



# The Auburn Account

**SELECT BOARD APPOINTS ASSISTANT TOWN MANAGER/CFO ED KAZANOVICZ AS NEXT TOWN MANAGER EFFECTIVE UPON RETIREMENT OF TOWN MANAGER JULIE JACOBSON IN EARLY 2023; CONFIRMS TODD LEMON AS PERMANENT POLICE CHIEF**

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Auburn Town Hall  
104 Central Street  
Auburn, MA 01501  
[www.auburnguide.com](http://www.auburnguide.com)



On May 9<sup>th</sup>, the Select Board voted to appoint Assistant Town Manager/CFO Ed Kazanovicz as the next Town Manager, to become effective upon



the retirement of Town Manager Julie Jacobson in early 2023.

On June 13<sup>th</sup>, the Select Board voted to confirm the appointment of Todd Lemon as the next Chief of Police.



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## 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: 2022 Election information, Mary D. Stone Apartments Grand Opening, Auburn WooSox Night, Auburn Public Library Programs, Recreation Programs, and much, much more...**

## **ASSISTANT TOWN MANAGER/CFO ED KAZANOVICZ APPOINTED NEXT TOWN MANAGER EFFECTIVE UPON RETIREMENT OF TOWN MANAGER JULIE JACOBSON IN EARLY 2023**



On May 9<sup>th</sup>, the Select Board appointed Assistant Town Manager/CFO Ed Kazanovicz as the next Town Manager to become effective upon the retirement of Town Manager Julie Jacobson in early 2023.

Ed has worked for the Town of Auburn for 27 years and has worn multiple hats, many simultaneously: Assistant Town Manager, Chief Financial Officer, Town Accountant (until 1 year ago) and, as the Chief Financial Officer, oversees the Town Accountant's Office, Treasurer/Collector's Office and Assessor's Office

Under Ed's direction, Auburn continues to have strong budgetary performance results and maintains a strong fund balance which has been recognized through our very positive independent audit results. The Town has continued to have steady increases in all reserve account balances. Town administration's multi-year commitment to increase Free Cash, Excess Levy, the Stabilization Fund and Reserves has continued. Over the past twelve years, by budgeting well

under Proposition 2 ½ levy limits and not taxing to the maximum allowed, town administration has saved the taxpayers of the community \$49,626,363 through FY22.

Over the past ten years, the Town has received two bond rating upgrades and continues its AA+ rating from Standard & Poor's, which is one step from the highest rating that a municipality can receive, enabling the Town to borrow at much reduced interest rates. The rating from Standard & Poor's, as well as the Aa2 rating from Moody's Investor Services, reflects the Town's strong management practices, increased reserves, adoption and implementation of these key financial policies, Five Year Budget Forecasts and Multi-Year Capital Projections, as well as implementation of reforms with an emphasis on fiscal discipline.

Ed drafted the written Financial Policies that were adopted by the Select Board and the Finance Committee. Town administration continues to adhere to these approved financial policies that enable us to build reserves, fund many capital needs without borrowing, and address long-term pension and healthcare liabilities while providing a framework for budgeting. Annually,

Annually, Ed prepares the 5 Year CIP, 5 Year Budget Forecasts, and the Operating Budget. He has overseen the administration of over 320 grants since 2011. With the Town Manager, he participates in negotiations with all municipal collective bargaining contracts which includes costs analysis of each proposal. Since 2011, has participated in negotiations for 43 Collective Bargaining Contracts. In addition to his financial prowess, as Assistant Town Manager he is involved in human resource matters, economic development, green energy initiatives and community event planning, to name but a few areas in which he is experienced.

Town Manager Julie Jacobson will work with Assistant Town Manager/CFO Kazanovicz over the coming months to ensure a smooth transition upon her retirement at the termination of her contract at the end of January 2023.

Ed and his wife Tracy have three daughters: Jessica, Karli and Brooke.

Congratulations, Ed!





# PROVISIONAL CHIEF TODD R. LEMON APPOINTED PERMANENT CHIEF OF POLICE



Police Chief Todd Lemon being sworn into office by Town Clerk Debra Gremo. Chief Lemon's son, Corey, pinned him.

On June 13<sup>th</sup>, the Select Board confirmed the appointment of Todd Lemon as Auburn's new Chief of Police. Per the Town Charter, the Town Manager is the appointing authority and the Select Board confirms the appointments of department heads. On June 14<sup>th</sup>, Chief Lemon was sworn into office by Town Clerk Debra Gremo. Chief Lemon's son, Corey, pinned him.

