

Two Town Food Drive on Feb. 7

SOUTH HADLEY/GRANBY – South Hadley and Granby Democratic Town Committees come together to create a special food drive in order to stock up food pantries in the area. South Hadley is supporting Neighbors Helping Neighbors, South Hadley. Drop off at the South Hadley High School, 9 a.m. to noon. Contact: Ann Stockton email:

southhadleydemocrats@gmail.com
Granby Food Drive will focus on Granby to Go, 12:30 -3:30 at the Congregational Church 235 State Street: Tobias Wilson Email: chair@granbydemocrats.com.
These are the following items are most in demand:
• Any feminine hygiene products, Shampoo/condition comb, toothpaste, deodorant,

and Bar soap
• Cereal hot or cold, Soups, especially during the winter
• Pet food, canned and dry for cats and dogs
• Canned meats such as spam, beef stew, corned beef, and hash
• Please check expiration dates.
Food and monetary donations will be accepted.

Granby Lions Club holding ‘Groundhog Fuel Assistance Fund’

February 2 – March 16, 2026

GRANBY – Once again this winter heating season, the Granby Lions Club has established an Emergency Fuel Assistance Fund for Granby residents. This fund, titled the “Groundhog Fund”, will

enable residents of Granby to obtain needed assistance for fuel to help them through the next six weeks of winter. The Lions Club Groundhog Fund will begin helping residents on February 2 and will continue until March 16. Residents who would like to apply for needed assistance are asked to complete an ap-

plication, and these applications are available in the Senior Center/Council of Aging Office at 10 West State St. in Granby from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm Monday through Friday. The Granby Lions Club appreciates the continuing support that the community of Granby gives to our projects and activities.

SHHS basketball teams and service club host NHN donation drive

SOUTH HADLEY – The South Hadley Service Club, in partnership with the boys and girls basketball teams, is hosting a donation drive to benefit Neighbors Helping Neighbors. Monetary donations as well as food items are greatly appreciated.

For ever \$1 donated, or each food item donated, you will receive a raffle ticket for a chance to win a \$25 gift card to a choice of the following: Granby Grain, Odyssey Bookshop, Big Y, Chipotle Mexican Grill, Vanished Valley Brewing Co., Master

Chef, Pizza Palace of Granby, Thai Place, Dunkin Donuts, and Randall’s Farm. The drawings will be held during the halftimes of the following games: Boys Games: January 20 and 30; Girls Games: January 26 and 27, February 2, 6, and 9.

DCR celebrates Massachusetts’ Indigenous History with launch of First Peoples First Stewards Children’s Library Program

Reading libraries featuring titles by Native American authors will now be available in visitor centers at nine DCR properties

BOSTON - The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) announced today the start of the First Peoples First Stewards (FPFS) Children’s Library, a new initiative available at nine DCR properties, designed to promote youth-focused written works by Native American authors. Featuring more than 20 titles, the reading library program celebrates the region’s Indigenous communities, histories, and their enduring relationship to the lands and waters that make up the nearly half a million acres that DCR stewards across Massachusetts.

“Massachusetts’ history began long before the arrival of colonists, with Indigenous communities who cared for the land and continue to do so today. As stewards of this land, DCR has a responsibility to preserve and uplift the stories of our first and continuing stewards,” said **DCR Commissioner Nicole LaChapelle**. “By making this history accessible at DCR properties, we hope visitors gain a deeper understanding of what these lands represent -and the people who have been connected to them for generations.” “I am delighted visitors are being welcomed across Massachusetts with Indigenous-created books through DCR’s First Peoples First Stewards Children’s Library,” said **Traci Sorell, author and Cherokee Nation citizen**. “I am honored some of my books are included but especially heartened that creators from local Native Nations have titles provided too. Wado (thank you)!” In many Indigenous traditions, winter is a time when communities come together to tell stories and pass knowledge onto younger generations. This winter, the First Peoples First Stewards Partnership Program invites the public to nine visitor centers at

parks and watersheds throughout Massachusetts to have an experience grounded in that tradition. Each library will feature works of fiction and non-fiction depicting accurate, first-hand accounts of Indigenous history, culture and lived experience, available for reading on site. Visitors will be able to peruse titles in the new reading libraries and sit with their family members to enjoy stories in the following visitor centers: Blackstone River and Canal Heritage State Park in Uxbridge; Blackstone River Greenway Visitor Center at Worcester; Blue Hills Reservation in Milton; Borderland State Park in North Easton; Breakheart Reservation in Saugus; Fall River Heritage State Park; Great Falls Discovery Center in Turners Falls; Mount Greylock State Reservation in Lanesborough; and the Quabbin Reservoir in Belchertown.

