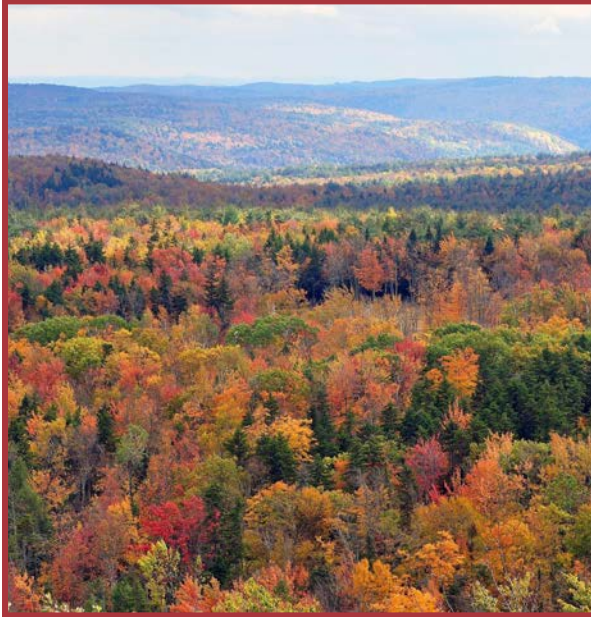


Everything you need to know for Shelburne and Buckland, MA

TWO TOWN NEWS



November, 2023 Giving thanks

Welcome to the Two Town News, with (almost) everything you need to know for Shelburne and Buckland, MA! We'd like to thank everyone for their support and encouragement to create another iteration of a town newsletter, this time including news from our friends across the bridge in Buckland. We hope to incorporate your suggestions and ideas for how to spread the word about what's happening in our lovely towns, and hope that you will be patient with us as we work out how to make the most of this volunteer-led communications outlet. Thank you to our contributors and subscribers!

We welcome your **submissions of 200 words or less** to shelbucknews@gmail.com with "News" in the subject line. News items can include art exhibits, school events, fundraising events by non-profit organizations, community gatherings, entertainment, local government board and committee information, etc. Event announcements must include date, time, place, sponsor, contact person and a brief description. Submission **deadline for the December issue is Nov. 22.** (We have an abundance of gratitude and want to enjoy Thanksgiving so it's an early deadline.)

If you want **to subscribe, you must opt-in**, even if you signed up for the previous e-newsletter. Send an email to shelbucknews@gmail.com with "Subscribe" in the subject line and include the town where you live. This is important for us to see how our reach is growing over time. Thank you. Last but not least, please share this newsletter with your friends, family members or anyone else with an interest in our two towns!

Laurie Wheeler, Andrew Baker, Joan Livingston, & Tricia Yacovone-Biagi

Shelburne Town News

HELP WANTED

The Town of Shelburne is seeking candidates for a **part-time position of Transfer Station Attendant** to cover an 8 hour shift every Tuesday at an hourly rate of \$22.82. A copy of the job description and employment application can be found on the town's website at: www.townofshelburne.com under "Employment Opportunities".

The Town of Shelburne is also seeking a local resident who is interested in serving as the **Cowell Gymnasium's Facilities Director**. The position pays an annual stipend of \$3,433 and has flexible hours. For a general overview of the position's duties, please refer to the *Employment* section of the town's website at www.townofshelburne.com. The application deadline for this position is Nov. 27.

Interested candidates for either position should submit an application to:

Town of Shelburne

Attention: Terry Narkewicz, Town Admin.
51 Bridge St.
Shelburne, MA 01370
townadmin@townofshelburnema.gov

The Town of Shelburne is a Tobacco Free Workplace and an Equal Opportunity Employer.



Shelburne Town Collector and Treasurer

Angelina J. Bragdon, CMMT reminds Shelburnites that you can pay

your taxes using the [online payment center](#), **seeing her in person**, or by enclosing a check in the **gray lockbox** inside the foyer at the

Town Hall. Her hours are Monday 8-5 and Thursday 8-6. Check out her informative newsletter on the town website at <https://www.townofshelburne.com/p/24/Tax-Collector-and-Treasurer> or contact her at treasurer@townofshelburnema.gov or via phone at: (413) 625-0300, ext. 6.

WATCH FOR BRIDGE CLOSINGS AND DETOURS!



