

# TOWN Reminder

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## Teens light art ablaze at local library

By Ben Hernandez  
Staff Writer

SOUTH HADLEY – Craft Nights at the South Hadley Public Library are a roaring success. July 28 festivities took place outside beside the building, where high school students set drawings ablaze in a practice known as fire art.

“The fact that we’re setting things on fire piqued your interest,” said Program Coordinator Bethany Roberts as she discussed the night’s festivities. Teen Craft Nights are a staple in the library programming, with events scheduled for the last Tuesday of every month.

“Teen craft nights happen on the last Tuesday of every month,” Roberts said. “This came about because I do have

Please see **ART**, page 2



Teenagers drew original works in preparation for the night's event.



Participants set their creations ablaze outside of the library, creating new and interesting patterns.



Turley photos by Ben Hernandez

Program Coordinator Bethany Roberts smiles in the midst of the lively artistic chaos.

## Operation Backpack celebrates 12 years of service

By Ben Hernandez  
Staff Writer

SOUTH HADLEY/GRANBY – Local charity Operation Backpack remains a staple of the South Hadley and Granby communities. Inspired by her time volunteering at Neighbors Helping Neighbors, Sheila Adams created Operation Backpack to ensure no student goes to school without a backpack and school supplies.

“A long time ago I retired and I got involved with Neighbors Helping Neighbors,” Adams said as she recalled how she got involved with charity work. “They would give out just a few pencils or whatever they could get their hands on and I realized that was a good thing.

You don’t realize how many kids go to school with a paper bag or don’t have the supplies to utilize in the classroom.”

Seeing an opportunity to help the wider community and deciding to expand the service, Adams created Operation Backpack to ensure no student had to go to school ill-equipped. Sponsored by St. Pat’s Church, she still sources her own donations and supplies.

“It’s about 12 years ago that this now has ballooned into this big operation,” Adams said. “It’s done out of my home.”

Adams says Operation Backpack is an “all year” effort, with requests pouring for everything from books to binders. She even receives calls from local schools asking for help supplying students.

The program is also confidential, with minimal input required to fulfill filed requests, such as gender and grade. From there, Adams sets up anonymous and secure drop-offs at the appropriate school with a trusted authority figure, such as a counselor, who ensures the items are given to the anonymous student.

“I work closely with the schools because I do not want any child to be embarrassed or go to school without what they need to be a success,” Adams said. “That’s my story. It’s a very simple one but I enjoy doing it.”

Adams offered gratitude for the overwhelming support

Please see **BACKPACK**, page 7

## Local Facebook community group encourages getting outside

By Ben Hernandez  
Staff Writer

SOUTH HADLEY – Stephanie Clymer from South Hadley Family Meet-ups has a mission. Creating the Facebook group in May of this year, Clymer intends to connect local parents and children to foster community building, new friendships and new ways to connect with the region.

“When my kiddo was born, I was having trouble finding a local South Hadley group for parents and other caregivers,” Clymer said. “Especially something that had events on weekends.”

Though she acknowledged the library and “other community organizations” have events which take place

during the day, she struggled to find consistent groups which worked with her schedule. Deciding a more proactive approach, Clymer made the Facebook group and began to structure activities.

“I decided to start the Facebook group as a way for us to coordinate and connect with each other and help plan our events,” Clymer said. “So, all the events that we’re hosting are in South Hadley.”

Though she emphasized the group was focused on connecting local residents, planned events are also open to any families in the area who want to join in on the activities. She stated since she created the group, they have done “several playground play dates.” A notable previous activity was a “toddler

bike ride” in the local cemetery.

“In July we teamed up with the bike walk committee in town to plan two community strolls,” Clymer said. “So, most of what we’ve been doing so far are outdoor events because it’s summer time.”

She mentioned August events will also primarily take place outside, with fall and winter activities taking place to either seasonal or indoor events “that will make sense for the weather.” There are two upcoming events featured for the group this August, with the first taking place on August 18. Labeled as “Ride a PVTa Bus” on the flyer, Clymer stated the event was

Please see **FACEBOOK**, page 7

## Willette appointed Sergeant-at-Arms

RENO, NV – Brian Willette of South Hadley, Massachusetts, was appointed for the sixth consecutive time as National Sergeant-at-Arms of the Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) on July 29 at the 127th VFW National Convention in Reno, Nevada.

Brian served in the United States Army, earning his VFW eligibility by serving in Bosnia in support of Operation Joint Forge, and in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. In recognition of his service, Brian received the Purple Heart and the Combat Action Badge.

He is a Gold Legacy Life member of Post 3104 in South Hadley, Massachusetts; a five-time All-American Post Commander, past All-American District Commander, past



Brian Willette

Submitted photo

Department Judge Advocate, and he currently serves as the Department of Massachusetts Sergeant-at-Arms.

On the national level, Bri-

an has served on the Sergeant-at-Arms team since 2016 and has served as the National Sergeant-at-Arms since 2021. He has been a member of the National Honor Guard since 2019. He also served on the Veterans and Military Support Committee and as a National Assistant Inspector General. He is a life member of the VFW National Home for Children.

Brian is a member of the American Legion, Sons of the American Legion, DAV, AMVETS, Marine Corps League (associate member), Association of 3D Armored Division Veterans, Yankee Division Veterans Association, 29th Division Veterans Association, and serves as the National POW-MIA officer for the Military Order of the Purple Heart of the U.S.A.

## Energy saving tips for the summer

By Quinn Suomala  
Correspondent

Many people see their energy bills increase in the summer due to the amount of appliances needed to keep their homes cool.

National Grid offered some advice to help keep energy costs low.

They suggested that you only run full loads in the dishwasher and dryer, setting your refrigerator temperature to 38 degrees Fahrenheit and utilizing a toaster oven to re-heat or cook small meals, as it utilizes less energy than a traditional oven.

It can also be beneficial to cook outside when possible and even use a clothesline to dry clothes, rather than a dryer.

Please see **ENERGY**, page 7

## Town continues to discuss website updates

By Ben Hernandez  
Staff Writer

GRANBY – The Granby Select Board gathered to discuss updates to the town website. Town Administrator Ron Aponte raised the issue of the town’s outdated website and summarized his conversation with a potential website consultant and web master.

“I had a chance to sit down with Jenny Hajdamowicz. She is certainly on board with being able to address what I’m referring to as phase one of the website project,” Aponte said. “That’s really to go in and correct the incorrect data.”

Aponte pointed out glaring weakness with the website’s current presentation. Identified necessary work would involve “fixing links that end up going nowhere” and updating dated information. He also mentioned Hajdamowicz said the work

was possible but envisioned it would “take a little bit of time.”

“My personal preference is we just contract with her to actually perform that phase one,” Aponte said, though mentioned her current responsibilities with the school department would cause logistical conflicts with hiring her as a full-time town employee.

“We would have to designate her as a special municipal employee as well,” Aponte said. “So she can enter into that contract. So, if the board is amenable to that, I can certainly drop that paper work and we can address that at our next meeting.”

Aponte noted they scheduled a meeting with the municipal consultant Walton Schilling to provide an overview of “what we’re looking to do with the website.” He expressed hope both Hajdamowicz and Aponte

Please see **WEBSITE**, page 5



# Opening for seat on Board of Assessors

SOUTH HADLEY – Due to a recent resignation on the Board of Assessors, the elected body has a vacancy which needs filling.

The Town of South Hadley is proceeding to address that vacancy immediately. This process is consistent and within MGL Chapter 41, Subsections 10, 11 and other applicable policies or regulations.

All parties interested in applying for the position are asked to submit a letter of interest to Executive Assistant to Administration Kristin Maher via email at [kmaher@southhadley.ma.gov](mailto:kmaher@southhadley.ma.gov) or through the mail to: Selectboard Office, 116 Main St., South Hadley, MA, 01075. Applicants may submit a resume but it is not required.

Letters of interest and any additional documents must be received by 4:30 p.m. on Thursday, Aug. 20. Once received by Se-

lectboard administration, a complete packet for each candidate’s submission will be made publicly available.

The chairs of the Board of Assessors and Selectboard will decide on a suitable date to have a joint meeting of remaining Board of Assessors members and members of the Selectboard to conduct interviews. Board members will make an appointment at the public meeting scheduled for the interviews or a subsequent public joint meeting.

Applicants will not be required to be interviewed if they choose not to be, but still may be considered. The joint committee, by way of nomination and subsequent vote to appoint, will fill the vacancy on the South Hadley Board of Assessors for a term from the date of appointment to the next annual town election, scheduled for April 2027.

# Fire and Water study group offers update

SOUTH HADLEY – A Study Group, consisting of South Hadley residents, former and current personnel, and governance leaders from Fire and Water Districts 1 and 2 has been meeting over the past two months. The group has reviewed previous merger study reports, conducted a SWOT Analysis (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, and Threats) based on current operations and a potential merger, and is embarking on developing a business plan “mock-up” of what a South Hadley merger might look like. In addition, the group is seeking best practices developed by other Massachusetts

municipalities that have conducted mergers.

