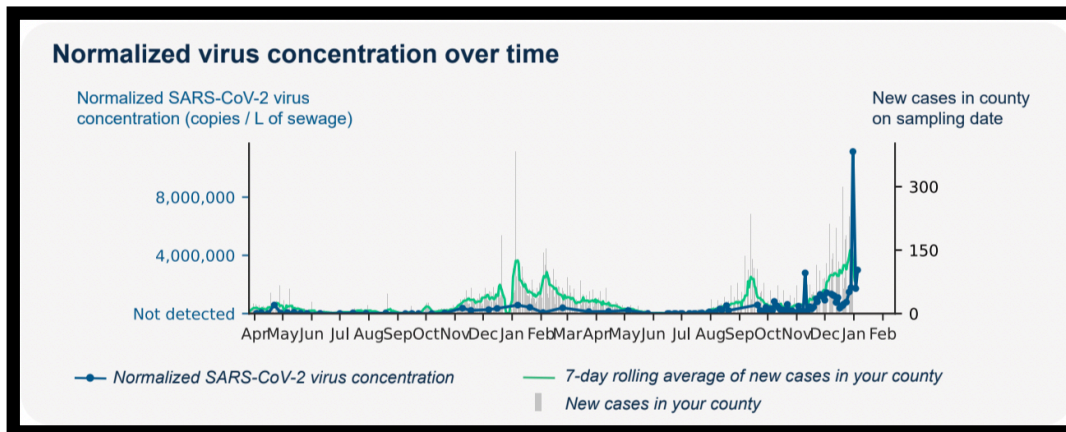


The Weekly Wrap-up

A Report from Town Administrator Lisa Wong

COVID trends in Wastewater Samples



The Town of South Hadley has been assessing the presence of COVID-19 in wastewater since mid 2020, as this can detect the virus even when residents are asymptomatic. The Town contracts with an analytics company in Cambridge called BioBot to conduct the samples. The recent sharp spike in virus concentration show in recent data is likely due to the highly transmissible variant Omicron. Most recent data has also show a drop from the peak, similar to findings in other parts of the state. View Hampshire County data at: <https://biobot.io/data/>

PUBLIC HEALTH NEWS

Total Active Confirmed Cases (Positive Molecular test Results) in South Hadley as of January 11 is 244. This is an increase from 130 last week and the highest case count since the pandemic. One additional death has been reported.

The state has launched a COVID digital vaccine card - My Fax Records - that allows residents to produce a digital copy of their vaccine record. To start, visit myvaxrecords.mass.gov and click "Find my vaccine record", then enter the information requested. If a match is found, a link will be sent to a copy of your record.

Selectboard

The next meeting will take place on Tuesday January 18 at 7 p.m. via Zoom. Agenda and link will be posted on the town website: www.southhadley.org/agendacenter

MMA

The Mass Municipal Association Conference will now be all virtual and free to members. <https://www.mma.org/with-omicron-surging-mma-changes-its-annual-meeting-plans/>

Closures

In observance of Martin Luther King Jr. Day, Town Hall, the Library and the Senior Center will be closed on Monday, January 17th and reopen on Tuesday, January 18th.

NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



KEEP UP WITH SOUTH HADLEY'S LATEST NEWS



Monday, January 17, 2022

Standing Together In Hope We Rise

Free Virtual Online Event

11AM - 12 PM

Presenting Partners

Martin Luther King, Jr. Family Services
Community Music School of Springfield
Springfield College
Inclusive Strategies
Focus Springfield

For More Information: communitymusicschool.com/event/mlk2022
or call CMSS at 413.732.8428

A BELOVED COMMUNITY TRADITION FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

The state's Executive Office of Public Safety and Security announced on January 12th that both South Hadley Fire Districts received grants as part of the FY22 Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant Program. Fire District 1 will receive \$16,884.79 and Fire District 2 will receive \$15,299.96. 118 different types of eligible equipment are covered by the grant.



The Massachusetts LGBT Chamber of Commerce presented to the Western Mass Economic Development group on Thursday. They recently expanded into Western Massachusetts with a new office at Mount Holyoke College and hired a director. The Chamber estimates that there are 21,000 LGBT-owned businesses contributing \$49 billion to the state economy annually. For more information, visit <http://malgbtcc.org>.