



The Auburn Account

2019 Grant Update

Volume 10, Issue 1, January 2020

Town administration continued to aggressively seek and apply for grant funding to augment programs, services and equipment.

During calendar year 2019, town administration applied for 24 grants totaling \$1,873,507.30. Of those grant applications, 18 were received totaling \$1,034,763.30, while 6 are pending.

The grants received provided funding for a new regional fire training tower, 2 new firefighters, Drury Square improvements, dog park design, Independence Day concert, LED lighting, emergency equipment, programs for seniors, planning assistance, green energy programs, infrastructure improvements, police training and equipment, Library programs, CodeRED, public safety programs and more.

Since 2011, town administration has applied for 275 grants totaling \$16,054,891.84 in requests. A total of 239 grants have been received totaling \$5,341,782.78 since 2011. A total of 11 grants are pending.

All department and division heads are encouraged to continually seek alternate funding sources to augment their programs and services, a goal which is incorporated into each evaluation form. We thank our employees for seeking grant funding throughout the year to offset taxpayer dollars.

Town administration will continue to seek and secure grant and foundation funds to support the priority needs and goals of the Town.

Sign up today to receive electronic communications and updates on a variety of issues, including *The Auburn Account*, emergency and road work updates from the Town of Auburn. Visit our web site at www.auburnguide.com or [click here](#) to sign up now!



Auburn Town Hall
104 Central Street
Auburn, MA 01501
www.auburnguide.com

Important Contact Information (508) 832-

Town Manager	7720
Board of Selectmen	7720
Building Inspector	7719
Clerk	7701
Fire	7800
Health	7703
Library	7790
Planning	7704
Police	7777
Public Works	7814
Senior Center	7799
Treasurer/Collector	7705
Veterans	7706

Hours of Operation

Town Hall:

Monday	8:00AM-7:00PM
T, W, Th	8:00AM-4:00PM
Friday	8:00AM-1:00PM

Senior Center:

Mon & Fri	8:00AM-3:00PM
T, W, Th	8:00AM-4:00PM

Library:

Mon—Thurs	9:30AM-8:30PM
Fri	9:30AM-5:30PM
Sat	9:00AM-1:00PM

In this issue: Grants updates, elections, Census, Development Guides, library programs, LED Street-light program, senior center updates, public safety news, and much more...

News from the Town Clerk...



CENSUS

2020 annual street listing forms will be mailed at the beginning of January. **Please fill out, sign and return promptly even if there are no changes.** If someone living in your household has moved you may indicate that, if they are a registered voter they must sign to be removed. There is a line for moved household members to sign or give the address we will mail a form for them to sign at their new address. Voters are made inactive in June of each year if the census is not updated. This creates long lines at elections when a voter is made inactive. Then the voter must fill out a form and provide proof that they still live at their Auburn address.

2020 Census form showing instructions and a table for household members.

NAME	DATE OF BIRTH	SEX	RACE	ETHNICITY	RELATIONSHIP
...

2020 United States Census

March 2020. The United States Census is conducted every 10 years. Census invitations will be mailed or delivered to every household in the nation starting in mid-March. The survey will ask you to provide information that is accurate for your household or where you reside **most** of the year, as of April 1, 2020.

Coming Soon!

United States® Census 2020

WHO?	Everyone
WHAT?	Gets counted
WHERE?	Everywhere in the U.S.
WHEN?	Every 10 years
HOW?	Online, phone, or mail
WHY?	It's important

Start Here On an online to complete your 2020 Census questionnaire.

2020 Census is the official government for this address. It is a census, and every household in the United States is required to participate. It is a census, and every household in the United States is required to participate. It is a census, and every household in the United States is required to participate.

Dog Licensing

On the bottom of the census form is a dog license form for 2020. To license by mail, fill out the form and enclose a check to cover the fee. Registration Period is January 1, 2020—March 31, 2020. Town bylaw imposes a \$10.00 late fee per dog if not licensed by April 30, 2020. If you would prefer to license on-line please use https://www.mapsonline.net/aurbumma/dog_licensing If you have licensed a dog in the past you will be able to license with this link, provided your rabies is up to date. Any person seventy (70) years of age or older, upon proof of age and ownership shall be exempt from the annual fee for one dog, per household, per year.