The South Hadley Fire and Water Study Group was organized in response to current town budgetary challenges and a town-wide 2024 non-binding referendum that favored exploring a merger. Meetings are open to the public. An upcoming meeting will be held Aug. 26 at 6 p.m. at the South Hadley Public Library. The Study Group will continue to provide ongoing updates of their work. For more information, contact Study Group Chair, Christine Phillips, [caphill33@gmail.com](mailto:caphill33@gmail.com), 413-531-1063.



The latest exhibit at the HCC art gallery is “Constellations.” Submitted photo

# HCC gallery presenting exhibit ‘Constellations’ alumni art show

HOLYOKE – The Taber Art Gallery at Holyoke Community College will present “Constellations,” an exhibition of alumni artwork from the HCC Permanent Collection, Aug. 3-21, with a reception Aug. 6, from 5-7 p.m.

The show features paintings by HCC alumni artists from class years 1974 through 2021.

“In naming the show “Constellations,” we were thinking about the relationships that students build with their peers and with the community here at HCC, and how those relationships continue to connect us, even after they have moved on,” said gallery

director Rachel Rushing.

The artwork was produced by alumni after they had graduated from HCC, with the pieces subsequently purchased by the college and added to its permanent collection, which numbers about 400 works.

HCC celebrated the 25th anniversary of the Taber Art Gallery in 2025, and it’s been 24 years since the last HCC alumni art show, although alumni artists have been part of individual and other group shows over the years.

“Every artist in this show left our campus as an individual star, but ‘Constellations’ is about the lines we

draw between them, showing how our alumni network becomes something bigger than any one of us,” said Natalia Castagno, HCC assistant director of alumni relations.

“Fittingly, this exhibit opens in the season of Leo, the lion – HCC’s mascot is another feline, a cougar – watching over the sky that connects them all.”

The Taber Art Gallery, located off the lobby of the HCC Library on the second floor of the HCC Donahue Building, is free and open to the public Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. during regular school sessions.

# NAMI offering education program

HOLYOKE – NAMI Western Massachusetts is pleased to offer their NAMI Family-to-Family Education Program in person, starting Tuesday, Sept. 15, from 6 to 8:30 p.m. in Greenfield.

**What is the NAMI Family-to-Family Education Program?**

NAMI Family-to-Family is a free, 8-session educational program for family, significant others, and friends of people with mental health conditions. It is a designated evidenced-based program. This means that research shows that the program significantly improves the coping and problem-solving abilities of the people closest to a person with a mental health condition.

NAMI Family-to-Family is taught by NAMI-trained family members who have been there and includes presentations, discussions, and interactive exercises.

# Please fill out survey for Cultural Council

SOUTH HADLEY – The South Hadley Cultural Council wants to hear from residents. The council seeks input to develop community priorities. Your response will influence guideline for grants for future local cultural programs. To take the survey, go to <https://tinyurl.com/shcc-survey>.

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**ART** from page 1

some teens that would really love to come to some of my afternoon programming but, due to school schedules and after-school activities, they just aren’t able to.”

Roberts stated the unusual craft nights were a way to “reach more teens” while being conscientious of varying schedules, as well as offering different options to community adolescents. According to the program coordinator, the program’s intent is to draw more attention to the local library.

“Teen craft night is usually a messy craft,” Roberts said.

“Not always, but pretty frequently. I tell the kids not to wear nice clothing.”

Roberts was unsure if the scheduled event would take place due to inclement weather. However, despite overcast skies, a healthy sample of students braved the uncertain outdoors to scribble original art on provided materials, doused the artwork with rubbing alcohol and set ablaze their creations.

“You take your tiles and then you color them with Sharpie,” Roberts said as she walked through the process. “Whatever design you’re interested in....as the rubbing alcohol burns away, it creates really

neat designs.”

A water bucket was strategically positioned on campus as an emergency measure. However, as teens enjoyed the fiery festivities, there was little cause for alarm. Roberts mentioned she gathered crafting inspiration from Pinterest, as there are “many” ideas available she can then tweak for the program.

“The summer is very busy at the library with our programming,” Roberts said as she recalled a previous event which normally wouldn’t be associated with library activities. “Yesterday I had an escape room that was really

popular and a lot of fun. Any librarian is welcome to take my ideas.”

An additional popular activity was an event she described as “Snacktornoon,” a program which instructs students proper kitchen skills through practical knife skills and increasing familiarity with cooking appliances. At the end of the session, the student will have learned how to make a snack they can then reproduce at home “regardless of their economic status.”

“I am very happy to highlight the importance of teen accessibility and library usage,” Roberts said.

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| <b>Sat., Aug. 8</b><br><b>Eagle Eyes</b> | <b>Sat., Aug. 15</b><br><b>Dee Reilly</b> | <b>Sat., Aug. 16</b><br><b>Jimmy McArdle &amp; Jerry Murphy</b><br>2-5pm |
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## Redevelopment funding grant applications available

SOUTH HADLEY – Applications are being accepted for projects that rehabilitate or redevelop blighted, abandoned, vacant or underutilized properties in the Falls. Priority projects include multifamily buildings, commercial buildings, and mixed-use buildings. Program guidelines: <https://southhadley.org/Document-Center/View/15218/Falls-Redevelopment-Fund---Guidelines--Application>

Applications are being accepted on a rolling basis and funding will be provided on a first-come-first served basis for eligible projects. Total funding available is \$50,000. Additional technical assistance will be provided to align eligible projects with additional funding to achieve program objectives.

For more information contact: [acapra@southhadleyma.gov](mailto:acapra@southhadleyma.gov)

## Grange Fair book program coming up

WARE – The Ware Grange Fair program books are here. Plan your exhibits by checking out the categories of exhibits in the fair program book. Books are available online at [waregrange.org](http://waregrange.org) or to receive a book by mail call 413-284-1135 or email [waregrange164@gmail.com](mailto:waregrange164@gmail.com). Exhibitors may enter in a variety of categories including vegetables, fruits, eggs, cut flowers, baked goods, fancywork, arts and crafts, and photography. Plan your exhibits now for the fair which takes place Aug. 28 and 29. See the Ware Grange website for schedule and details.

## MPTC Police Academy graduates latest class

AMHERST – Today, the Municipal Police Training Committee (MPTC) Executive Director Colonel Rick Rathbun (Ret.) and Holyoke Academy Director Michele I. Lyons announced the graduation of 46 police officers from the MPTC Holyoke Police Academy’s 6th Recruit Officer Course (ROC). The graduates successfully completed over 20 weeks of intensive, standardized training in all aspects of law enforcement and will now serve as full-time officers representing 21 police agencies across Massachusetts.

“These graduates have completed a demanding program that combines foundational law enforcement skills with modern training methods, and a strong emphasis on

professionalism and public trust,” said MPTC Executive Director Colonel Rick Rathbun (Ret.). “The successful completion of this academy reflects not only their determination and resilience, but also their commitment to lifelong learning and excellence in service. We are proud to celebrate their achievements and wish them continued success as they begin their careers in public safety.”

In a graduation ceremony at the University of Massachusetts Amherst Campus earlier today, members of the 6th ROC took an oath and received their badges for service. The new officers represented several police departments and agencies, including Amherst, Belchertown, Chicopee, Gardner, Grafton,

Holyoke, Lee, Littleton, Longmeadow, Northampton, Orange, Pittsfield, South Hadley, Sunderland, University of Massachusetts Amherst, West Springfield, Westfield, Westfield State University, Wilbraham, Williamsburg, and Winchendon. They join over 50 officers who have graduated from MPTC Operated Academies in training year 2026-2027.

As part of the MPTC’s commitment to academic excellence and world-class police training, the Recruit Officer Course (ROC) provides over 800 hours of course curriculum designed to prepare student officers for the safe and effective performance of their duties. In keeping with mandates established by the landmark 2020 police reform

law, the MPTC curriculum includes de-escalation training based on new use-of-force policies and regulations. Student officers also receive uniform training based on best practices related to essential modern-day policing needs, including effective communication skills, victim-centered and trauma-informed incident response, missing persons and human trafficking investigations, mental health-related emergency response, active shooter and hostile event response, patrol duties, and officer safety and wellness.

Upon successful completion of the Academy, student officers have met all training requirements to be eligible for Peace Officer Standards and Training (POST) Commission certification.

## Ware Grange hosting barbecue dinner

WARE – Ware Grange is holding a Barbecue Dinner at the Fair on Saturday, Aug. 29 at 4 p.m. The menu includes pulled pork, chicken, brisket, baked beans, coleslaw, cornbread, drink, and dessert for

\$25. Eat outside under the tent or take out is available. Reservations are required. Please call 413-284-1135 or email [waregrange164@gmail.com](mailto:waregrange164@gmail.com) to make your reservations for the barbecue.