The swearing in ceremony was well attended. Law enforcement officials from across the region, elected officials, Court officials, District Attorney's office and family members joined members of the Auburn Police Department and other Town employees to congratulate Chief Lemon. State Representative Paul Frost, Chair of the Auburn Select Board Scott Wrenn, District Attorney Joseph Early, Clerk Magistrate Brian D'Andrea, Assistant Clerk Magistrate Paul Johnson, Judge Janet McGuiggan, former Secretary of Public Safety Tom Turco, Doreen Goodrich, former Chair of the

Select Board and Director of Constituent Services for Senator Michael Moore, and many area police chiefs attended the ceremony at Town Hall.

Following the retirement of former Police Chief Andrews Sluckis, Jr. at the end of January, then-Lieutenant Todd Lemon was appointed to the position of Provisional Chief of Police effective February 1<sup>st</sup> by Town Manager Julie Jacobson. As the Auburn Police Department is a Civil Service organization, the permanent appointment of the Chief is subject to Civil Service regulations. As such, an Assessment Center was held in mid-April for the position of Police Chief. Provisional Chief Lemon scored very well in the Assessment Center and, following Civil Service review and processing, was cleared by Civil Service to be on the list for permanent promotion to Police Chief.

Chief Lemon has been in law enforcement for 34 years. He has been with the Auburn Police Department for 27 years and was promoted to Lieutenant in August of 2016. During the tenure of retired Chief Sluckis, then-Lieutenant Lemon served as Acting Chief on several occasions. Chief Lemon has demonstrated strong management skills, his vision for the department, and extensive knowledge and training in all areas of law enforcement. In a few short months as the provisional leader of the police department, Chief Lemon instituted best practices in areas of staff development, citizen engagement, uniform protocols, and organizational structure so that the Auburn Police Department is well positioned for the many challenges and opportunities facing law enforcement agencies in both the short-term and long-term. He has prioritized the focus of the department over the next few months as well to include organizational structure and staff development, school safety and school resource officer, re-establishing the K9 program, and – as always – safety of the community and personnel.

Chief Lemon has been a member of the Central Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council SWAT team in its early stages. He went on to become the Team Leader for the CEMLEC Motorcycle Unit and is the Control Chief overseeing the Motorcycle Unit, which is comprised of motor units from sixty-four (64) towns in the Commonwealth. Chief Lemon has taught Defensive Tactics and Use of Force and Firearms instruction at various police academies across the Commonwealth.

On a personal note, Chief Lemon is married with two children. His son Corey is a Firefighter/Paramedic for the Town of Holden, his daughter Carlie is an ICU/Trauma Nurse at Mount Auburn Hospital in Cambridge, and his wife Marlene is a Senior Buyer at Karl Storz in Auburn.

Congratulations, Chief Lemon!



## AUBURN NIGHT AT THE WOOSOX



Throughout the 2022 season, the Worcester Red Sox (“WooSox”) host different towns in Central and Western Massachusetts at Polar Park in Worcester for “Town Takeover” nights. Tickets purchased for each “Town Takeover” night benefit a non-profit organization that benefits that town and/or broader community. At the end of the season, the town with the largest turnout will be rewarded with a trophy and special recognition.

The Woosox hosted “Auburn Night” at Polar Park on June 15, 2022 with the Ronald Tarentino, Jr. Charitable Fund as the beneficiary of ticket purchases. The Ronald J. Tarentino Charitable Fund was established in 2018 to honor Police Officer Ronald Tarentino, Jr.’s memory. On May 22, 2016 Auburn Police Officer Tarentino was tragically killed in the line of duty while conducting a traffic stop in Auburn. At the time of his death, Officer Tarentino had been on the Auburn Police Department for two years. Before coming to Auburn, he had been on the Town of

Leicester Police Department for seven years. The Officer Ronald Tarentino, Jr. Charitable Fund has a multi-purpose focus:

***Acts of Kindness*** — *The Fund seeks to help alleviate the physical and emotional burden of those who suffer from a serious illness, injury, or loss by providing assistance to their families in their time of need.*

***Acts of Generosity*** — *The Fund seeks to offer scholarships to high school seniors for higher education who have demonstrated a commitment to their community, to their education, and to a future role in a field of service to others.*

***Service to the Community*** — *The Fund seeks to physically support other first responder & military non- profit organizations that offer similar support of families.*

Auburn Night at the Woosox kicked off with the Auburn Fire Rescue Department and Auburn Police Department joint Color Guard presenting the colors for the National Anthem and 15-year-old Auburn High School sophomore Kweku Akese singing the National Anthem. Auburn High School senior Amalia Zorena carried the ‘Ball to the Mound’ for the ceremonial first pitches.