CONFLICT OF INTEREST REQUIREMENT

The Summary of the Conflict of Interest Law has been distributed. Committee Members are considered Municipal Employees for the purposes of this law. If you serve on a committee or volunteer in some capacity and have not received the Summary in the mail or as an email attachment, please contact the Town Clerk's office at (508)832-7701 or on the website at: <https://www.auburnguide.com/246/Conflict-of-Interest-Information> Some part-time volunteer positions are exempt.

The Summary and a list of exempt positions are on the Town Website auburn-guide.com - Town Clerk department - Conflict of Interest.

The annual conflict of interest law education and training requirement compliance period runs from December 10, 2019 through April 10, 2020.

Training is every two years and training was due in 2019 - the acknowledgement is due every year.



John E. & Ethel E. Riley Outstanding Citizenship Award



The John E. & Ethel E. Outstanding Citizen Award was created in 1976 to honor the Riley's for their contribution to serving and making life for Auburn citizens better.

This years recipient was Roberta Briggs. She was honored at the Annual Thanksgiving Ecumenical Service that was held at First Congregational Church on November 27th. Roberta has served on many

committees. She has been the Governor's appointee for the Auburn Housing Authority, having been appointed by 3 different Governors. She is also a member of the Local Emergency Management Planning committee and the Auburn Historical Society. It shows how much she cares about those living in town. She is very active with her church and gives back to the community. She truly understands community and it is shown in her effort to make Auburn a great place to live.

Annual Town Election Information and Calendar

Presidential Primary—Tuesday, March 3, 2020
Last Day to register to vote for Primary—
Wednesday, February, 12, 2020
All Precincts vote at Auburn High School Gym
Polls open 7:00 AM—8:00 PM
Early Voting for the Presidential Primary will be
held February 24th—February 28th
At Auburn Town Hall—during regular hours



2020 Annual Town Election Information and Calendar

Tuesday, May 5, 2020	7:00 PM Annual Town Meeting-High School Auditorium
Tuesday, May 19, 2020	8:00 AM - Annual Town Election-Precincts 1,2,3,4 & 5 8:00 PM Auburn High School Gym

NOMINATION PAPERS – Available February 10, 2020

Tuesday, March 31, 2020	5:00 PM Last Day for candidates to file nomination papers with the board of registrars
Thursday, April 16, 2020	5:00 PM Last day for filing objection/withdrawals
Wednesday, April 29, 2020	8:00 AM - Last day to register to vote 8:00 PM Monday, May 11, 2020 4:00 PM Campaign Finance Reports (Town-wide) 8 day report
Thursday, June 18, 2020	4:00 PM Campaign Finance Reports Due 30 day report

NOMINATION PAPERS – NUMBER OF SIGNATURES REQUIRED

Town-wide Office	Minimum of 50 voters of the town. No more than four blank nomination papers issued
Town Meeting member	Minimum of 10 voters of the precinct in which the candidate resides. No more than one blank nomination paper issued
Incumbent Town Meeting Members	Last day to notify the Town Clerk in writing they wish to be on the ballot, is Tuesday, March 24, 2020.

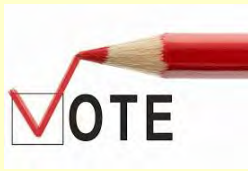
Auburn residents 18 years of age by Election Day, May 19, 2020, or older may register to vote in the Town Clerks Office. A resident may register to vote by mail, in person or online <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ovr/> ; the mail-in form must be postmarked on or before April 29, 2020 for the voter to be eligible to vote at the annual town election.

BALLOT OPENINGS 2020



On Tuesday, May 20, 2020 at eight o'clock AM to elect by Official

Ballot the following Town Officers and Committees for the following terms of offices as provided by the Charter, March 10, 1969, under General Laws, Chapter 43B Section (9c).