## Mail voting postcards available

SOUTH HADLEY – Vote early by mail in all 2026 elections. No excuse is required. Applications will be mailed 45 days before each state-wide election. Sign it and mail it back. Choosing “all

elections” covers you for all of 2026. Primaries: Choose your party ballot if unenrolled. The deadline for the state primary/special town election is Aug. 25 at 5 p.m.



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SOCIAL SECURITY

Matters

By Russell Gloor

When should my wife file for spouse benefits?

**Dear Rusty:**  
My wife is 66 (born February 1960) and started taking Social Security retirement benefits just over one year ago at age 65.  
She was a stay-at-home Mom for most of her adult life. I turned 62 this past March and received my first SS payment recently for a May 2026 start. We are scheduled to meet with SSA in late July to initiate spousal benefits because my wife's current benefits are less than 50% of mine.  
We also have an adult disabled son, who receives Supplemental Security Income and Social Security benefits (this split in benefit sources happened after my wife filed - that whole process was confusing and we don't understand it).  
My question relates to spousal benefits (I was a career finance person but don't completely understand these rules). We were going to file in July but is there any benefit to waiting until she turns 67? And will her 50% benefit be 50% of my lower benefit due to my filing at 62 or is that based on another amount?

**Signed:**  
**Confused Finance Guy**

**Dear Confused:**  
First, be aware that your wife's spousal benefit will be based on her age when she claims it, and half of your Full Retirement Age, (although you claimed at 62, her benefit as your spouse will still be based on your FRA entitlement).  
Because she claimed her SS retirement at 65, your wife will not get 50% of your FRA entitlement; rather she will get her own reduced SS retirement benefit (which was reduced by about 13% from her FRA entitlement) plus a "spousal boost." The amount of that "boost" will be the difference between her own FRA entitlement and half of your FRA entitlement, but that boost amount will also be reduced because she will be claiming in July before her FRA.  
Your wife will reach her FRA in February 2027, so by claiming her spousal boost in July her boost amount will be reduced by about 5% and the "boost" will be added to her already reduced SS retirement about. The result will be your wife's benefit as your spouse will be less than 50% of your FRA entitlement. And, FYI, your wife will be automatically deemed to be filing for her spousal benefit, she will not be able to defer claiming it.  
As your son is now collecting SS benefits based on your wife's personal SS record, you should ask Social Security to switch him over to

payments based on your record because you have the higher SS benefit.  
FYI, because your son is now receiving Supplemental Security Income, the SS disability benefit he receives will offset by his SSI benefit, and the payment amount will consist of two sources - SSI and SSDI. Nevertheless, he cannot get more than 50% of your SS retirement amount and will likely be affected by the Family Maximum, which may further reduce his SSDI entitlement.  
Your wife's benefit as your spouse will also be affected by the "Family Maximum," which limits how much can be paid on any one person's SS record (on your SS record).  
That also means that your wife will not get a full 50% of your FRA entitlement; rather she will get less because the family maximum limits how much all your dependents can receive to somewhere between 50% and 88% of your FRA benefit amount (after subtracting your own SS entitlement).  
That also means that your son's SS payment, as well as your wife's SS payment as your spouse, will be reduced to less than 50% of your FRA entitlement. SSA will be able to guide you through the Family Maximum calculations for both your son and your wife when you meet.  
To recap all of this: a) your wife will be automatically deemed to be filing for her spousal benefit; she cannot delay until her FRA. b) her amount as your spouse will be less than 50% of your SS FRA entitlement. And c) both your wife's and your son's SS benefit will likely be also affected by the Family Maximum and, thus, be less than half of your FRA entitlement.  
Nevertheless, it was likely the right decision to claim as you have, considering that your son and wife have been receiving SS benefits for some time now, and both will continue to receive more as your dependents.  
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 [ssadvisior@amacfoundation.org](mailto:ssadvisior@amacfoundation.org). Russell Gloor is a Social Security advisor for AMAC.

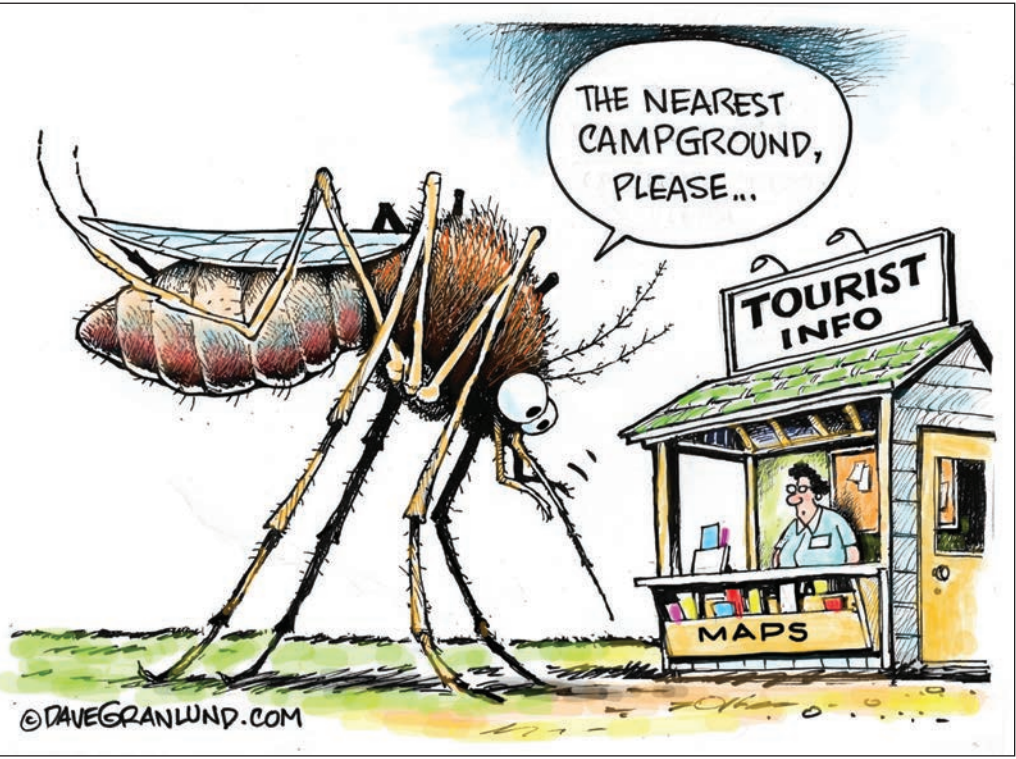
Privet pruning leads to instruction

Every year when we head off to the Cape, the "yard" talk becomes privets, and bunnies, but that is a whole other column.  
When we visited in June, the privets where we stay had been cut way back in an effort to reduce height and width. This trip, I noticed those cuts had grown back nicely, achieving the desired results.  
Read on while we revisit a column from the archives on pruning hedges.  
A living hedge offers multi-seasonal interest. A number of shrubs suited for hedges flower or have appealing fall leaf color.  
Others are evergreen and fulfill the "need for green" even in the offseason.  
Some make great homes for wildlife, and others are the perfect backdrop for our holiday decorations.  
Whatever the case, a hedge doesn't have to be old and overgrown to require your attention. Perhaps it is a little misshapen, or too tall and gangly. Maybe it has lots of dead wood.  
Anyway, there is no time like the present to get out the loppers and hand clippers and do some pruning.  
**Old and overgrown**  
Hedges that fall into this category should be rejuvenated over the course of three years. The general rule of thumb is to remove no more than one-third of a shrub's mass at one time.  
Working from the interior of each plant, cut out the oldest stems first to ground level. Fresh new growth will fill in the gaps.  
Repeat in years two and

three, until all the old wood has been pruned away. If you prune more drastically than recommended, there will be less leaf power for photosynthesis, and vigor may be reduced; curb your impatience and stick to the three year rule.  
**Misshapen**  
Hedges can sometimes be disproportionate and appear top or bottom-heavy. Proper pruning can alleviate this problems.  
Before horticulture college, it never occurred to me that I could determine the direction in which my shrub will grow based on the pruning cuts I make. I used to think I was merely shortening stems!  
Grab a branch and examine the buds closely. Some point inward while others point out. Voilà!  
For a top-heavy shrub make cuts at inward facing buds on the upper section- this will curb outward facing growth. On the lower portion make your cuts at buds facing out to encourage outer branching.  
Best cuts are made on a 45 degree angle just after the bud of choice. Try this pruning method on privet.  
**Too tall and gangly**  
Hedges that are tall and thin need more than just "a little off the top." Here you will employ pruning strategies

that you've already learned.  
Cut deep into the plant to bring down its height, then prune the sides of the shrub to outward facing buds to encourage a wider hedge.  
This technique works especially well with hedges comprised of Rose of Sharon.  
**Lots of dead wood**  
The quickest way to prune a hedge has always been to employ shears or electric trimmers and simply remove new growth each season. Unfortunately this method makes for lots of green leaves at the plant's tips but for very little on the interior of the shrub.  
If you should decide you want to reduce the overall size of the hedge you will be in for trouble - all that will be visible is dead wood. Start making "windows" now by cutting out large stems back to main branches.  
Light will penetrate inside the plant spawning lots of fresh green growth. Eventually you will be able to cut the hedge back to that point. The three year, one-third rule that I spoke of earlier should apply here as well.  
Boxwood and yews benefit from this type of rejuvenation.  
Kudos to the privet pruner; you did well!

