

TOWN Reminder

FREE
August 30, 2024
Vol. 55, No. 19

HAPPY
Labor
DAY

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Tessa Berard, of South Hadley was so excited to see her friend Heather Gagne of Cherished Cookie Creations back at the South Hadley Farmer's Market Wednesday. Heather was out the week before due to an injury.

POW/MIA chair of honor approved

Board agrees to placement at sports complex

By Emily-Rose Pappas
Staff Writer
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SOUTH HADLEY – The Recreation Commission met together as the summer drew to a close on August 13. The commission began by discussing the past, and future, regarding events and exciting new additions to the town of South Hadley.

The meeting was led by Andy Rogers, and those in attendance from the board including members Kirsten Britton, Laura Friesner, Byron Joy, Ryan Kennedy, David Mendoza, Danielle Bachand, and Kathleen Sharkey.

Request for Chair of Honor

Rogers also welcomed Brian Willette from the American Legion South Hadley Post 20, to come with a proposal to place a permanent POW/MIA chair of honor at the South Hadley Sports Complex.

"This chair is to honor those who are missing in action, or held as prisoners of war," Willette said. "There are still 81,000 service members still missing in action since World War II, and

of those 81,000, 2,800 are from Massachusetts."

Of the 2,800 servicemen, eight are from the town of South Hadley, and three graduated from SHHS. Willette shared his desire for the announcement of the chair be at the Military and First Responders night on Friday, September 27.

There will be several teams playing at the South Hadley Sports Complex, including the

"This is something for us veterans that's in our hearts and our blood. It's our duty to remember our fallen, especially our missing," Willette said.

The Legion, with the help of some local historians of South Hadley, have worked together to piece together the stories.

"This is a very unique way for our community to come together and honor these missing service members," Willette said. "These are stories we want to keep alive, and I think this is a very appropriate way, involving our youth."

The board moved to approve the establishment of the chair of honor.

PARC Grant and Committee

"We applied for a \$300,000 bill through Senator Oliveira's office that we didn't get," Rogers

Please see REC, page 6

Community forum on zoning planned

By Emily-Rose Pappas
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SOUTH HADLEY – The Route 202/33 Zoning Advisory Committee met online on Aug. 19.

The meeting was led by Consultant Emily Keys Innes, the President of Innes Associates, as well as Supriya Kelkar, the Urban Planner and Designer at Innes.

Also in attendance were committee members Michael Beauchemin, Ken LeBlanc, Martha Terry, Nate Therian, and Dan Luis. Director of Planning and Conservation, Anne Capra was also in attendance.

Introduction and process updates

Emily Innes opened the meeting to review a slideshow of updates and progress regarding the Non-Conforming Parcel Analysis, Social Pinpoint Website, and the September community meeting coming up. Innes provided a brief expla-

nation on where in the process the committee is in the project process and timeline, where they are in the analysis of conditions.

Community workshops and presentations starting in September 2024 and going through March 2025 that will be open to the public to be able to ask questions and give feedback.

The meetings and workshops include an in-person workshop on September 16 focusing on boundaries and uses, and a virtual workshop on November 14 focusing on design guidelines and standards.

After a break in December for the holidays, there will be an in-person presentation on draft zoning and design guidelines on January 16, 2025.

A Planning Board Hearing will focus on draft zoning and design guidelines for the Town Meeting Warrant in February or March of 2025.

Each of the members of the committee committed to doing

Dawn to dusk gold marathon helps raise money for Jimmy Fund

By Emily-Rose Pappas
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SOUTH HADLEY – For the past 25 years, the Chocopee Country Club hosted a 108-hole golf marathon to raise money for the Jimmy Fund.

A dozen people came to play this past Monday in honor of loved ones they lost to cancer, and altogether, the day raised about \$15,000 to go to the Jimmy Fund.