One Auburn Housing Authority Member for	Five Years
One Auburn Housing Authority Member for	Two Years
One Auburn Housing Authority Member for	Three Years
Two Library Trustees, Auburn Free Public Library for	Three Years
One Library Trustee, Auburn Free Public Library for	One Year
One Moderator for	One Year
One School Committee Member for	Three Year
One Board of Selectmen Members for	Three Years
One Southern Worcester County Regional Vocational	Three Years
School Member for	Three Years

TOWN MEETING MEMBERS

Precinct One	8 to be elected for	Three Years
Precinct Two	8 to be elected for	Three Years
Precinct Three	8 to be elected for	Three Years
Precinct Four	8 to be elected for	Three Years
Precinct Five	8 to be elected for	Three Years

Billing, Exemptions, and Discounts...

3rd and 4th quarter bills will be in the mail for January 1st 2020
3rd quarter payments are due by February 3, 2020.

Exemption applications – Seniors over 67, Surviving Spouses, Blind and Disabled Veterans for FY2020 as well as applications for Deferral and Small Commercial Exemptions will be accepted through March 31, 2020. If you received an exemption for FY 2019 you would have received your application for FY 2020 shortly after Labor Day. We have relaxed some of the financial and age requirements for some of our exemptions, so even if you did not qualify last year, it is possible you might for the current year. If you have any questions regarding your qualifications for one of these exemptions please contact the Assessor's Office at (508) 832-7708.

FY 2020 Business Personal Property Form of Lists (state tax form 2) have been mailed to all businesses that were in operation for January 1, 2019. For any new businesses, forms are available on the town website at www.auburnguide.com or from the Assessor's Office. Your form of list should be returned to the Assessor's office no later than March 1, 2020. If you were in business as of January 1st 2020 you must file a form of list with the Assessors Officer per MGL Ch. 59 § 29.

Any properties filing for an exemption as property held for Charitable Purposes under MGL Chapter 59 §5 and §29 must file their State Tax form 3ABC prior to March 1st in order to be granted an exemption for the upcoming year.

It is important to us that your tax assessments are equitable and correct. One of the most important parts of our job is to be out inspecting properties and verifying that the information we base your assessment on is up to date and accurate. We inspect all sales, building permits and all properties in town are visited on a cyclical basis throughout the year. If you receive an orange tag or a letter notifying you that we are working in your neighborhood, please call and set an appointment at your convenience.

As a reminder, any employees or representatives of the Assessor's Office will always have Town issued identification with them, and a generally driving a town vehicle that is clearly marked. Do not ever allow entry to your property by a person who does not have proper identification.

Board of Selectmen

Select Board meetings are held on the second and fourth Mondays each month as well as potentially on the 5th Monday of the month when necessary. If a holiday falls on a Monday, meetings are held the following Tuesday. Minutes and agendas are available on the Town's web site. Meetings are televised live on Auburn Cable Television.

To contact the Board of Selectmen during regular Town Hall business hours:
Phone: 508-832-7720 Fax: 508-832-4270

To reach individual members of the Board of Selectmen:

Doreen M. Goodrich	Kenneth Holstrom (Chair)
21 Hill Street	273 Central Street
Cell: 508-951-9157	Cell: 508-320-4564
Email: dgoodrich@town.auburn.ma.us	Email: kholstrom@town.aubun.ma.us

Dan Carpenter (Vice Chair)	Tristan LaLiberte
33 Goulding Drive	7 Rock Ave
Cell: 508-277-9519	508-721-9974
Email: dcarpenter@town.auburn.ma.us	Email: tlaliberte@town.auburn.ma.us

Lionel Berthiaume
13 Rochdale St
508-245-9334
Email: LBerthiaume@town.auburn.ma.us



CITIZENS LEADERSHIP ACADEMY



Town Administration invites you to participate in the third annual Citizens Leadership Academy! This academy will allow the citizens of Auburn to learn more about their Town Government through a variety of classes and interactive activities.

How Do I Apply?

Residents are welcome to apply for the academy by filling out an application online or in person at the Town Manager's Office.

Anyone interested in attending the Citizens Leadership Academy may call 508-832-7720 and request an application or go to: Auburnguide.com under "Town Manager - Citizens Leadership Academy"

**Applications due by
March 6th**

11 WEEKS

Thursdays from 6:00-8:30pm
March 26th - June 4th

LEARN ABOUT ALL TOWN DEPARTMENTS

Town Manager Finance Police Fire
Inspectional Services DPW Public
Services and more!