The Town of Auburn recognized and thanked its first responders, public health division and school nurses for their dedication to the community, especially during the Covid pandemic which made their jobs even more challenging. Honored by the Woosox, Auburn’s Hometown Heroes throwing out the ceremonial first pitches included:



Auburn Fire Chief Stephen Coleman has been in the MA Fire Service for 30 years and has been serving as the Chief of the Auburn Fire Rescue Department for the past 11 years. Chief Coleman and all the members of the Auburn Fire Rescue Department worked tirelessly through the Covid pandemic to ensure that the Fire Rescue Department continued to provide quality services and exceptional emergency response to the Auburn community. In addition to emergency response, the Auburn Fire Rescue Department provides education, training and outreach to the Auburn community through its Bureau of Community Risk Reduction. We thank the Chief and all the members of the Auburn Fire Rescue Department!

Leah Gauthier began in the Auburn Public Schools as the school nurse at the Bryn Mawr School. Over the past several years, Leah became the lead nurse for the Auburn Public Schools and helped to guide the district through the COVID 19 pandemic with patience and grace. Leah has two children, Cozette who is in the third grade and Elijah who is in 5th grade. Thank you to Leah for all she has done for the Auburn Public Schools and thanks to all of our school nurses!

Eileen Alexander is the Assistant Health Director with the Town of Auburn, and has been a loyal employee for 8 years. She was instrumental in our COVID response since the onset of the Covid pandemic. She generously accepted the role as the COVID Coordinator for our community, working non-stop, day and night, weekends and holidays to ensure that our residents, town employees, schools, businesses and so many others had the advisement they needed to protect their health and to prevent the spread of COVID-19. This municipal employee “stepped up to the plate” without hesitation to save lives. The Town of Auburn is proud to have Eileen and our entire Division of Public Health “on our team”. Thank you, Eileen!!

Officer John O’Brien has been a patrolman for the Auburn Police Department for 22 years and has recently taken on the role as the new School Resource Officer. We thank Officer O’Brien and the entire Auburn Police Department for their dedication and excellent service to the Auburn community!

Dr. Beth Chamberland joined the Auburn Public Schools in 2010 as the Principal of the Bryn Mawr Elementary School. In 2019, Dr. Chamberland became the Assistant Superintendent before becoming Superintendent in April 2022. Dr. Chamberland has been a vital part of Auburn’s COVID response team and we can not thank her enough for her dedication!

Auburn Night at the Woosox was a great night for Auburn residents, school and town employees. The stadium was beautiful under a warm summer sky and the energy was contagious. Collectively, we would like to thank the Woosox for hosting the Town of Auburn at Polar Park and look forward to another night at Polar Park!



# MARY D. STONE APARTMENTS ON COVER OF SENIORS HOUSING BUSINESS MAGAZINE



The Mary D. Stone Apartments were featured on the cover and in an article in Seniors Housing Business, The Magazine for Seniors Housing Real Estate and Operations. The article, titled “Developers Reinvent Adaptive Reuse”, included an interview with Charlie Adams, Regional Vice President of Pennrose, LLC., the developer of the Mary D. Stone Apartments.

“The role the Town plays in these projects is really significant,” says Adams. They took the initiative. They wanted something to happen with these buildings. They really embraced the concepts and helped us get through zoning and approvals.”

Town administration thanks Mr. Adams and the entire Pennrose development team for their dedication and commitment to the redevelopment of the former Mary D. Stone elementary school. The project successfully blended the old with the new, respecting and preserving a part of Auburn’s history.

Thank you, Pennrose!

*The Magazine for Seniors Housing Real Estate and Operations*

## NEW PLAYGROUND EQUIPMENT AT TWO FORMER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FIELDS



Town administration is excited to announce that two playgrounds have been replaced with new equipment. The new playground equipment was installed in June at the Mary D. Stone playground and at the Julia Bancroft playground to the delight of neighborhood children and parents.