Bardwell's Ferry Bridge photo: Marc N. Belanger

The beautiful one-lane parabolic truss bridge on Bardwell's Ferry Road that crosses the Deerfield River between Shelburne and Conway has been closed indefinitely due to structural deficiencies discovered at the entrance on the Conway side. The bridge is jointly owned by Shelburne and Conway. The Town of Conway is investigating grant options for repairs estimated at \$500,000.

Also, two bridges on Route 112 in Colrain will be closed for approximately eight weeks starting in late September. The bridges to be repaired by Mass DOT are located to the north of Frankton Road in Shelburne and just south of the former Barnhardt Manufacturing plant in Griswoldville. Those wishing to travel to

Colrain Center will need to take the detour via Route 2 and Colrain-Shelburne Road until the construction detour is lifted.



Photo of Bridge St. pocket park: Andrew Baker

POCKET PARK UPDATES

The “pocket park” under construction at the corner of Bridge Street and Deerfield Avenue. is getting a new pavilion to provide shade and rain cover for the picnic tables, thanks to the construction skills of the Franklin County Tech School’s carpentry program, directed by Mike Nobrega. FCTS started the building project on October 16 and expects to be finished in a few months. Funding for the project was provided by donations from the makers of the “Dexter” TV series shot in Shelburne Falls and other past film donations.

Designs for new perennial gardens are in progress, produced by students at Kay [Cafasso’s Sowing Solutions](#) Permaculture Design & Education program, located in the Mill at Shelburne Falls, 49 Conway St. Look for

information about a public presentation on the garden designs in upcoming issues of *Two Town News*.

SHELBURNE OPEN SPACE PLAN UPDATE

The draft of the updated Shelburne Open Space and Recreation plan is posted on the Town of Shelburne [website](#), and hardcopies are available at the two Shelburne libraries. If the link doesn’t work, or you are adverse to opening links, you can copy and paste this URL into your browser to view the draft plan: https://townofshelburne.com/g/47/Open-Space-Committee#section_1102.

Public comment from residents of Shelburne may still be made on the current draft of the plan until Nov. 10. Send written comments to openspace@townofshelburnema.gov.

This plan helps the town identify, prioritize, and develop projects that:

- meet the recreation needs of our residents;
- protect our natural, scenic, historic, and recreation resources;
- plan future land use; and,
- help make our community more resilient to a changing climate.

The plan is the result of public comments received via a survey and Open Public Forum, a great deal of work by members of the Shelburne Open Space Committee, and collaboration with the Franklin Council of Regional Governments (FRCOG).

Shelburne EMD Notes

Hello. I've got two topics this month. First, I'd like to speak to our older adults (like me) whose needs are changing. Do you have a plan that addresses your specific medical and mobility needs in the event of an emergency? If not, here are three steps to get one started:

1. **Assess your needs.** Identify your risks and specific needs to create a personalized plan.
2. **Make a plan.** Tailor your comprehensive plan and emergency kit to your unique needs.
3. **Build and include a strong support network in your plan.** Engage family, friends, caregivers, neighbors, congregants from your place of worship, and others who can assist you during an emergency.

I urge you to visit www.ready.gov/older-adults to help develop your plan.

Second, I'd like to ask for your help in completing a quick survey before Nov. 11, either [online](#) or through your local Town Clerk, Library Director, or Senior Center Director. We need to be aware of what our community's needs are in the event of extreme hot or cold weather in order to make the best emergency management plan. Thank you for your help!

As always, stay safe and remember: "Failing to plan is planning to fail."

Tom Williams

Emergency Management Director
EMD@townofshelburnema.gov

Shelburne MVP Updates

On Sept. 13, Shelburne held a Community Resilience Building workshop as part of its state-funded [Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness \(MVP\)](#) planning grant.

Twenty-five stakeholders participated in the six-hour workshop to identify and prioritize the town's infrastructural, societal, and environmental strengths and vulnerabilities to the impacts of climate change.



The results of the workshop were presented at a Public Listening Session on Oct. 23 during the regularly scheduled Selectboard meeting and included climate projections as well as the top five priorities for action. [View the presentation](#) starting at ~26:30 minutes.

By mid-November, the final report will be posted to the [Resilient-Shelburne-MVP](#) webpage along with a comment form for the public to provide feedback on the plan. Mark your calendars now! Comments are due by Dec. 1.

Shelburne will submit an Expression of Interest outlining its project for an MVP Action Grant in December and an Action Grant application in early 2024. To stay updated on Shelburne MVP, visit the [webpage](#) or send an email to shelburnemassmvp@gmail.com.