"The marathon began 25 years ago by myself and my uncle Ken O'Neill who was diagnosed with colon cancer," Michael O'Neill, the coordinator of the event, said.

"A golf marathon was a fun way to raise money for the Jimmy Fund with no expenses," O'Neill said.

The day began at dawn, ending at dusk with a 19th



Michael O'Neill (left) with his father, Robert O'Neill (right) were just two people who helped raise money for the Jimmy Fund.

Please see FUND, page 6

► South Hadley

Community forum to explore new zoning for Routes 202/33

SOUTH HADLEY —The Town of South Hadley is exploring new zoning options along Routes 202 and 33 to support appropriate growth and development along the 1-mile corridor.

Potential rezoning under consideration is based on recommendations from a Corridor Study adopted in January 2022. This section of roadway links South Hadley to Granby in the north and Chicopee in the south and is the most heavily traveled route in town.

The corridor contains a broad mix of residential, commercial, and open space and recreation uses. The intersection of Routes 202 and 33 at the heart of the corridor is centered between the Plains Elementary School and the Big Y Shopping Plaza.

Zoning recommendations will be informed by public input at a series of four community forums, the first of which is on Monday, Sept. 16, at 6 p.m. at the South Hadley Council on Aging at 45 Dayton Street.

Can't make the community forum, share your thoughts on the future development of the corridor on the interactive project website through the online mapping exercise: <https://community.innesassoc.com/south-hadley>

Funding for this project is provided by a Community Planning Grant from the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities.

The Town has hired Innes Associates Ltd. as the project consultant.

A five member project advisory committee was appointed by the Selectboard in April. Additional community forums will be held: Wednesday, Oct. 16 from 6-8 p.m.

VIRTUAL <https://bit.ly/4fPZM9POr>
Telephone: +1 646 558 8656

Webinar ID: 883 0895 6522 Passcode: 713870

Thursday, Nov. 14 from 6-8 p.m. at the South Hadley Public Library.

Thursday, Jan. 16 from 6-8 p.m. at South Hadley Public Library.

FORUM from page 1

some outreach about the project, including direct mailing, adding to newsletters, and posting on social media.

Non-conforming parcel analysis

"We like to look at this when we're talking about zoning, because it's very important for us to understand what's there now," Innes said.

Sometimes, a building may not meet various zoning requirements, so when a zoning change is considered, it's important to understand what is there, and what isn't in terms of availability.

The first analysis is to look at building coverage, which is "how much of the lot area is covered by building," Innes explained.

By going through and revising the building coverage, you can then figure out which ones are non-conforming when it comes to the final zoning.

The next analysis type is frontage analysis, and Innes defined it as "the part of the land that is next to a street or road, based on the address of the property."

"Impervious surface is building plus any sort of hard hardscape. What that means is driveways, parking areas, paved sidewalks that get you to the building," Innes explained of the third analysis.

A fourth non-conformity analysis is the setback analysis, which is "the distance between a property line and the area where the building can take place".

September community meeting

At the September community meeting, Supriya Kelkar, the Urban Planner and Designer at Innes prepared an overview of the topics and information that will be provided and presented.

The meeting will provide an introduction to the team and committee with information on who they are and what they do, followed by details on what the project is



Turley photo by Emily-Rose Pappas

for and about.

"For the September community forum, the focus of our meeting is site design and building form," Kelkar said. "Just helping people understand how the forms of buildings interact with zoning."

The meeting will also have a "Zoning 101" session, which details "what is zoning, and how it's going to impact, and how all of these exercises tie back into this project," Kelkar said.

The meeting is also going to have an interactive workshop with three workshops, and the main workshop will be

building block design that will show how structures are built.

In the interactive workshop, people will be able to use pieces in order to construct a neighborhood, and how they are correctly zoned.

The board also reviewed a model of the time the session will take, materials, and how to time the activities throughout the session, pointing to the Social Point Website, so people who can't attend the actual meetings can still keep up with the information.

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