Pennrose, LLC., the purchaser and developer of the former Mary D. Stone and Julia Bancroft Elementary Schools, committed to proving the Town with \$50,000 towards the purchase of new playground equipment at both town fields (\$25,000 per playground). However, due to supply chain

issues and rising costs, the cost of the playground equipment far exceeded initial estimates. Pennrose then committed an additional \$25,000 towards the purchase of the new equipment, providing a total of \$75,000.

Senator Michael Moore and Representative Paul Frost advocated for funding in the FY22 State Budget for Auburn’s playgrounds. As a result of their advocacy, Auburn received State grant funding totaling \$75,000 that was used towards the purchase of the playground equipment at the Mary D. Stone and Julia Bancroft playgrounds.

Each playground cost \$75,000 for a total investment of \$150,000.

We thank Senator Moore, Representative Frost for their support and we thank Pennrose, LLC., and its Regional Vice President Charlie Adams, for their generosity!



## 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:

Scott C. Wrenn (Chairman)

28 Loring St

Cell: 508-340-5896

Email: [swrenn@town.auburn.ma.us](mailto:swrenn@town.auburn.ma.us)

Daniel Carpenter

33 Goulding Drive

Cell: 508-277-9519

Email: [dcarpenter@town.auburn.ma.us](mailto:dcarpenter@town.auburn.ma.us)

Steven Chambers

61 Bancroft Street

(508) 287-4837

Email: [schambers@town.auburn.ma.us](mailto:schambers@town.auburn.ma.us)

Sarah Rufli

32 Waterman Road

Cell: 619-729-6769

Email: [skchilson@gmail.com](mailto:skchilson@gmail.com)





## ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION

The Annual Election was Tuesday, May 17, 2022. It is the third Tuesday in May annually. Polls were open from eight o'clock AM to eight o'clock PM. We had 7% turnout this year with 2022 casting ballots out of the 12407 registered voters. Complete details for all candidates and Town Meeting Member results are posted on Town Clerk's website. <https://www.auburnguide.com/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/1528>

### **ELECTION RESULTS WINNERS MAY 17, 2022**

#### **HOUSING AUTHORITY MEMBER FOR FIVE YEARS**

ROSE M. TURNER

#### **LIBRARY TRUSTEES, AUBURN FREE PUBLIC FOR 3 YEARS**

JON F. DANILOWICZ

#### **LIBRARY TRUSTEES, AUBURN FREE PUBLIC FOR 2 YEAR**

VERA KIRRAANE

#### **MODERATOR FOR 1 YEAR**

CHESTER S. STENCEL, JR

#### **SCHOOL COMMITTEE FOR 3 YEARS**

SAMANTHA M. RAPHAEL

#### **SCHOOL COMMITTEE FOR 2 YEARS**

BROOKE L. WRENN

#### **BOARD OF SELECTMEN FOR 3 YEARS**

STEVEN CHAMBERS

#### **SWCRVSC 3 YEARS**

GEORGE A. SCOBIE, JR.



The list of current Town Meeting Members can be view at:

<https://www.auburnguide.com/DocumentCenter/View/3055/Town-Meeting-Members?bidId=>

## BECOME AN ELECTION WORKER!

The Town Clerk's Office is looking for enthusiastic individuals who want to work at the elections. There is no guarantee of an appointment, but positions are expected to be open. Contact the Town Clerk at (508) 832-7701 or at [dgremo@town.auburn.ma.us](mailto:dgremo@town.auburn.ma.us)

Interested Applicants must be:

- Registered to vote in Auburn

#### **Reasons to become an Auburn Election Worker**

- You'll work side-by-side with your neighbors and meet new people.
- You'll play a vital role in the democratic process to elect our leaders.
- Your community needs you.
- Auburn must recruit more election workers every year, 2022 remaining elections State Primary and General Election
- It's a great opportunity to help people, serve your community and have fun doing it.
- Snacks are provided (pastries and coffee)
- Learn how elections actually work. Earn \$10.00 per hour.