November Energy Tips

Shelburne Energy Efficiency Advocate/Mass Save Community First Partnership's Cynthia Boettner shares these important tips and events for November.



Fuel Assistance: The application period for fuel assistance for this heating season is from November to April. For information and to apply online, go to <https://www.communityaction.us/program/fuel-assistance/> or call 413-774-2310 and choose Option 1. An intake interview and signature will be needed to complete your application. Applications can take 6-8 weeks to process. You can check your application status at any time by calling 413-774-2310 and choosing Option 1 then Option 4. People who received fuel assistance last winter are sent renewal instructions by mail between September and December.



Energy Questions?

Attend the Indoor Autumn Market **Nov. 19, 11 am - 2 pm** at **Buckland-Shelburne Elementary School.**

When you attend the festive Indoor Autumn Market for produce, crafts, food (and more!), bring your energy-saving questions to the booth of the Shelburne Energy Committee and the

Shelburne Energy Efficiency Advocate. We love to help answer your burning questions and hear what you're already doing to save energy.

Heat Loan Questions? Other Mass Save Questions? Contact the Shelburne Energy Efficiency Advocate, 413-324-5034. I want to hear your Mass Save stories and help you with any obstacles you might be facing.



Arms Library Events

Get details about our programs and how to sign up for a weekly listing of events on our website at www.armslibrary.org or on our [Facebook page](#). **Hours:** Sun. Noon-3 pm; Mon. 10:30-5:30 pm; Wed. 11 am-7 pm; Sat. 10 am-3 pm. **Phone:** 413-625-0306. The Arms Library is **handicapped-accessible** via the lower level back entrance.

Every Wednesday 4-5 pm: LEGOS for the younger set.

Every Wednesday 5-7 pm: KNITTING for established knitters or crocheters.

Starting Nov. 1: The Friends of the Arms Library will **accept books** for the Moonlight Magic Book Sale. Books in very good condition may be donated to the Arms during open hours. The Friends Book Sale will be held downstairs in the large room during Moonlight Magic on Friday, Nov. 24, 4-9 pm; and Saturday, Nov. 25 and Sunday, Nov. 26, 10 am-3 pm. All money donated goes to the Arms Library.

Nov. 12, 1-3 pm: Easy-to-Make Earrings. Make beautiful beaded earrings for someone you love during this *Cozy Crafternoon at the Arms!* We have all the tools and supplies that you need. If you want to bring broken necklaces, bracelets or earrings containing beads that you would like to use or contribute, please do. Ages 5 and above.

Nov. 12, 1-2:30 pm: Climate Change Café. See details in the 'Free Climate Café' listing below.

Nov. 17: Noontime Concert Series [Mohawk Trail Concerts](#) and Arms Library present Trio Amphion Baroque. "The History of the Sonata" Paolo Cima, Henry Purcell, Jean-Marie Leclair, and G. F. Telemann. Admission is free. The concert will be held in the upstairs rotunda.

Nov. 24, 4-9 pm: Moonlight Magic Gift Wrapping. If you find a great treasure to give as a gift during Moonlight Magic, and don't want someone at home to see it, there will be gift wrapping supplies in the upstairs reading room of the Arms!



Dec. 3, 10, and 17, 1-3 pm: There Be Dragons! Sign up now for more *Cozy Crafternoons at the Arms*. Use needle-felting techniques to create your own dragon or other creature. We are requesting a \$5 fee for the entire series of the three classes, to help defray the high cost of materials. Because of the nature of the tools we will be using, we request that any children have an adult accompanying them. Ages 5 and above.

Our Wi-Fi Never Goes to Sleep! You can get internet 24/7 from the Arms Library. Find a nearby parking spot or use one of the picnic tables out back and click on either ArmsGuest1 or ArmsGuest2. No password is needed.

Memorial Hall Theater

POTHOLE PICTURES RETURNS

Another season of great movies on the big screen in our historic 400-seat town hall theater at 51 Bridge St., Shelburne Falls has returned! Tickets are \$6 for adults and \$4 for children 12 and under. Cash at the door only. Films start at 7:30 pm. Arrive at 7 pm for a half-hour of “music at the movies” with local musicians. Upcoming features:

Nov. 3 and 4: Doctor Strangelove (Or How I Stopped Worrying And Learned To Love The Bomb). 1964. Rated PG. 95 min. B&W.

