

BECKET

Planning Board to hold public hearing

BECKET – The Planning Board will hold a Public Hearing on Wednesday, Feb. 11 at 6 p.m. to review a special permit application by Lot 40 Trust, 2 Battery Wharf #2310, Boston, for a common driveway under section 7.2 of the Becket Zoning Bylaws.

The shared driveway access is being requested for access from South Cove Road to lot 40 Ronald Drive. The hearing will be both in person and via Zoom.

WORTHINGTON

COA offers grab and go meals

WORTHINGTON – The Council on Aging provides a grab and go meal every third Thursday of the month for pick up from noon-1 p.m. at the Town Hall, 160 Huntington Road.

Participants should bring a bag for easy transport of their meal. The meal for Thursday, Jan. 22 is either a choice of lasagna with roll or barbecue chicken with baked beans, corn and ice cream. An enrollment form must be completed before requesting a meal.

People may call Phyllis Dassatti at 413-238-5962 to arrange participation.

NORTHAMPTON

Hosmer Gallery exhibits four artists

NORTHAMPTON – The Hosmer Gallery located on the second floor of the Forbes Library, 20 West St., will be displaying art work by four artists now through Friday, Jan. 30.

The gallery is accessible by stairs and elevator. An artist reception will take place on Friday, Jan. 9 from 6-8 p.m. Gallery hours are Monday through Thursday from 10 a.m.-8 p.m., Friday and Saturday from 10 a.m.-6 p.m. and closed Sundays and holidays. People may visit forbeslibrary.org/info/hours for any updates.

Artist Sasha Kopf said, “I began learning woodworking from my father in 2022, after I had left my job as an attorney and was trying to figure out my next career move. My intention was just to learn a bit of basic cabinetry while I had some spare time on my hands, but pretty soon, I was coming to the wood shop every day and doing projects on my own.”

Her work features marquetry, a technique in which many pieces of wood veneer are cut and pieced together to form an image. She cuts each piece of wood on a scroll saw and a single image can include hundreds of pieces of veneer of different colors and patterns. She said, “I enjoy making portraits of animals, especially obscure and under-appreciated ones. I also enjoy making abstract shapes that mimic natural forms.”

Artist Esther S. White of Northampton makes functional pottery decorated with scenes and characters from classical mythology, heroic poetry and superhero comics. White features Beowulf, Wolverine, Theseus and the Minotaur, Cerberus, Arachne, Argus, the Apple of Discord and the Muses.



Also on display at the Hosmer Gallery is this and other woodcuts by Myrrh Brooks.

Artist Myrrh Brooks explores themes of home, belonging and the understated moments that often go unnoticed beside the whirs, clicks and flashes of modern life. She graduated from Smith College as an Ada Comstock Scholar in 2022 with a degree in studio art - book studies concentration. There she fell in love with woodcuts and has built her artistic practice around woodcuts and making books. The prints shown here are the illustrations for her 2024 children’s book, “Apples For Georgia,” published by Penny Bun Press. Copies are available at several Western Massachusetts libraries and other locations around the continent. Prints, framed prints, and book copies are available online and by visiting www.pennybunpresspublishing.com.

Chenda Cope

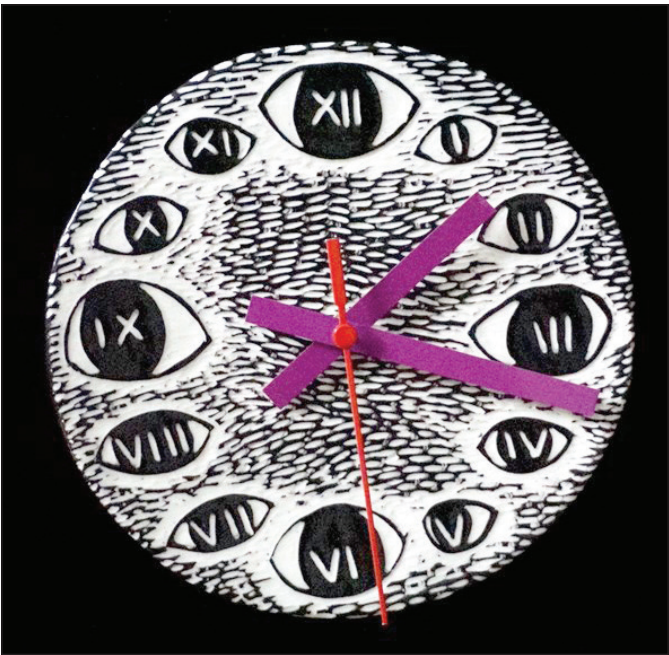


This marquetry is by Sasha Kopf and will be on display along with others at the Hosmer Gallery at the Forbes Library, 20 West St., Northampton.

“Remnants” is a collection of gestural casts that straddle the line between abstraction and representation. These objects are primarily composed of waste materials,

saved and sorted from her trash.

Due to the way in which these forms are made, the contents of each piece is not readily obvious, offering a



Esther S. White is displaying her art at the Hosmer Gallery this month.

Courtesy photos



Chenda Cope displays her casts using waste materials.

slow viewing experience in which texture and color shifts are slowly emergent. These bodies bring that which has been forgotten/ignored/erased into visible forms.

Hung on the wall are “remnants of the remnants,” drawings and material sketches made as a byproduct

of the casting process. The accompanying text, available in both audio and written form, blends poetry, memoir and scholarship to speak to the experience of living with invisible illness, drawing connections between illness, waste, the body, material and art.

PUBLIC NOTICES

SOUTHERN HILLTOWNS
Public Hearing
Tuesday, January 20, 2026
at 6:00 PM
FY 2022/2023
Construction Progress
Hearing &
FY 2026 Application Forum

The Town of Russell, on behalf of the Towns of Chester, Huntington and Middlefield, in association with the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission, will conduct a performance hearing regarding the town’s ongoing FY24 Community Development Block Grant Programs. The hearing will take place at **6:00 PM on Tuesday January 20, 2026**, in person at the Town Hall, 65 Main Street, Russell, MA 01071.

The hearing will review the projects funded through the town’s FY22/23 Community Development Block Grant Program including Valley View Avenue infrastructure improvements, public social services, and housing rehabilitation. These activities received funding through the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development and the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities, Massachusetts CDBG program.

This hearing will also serve as the first public forum to solicit community input on potential activities to be included in a potential Southern Hilltowns FY26 Community Development Block Grant application. All communi-

ty members and stakeholders are invited to share thoughts on potential CDBG-eligible activities to be included.

All persons with questions or comments regarding the performance hearing will have an opportunity to submit comments up until and through the public hearing. Please submit comments to Joe Hagopian at the Pioneer Valley Planning Commission @ jhagopian@pvpc.org or 413-781-6045. Persons who require special accommodations should contact the Town prior to the hearing date at 413-862-6200.

01/08/2026

Goshen
Conservation Commission
Notice of Public Meeting
The Goshen Conservation Commission will hold a public meeting under the Provisions of the Wetland Protections Act (M.G.L. Chapter 313 on Section 40) **Monday, January 19, 2026 6:15 pm** at the Goshen Town Offices to review a Request for Determination filed by Martha Christenson Lees for 31 Aberdeen Road. The work to be reviewed is to replace the eroded concrete piers that support the seasonal cottage. The contractor will hand dig and remove the eroded piers and replace them with new piers in the same locations.
01/08/2026

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