INTERACTIVE TOURS

REQUIREMENTS

- Resident of Auburn
- Consideration will be given to applicants who work in Auburn but do not live in Auburn
- Must be 18 years of age
- Registered Voter
- Must be able to pass a background check and willing to sign a waiver

(Applicants 17 years of age may be eligible with Town Manager's consent)



Veterans Services

Limits on [VA-backed home loans](#) for qualified buyers will be eliminated effective on Jan. 1, 2020 — due to changes in the Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Act of 2019 passed in June. [VA-backed home loans](#) provides eligible veterans an option to purchase a home without a downpayment by guaranteeing part of the loan. Additionally, this often encourages lenders to provide veterans with more generous terms.

Under the current set up, VA loan limits vary across the U.S. and range from \$484,350 to \$726,525 based on county, [according to Veterans United Home Loans](#).

If veterans eligible for full [VA loan entitlement](#) want to purchase a home that exceeds the designated loan limit for their county, they must pay a downpayment calculated by subtracting the loan limit from the cost of the home. Veterans then pay a quarter of the difference.

But these county limits for those eligible for full VA loan entitlement purchases will go away in the new year, meaning that more veterans can purchase homes without shelling out a downpayment.

Limits will still remain intact for veterans with diminished [VA loan entitlement](#) though. This can happen for a variety of reasons, including defaulting on a previous VA loan.

Even so, the VA claims that 90 percent of veterans using a VA-backed home loan already do not pay a downpayment.

Those interested in purchasing a home with a VA-backed loan must meet several qualifications, based on length of service and other factors. Learn more about whether you qualify for a VA home loan program [here](#).

According to a [study Veterans United Home Loans](#) released last month, more than 624,000 veterans and service members took advantage of VA-backed home loan benefits in fiscal year 2019.

That makes 2019 the eighth consecutive year that the number of VA purchase loans has risen, and marks a 43 percent increase when measured against numbers from fiscal year 2014.

The report also found that Millennials, those born between 1981 and 1996, and Generation Z, those born between 1997 and 2012, comprised 45 percent of all VA purchase loans in fiscal year 2019.

“Younger veterans and service members are fueling the continued growth of this historic loan program,” Chris Birk, director of Education for Veterans United Home Loans, said in a news release.

“This benefit was built to help boost access to homeownership for those who serve, and it’s helping a new generation of veterans and military families put down roots in communities across the country,” he added.

Areas where veterans most frequently utilized VA home loans included Washington, D.C., Phoenix, Virginia Beach and Atlanta.





PUBLIC SAFETY NEWS



18th Annual Goods for Gun Buyback



On December 14, 2018, the Auburn Police Department partnered with UMass Memorial Medical Center to participate in the 18th Annual Goods for Gun Buyback.

This is the third year that we have participated in the program that aims to reduce the number of unsecured or unwanted firearms in the home by offering gift cards of various denominations in exchange for firearms.

During the four hours that we accepted turn-ins, we took in ten (10) rifles and firearms. This represents the highest number in three years for our town.

At the end of the turn-in period, the firearms were brought to City Welding and Fabrication in Worcester for destruction.



Starbuck's Event

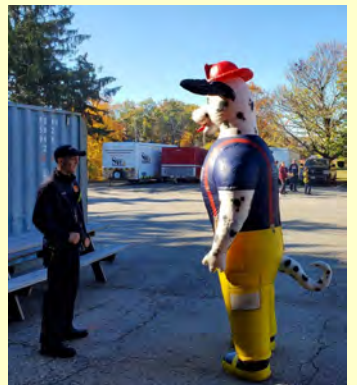
On Saturday October 5, 2019 the AFRD & APD participated in a community event at Starbuck's on Southbridge St. The event invited the public to meet and talk with public safety personnel after we whipped them up their favorite beverage. Firefighter/Paramedic Kim O'Brien was a rock star behind the counter working with the amazing staff at Starbuck's. Thanks to Starbuck's of Auburn for an amazing afternoon.



FIREHOUSE OPEN HOUSE



On Saturday October 19, 2019 the department held its annual open house. It was a great day for families to come down to Fire H.Q. and meet and talk with firefighters and climb and sit on different pieces of fire equipment.



The MA Fire District 7 Kids Safety House was there for children to learn about fire safety and the proper actions they need to take in the event of a house fire.