Roberta McQuaid graduated from the Stockbridge School of Agriculture at the University of Massachusetts. For 34 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.



LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Support Override on Sept. 1

**Dear Editor:**  
I support the question on the September 1 ballot asking South Hadley voters to approve a \$3.5M override to Proposition 2 ½.  
Like most people, I don't enjoy paying taxes, and like most retirees, my spouse and I live on a fixed monthly income. But I view property taxes much as I view money we put aside for home maintenance or for savings: like those things that ensure a stable home life, taxes are investments that secure the kind of community where we want to live, where our various institutions (e.g., schools, public works, public safety, senior services) are strong and supportive—a place we're proud to call home.  
I went on the Town's web page that explains the override, using the calculator there to better understand what the costs would be to us for a \$3.5M addition to our tax levy. The assessed value

of our home is about \$80,000 above the average assessment in town, and the cost of a \$3.5M override for us would be an extra \$675.09 per year.  
That isn't peanuts, but it amounts to ~\$1.85 per day. For the average home assessment in South Hadley of \$417,105, that amount is \$1.53.  
There are several ways I could spend \$1.85 per day. I could save it up and every 3.5 days, buy my favorite iced beverage at Dunkin'. At my age and income level, short-term Treasury notes, bonds, savings accounts or CDs now make the most sense as investments, so I could use that \$1.85 to earn about \$24 per year given 3-4% annual returns.  
Of course, it's not possible to calculate in dollars how much our investment in South Hadley of \$1.85 per day will get my spouse and me. We don't have kids in the schools, our road isn't maintained by

the Town, and we've yet to call on the police or fire department for help. But we value a community where amateur theater productions and after-school sports are available for students, where a lively Senior Center offers transportation for those who need it along with hearing aid clinics and classes to help keep older adults healthy and engaged, where a hard-working Public Works department does all in its power to keep our streets clean and plowed and safe for traffic, where a beautiful public library keeps us connected to the wide world beyond—and where property values don't take a nose dive in the absence of those things.  
A "Yes" vote on September 1 won't solve all our financial problems, but it will help us to maintain our current level of services over the next three years.

Susan Newton

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.

TOWN Reminder

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# Lions Club’s 3rd Annual Cruisin’ the Common Memorial Car Show

BELCHERTOWN – This Saturday, Aug. 8 (rain date: Aug. 9), our Town Common will begin filling up with vintage classic automobiles, trucks, and motorcycles starting at 9 a.m.

Public viewing (free to spectators) and judging take place until 1 p.m., at which time raffle winners for the dozens of prizes being given away will be announced, followed by the presentation of 25 laser-engraved trophies to the best-of-the-best vehicle entries that day. Don’t forget to get in on the 50/50 Raffle as well. It’s your chance to walk away with hundreds of dollars in your pocket.

Plenty of food will be served up, including our monthly meatball grinder, burgers, cheeseburgers, hot dogs, French fries, and soft drinks. Free coffee and donuts will be available in the earlier hours of the show, so stop on in---and while you’re at it, grab a sheet of raffle tickets for our Chinese auction!

Our annual car show has quickly become one of our club’s biggest fundraisers---only made possible through the greatly appreciated support of our townspeople and local businesses. Please come out and join us for the day with the entire family, grab a bite to eat, try your luck at our raffle table, and take a stroll down Memory Lane as you take in the views of some of the finest classic vehicles in the Northeast. All proceeds from this event will be distributed to our local charities and civic organizations.



There will be many raffle prizes at this year's show. Submitted photos



The Lions Club will host a car show in Belchertown for the third time.



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## South Hadley Public Library

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### AUGUST EVENTS

#### Pokemon Go Walk!

Saturday, August 15 at Noon

Come enjoy a walk with your phone and fellow trainers! All ages welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult! Please register in the Lobby fifteen minutes before the event. At the South Hadley Public Library, 2 Canal Street, South Hadley, MA 01075. Bring your phone and wear good walking shoes!

#### Talk to a 9/11 NYC Fireman

Wed. September 2 at 6 p.m. • QUESTIONS by Mon., August 24

Do you have questions for a retired New York City Firefighter from 9/11? Now is the opportunity to have it answered!

On Wed., September 2 at 6 pm FDNY First Responder Joseph T. Bonanno will be speaking, via Zoom, to the South Hadley Library, Senior Center and High School. Due to the size of the event we will need to have questions from the public beforehand. Please submit your questions at the link on the South Hadley Public Library Website: [shadleylib.org](http://shadleylib.org) by Monday, August 24. You are welcome to call 413-538-5045 and ask for Desi if you have other questions about the event.

# Granby library set for fall book sale

GRANBY – Book lovers. Bargain Hunters. The Friends of the Granby Free Public Library will host their annual Month-Long Fall Book Sale during the month of September in the Community Room of the Library. You will be able to choose from a large assortment of used and like-new hardcover, paperback books, teen books and children’s books, along with a selection of CDs, DVDs, video games and audiobooks. The sale will run during regular library hours from Sept. 1 to 30.

Starting Aug. 1, the Library will be accepting donations of hardcover and paperback books, DVDs, music CDs, playable video games, and audiobooks in good condition acceptable for resale. The library does not accept donations of: Text-

books, encyclopedias, dictionaries, thesauri, Reader’s Digest books, or books with smoke, mold, mildew, or water damage. Donations are accepted at the library during open hours. Please do not leave donated books outside the library or in our book return. Donations accepted until Aug. 27. Thank you for your support! The library is located at 297 E State St in Granby MA 01033.

# Chicopee Street to receive roadwork

GRANBY – Road resurfacing on Chicopee St. between School St. and Carver St. Work will commence the week of Aug. 18. Please seek alternate routes if possible. Roadway detours and/or closures are anticipated.

Residents may experience short-term inconvenience/delays due to construction operations.

## WEBSITE from page 1

mowicz and Schilling would be able to work together and “provide her with administrative rights” to perform the necessary updates.

“I also want to get Jenny and Walton together so they can work as a pair,” Aponte said. “Once this phase one is over, then I’ll probably be coming back to the board with phase two, which is what I’ll call general upkeep and maintenance.”

Aponte mentioned the Board could hire someone to do the necessary website maintenance and mentioned they could either do it so the website is “centralized” or make it so each department would be responsible for their own section. He stressed the

decision was up for the Board to decide.

“The problem was the people we had in place managing the process were not effective,” Select Board member Mark Bail said. “As a consequence, we ended up something substandard.”

“Yeah,” Aponte said. “And we’re paying the price now.”

Questions stemmed around the logistics of training municipal employees to maintain website contents. Discussions circled around the possibility of offering webinars, online videos or face-to-face hands-on training. Aponte stated he would conduct department head meetings starting in September regarding the decision.

Police Chief Kevin O’

Grady highlighted the website’s importance, as the pages were “technically public records.”

Select Board Clerk Jeffrey Lawson asked if they wrote a contract for Hajdamowicz to finalize the project agreement. Aponte reported she was “going to be take a look” and would “start to formulate a game plan” after their initial meeting. The town administrator also said he’d prefer it if the board offered her a “flat rate” to ensure she took her time performing the necessary updates.

“As long as I say ‘if you can have it done by such and such a date,’ then she can do it as she sees fit,” Aponte said. “But if she prefers hourly, I mean, I’ll still make that work as well.”

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## August 19, 2022



### Supporting Ukraine

Veteran describes humanitarian aid mission

Scott Hiorns with two other volunteers as they help at the Polish border.



# SPORTS

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## Rams power their way to finals



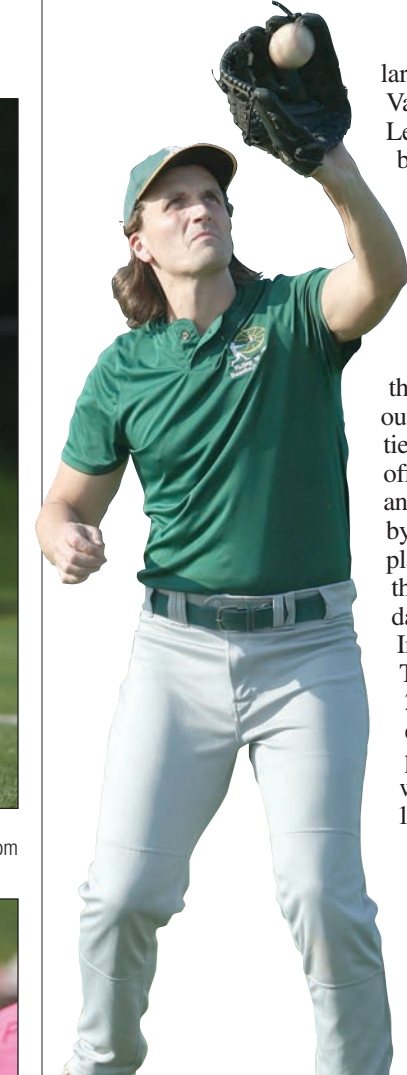
Margaret Healey eyes an open teammate.