Only Stanley Kubrick could direct this brilliant satire about the nuclear arms race that is entertaining, funny, thought-provoking and scary all at the same time. Selected by the American Film Institute as one of the 100 greatest American movies of all time. Starring Peter Sellers, George C. Scott, Slim Pickens.

- Friday Music: Snapdragon – Folk/Pop/Rock
- Saturday Music: Brookside Project – Original & Classic Americana

Nov. 17 and 18: Crouching Tiger, Hidden Dragon. 2000. Rated PG-13. 120 min. Color.

Epic adventure and stunning martial arts cinematography – a one-of-a-kind classic starring Michelle Yeoh, Chow Yun Fat. Directed by Ang Lee.

- Friday Music: Dan Lederer – Inventive & Eclectic Guitar
- Saturday Music: Crouching Fiddle, Hidden Banjo – Traditional Irish Music

Dec. 1 and 2: Moonrise Kingdom. 2012. Rated PG-13. 94 min. Color.

Wes Anderson directed a clever, quirky, artful and color-saturated, emotionally satisfying adventure about imagination, innocence and true love. Sam and Suzy, 12 and in love, run off together on Penzance Island and an all-star cast of adults (played by Bill Murray, Bruce Willis, Frances McDormand, Edward Norton and Tilda Swinton) set out to find them.

LIVE AT THE MET PERFORMANCES ARE BACK

Simulcast performances of the Metropolitan Opera’s HD Series also have returned to the Memorial Hall Theater. Tickets are \$22 and may be purchased online with a credit card or at the door by cash or check. Coming up:

Nov. 18 at 12:55 pm: X: The Life And Times Of Malcolm X. Starring Anthony Davis. Libretto by Thulani Davis. Story by Christopher Davis.



For more information about Pothole Pictures movies and Live at the Met opera, go to: <https://shelburnefallsmemorialhall.org/>. You can sign up for e-notifications about events there too.

Moonlight Magic '23!

Nov. 24, 4-9 pm. Join friends and family in Shelburne Falls to make some magical memories to last a lifetime!

Moonlight Magic is a beloved tradition in the Shelburne Falls cultural and business district that has been going strong for 38 years. Community volunteers, local small businesses, and non-profit organizations are working hard to make this year's celebration of lights and community a great success. The downtown area will be adorned with luminaria, lamp posts wrapped in lights, a Community Tree, and festively decorated storefront displays. Other activities include a Parade of Lights, a Boat Parade, a Children's Scavenger Hunt with a prize at the Treasure Chest, Craft Fairs, Ornament Painting, a trolley ride to the Trolley Museum, and much more. There will be food and craft vendors, special store sales, and live music and performances throughout the village. Admission, parking, and event shuttle are free. For more information about Moonlight Magic 2023 or learn how you can participate in the Parade of Lights or Boat Parade, visit linktr.ee/MoonlightMagicShelburneFalls or email westcountyartsculture@gmail.com.

Moonlight Magic
Shelburne Falls Area Women's Club
Cookie Shop
4:00 - 9:00p.m.



Village Information Center
Shelburne Falls

And if you get a moonlight cookie craving, head over to the Village Information Center for the Shelburne Falls Area Women's Club cookie shop! This annual and much anticipated

sale helps fund SFAWC scholarships to local students. Members are asked to bake small cookies to be packaged in boxes of about 20 cookies each. Annually we sell 100 boxes or more so we need a lot of cookies! For more information, contact Sherry Taylor or Kay Berenson: sfmawomensclub@gmail.com

The Shelburne Falls Eagles at 52 State St. will have crafters and hot food in their building from 4 - 9 pm during Moonlight Magic. The proceeds benefit their Relay for Life team.

Psst. Don't forget about the best book sale in the valley! (See more details on page 5.)