The reading library locations were intentionally chosen to provide experiences across various geographical areas of the state. FPFS will continue to evaluate other potential sites for additional libraries at DCR properties. “Developing the First Peoples First Stewards Children’s Library for DCR visitor centers is a project that has brought me joy and is near and dear to my heart. As a former educator specializing in Indigenous content, it is vital that the Indigenous visitors see themselves represented at DCR properties, and that non-Indigenous visitors can be introduced to Indigenous literature and experience in a matter of minutes an Indigenous perspective on life, the environment and community,» said **DCR Indigenous People’s Partnership Coordinator Leah Hopkins and a citizen of the Narragansett Indian Tribe**. “The books in each of the libraries tell both traditional and contemporary stories and not only represent local Indigenous voices but also stories from other parts of Turtle Island (North America). They all share common themes of

community, resilience and connection to the land-concepts we can all connect to.” The First Peoples First Stewards Children’s Library represents an important step in FPFS and DCR’s ongoing commitment to promote and provide space for public dialogue on Indigenous experiences in a way that is respectful and interactive. The books provided at each location were thoughtfully curated to ensure accurate, first-person representations of Indigenous culture, history, and stories. Through the FPFS Partnership, DCR aims to uplift the cultural continuity and sovereignty of Indigenous Peoples by building reciprocal relationships with Tribal Governments and Indigenous Community Stakeholders. These relationships will inform DCR land management practices by centering traditional ecological knowledge and Indigenous culture. For more information about the Partnership and the work of DCR’s Indigenous Peoples Partnership Coordinator, visit the program’s webpage. *The Massachusetts Department of Conservation and Recreation (DCR) oversees nearly half a million acres of land, making up one of the largest and most diverse state park systems in the country. Our work focuses on nurturing the vital connection between people and the environment by protecting, promoting, and enhancing our common wealth of natural, cultural, and recreational resources for the well-being of all. Our infrastructure connects people to and through the beautiful landscapes and accessible recreational facilities we care for -strengthening our communities and driving our economy. Our staff strive to build a healthier, more resilient Massachusetts where all residents and visitors can relax, reflect and feel a sense of belonging in our open spaces and public lands. To learn more about DCR, our facilities, and our programs, please visit www.mass.gov/dcr or contact us at mass.parks@mass.gov.*

Legal Notices

TOWN OF SOUTH HADLEY ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

n accordance with the provisions of Chapter 40A of the Massachusetts General Laws, and Article X of the Town of South Hadley Zoning Bylaw, the South Hadley Zoning Board of Appeals will hold a public hearing on **Thursday, February 19, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.** to hear the petition of Andrew Bazukin, 40 King Street, Westfield MA 01085, for a Variance from the requirements of Section 255-21 (Attachment 2) of the Town’s Zoning Bylaw regarding the required setback requirements of primary structures within the Residential A-1 zoning district. The subject property is located at 0 Granby Road, identified as Assessor’s Map 16 Parcel 90, and located within the Residential A-1 zoning district. The parcel is currently undeveloped and located at the corner of Granby Road and Lakeview Avenue. **The public hearing will be held at the South Hadley**

Public Library, Trustees Conference Room, 2 Canal Street, South Hadley, MA 01075.