## ELECTIONS - 2022!

ELECTION	DAY OF ELECTION	DEADLINE TO REGISTER
State Primary	Tuesday, September 6, 2022	Saturday, August 27, 2022
State Election	Tuesday, November 08, 2022	Saturday, October 29, 2022



**Your enrollment as a voter will affect the primary in which you can vote  
September 6, 2022 State Primary**

If you are enrolled in one of the political parties shown below you will only be able to vote that party's ballot

**D – Democratic Party      R – Republican Party**

**Unenrolled voters and voters who are members of a Political Designation  
(Unenrolled formally known as independent)**

**CAN CHOOSE WHICH PARTY'S BALLOT THEY WOULD LIKE TO VOTE**

**Early voting will be offered this year both by mail and in person**

**For more information on early voting: [Elections: Absentee Voting \(state.ma.us\)](https://www.elections.state.ma.us/absentee-voting)**

### ELECTIONS

Need to check your voter registration?

**Not registered? You can register online: <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ovr/>**

**Wondering what party you are registered in?**

**Check your voter registration status :<http://www.sec.state.ma.us/VoterRegistrationSearch/MyVoterRegStatus.aspx>**

Want to know about upcoming events and information?

You can sign up on the town website [www.auburnguide.com](http://www.auburnguide.com) Notify Me

<https://www.auburnguide.com/list.aspx?Mode=Subscribe#newsFlash>

## CENSUS – 2022 ANNUAL STREET LISTING

Notices were recently sent out to residents at the beginning of June for anyone that has not answered the census. If you have received a notice, please sign and return if you are still living in town or if someone in your household has moved, please forward to them to sign so we can remove as a voter.

The census was mailed to every household in early January and needs to be signed and sent back every year; even if all the information is correct. Although you pay a bill to another department, this does not update your census. We need to confirm, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Ch.51, s.4, all residents living in Auburn. Notices were just mailed out for anyone that did not answer the census.

If you are new to the town, you can print the form and mail in:

<https://www.auburnguide.com/DocumentCenter/View/478/Annual-Street-Listing-Form-PDF?bidId=>

## DOG LICENSES

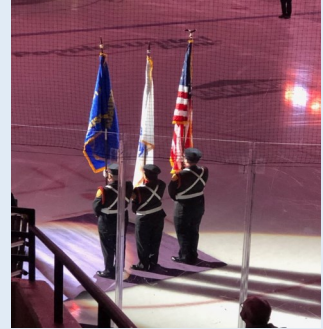
Late fees for licensing dogs went into effect May 1<sup>st</sup>. In addition to the dog license fee of \$15.00 for spay/neutered dogs or \$20.00 for male/female dogs there is a \$10.00 late fee. If you have not licensed your dog as of March 31<sup>st</sup> and licensed your dog the previous year. New fees late fees went it affect as of January 1, 2022. Any person seventy (70) years of age or older, upon proof of age, shall be exempt from the annual fee for one dog, per household, per year.

Licenses can be paid on line through the website with an updated rabies certificates on file.  
[https://www.mapsonline.net/auburnma/dog\\_licensing](https://www.mapsonline.net/auburnma/dog_licensing)



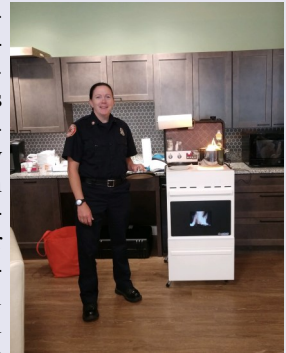
## AFRD HONOR GUARD

The AFRD Honor Guard has been busy participating in several events both in and out of town. In recent months they have presented the colors for the National Anthem at both the Boston Bruins and Worcester Railers hockey games, The Worcester Red Sox and participated in the opening ceremonies for the Special Olympics Unified Games at the Auburn High School. Our Honor Guard members are extremely dedicated to this unit and drill monthly. Several of the unit members have travelled to the CT Fire Academy for an intense one week training presented by the National Honor Guard Academy which travels the country training honor guard members of police and fire departments.



## KITCHEN FIRE SAFETY PROGRAM

COVID-19 certainly stopped our efforts to get out to the community and talk with groups on issues that affect certain at risk population. It felt great to get back out there on June 12th and start delivering fire education programs again. FF Tess DiDonato who heads our Senior Citizen Education programs within the Bureau of Community Risk Reduction (BCRR) visited the residents at the new Mary D. Stone Apartments on Church St. and delivered a kitchen fire safety program. The BCRR works closely with the Senior Center and Council on Aging to address issues and concerns with our seniors. Educational programs such as medication safety, fall prevention and home fire safety just to name a few are offered several times per year. We also offer blood pressure clinics and install working smoke detectors if requested. The goal of the BCRR is to be available to our seniors to address questions and concerns they may have and to provide quality educational programs and information to reduce their risk of injury.