Moonlight Magic
BOOK SALE
Friday 11/24 4-9pm, Saturday 11/25
& Sunday, 11/26 10am-3pm
Arms Library Main Room Downstairs
Pay What You Wish
Call for more information: 413 625 0306

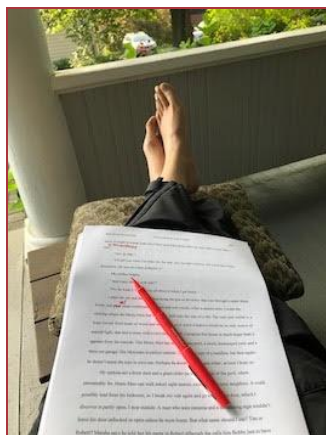
Community Events

ASHFIELD INDOOR FARM & CRAFT MARKET

Several Shelburne farms and artisans will be participating in the Ashfield Indoor Farm & Craft Market which will be held **each Saturday from 10 am to 1 pm from Nov. 4 until Dec. 16**, in the Ashfield Town Hall. The Market features local farms (meat, produce, wool, preserves, pies, maple, honey, and more), crafters/artisans (jewelry, paintings, cards, decorations, holiday, etc.), food vendors (baked, sandwiches, pastries), and an area to visit with neighbors. Please join us!

FLOODWATER WRITERS

Nov. 19, and every third Sunday of the month, at noon at Floodwater Brewing, 40 State St. on the Buckland side of Shelburne Falls.



Write prose or poetry you want to share? Want to listen to what others write? Led by author Joan Livingston (who has been known to edit manuscripts on her porch as

shown here), this is a chance to share your writing—plan on a 5-minute reading—in a friendly gathering, get feedback if wanted, and share insights about publishing. **Free.**

AUTUMN FARMER'S MARKET

The Shelburne Falls Autumn Farmers Market will be held **Sunday, Nov. 19 from 11 am to 2 pm** at the Buckland Shelburne Elementary School. It will have a variety of local farms, artisans, and crafters selling their goods, and there will be live music and a Teacup Auction.

If you would like to be vendor, or would like more information visit www.shelburnefallsfarmersmarket.org

CHARLES MALZENSKI: ON THE LAND

On the Land, a new exhibit at [Salmon Falls Gallery](#), 1 Ashfield St. in Shelburne Falls, features artist Charles Malzenski's representational landscapes and his mastery of the medium- timeless, sweeping landscapes where sunlight and shadow become active elements in still images. On view Nov. 3 to Dec. 31, 11 am to 5 pm.

Rather than commenting on his own intentions, Malzenski prefers that the audience observe the work in silence and arrive at their own conclusions. His only comment is that “Brushwork shows the intuitive connection between hand and heart.” A lifetime of living with a direct connection to his land—experiencing deeply the seasons, the sunlight, the daily cycle of light and dark—affords Malzenski insight he translates into images that express love, respect, and appreciation of the land.

Malzenski earned a BFA from Hartford Art School in 1970 and divides his time between an off-grid stone cottage in western

Massachusetts and Enfield, CT. His work is recognized in a number of visual and conceptual art forums, as well as in private, museum, and corporate collections locally and abroad. He has participated in many group shows and had his work featured in national and international publications.



Watkins Plateau by Charles Malzenski

FREE CLIMATE CAFÉ

Sunday Nov. 12, 1-2:30 pm. Come to the Climate Café at the Arms Library in Shelburne Falls, a facilitated, welcoming space for people concerned about the climate and ecological crises, and their impacts on the global, local, and individual levels. The Climate Cafe is not a lecture or a therapy group. All participants are welcome to speak and share their feelings regarding climate change as they feel comfortable, no matter if they've been concerned about the climate and ecological crises for a while or are just now becoming troubled as the news of climate-related disasters increases.

The Climate Café focuses on feelings and building emotional resilience in the face of

uncertain times, and allows participants to connect with others, act in collaboration, and envision a just and equitable solution.

Sadie Forsythe, LICSW, a climate-aware therapist, and Hannah Harvester, a Conway-based artist, will facilitate the café. Both have completed Climate Psychology Alliance of North America's Climate Cafe trainings and can provide resources about learning to work with climate emotions and local opportunities for action. The Arms Library is accessible via the lower level back entrance. Call 413-625-0306 or email armslibrary@gmail.com to register (preferred but not necessary).

Other news

WHERE HAVE ALL THE FLOWERS GONE?

On Oct. 31 the gates to the **Bridge of Flowers closed** and will not re-open to the public until the extensive repairs to its structure have been completed, sometime in 2025. Most of the perennials have already been dug up to be cared for in local gardens, including those of our head gardener and assistant gardener. The plants will return to the bridge when it reopens.