GRANBY – The Granby B girls summer soccer team defeated the Falcons 6-0 in the quarterfinals of the PVSSL B Division playoffs, then scored a win over Frontier in the semifinals held last Thursday. The Rams participated in the division finals last Saturday. Highlights from that matchup will be in next week’s edition.

McKenna Zumbruski makes her way up the field.

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

## Valley Wheel regular season concludes



WILBRAHAM – The regular season has concluded for the Valley Wheel Over-28 Baseball League, one of several adult baseball leagues that plays in the region. This year, with play concluding this past Sunday, the Angels were able to finish the regular season with the top record, going 11-4. The Angels matched the Twins with the same record, but won two out of three head-to-head for the tiebreaker advantage in the playoffs. The Orioles finished third and the Cubs overcame the A’s by tiebreaker for the final of four playoff spots. The semifinals for the league are set for this Sunday at Spec Pond in Wilbraham. In the first matchup, the No. 2 Twins host the No. 3 Orioles at 2:30 p.m. Then, the top-seeded Angels face No. 4 Cubs at 6 p.m. The championship game will be held on Sunday, Aug. 16 at Spec Pond at 3 p.m.

Please see **MORE PHOTOS**, page 7

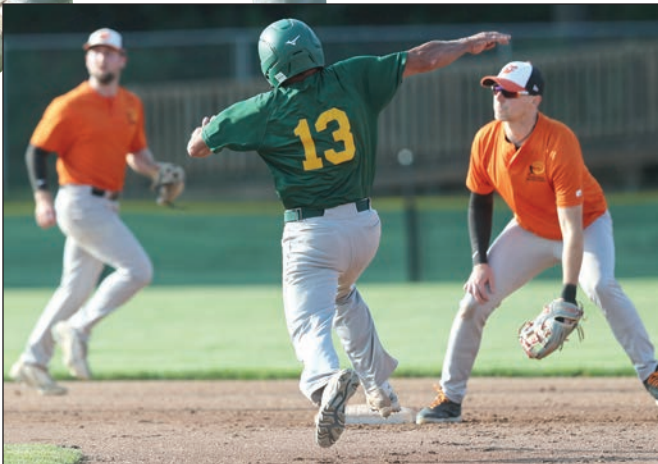
Nate Woodland makes a catch for the A’s during regular season action in the Valley Wheel league.



McKenna Cudworth tries to separate the defense.

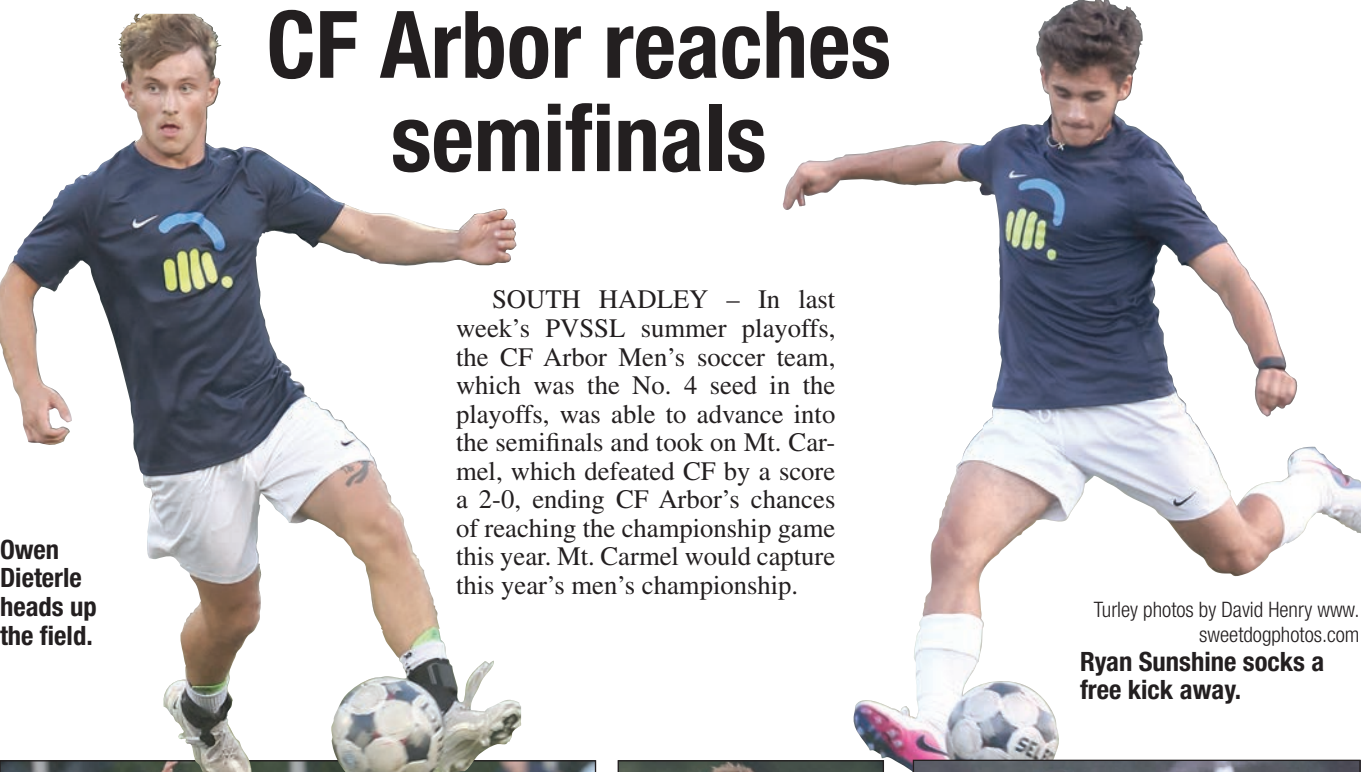


Sophia Press sends a pass away.



Ken Schubert heads into second base.

## CF Arbor reaches semifinals



Owen Dieterle heads up the field.

SOUTH HADLEY – In last week’s PVSSL summer playoffs, the CF Arbor Men’s soccer team, which was the No. 4 seed in the playoffs, was able to advance into the semifinals and took on Mt. Carmel, which defeated CF by a score a 2-0, ending CF Arbor’s chances of reaching the championship game this year. Mt. Carmel would capture this year’s men’s championship.

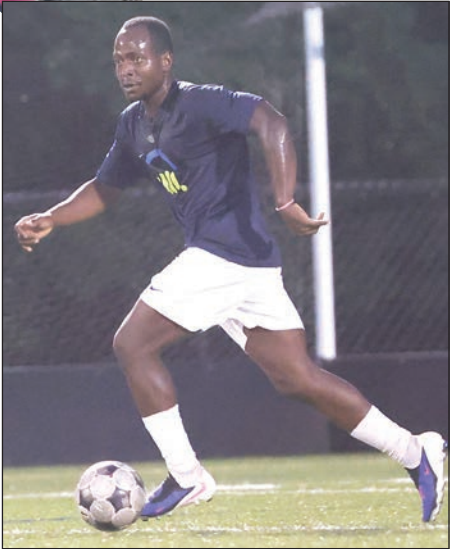
Turley photos by David Henry [www.sweetdogphotos.com](http://www.sweetdogphotos.com)  
Ryan Sunshine socks a free kick away.



Troy Remillard outplays an opponent for the ball.



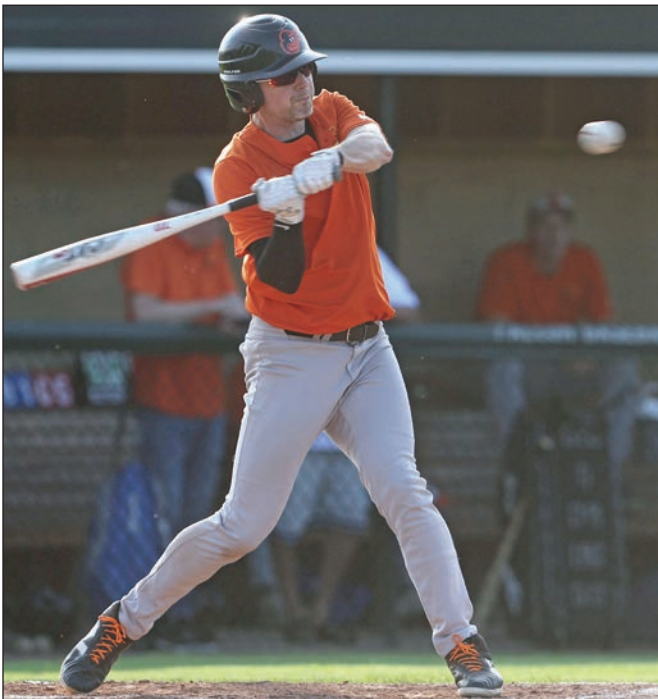
Tyler Lewis advances up the field.