“Rescue University” Extrication and Stabilization Course

On Friday and Saturday October 25th & 26th 2019 members of the AFRD participated in the “Rescue University” Extrication and Stabilization course at Wyman Gordon’s in Grafton. The course sponsored by MA Fire District 7 and Firematic Supply Co. was the largest combined training ever held in the district with a little over 200 firefighters attending from several states over the two days. Members learned extrication and stabilization techniques on some of the more unique situation that could occur such as events involving heavy trucks, stacked cars, boats, etc. This specialized course runs around the country and the planning for this course in the district was over a year of planning.

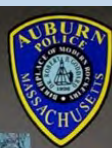


Public Safety Facilities Advisory Committee

The Town of Auburn Public Safety Facilities Advisory Committee held its first public meeting on Wednesday, November 6, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. in the Board of Selectmen's Room.

The presentations included speakers Kevin Kennedy, Committee Chairman, Auburn Fire Rescue Chief Stephen Coleman and Police Department Lieutenant Todd Lemon as well as Matt Salad and Dennis Ross from Tecton Architects and Pacheco & Ross Architects. Presentations included updates on the current state of Auburn's public safety facilities, operational challenges with existing buildings, advantages of a new facility and a question and answer session. The meeting was televised on cable channel 192, and can be viewed at ACTV YouTube channel <https://www.youtube.com/ACTVAuburnMA>.

Questions for the Public Safety Facilities Advisory Committee can be sent via email to publicsafety@town.auburn.ma.us



Tecton
ARCHITECTS

PACHECO ROSS
CES
FUSS & O'NEILL
JOHNSON ENGINEERS
RLB

AUBURN PUBLIC SAFETY

Pink Shirt Project



The AFRD once again participated in the "Pink Shirt" project to raise awareness of breast cancer. Department members wore pink tee shirts as their general uniform for the entire month of October. Money raised by the sale of the shirts was donated to "Why Me".

Cub Scout Troop 121

On Friday November 8, 2019 members of the AFRD met with Cub Scout Troop 121 to talk about First Aid and fire safety. It was an amazing night and the scouts had great



Santa Tour

On Saturday December 22, 2019 members of the AFRD for the 64th year in a row brought Santa around town to greet the children and families of Auburn. It was a cold day and night for Santa and his friends, the Grinch and Olaf but there were plenty of laughs and smiles to go around to keep the night warm.



Business and Economic Development...

Development Guides

Are you opening an

AUTO DEALERSHIP?

You will need the following:

- **Business Certificate** from the Town Clerk.
- If you are remodeling a space or building new, you will need a **building permit**.
- If you are building a new site, constructing an addition, changing the footprint of the building, or changing the parking on the site you will need to file with the Planning Board for **Site Plan Review**.
- Depending on the zoning of the proposed location you may need to file with the **Zoning Board of Appeals**.
- You will need a **Motor Vehicle Class I, II or III sales license** from the Board of Selectmen.

Suggested First Steps

- 1) Fill out a Zoning Interpretation Request (if you need guidance with Zoning/Permit Process).
- 2) Fill out a MV Class I or II license with the Board of Selectmen Office. You will need a full site plan and proof of a bond as well.
- 3) Attend a Development Coordinating Group (DCG) Meeting to collect feedback from Departments.

Please check the Project Review and Approval Process Flow Chart as well for any other potential steps. This is meant to be a guide but it is the applicants responsibility to be familiar with the Zoning and General Bylaws and any other applicable requirements from the local municipality or State.

The Economic Development Committee and the Economic Development Coordinator developed a series of development guides for prospective businesses. The development guides cover a variety of businesses and licenses such as restaurants, auto dealerships, entertainment and auto repair shops. These guides outline what steps an applicant should follow to obtain all necessary approvals to open their business. They also provide suggested first steps to make the process more user friendly. You can find the guides, along with other economic development materials, at Auburnguide.com under Economic Development.

Economic Development and Planning Grant Updates

The Town applied to the Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs in February 2019 for a Planning Assistance grant to help establish clear design guidelines for Drury Square with architectural renderings. We were extremely fortunate to have the support of dedicated CMRPC staff to help us create the guidelines. The draft design guidelines are complete and the architectural renderings are underway and should be completed in January of 2020. Once completed, the guidelines and renderings will be posted on Auburnguide.com under Economic Development.

