

# THE WEEKLY WRAP UP

A report from Town Administrator Lisa Wong

## MEETINGS

**SELECTBOARD, 7 p.m.**  
**Hybrid @ Senior Center**  
**Tuesday, May 20**  
**Tuesday, June 3**  
**Summer Schedule tba**

**AGING IN PLACE FAIR**  
**Wednesday, June 25**  
**10am-2pm @ Senior Center**

## Business News

The new Rocky's Ace Hardware held their grand reopening this week. Check out their new 13,000sf store and 2,000 garden center. 501 Newton St.

## BUDGET PASSES



Town Meeting approved all 23 warrant articles in the Special and Annual Town Meeting on Wednesday, including a \$58m operating budget and over \$35m in capital items. The Town will move forward with the purchase of school vans and chrome books, as well as send new ADU, historic district, affordable housing and welcoming committee bylaws to the AG's office for review. Above are the awards given at the beginning:

*Left: Stefanie Mayer receives the Joseph W. Taylor recreation volunteer of the year award*

*Right: Lucia Foley receives the citizen of the year award*

# NEWS & ANNOUNCEMENTS



KEEP UP WITH SOUTH HADLEY'S LATEST NEWS



Secretary and CEO of the Massachusetts Department of Transportation Monica Tibbets-Nutt and her team held a listening session. Town Administrator Lisa Wong's remarks (excerpt): We often feel like we are in a transportation desert so we are grateful to have this conversation. There are many people that cannot access food pantries due to insufficient public transportation or the long distances between food locations, which is going to be exacerbated by cuts that will lead to more food insecurity. I am heartened that there is increasing investment in areas like Chapter 90 and in our RTAs. We just held a few public hearings both at Town Hall and at Mt Holyoke College that may increase funding that will change the bus service in the Falls, our most economically challenged neighborhood, from a service that runs twice a day to every 45 minutes on the weekend and on the weekday from every 2 hours to as little as 30 minutes. I can't tell you how transformative this will be. This will also improve connections between Mt Holyoke, Hampshire College and UMASS. Another area that we are seeing a major need is in medical transportation for seniors. We easily use up any grant funds in the first half of the fiscal year and have to make up the rest with limited local funds. We have made a commitment to provide local transportation to senior to the center, supermarkets and medical appointments free, and want to continue to do so. South Hadley also has a project on the TIP slated to start in Fiscal Year 2026. This critical project will start at the library and extend to the Chicopee line. We have another project that has just received CDBG funding and will fund roadway and infrastructure work in a neighborhood nearby. We hope that projects like this are funded.

Major progress at Buttery Brook Park: Paving and playground are finishing. Disc golf and pickleball lights in progress. The splash park opens this weekend! Pictured right: DPW Employee Cory