Landry Kwawu goes to meet up with a loose ball.



Mike Burgos pitches in a game for the Orioles on July 26.



Sam Ribeiro takes a swing.



# Blue Sox fall in Game 1 of first playoff series

SANFORD – The Valley Blue Sox (0-1 postseason) dropped Game 1 of their first-round NECBL playoff series against the Sanford Mainers (1-0 postseason), 5-2. This marks the first time that the Blue Sox have lost to the Mainers this season, as Valley won the two previous outings.

The first inning remained scoreless for both teams, but the Mainers got themselves on the board in the second. Nater Watcher (UConn) hit a 2-run home run out to left field with Steven Kraus (Binghamton) on base to give Sanford an early 2-0 lead.

Valley, however, was able to tie the game back up shortly in the fourth after Mainers’ pitcher Andrew Middleton (Maryland) had a lackluster inning, allowing 2 runs and 3 hits.

Nick Spaventa (UPenn) got the first run to score when he singled to the short-stop, who made an error, which allowed Esteban Garcia (Boston College) to score and Spaventa to advance to second.

Anthony Tirado (Penn State) then hit a sacrifice fly to right-center, letting Spaventa make his way around the bases to tie the game 2-2.

While it seemed like it was panning out to be a close game, Sanford broke things open in the sixth. Kraus was up to bat with the bases loaded when he singled to third base, sending Albert De La Rosa (Maine) and Brian Connolly (Rhode Island) home to score, breaking the tie 4-2.

The Blue Sox loaded up the bases once again for Sanford, but it was Valley who sent the run home for the Mainers when Michael Goodman (UMass) hit Brennan Staublely (Elon) with a pitch, forcing in the fifth tally for the Mainers.

While the Blue Sox still had plenty of time to mount an offense, the Mainers’ pitching staff locked it down, retiring batters in order over the final three innings.

“You got to tip your cap when [Sanford’s pitching] does their job,” said head coach John Raiola postgame. “We had some tough at-bats; it’s tough to string a bunch of hits together against guys like that.”

Though it was not the result the Blue Sox were looking for, Raiola still has full confidence in his team’s ability to win Game 2.

“The fun thing about getting to this time of the year [is] it truly can be any random person who puts one good swing on a ball that changes the game.”

MORE PHOTOS  
from page 6



Adam Strain fields a grounder.



Turley photos by David Henry www.sweetdogphotos.com  
Pitcher Mike Bielen fires to the plate.

BACKPACK from page 1

she receives from the community. Though she stated her family room “looks like a Staples” with the amount of material she’s collected from generous donors, she nonetheless loves what she does.

Adams mentioned the program filled 213 backpacks for the operation last year and though she voiced concerns for the upcoming fall, she reported she is already getting phone calls, with word of

mouth spreading throughout the food pantries in South Hadley and Granby.

“This year, with the economy being the way it is, I don’t know what my figure will be at the end of October,” Adams said. “I don’t know what it will be. Hopefully, I capture everybody.”

Despite concerns about what the fall will bring with rising costs, Adams remains stalwart in being the reliable helpful community figure she’s become. She emphatically stated she would “com-

mit herself to fill every backpack” to ensure no child is left behind in the fall.

“I don’t want someone, a family, sitting out there not knowing I’m available,” Adams said as she discussed possible figures for the upcoming school semester. “I don’t turn away anybody. I don’t know what this year will end up as, but whatever it is, I will take care of these children.”

The Chamber of Commerce will also recognize her at the Boathouse Restaurant in South Hadley on Aug. 12.

Those looking for supplies may reach her at shopoperationbackpack@yahoo.com and several drop off locations exist around South Hadley. Drop off boxes are located at 74 Lamb Street, St. Pat’s Church at 30 Main Street, Neighbors Helping Neighbors on 30 Carew Street or at Newton Dental on 488 Newton Street. Those seeking to donate to the project can write and send checks to Operation Backpack on 36 Chestnut Hill Road, South Hadley 01075.

FACEBOOK from page 1

inspired by her child’s feedback.

“It sounds kind of like a weird event, but my toddler and some of his friends are really excited to ride a bus,” Clymer said. “So, it’s really geared for them and what they’re interested in.”

Interested participants will gather at the intersec-

tion of Newton Street and McKinley Avenue at 9:15 a.m. in time for the 9:20 a.m. R29 bus. The intention is to ride the bus up to Mount Holyoke and back to the original stop.

“It’s just a chance for the toddlers to sit on a bus,” Clymer said. “Which again, sounds weird to us, but they’re really excited about it.”

Clymer states she sources her event ideas from either

speaking with her child or reaching out to the other parents within the community. The second scheduled event taking place on August 23, named “BYO Bubbles,” was inspired by a fellow parent’s joke met at the local playground.

“We were at the playground with our kids and they were like ‘wouldn’t it be so funny if you did a BYOB event with bubbles?’” Clymer

said. “So, that’s where that idea came from.”

BYO Bubbles will start at 9 a.m. on Aug. 23 at the Woodlawn Park Playground. Those interested are advised to bring their favorite bubble solution, snacks and “other playground supplies.” Parents wanting to join the community should join the South Hadley Family Meetups Facebook group to stay informed about upcoming events.

ENERGY from page 1

These strategies reduce electrical costs and can help to keep house temperatures lower.

Additionally, switching fan directions in the windows during the day can also help keep temperatures down. Switch the fans to push out hot air during the day and pull in cool air at night.

Eversource also recommended closing curtains on direct sunlight and turning off the air conditioning when no one is home.

Furthermore, regularly cleaning the AC filters improves air flow and extends the life of the AC unit.

It is also important to check that an AC unit is correctly draining any and all moisture. AC units remove moisture from the air as they work, and incorrect drainage

can lead to leaks, mold and a broken AC.

A simple way to prevent this is when installing a window AC unit, ensure that the unit is tilted backward slightly. This ensures that the water drips down and out, rather than into the room the AC was installed in.

Furthermore, when installing the AC unit people should make sure that there is at least five feet of clearance from walls, trees, hedges or yard ornaments.

If there is not enough clearance it can block airflow and reduce the efficacy of the unit.

Another tip for keeping costs low, as suggested by Lisa Sullivan from Holyoke Gas and Electric, is sealing any air leaks in windows and doors to help keep all cool air in.

“Additionally, we encour-

age customers to consider installing a smart or programmable thermostat,” Sullivan said.

Having a programmable thermostat allows people to turn up the temperatures in their home while they aren’t there, effectively cutting down energy costs.

Moreover, when installing a thermostat in a home, ensure that it is out of direct sunlight. Having the thermostat in direct sunlight can lead to incorrect temperature readings, which then cause an increased energy output.

The thermostat should also be kept away from windows and doors, as drafts from those can also alter temperature readings.

Additionally, many people find themselves adding appliances in the summer to keep on top of the heat.

Having multiple appli-

ances plugged in can cause safety concerns, including power surges or electrical fires.

To avoid these problems, Sullivan recommended that people should avoid plugging multiple high-energy devices into the same outlet, inspect cords for damage before use, and follow manufacturer’s instructions for installing and operating devices.

“If breakers are frequently tripping, outlets feel warm, or lights flicker when equipment is running, we recommend contacting a qualified electrician to evaluate the home’s electrical system,” Sullivan said.

HG&E also offers a surge protection program that will safeguard appliances. People can learn more about this at <https://www.hged.com/services/electric-service/surge-protection.aspx/>.

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 \$275, which allows families to publish extended death notice information of their own choice (with a word limit of up to 500 words) and may include a photograph.