The application is on file with the Town Clerk’s Office. The application and submitted materials may also be viewed on the Town’s website at the Zoning Board of Appeals page under the tab “**Granby Road (Map 16, Parcel 90)**”, or at the following link: <https://www.southhadley.org/1523/Granby-Road-Map-16-Parcel-90> . Anyone interested in, or wishing to be heard on, the application should appear at the time and place designated. The Zoning Board of Appeals Martha Terry, Chair 01/30, 02/06/2026

TOWN OF SOUTH HADLEY PLANNING BOARD NOTICE OF VIRTUAL PUBLIC HEARING Subdivision Regulation Update

The South Hadley Planning Board will hold a virtual public hearing on **Monday, February 9, 2026 at 6:30 p.m.** to consider repeal and replacement of South Hadley’s current Subdivision

Regulations (Chapter 360: Subdivision Regulations) with updated regulations to include new Articles I through XII; and new Appendices A through H. The materials relative to the proposal are available on the Town’s website at the following link: <https://www.southhadley.org/1318/ProposedDraft-Bylaws>. Alternatively, hard copies of the documents may be viewed at South Hadley Planning and Conservation Department office. The public hearing will be held through virtual format with log-in information below: **URL to join:** <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82239969930?pwd=CGVSN01dmQVbJLgQk5k-FytvP0B66n0.1>
Or join by phone: 1 (301) 715 8592 **Webinar ID:** 822 3996 9930 **Passcode:** 091311
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 01/23, 01/30/2026

Samaritan’s Purse celebrates 12.2 million Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts

REGION – Samaritan’s Purse is celebrating a successful season after collecting 12.2 million Operation Christmas Child shoebox gifts in 2025, sharing the love of Jesus with children in need around the world. The milestone reflects the generosity of millions of shoebox packers helping to fill shoebox gifts with toys, school supplies, and personal care items. Across the U.S., the project collected 10.9 million shoebox gifts in 2025. Combined with those collected from partnering countries, the ministry is now sending over 12.2 million shoebox gifts to children worldwide, including those whose lives were turned upside down by Hurricane Melissa, a category 5 storm that recently struck Jamaica. “Each shoebox gift is an opportunity to remind boys

and girls around the world that God loves them,” said Franklin Graham, president of Samaritan’s Purse. “We are so thankful for the generosity of every person who packed a shoebox. These gifts are bringing joy and the hope of the Gospel to children in need.” For many children, a shoebox gift is the first gift they have ever received. Each one is a tangible expression of God’s love, offering hope to children facing war, poverty, disease and disaster. Since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has collected and delivered more than 244 million gift-filled shoeboxes to children in more than 170 countries and territories. While local drop-off locations are closed until National Collection Week, Nov. 16 - 23, 2026, anyone can

participate year-round by packing a shoebox gift online at samaritanspursegifts.org/buildonline. These shoebox gifts built online go to the hardest-to-reach areas in the world-whether deep jungles, city slums, or steep mountainsides. Information about ways to get involved year-round can also be found at samaritanspursegifts.org/occ. *Operation Christmas Child, a project of Samaritan’s Purse, seeks to demonstrate God’s love in a tangible way to children in need around the world and, together with the local church worldwide, to share the Good News of Jesus Christ. Since 1993, Operation Christmas Child has collected and delivered more than 244 million gift-filled shoeboxes to children in more than 170 countries and territories.*

Read the Town Reminder online at www.townreminder.turley.com

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CLUES ACROSS

- Racket sport pros
- Make tea
- City South of Moscow
- Spanish bullfighting term
- Egg-shaped
- Could not remember
- French modernist painter
- Persons
- Painful intestinal obstruction
- Professions
- Is up to the task
- Wood or metal bolt
- Tax collector
- A way to save for the future
- Georgia rockers
- Midway between

- north and northeast
- High schoolers’ test
- Does not accept responsibility
- One who prepares
- Gout-indicative deposits
- Place to play games
- Book of Genesis character
- Cleans oneself
- Unloaded for money
- Genus of flowering plants
- Take a puff
- Congressmen
- God of battle in Scandinavian mythology

CLUES DOWN

- Type of bomb
- South Pacific islands
- Celestial body
- Negotiates
- Consider in a specified way
- Type of group in organic chemistry
- Buddhist monasteries
- Inhabitant of Bering Sea island
- Body part
- Milestone birthday
- Thyroid-stimulating hormone
- More (Spanish)
- Chicago ballplayer
- Leaves a place

- Cannot be found
- One’s internal body parts
- Tell on
- North American peoples of southwest
- Soviet Socialist Republic
- Extract used for jams and jellies
- Greek goddess of the dawn
- Old English letter
- A way to exaggerate
- Get up and leave
- “Boardwalk Empire” character
- More generous
- Hanging cloth used as a blind
- Ancient Greek sophist