unanimously moved to accept the presented year-end transfers, and the Appropriations Committee also unanimously moved to accept the transfers.

**Joint Meeting:  
School Committee**

Chair Eric Friesner came forward with the School Committee, including Vice Chair Danielle Cooke, member Jack Witkowski, and Superintendent Jennifer Voyik. Before the meeting, former member Dan Vieu resigned, and because of this, there will be another opportunity in 30 days to reapply.

The Selectboard and School Committee met with people interested in the open positions on the School Committee and also asked each of the candidates about their interest and ability to join the various subcommittees the School

Committee has.

The first interviewee, Charles Miles, came forward with an interest in the committee, sharing that he had once served on the School Committee, and shared he is a "strong believer in public education and public service in general".

With an additional seat open, Cooke remarked that the Committee would have to come together again to fill the additional seats, but that it is "really great that we have multiple applicants tonight."

Christina Jardine, the next candidate and mom of two kids in the school district, shared that she wants to join the School Committee with the belief that "there is a lot of good that is happening that can be shared in better ways", and expressed her desire to make a difference in the schools and for the students and community.

Tracie Kennedy also came forward to share her interest and shared that her three children are attending school in the town, and is involved in the community, and shared "I have pretty much devoted my entire life to education."

"There are three good candidates before us, and I don't think there's anybody disappointing," said Eric Friesner. "Thank you again, to all the candidates."

After a very short conversation, Danielle Cooke made the motion to nominate Charles Miles.

For Charles Miles, there was two in favor and one against for the School Committee, and the Selectboard voted in favor with one abstention, with Miles joining the Committee in the empty seat.

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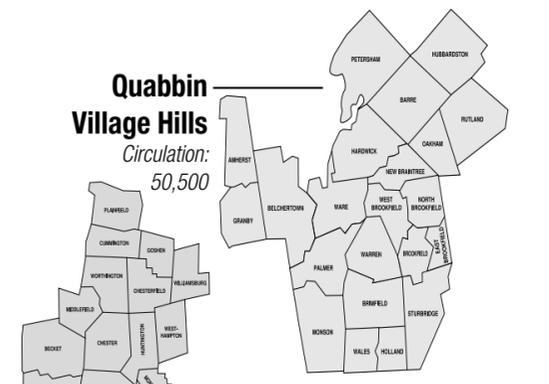
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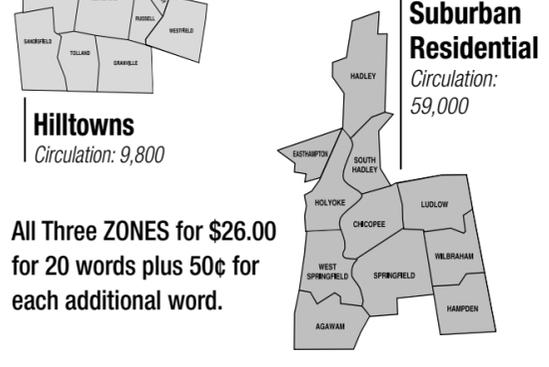
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# Region

## Riders rally to end homelessness in Springfield

2nd Annual Motorcycle Ride Fundraiser to end homelessness, featuring live entertainment by Cold Train

SPRINGFIELD — Bikers from across the region will unite with a common goal: ending homelessness in our community. The Ride to End Homelessness, hosted by the Springfield Rescue Mission, in collaboration with Sheldon's Harley-Davidson and Trantolo &

Trantolo, LLC, will take place on July 27, 2025, starting at Sheldon Harley-Davidson, 914 Southbridge St., Auburn MA and concluding with a community celebration at the Springfield Rescue Mission, 10 Mill Street in Springfield MA.

The ride will raise funds and awareness for the Springfield Rescue Mission, which provides critical services such as meals, shelter, transitional housing, job training,

and workforce development for individuals experiencing homelessness. The Springfield Rescue Mission also provides breakfast and lunch to over 300 men, women, and children 5 days a week.

### Event Details:

Date: July 27, 2025  
Kickstands up: 10:30 a.m.  
Start Location: Sheldon's Harley-Davidson, 914 Southbridge St., Auburn, MA.

Finish: Entertainment and Food: Springfield Rescue Mission, 10 Mill Street, Springfield, MA, Food, 50/50 raffle, and live music performed by Cold Train!