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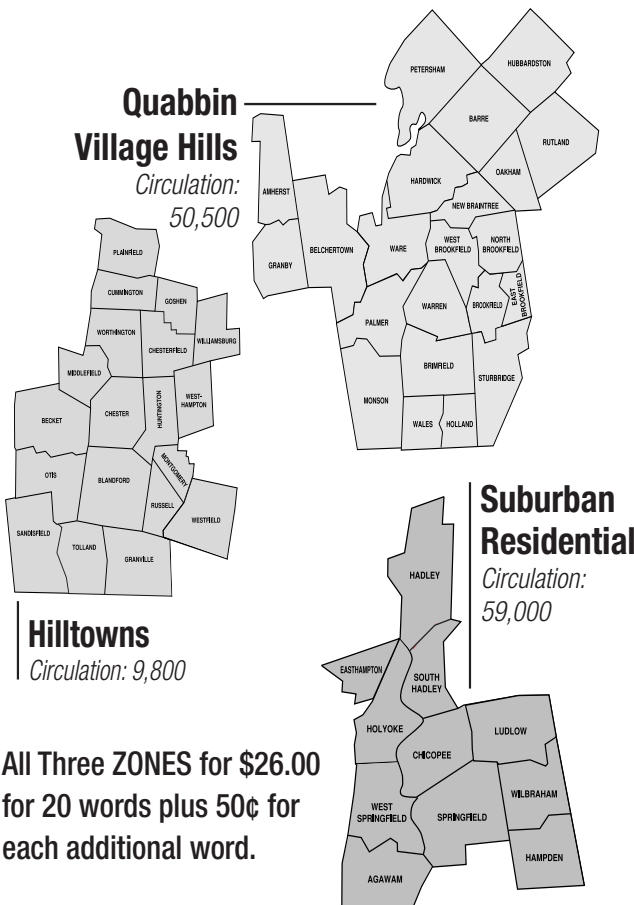
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Legal Notices

TOWN OF SOUTH HADLEY PLANNING BOARD NOTICE OF HYBRID PUBLIC HEARING Proposed Amendments to the Zoning Bylaw Regarding Agricultural Uses

The South Hadley Planning Board will hold a hybrid public hearing on **Monday, September 14, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.** to discuss proposing articles to Town Meeting for the purpose of amending the Zoning Bylaw to repeal and replace § 255-25 "Agricultural, Horticultural and Floricultural Uses" with "Agricultural Uses Accessory to Residential Use"; repeal and replace § 255-26 "Stables and Riding Academies" with "Commercial Agricultural Uses"; amend § 255-10 to insert new definitions related to agricultural and related uses; amend § 255-24 regarding Accessory Uses and Buildings; amend § 255-41 regarding Outdoor Recreation Facilities; and amend the Zoning Use Schedule as relevant. These amendments seek to address inconsistencies within the Zoning Bylaw and ensure compliance with agricultural use protections identified under MGL Chapter 40A, Section 3; along with other relevant amendments.

The public hearing will be held through hybrid format with in-person attendance to be located in the multipurpose room of the South Hadley Senior Center, 45 Dayton Street South Hadley MA 01075. Virtual attendance will be hosted through the log-in information below:

URL to join: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89989664296?pwd=Fi6hkHiSrTiqQ4facF9ZJ9bSJsbjS.1>

Or join by phone: +1 (309) 205 3325 **Webinar ID:** 899 8966 4296 **Passcode:** 281320

The current drafts of the proposed bylaws and any accompanying documentation can be found here: <https://www.southhadley.org/1318/ProposedDraft-Bylaws>. Alternatively, hard-copies of the documents can be viewed at the Planning & Conservation Department Office (Room U6) in Town Hall. Any person interested in, or wishing to be heard, should appear/join the hearing at the time and in the manner designated.

Brad Hutchison, Clerk  
South Hadley Planning Board  
08/07, 08/14/2026

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

Notice is hereby given by Hampshire Towing, 650 New Ludlow Rd., South Hadley, MA 01075, pursuant to the provisions of G.L. C. 255, Section 39A, that a sealed bid auction OPEN TO CLASS 2 & 3 LICENSED DEALERS ONLY with bids due Monday, August 24, 2026 at 8 a.m. Inquiries can be made to Rich at 413-534-5373.

2001 Nissan Pathfinder  
VIN: JN8DR09X91W560688  
Martha Almanza  
142 Prentice St  
Springfield MA 01104  
2004 Volvo VNL

VIN: 4V4NC9TJ34N364349  
Edrick Santos  
135 Massasoit St., Apt 1  
Springfield MA 01107

2023 ZNEN "Frigate" scooter  
VIN: L5YTCKBD2P1131749  
Owner Unknown

2005 Honda Civic  
VIN: 2HGES16395H594289  
Carmen Santiago Rosario  
34 Meadow St., Apt 40  
Westfield MA 01085

2018 Jeep Compass  
VIN: 3C4NJCAB2JT335320  
Irene Kadate  
29 Biella St., Apt 1  
Springfield MA 01104

2001 Honda Civic  
VIN: 2HGES26761H559728  
Monica Gonzalez  
18 Saab Ct., Apt 605  
Springfield MA 01104

2010 Chrysler Town and Country  
VIN: 2A4RR5D11AR228197  
Ezekiel Gonzalez Morales  
23 N. Summer St., Apt 2D  
Holyoke MA 01040

2001 Toyota ECHO  
VIN: JTDAT123410122368 Flor  
Platero Ramirez  
320 Walnut St  
Holyoke MA 01040

2009 Chevrolet Impala  
VIN: 2G1WD57C891264797  
Eric Archambault  
292 Pine St  
Holyoke MA 01040

2006 Freightliner CST120  
VIN: 1FUJBBCV76LW30390  
Francisco Gonzalez  
101 Wales Rd  
Brimfield MA 01010

2010 Hyundai Genesis Coupe  
VIN: KMHU6KH6AU019929  
Philip Constantino  
44 Cardinal Cir  
Ludlow MA 01056

2006 Scion xA  
VIN: JTKKT624860142830  
Cristopher Lora  
253 Essex St., Apt 8  
Holyoke MA 01040

2009 Ford Escape  
VIN: 1FMCU03G89KA13201  
Tijuana Young  
224 Quinnipiac Ave  
New Haven CT 06513

2009 Hyundai ELANTRA  
VIN: KMH DU46D49U753278  
Isaiah Farnum  
38 Bracewell Ave., Apt 3  
North Adams MA 01247

2021 Kia K5  
5XXG14J26MG022396  
Kenisha Davis  
216 Westover Dr., Apt 6E  
Hattiesburg MS 39402

2010 Dodge Nitro  
VIN: 1D4PU6GX7AW175114  
Kara Rogers  
14 Lakewood Cir  
Pittsfield MA 01201

2013 Honda Accord  
VIN: 1HGCR3F89DA044940  
In White  
5 Dogwood Ln  
Pittsfield MA 01201

2018 Acura MDX  
VIN: 5J8YD4H51JL007278  
Raymond Edward Bryant  
PO Box 466  
Weare NH 03281

2012 Kia Sportage  
VIN: KNDPCCA26C7269056  
Stephen Ciepiela  
163 Pine St  
Dalton MA 01226

2011 Subaru Legacy  
VIN: 4S3BMB63B3261536  
Jose Mateo  
8 Brown Ave  
Holyoke MA 01040

2009 Subaru Impreza  
VIN: JF1GE61659H513383  
Jose Lopez  
35 Wisteria St  
Springfield MA 01119

2010 Mazda Mazda3  
VIN: JM1BL1S66A1342684  
Kelvin Suarez  
117 Melvin St  
Chicopee MA 01013

2005 Audi A6  
VIN: WAUDG74F15N080548  
Amillion Sanchez  
767 Chicopee St., Apt 1  
Chicopee MA 01013

2009 Honda Accord  
VIN: 1HGCP267X9A125301  
Jasmin Torres  
19 Quirk Ave  
Holyoke MA 01040

2010 Nissan Altima  
VIN: 1N4BL2AP1AN473732  
Jacqueline Sanchez  
40 Woodside Ter., Apt 4  
Springfield MA 01108

2013 Jeep Wrangler  
VIN: 1C4AJWAG1DL591654  
Carmen Soto-Fontanez  
26 Gardner Rd  
Chicopee MA 01013

2009 Acura RDX  
VIN: 5J8TB18289A003157  
Jarileemari Opio Bonilla  
170 Hampshire St., Apt 3R  
Holyoke MA 01040

2008 Hyundai TUCSON  
VIN: KM8JN12D28U910423  
Sherley Cardona Ferrer  
25 Laurence St  
Springfield MA 01104

2012 Chevrolet Impala  
VIN: 2G1WB5E38C1208147  
Anthony Bettencourt  
190 Earle St., Apt 3E  
New Bedford MA 02746

2008 Mercedes-Benz C-Class  
VIN: WDDGF81X38F175512  
Kimberly Quinones  
92 Rivers Ave., Apt 3  
Chicopee MA 01013

2012 Audi A6  
VIN: WAUDFAFCXCN116611  
Junior Kernaghham  
107 Ashley Ave., Apt A  
W. Springfield MA 01089

2014 Buick Encore  
VIN: KL4CJHSB5EB602969  
Owner Unknown

2018 Ford Transit Connect  
VIN: NM0LS7E79J1380809  
Nicholas Lentocha  
27 Farmstead Ln  
Glastonbury CT 06033

2006 Kia Sedona  
VIN: KNDMB233366029639  
Heriberto Miranda Viera  
142 Montague Rd  
Leverett MA 01054  
08/07, 08/14, 08/21/2026

TOWN OF SOUTH HADLEY MASSACHUSETTS BOARD OF HEALTH SETS REGULATIONS FOR SECOND GENERATION ANTICOAGULANTS RODENTICIDES (SGAR'S) ON TOWN-OWNED/OPERATED PROPERTY

Town of South Hadley regulations regarding Second Generation Anticoagulants Rodenticides (SGAR's) on Town-Owned/-Operated Property were passed by the South Hadley Board of Health. Copies may be obtained at the Board of Health Office.

