

The Weekly Wrap-up

A Report from Town Administrator Lisa Wong

Chamber of Commerce hosts Holiday Stroll



The District 2 Fire Engine transported Santa and Mrs. Clause to the South Hadley Town Common during the annual Holiday Stroll that takes place the first Friday of December, hosted by the Chamber of Commerce. www.shgchamber.com

PUBLIC HEALTH NEWS

The MA Dept. of Public Health officials reported a 71% increase in the rate of new breakthrough cases, with 6,610 new COVID infections in vaccinated people. This brings the total number of breakthrough cases in Massachusetts to 88,968.

Vaccinated individuals are less likely to be hospitalized or die.

The 7-day average positivity rate has increased to 4.99%

The age groups with the highest numbers of confirmed cases are 30-39 and 20-29.

www.mass.gov/info-details/covid-19-response-reporting

Selectboard

The next meetings will take place on Tuesdays December 14 and 21 at 7 p.m. via Zoom. Agenda and link will be posted on the town website: www.southhadley.org/agendacenter

Senior Center

With the winter weather here, watch for cancellations and delays for Senior Center hours and programs on channels 40, 22 and 3. www.southhadley.org/324/Council-on-Aging

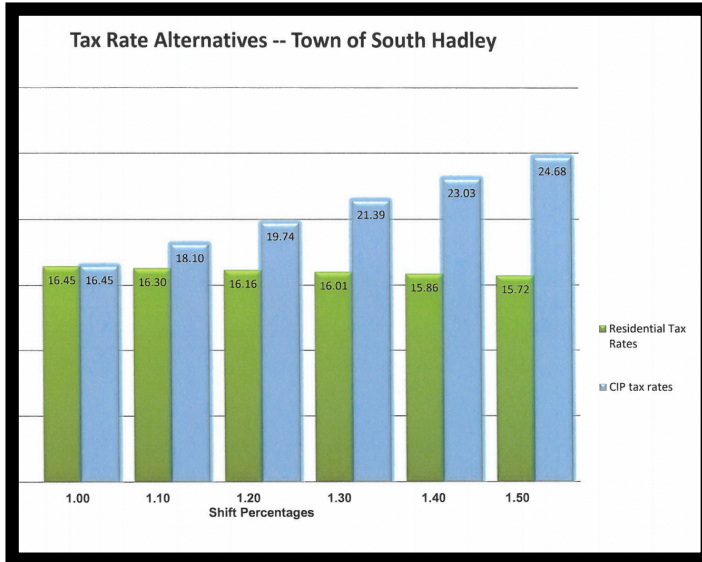
Santa's Origins

Professor Don D'Amato offers a free adult program at the SHPL titled, "What Do You Really Know About Santa Claus?" on Dec. 11 from 11-a.m. to 12 p.m. Reserve a spot: <https://bit.ly/3cnt7ZT>

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

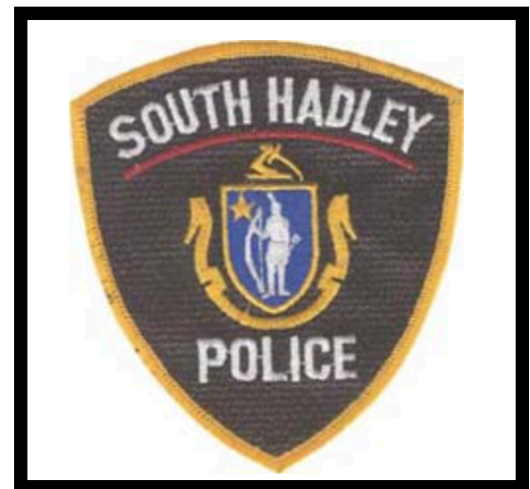


KEEP UP WITH SOUTH HADLEY'S LATEST NEWS



Before a town can set the tax rate, the Selectboard holds a hearing to consider tax rate options for each property tax classification (residential, open space, commercial, industrial, personal). The vote was to retain (not shift) the tax rates. The average single family home value of \$300k for FY22 will increase \$114.90 from FY21, not including the fire district changes.

The South Hadley Police Department is hiring! Potential employees must take the Civil Service exam, which is only offered every 12 months. The exam is March 16, 2022 with a January 18, 2022 (late fee February 1) deadline. Register for the Civil Service Police Officer Exam at www.mass.gov/orgs/civil-service. More information at www.southhadleypolice.org



Last December, the Selectboard voted to use Community Development Block Grant funds to support handicap accessible apartments at Lathrop Village. The project is managed by the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission. The project is moving forward and expected to be complete by the spring of 2022.