Town Administration also received a grant from the Massachusetts Department of Housing and Community Development for Technical Assistance through their Massachusetts Downtown Initiative program for the development of a Wayfinding and Branding Project for Drury Square. Favermann Design and the Wayfinding Committee have been hard at work to design a slogan and wayfinding elements that embody the Drury Square area. The final proposal should be going before the Board of Selectmen in early 2020 for their approval. We are looking forward to implementing wayfinding elements to the downtown area.

Development Coordinating Group: A Year in Review



The Development Coordinating Group reviewed approximately 45 projects or licenses in 2019. The Development Coordinating Group (DCG) consists of representatives from municipal departments and the Water District who review proposed

site plans, events and Board of Selectmen license applications. During these meetings applicants can ask questions and departments can provide recommendations and input as to what permits or approvals will be required. The DCG meets every first and third Wednesday of the month. This group is a valuable resource for future and existing business owners. We had a busy year and look forward to reviewing more exciting projects in 2020.

Business Roundtable

Did you know if you own a business in Auburn you can have a representative attend Business Roundtable meetings? The Business Roundtable was established in 2011 in an effort to to foster communication and dialogue between the Town and the business community in order to promote business expansion, attract new businesses, retain existing industry, and create an environment in which businesses can thrive. Participants on the Business Roundtable, which consists of business and commercial/industrial property owners, presidents and general managers, provide valuable input to the Town on the strengths and challenges of doing business in Auburn, identify issues that impact business, and identify programs and/or services that would assist or enhance their operations. The Town has utilized the input of the Business Roundtable to formulate strategies to meet the needs of the business community and to stimulate economic development. The Roundtable meets quarterly and is always looking for new members. If you are interested in becoming a participant please contact the Economic Development Coordinator, Shannon **Regan**, at (sregan@town.auburn.ma.us) or (508-832-4219).



LED Streetlight Conversion Project

The Town and its project managers at Real Term Energy and Arden Engineering Contractors have nearly finalized the conversion process of Auburn's LED streetlights. From September through December, several lighting contractors were accompanied by police detail throughout town to swap out over 1,000 LED streetlights. The Town is in the process of completing wireless dimming modules on the final 10% of lights and expects to have all of the eligible LED lights automated by the end of January 2020.



LED Streetlight comparison photos taken on Sibley Street in December 2019. Note the difference in color and reduced glare.

As one of five communities, Auburn is participating in the Massachusetts Rapid Retrofit Program administered by the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC). This qualifies the Town for a 30% cost reduction on product and installation costs of the LED streetlight project courtesy of the Department of Energy Resources (DOER). The Town had previously been awarded a \$229,599 Green Communities Grant from DOER last year in addition to the 30% reduction. The true value of this grant will be determined once installation is complete, but the 30% reduction is a considerable savings that shall be directed towards additional energy efficiency projects in the future.

Please contact **Auburn Energy Manager Matthew C. Benoit** at 508-832-7721 if you have any questions about the project.



Senior Center and Elder Affairs News

Shine

Patrick Morris, certified SHINE counselor is available at the Auburn Senior Center to assist with health care options for seniors. Appointments are by appointment only, please call 508-832-7799.



Outreach

The Outreach Coordinator, Usha Verma is available Monday through Friday between 9:00am - 3:00pm to provide information and referrals for: Fuel Assistance, SNAP, Food pantries, R.U.O.K (telephone reassurance program that calls the participant each morning), transportation options, meals on wheels, benefits check-up, housing help, real estate tax exemptions, abatements, referrals to support groups for caregivers, grandparents raising their grandchildren and many more. Home visits are available for homebound individuals seeking information. All information obtained during office or home visits is confidential.

COMING SOON



Please call 508-832-7799 to register for these upcoming programs

Upcoming January Programs

January 9 at 10:30am – Dealing with stress, presented by Dr. Clermont
January 14 10:30am – Baking Class – sign up is necessary
January 15 at 10: am – Memory Loss presentation
January 23 at 11:00am – “Mary Roberts Reinhardt”, presented by Sari Bitticks
January 30 at 9:30am – Wine Glass Paining, sponsored by Brookdale Eddy Pond, sign up is necessary

Weekly events at the Auburn Senior Center - Join us!