Karen Walsh Pio, Chair / Charles Scott, Vice-Chair

08/07/2026

Turley Publications is looking for an outgoing, energetic person interested in selling advertising for our community newspapers plus more! The right candidate will assume an established territory with a portfolio of customers.

**LET'S WORK TOGETHER**

You must be a self-starter with excellent communication and organizational skills. Basic computer skills are required. Previous print sales experience is preferred but we will train the right candidate.

**Join Our Team!**  
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**Turley Publications**  
Send resume & cover letter to:  
Jamie Joslyn  
24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069  
Email: [jamie@turley.com](mailto:jamie@turley.com)

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**VETERANS DAY SALUTE**  
*Town Reminder ~ November 5, 2026*

*Town Reminder* will be saluting our local veterans (from all wars and branches, including honoring deceased veterans), reservists, active duty U.S. Military members.

Please submit a photo of your veteran with his or her name, rank, branch of military and hometown by email to [jamie@turley.com](mailto:jamie@turley.com) or drop off a photo to **Town Reminder, 24 Water St., Palmer, MA 01069**

All photos will be returned.

Please submit your photo no later than **Monday, October 27, 2026.**

*There is no cost to submit a photo.*  
*No photos will be accepted after deadline.*

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| 66 |    |    |    |    | 67 |    |    |    | 68 |    |    |    |    |

**CLUES ACROSS**

1. Bleated

6. Snake-like fish

9. Database management system

13. Social evolution anthropologist Service

14. American rocker Grohl

15. Greek personification of compassion

16. Negatives

17. Rescued

18. Self-immolation by fire ritual

19. Assigns tasks

21. Popular type of cigar

22. Discounts

23. The whole quantity

24. New York Giants legend

25. Indicates before

28. Lentils

29. Extremely angry

31. Body part

33. "North Star State"

36. David \_\_, US playwright

38. Lower and raise one's head

39. Private rendezvous

41. In a way, improved

44. A place to play

45. Astronomical period of 18 years

46. Automobile

48. Something you can take

49. A radio band

51. Jaws of a voracious animal

52. Short-billed rails

54. Chinese province

56. Shameless

60. Horizontal passage from the surface into a mine

61. Indian respectful titles

62. Fail to entertain

63. Dried-up

64. Central Utah city

65. Southern U.S.

66. German river

67. Necessary for breathing

68. Put into play

**CLUES DOWN**

1. Curved segment

2. Wings

3. Yellowish volatile liquid

4. Makes less severe

5. Debit note

6. Overhang

7. The nights before

8. Type of light

9. Lacking enthusiasm

10. Tattle

11. Some is "heavy"

12. One who is canonized

14. Indicates date and place of writing

17. "Peace" in Arabic

20. "Olaf" actor Josh

21. Fragmented rock

23. They \_\_

25. Advanced degree

26. Backside

27. Influential architect and design couple

29. An act of undue intimacy

30. Words from which later words are derived

32. 10 meters

34. Neither

35. Fungal sacs

37. The law of God revealed to Moses

40. A woolen cap of Scottish origin

42. A promise

43. Challenges

47. British Air Aces

49. Large bank

50. Served as an omen

52. Cavalry sword

53. Vaccine developer

55. Belgian WW2 resistance leader Jules

56. Italian Seaport

57. Hip joint

58. \_\_ Clapton, musician

59. Insect repellent

61. Constrictor snake

65 "The First State" (abbr.)



## Multiple recycling events being held

BELCHERTOWN – Green Day Recycling is hosting several Saturday electronics recycling event fundraisers in the area, and we would like to invite everyone to participate. Here is the schedule for our upcoming events: Saturday, Aug. 8

- Most Holy Redeemer Church (120 Russell Street, Hadley, MA 01035)
- Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish (256 State Street, Granby, MA 01033)

Saturday, Sept. 12

- St. Francis Church (10 Park St, Belchertown, MA 01007)

Event Details:

- Time: 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. (Rain or shine)
- Pricing: Some items are free to recycle, while others range from \$5 to \$40 each.
- Benefit: A portion of the proceeds will benefit the hosting parishes. Everyone is welcome to attend.

## Church hosting Summerfest event

GRANBY – Immaculate Heart of Mary Church in Granby will be having their Summerfest on Sunday, Aug. 23 from 12 to 4 p.m. Chicken dinner is \$15 and includes a half bbq chicken, baked potato and corn on the cob, as well as dessert and bottled water. Hamburgers and hot dogs will also be available. Raffles prizes including \$500, \$250, \$100. Raffle baskets, bake sale, kids games, prizes, lottery trees and more. Fun for the whole family.

## Friends of Clapp Memorial Library holding \$1 sale

BELCHERTOWN – On Saturday, Aug. 22 from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m., there will be a one day only sale of jigsaw puzzles, DVDs, CDs and vinyl records in the Activity Room of the Belchertown Clapp Memorial Library. All items will be only \$1 each. Cash only (no credit cards or Venmo).

There are hundreds of puzzles from 300 to 1000+ pieces and so many DVDs and CDs, we didn't count them. If you are a fan of vinyl records, we have several boxes filled with some great hits.

So many of you have expressed regrets about not having a book sale this year. The Trustees and the Friends of CML are working diligently on the basement renovations, with the plan to start having book sales again in 2027.

In October we will celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the Friends of the Clapp Memorial Library. Plans are underway to have a smaller version "Like New" book sale in the Activity Room at that time. More information will be forthcoming as the date comes closer.

So mark your calendar for our special \$1 sale on Aug. 22. See you there

## NOTICE

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

## Granby Free Public Library announces August activities

GRANBY – The library announced the following activities for August:

**Adult Book Group**  
**Thursday, Aug. 13 at 6 p.m.**  
The book group will be discussing My Friends by Fredrik Backman. Grab a copy and join us. Tabletop Games Club  
Saturday, Aug. 15 from 10:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m.  
The Granby Library Tabletop Games Club invites players of all ages 8 and up to gather and enjoy a variety of board, card, dice, tile, and other in-person tabletop games in a welcoming, social environment.

**Knitting Group**  
**Every Wednesday afternoon at 2pm**  
Bring your latest project and join us for conversation, tips and tricks.

**Friends of the Granby Library Meeting**  
**Thursday, Aug. 20 at 4:30 p.m.**  
Did you know that the Friends sponsor our events? Join us for a meeting and see what's new. Revolution in Their Words  
Thursday, Aug. 27 at 5:30 p.m.  
Join us for a unique thematic exploration of the American Revolution through the voices of the people who lived it. Hosted by Denise Kindschi Gosselin, PhD and the Massachusetts Daughters of the American Revolution, Betty Allen Chapter.

**Adult Summer Reading – Plant a Seed, Read!**  
**Ends Aug. 21**  
Get your tickets in by Aug. 21 to win great prizes.

# IT'S FAIR TIME!

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### SEPTEMBER 25-26-27

#### EXHIBIT HALL, RIDES, PARADE, FOOD, FUN AND MORE!



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**AUGUST 27, 2026**

**PUBLICATION DATE:**  
**SEPTEMBER 10, 2026**

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| (1/8 Page)     | \$150 |
| 3 Columns x 8" |       |
| (1/4 Page)     | \$275 |
| 4 Columns x 5" | \$300 |
| 4 Columns x 8" | \$375 |
| 6 Columns x 8" |       |
| (1/2 Page)     | \$450 |
| 6 Column x 16" |       |
| (Full Page)    | \$800 |

**COLOR: Add \$50**  
**1/2 Page and Full page**  
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# Send Us Your Autumn Event Information

Turley Publications will print your Autumn event **FREE OF CHARGE** in our **Autumn Fest Supplement** which will be published **September 9, 2026.**

Total circulation of 85,000 reaching over 200,000 readers in the Pioneer Valley.

Deadline for Calendar submissions is August 19.

## Community Autumn Events

Event Should Be Non-Profit & Open to the Public

FREE Calendar Listings Reaching over 200,000 Readers in the Pioneer Valley

Event Name \_\_\_\_\_

Date/Time \_\_\_\_\_

Location \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Description \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Cost \_\_\_\_\_

Contact name & phone number for more information \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**MAIL YOUR LISTING INFORMATION TO:**  
**Turley Publications, Attn: Jamie Joslyn, 24 Water Street, Palmer, MA 01069**  
**or email\* them to: jamie@turley.com**  
**\*Be sure to indicate "Autumn Event" in the subject line of your email.**