Registration Fee: \$35 per Rider & \$10 per passenger

After Party: open to walk-ins with \$10 donation

All proceeds to benefit Springfield Rescue Mission

### How to Get Involved:

Register to Ride at [www.springfieldrescuemission.org](http://www.springfieldrescuemission.org).

Donate: Can't make the ride? Donations are welcome at [www.springfieldrescuemission.org](http://www.springfieldrescuemission.org).

Sponsorships: Contact Rebecca Connor at 413-732-0808 ext 237, or email at [rconnor@springfieldrescuemission.org](mailto:rconnor@springfieldrescuemission.org).

## Learn more about volunteering at Harmony House

CHICOPEE - Harmony House of Western Massachusetts is a social model home for hospice care located in Chicopee.

The beautiful new facility reopened in the spring of 2024 and has been a safe and loving home for people who cannot live on their own. Potential volunteers are invited to explore the opportunity to help care for individuals who are in the final stage of their lives. Harmony House is currently in need of caregivers and

support people. Whether it's a few hours a week or a few hours a month, Harmony House is a welcoming place for people looking to help people.

A Meet-and-Greet event is scheduled for Tuesday, July 29, at 6 p.m. at the South Hadley Library, 2 Canal Street, South Hadley, in their Common Room. Please come and meet members of the Board of Directors and current volunteers to learn more and have your questions answered by those

who are directly involved in resident care.

Harmony House is a local, non-profit organization whose mission is to provide a loving home offering compassionate care for people who are on hospice and are in need of care. If interested in learning more or becoming a volunteer, please complete the online volunteer application form at [www.harmonyhouse-wma.org/volunteer-1](http://www.harmonyhouse-wma.org/volunteer-1) or email us at [admin@harmonyhousewma.org](mailto:admin@harmonyhousewma.org).

## Freedom Credit Union collecting cash and food donations for the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts

'Month of Giving' campaign extends from June 1 through August 31

REGION- Food insecurity continues to affect families across western Massachusetts, with inflation driving up the cost of everyday essentials. That's why Freedom Credit Union is again rallying support for its summer campaign benefiting the Food Bank of Western Massachusetts. From June 1 through August 31, the community is invited to contribute to a stronger community by donating nonperishable food, personal care items or monetary gifts at any Freedom branch.

"Thanks to the generosity of our members, staff and

entire community, this campaign has grown annually, and so has its impact," said Freedom Credit Union President Glenn Welch. "Last summer, we collected more than \$3,350 in donations, along with nearly 1,435 pounds of food and personal care items. This year, we're aiming even higher. By simply adding an extra item or two to your grocery cart each week, you can make a lasting difference-without stretching your budget."

Suggested donations of non-perishable food and personal care items include:

- Baby formula
- Beans in cans or dried in bags
- Bread mixes

- Canned chicken, fish and meat
- Cereals
- Coffee and tea
- Cooking oils and spices
- Diapers, wipes and toilet paper
- Dried or canned fruit
- Evaporated/powdered milk
- Granola bars and crackers
- Feminine sanitary products
- Instant potatoes
- Pasta and noodles
- Peanut butter and nuts
- Rice and grains
- Sauces
- Shampoo and body wash/soap
- Soups, stews and chili in cans
- Toothpaste and toothbrushes
- Vegetables in cans

### BIRTHDAY from page 1

ient. She likes to keep active, and that's what encourages me, too," said Lucier. "She's always been inspiring to me after all these years, and I think that her most important piece of advice was to be active and be a part of the community."

Boczon and her daughter would travel all over, and spend time together, most recently travelling to Israel together a few years ago.

"We've done some nice travelling, but my favorite was

going to the Holy Land, and I had to keep up with her," said Lucier. "She is very spirited and loves to do things."

The family spent a lot of time volunteering as well, making it a point to volunteer and help with their community as much as possible.

Jan's influence on those around her has been positive, as people meet her and find they want to be like her, full of spunk and ready to take on the world, unafraid to share their thoughts.



Turley photos by Emily-Rose Pappas

Singing happy birthday to Jan.



Jan making her 101st wish.



Jan getting to see her cake before it is cut.



The beautifully decorated cake for Jan.



The birthday banner for a very special birthday.



A packed room of friends enjoying some pasta and meatballs, and for dessert, some cake for dessert.

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