Monday: 10:35am – Zumba (free, sponsored by BCBS); 10:30am – coloring for adults; 12:45pm – canasta; 12:45pm – movie of the week

Tuesday: 9:00am – yoga, \$3.00 donation per class; 9:30am – chair dance, \$3.00 donation; 10:45am – move and groove - \$3.00 donation; 1:00pm- strength and balance, \$3.00 donation per class; 1:00pm – whist; 6:30pm- pitch

Wednesday: 9:30am – knit and stitch; 9:30am – quilling; 10:00am – walking club – call the Senior Center for the location; 11:00am – drop in tech; 12:00pm- bridge; 1:00pm- pitch/pool; 6:00pm – cribbage; 4th Wednesday – Better Breathers at 1:00pm

Thursday: 10:00am – strength and balance, \$3.00 donation per class; 12:45pm – bingo; 1:00pm – I-pad club

Friday: 10:00am – pedal exercise; 12:00pm – quilting; 12:45 dominos; 6:30pm – pitch

1st, 3rd and 4th Friday at 11:00am – meditation class; 1st Friday at 9:30am- blood pressure clinic

thank you!

Thank you to Shaw's Supermarket of Auburn for their generous donation of breads and pastries to the Auburn Senior Center. We receive the donated goods every Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday morning. Please stop by the Senior Center for some delicious items.



Dan Clark, "The Singing Trooper" performed for the Veterans and Seniors.

Thank you Auburn/South County Elks #2118 for providing a delicious luncheon for our Veterans and Seniors. Also thank you to Senator Mike Moore and Julie Jacobson for helping to serve the lunch.



Usha Verma, Outreach Coordinator and participants in the Walking Club enjoyed an end of year luncheon

sponsored by Tufts Health Plan – with Etheal Ojeda Diaz, Community Outreach.



Thanksgiving plate painting sponsored by Brookdale Eddy Pond campus.



Christmas Party 2019



Sarah Strozina, Assistant Town Clerk and judge (L), Linda Moulin (winner) and Mary Gough AVP, Webster First Federal Credit Union and judge (R). Thank you to Webster First Federal Credit Union for providing refreshments for our Ugly Sweater party.

Ugly Sweater 2019 winner on left, Linda Moulin and runner up Teresa Chad, Bob Breault and Lynne



Bob Breault and Santa



Ugly Sweater Contest Participants 2019

News from the Auburn Public Library



Digital Sign

Digital Sign - *a reality at last!*

Many thanks for those from other Town departments and from Kaygee Signs (now Sunshine Signs) for helping to make this electronic resource happen. Funding for the sign was provided from a combination of Library-designated capital and annual budgetary appropriations, State Aid to Libraries, Trust funds, and the Friends group. The sign consistently displays temperature and time; additional Library and Town information is programmed for display on a revolving basis. Thank you to all of our patrons who passed along such enthusiastic appreciation for the sign.



Some of our upcoming programs, not including our weekly and popup programs, or those not yet scheduled are listed below. You can also view this listing from the top left column on our

Programs	
Lady J: Victorian Tea Party	STEAM Ahead: Microscopes
Beyond the Biceps: Rosie the Riveter	STEAM Ahead: Steam Powered Race Cars
Clayground: Unicorn or Dinosaur	Maggie the Clown
Young Scientist: Six-session Winter Series	The Reluctant Dragon – Puppet Show
Pysanky – Ukrainian Egg Decorating	Butterflies
50+ Job Seekers Regional Networking Group	Kite Making
Piano Concerto	The Importance of Bees
Wingmasters: Art on the Wing	Blackstone Veggie Gardens: Backyard Orchard
Wingmasters: The Other New Massachusetts Residents	Blackstone Veggie Gardens: Healthy Garden Recipes
Ron Rosenstock Photo Exhibits	Supergirl and Superman
Third Annual Library St. Patrick's Day Festival	Crocodile River
Clayground: Adults: Coffee Mug	Making a Plant Terrarium
Ted Reinstein: author visit: "Underdogs and Heroes"	Theater Workshop (ages 8 – 16)
Ted Reinstein: author visit: "Who Knew"	Wrap it up! Wrap, Scarf, and Sarong Workshop
Earthtales (children)	Snuggle with Schooner: Therapy Dog
Garden Photography	Drumlin Farm: Owls (children)
Animal Adventures: Dinosaur Relatives and Artifacts	Learn about Foster Parenting
Animal Adventures: Master's Program with Eight Premium Animals	Texting 911 and other updates and resources from the Head Dispatcher at the Auburn Police Department
Bemis Farms: Spring Swag (adults)	Learn to Play the Ukulele