Roots of smaller trees and bushes have been pruned and readied to be moved to the farm site of the assistant gardener. The larger trees that cannot be returned to the bridge will be donated, some to the new pocket park on Deerfield Avenue. (See article on page 3.) Unfortunately, the beloved wisteria cannot be transplanted, but its fabled curled branches will be preserved for some repurposed artistic

use. As the restoration gets underway in spring 2024, updates and photos of the reconstruction will be posted periodically at www.bridgeofflowersmass.org

Meanwhile, the Bridge of Flowers Committee is working with local community organizers led by Cate Chadwick on an initiative to create a “Village of Flowers” to draw tourists here while the Bridge is closed. For information about how to get involved in this and other ideas under discussion, contact VillageOfFlowersShelburneFalls@gmail.com

FLOWER FUNDS

The Bridge of Flowers would like to thank all the artists, volunteers, and visitors who made our inaugural Art Show and Sale such a success.

Over the weekend of Oct. 14-15, more than 500 visitors attended the exhibition at the Shelburne Buckland Community Center, which featured over 100 paintings, photographs, pastels, and other 2-D artwork contributed by over seventy local and regional artists.

Event organizer Joanne Soroka said, “The response from the community was so positive that the Bridge of Flowers hopes to make this an annual event.”

“The Art Show and Sale was representative of the vibrant creative community that defines the Shelburne Falls area,” said organizer Ann Lofquist. “We would also like to recognize the generosity of the participating artists, who all donated 50-100% of their artwork sales to the Bridge of Flowers.”

A PICKLING SOLUTION

From Mary Lou Gallup: I want to tell you a story about community, social interaction, mental health, physical exercise, competition, and camaraderie. Someone wanted to learn a sport I knew well; a team sport usually involving four players on a court. After several failed attempts to get four together for a lesson, I decided to meet one-on-one with this person, at the same time and on a court adjacent to regular drop-in play. I knew it would be challenging to teach a four-person activity with only two people.



The regular players recognized that I was trying to teach, and it would be beneficial to have two more players to have real-game scenarios. As they finished a game, the players came over to greet the new person, jump into the lesson, play and encourage my friend, before returning to regular play. My friend felt welcome, got some exercise, met her competitive goals, and had a blast.

Young or old, husbands and wives, athletically strong and competitive, mild, and laid back. There is a place for everyone. Come check out Shelburne Falls Pickleball.

shelburnefallspickleball@gmail.com
[Shelburne Falls Pickleball](#) on Facebook. Next scheduled lessons Nov. 5. Sign up at <https://bit.ly/3N3HgNb> A program of Shelburne Recreation.

WILD TURKEY FEDERATION CELEBRATES 50 YEARS WITH LICENSE PLATE

The Massachusetts State Chapter of the National Wild Turkey Federation (NWTf) recently announced that a new license plate will soon be introduced in the Bay State, with a portion of the proceeds benefiting the Wild Turkey in Massachusetts, while securing the continued success of, arguably, the greatest conservation success story in the history of our state. It's interesting how this Special License Plate was spawned. So read on to what Joe Judd has to say about it:

“Since 2019, the Massachusetts State Chapter of NWTf has been working closely with the Registry of Motor Vehicles (RMV), to develop a Massachusetts wild turkey license plate. Now, our design, and the license plate itself, has been approved and is about to be seen and hopefully, supported by sportsmen and women, conservationists, and others who simply love having wild turkeys in the Bay State.” To learn more about this Special License Plate, contact Joe Judd at jjontheridge@comcast.net

He'll be happy to take your application, discuss the tax deductible donation that accompanies the purchase of this new special plate, or simply have a much broader discussion about the project.



Legislative News

SEN. PAUL MARK LOCAL OFFICE HOURS



State Sen. Paul W. Mark's staff will host office hours in Buckland on **Tuesday, Nov. 14, and Tuesday, Nov. 28, from 10 am to noon** at Buckland Town Hall, 17 State St.

Residents of any of the 57 municipalities in the Senator's Berkshire,

Hampden, Franklin, and Hampshire District are encouraged to ask for assistance with issues involving any state agency or to share ideas on current or potential state legislation.

Appointments are not required.

REP. NATALIE BLAIS LOCAL OFFICE HOURS

State Rep. Natalie Blais filed legislation titled *An Act to provide a sustainable future for rural schools* to address the “unique fiscal challenges facing rural districts.” She holds office hours the same days every month, with the exception of holidays, as follows:

- **Second Mondays, 1-3 pm:** John Zon Senior Center, 35 Pleasant St., Greenfield.
- **Fourth Mondays, 4-5:30 pm:** Montague Town Offices blue room, 1 Avenue A, Turners Falls.