Check our website, Town of Auburn Social Media, Constant Contact, Auburn Public Schools Newsletter, Auburn Mass Daily, or call the Library for information and promotional handouts.

Check often! We update and add to our program offerings on a continuous basis.

*Programs are open for registration approximately 7 days before the event.

2019 Tax Information

The Auburn Public Library offers free printing and copying to all patrons for documents and forms needed for 2019 taxes. We also provide an extensive listing of helpful Federal and State tax links from our website, in addition to offering a constantly replenished supply of pre-printed, most requested forms. As of this date, we have not received the State booklets, and it is expected that only a limited supply will be available.

*Library staff cannot provide advice on taxes, how to complete forms, referrals to tax specialists, or review any of your documents. However, the Library 'tax team' will help you locate the

Socializing while creating a beautiful winter decoration



Led by Tina from Bemis Farms, forty patrons, in two sessions, socialized, learned about types of flora and fauna, and created a beautiful bird cage winter decoration.



*Left to right: Jarad, Elizabeth, Josh, Tim, Mollie, Ellen. Not available when the photo was taken: Brandie, Dave, Christopher, Pat, and Heather

We appreciate the tremendous number of positive comments about the Library staff's t-shirts and fleece jackets!

Funding for the t-shirts and jackets was from State Aid to Libraries, a State organization that actively encourages and supports library branding and programs.

Recreation And Culture...

Recreation and Culture has had a fun filled fall. We are happy to share what we offered for the Town.

We hosted our annual Fall Festival and Homecoming on October 19 at the Auburn High School with live entertainment with Auburn Alumni Mathew Craig Benoit and Timmy Scott, free Pumpkin decorating thanks to Lungren Honda as well as children's crafts with appreciation to Home Depot. We also had kids games and rides as well as many craft and food vendors.

On Friday, December 6th at 6 pm at the Auburn Fire Station we had our 8th annual Holiday Tree lighting Featuring a sing-a-long and caroling with the Auburn High School Marching Band and Chorus as well as the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. We also had vendors new this year that offered free games and homemade mittens and headbands. In addition, we are grateful to our Auburn High School Leadership team for their help volunteering. We had Special Guest Appearance by Santa Claus coming in on the fire truck. We served hot cocoa and coffee and the cookies baked by Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School culinary arts.

On December 14th, we had our 7th annual Holiday Craft Fair held at the Auburn High School with 200 vendors sold out with artisans from Cape Cod that stayed in our hotels to be part of the annual event. We have artisans from different countries as well as local artisan's right from town.

We offer our weekly fitness classes that include Coed pick-up Basketball every Wednesday night, Piyo classes and Strength and Sculpt classes on Tuesdays and Zumba on Thursdays. Free every Wednesday is our Beach Body fitness classes. All these classes are held at the Auburn High School. We also offer unified floor hockey and unified basketball on Wednesday nights at Swanson Road Intermediate School.

Our two Coed Adult Sunday soccer leagues played as long as possible until the bitter cold came. Thank you to Shanna Costa and Brian Quitadamo for being league coordinators and thank you to Tim Paquette for assigning the Referees.

We hosted a couple golf tournaments this fall along with our new formed leagues and weekly golf lessons with our golf pro Rick Karbowski. Currently our Pakachoag Golf Course clubhouse is open Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday's 9-4pm for pro shop items, memberships and gift cards.

We are looking forward to a great 2020 with a lot of great events and offerings for our community.



Question or comments? Contact us at townmgr@town.auburn.ma.us or call (508) 832-7720.

To subscribe to the quarterly municipal newsletter, *The Auburn Account*, visit our website to submit an electronic sign-up form or [click here](#). Our next edition will be released in April 2020.