## RETIREMENT OF FORMER CALL FIRE CAPTAIN JEFF MITCHELL



On Friday April 8<sup>th</sup> the AFRD was finally able to celebrate the retirement of former Call Fire Captain Jeff Mitchell.

Two years after his official retirement the Captains party plans were derailed in 2020 due to COVID-19. It was great to see so many faces from the past and to officially honor Captain Mitchell for his 45 years of service to the Town of Auburn as a call firefighter.



## AUBURN POLICE OUTREACH

In November of 2020, the Office of Worcester County District Attorney Joseph D. Early Jr. began an Overdose Response Program for Worcester County funded by a federal grant from the Federal Bureau of Justice Assistance. The program, Critical Incident Management System (CIMS), has been used by local police since that time to collect overdose data. Recently, this grant funding has added partnerships with three local community agencies so all police departments in the county will have access to overdose recovery coaches to perform follow-up visits with overdose victims. The CIMS program strives to have a plain clothes police officer, accompanied by a recovery coach conduct follow-up visits within 48 hours of an overdose to offer services and a pathway to treatment.

Since March of 2020 the Auburn Police has participated in this initiative by entering all overdose data into the CIMS portal, but did not have an outreach partner to provide the assistance of a recovery coach. This recent grant funding allowed the Auburn Police Department to collaborate with Family Continuity of Whitinsville, MA to provide recovery coaches for follow-up visits. Family Continuity also offers a Youth Diversion Coordinator and Mental Health Professionals. The Youth Diversion Program is funded by the Department of Youth Services and allows police, in some circumstances, to refer youth ages 12-17 to the diversion program for some delinquency cases rather than the juvenile court. The Mental Health professionals would provide assistance and guidance in dealing with persons in crises and allow us to better respond to their needs. The Auburn Police has already begun the recovery coach program and will participate in additional meetings to commence these additional valuable initiatives to better serve our community.

## STRUCTURAL COLLAPSE TRAINING



On April 13<sup>th</sup> Firefighter Skylar Stafford, a member of the District 7 Technical Rescue Team attended a structural collapse training at Joint Base Cape Cod with other members of the district team and tech rescue members from across the state. This is critical training for members of the districts technical rescue team who along with members of districts 8 and 14 make up the Central MA Technical Rescue Team. At any time the members of the Central MA team could be called into action within the commonwealth or beyond and asked to function with other tech teams from New England and across the US.

## LAST CALL FOUNDATION



Firefighter/Paramedic Travis Parisi took to the streets of Hopkinton this year running the Boston Marathon for a cause close to his heart. On April 18<sup>th</sup> FF Parisi tackled the 126<sup>th</sup> running of the Boston Marathon raising money for the "Last Call Foundation" in memory of Boston Firefighter Michael Kennedy who lost his life in 2014 fighting a fire in the Back Bay. Money raised for the foundation goes to research to enhance firefighter safety.

## WORCESTER RED SOX



On June 1<sup>st</sup> our own Tess DiDonato, a 16 year veteran of the AFRD was honored by the Worcester Red Sox for her almost 3 decades of service in Emergency Medical Services. Tess has been a fixture in the Central MA EMS system for 29 years. We are so proud of her and the contributions she has made to this department and the Town of Auburn for many years.

## GRAND OPENING MARY D. STONE APARTMENTS



**Ribbon-cutting ceremony was held on the front lawn of the Mary D. Stone Apartments on a beautiful spring morning!**

The Town of Auburn recently celebrated the grand opening of the Mary D. Stone Apartments with a ribbon-cutting ceremony on May 5, 2022. Attendees and speakers included Lt. Governor Karyn Polito, Congressman Jim McGovern, Representative Paul Frost, Selectboard Chair Tristan Laliberte Doreen Goodrich, Director of Constituent Services for Senator Michael Moore and former Slect Board Chair Doreen Goodrich, other state and town officials and many Auburn residents. The success of this historic redevelopment would not have been possible without the support and partnership of Pennrose Properties, the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and federal officials. The Mary D. Stone Apartments are a great example of the collaboration necessary between government bodies to accomplish a project of this importance.

The Redevelopment of Mary D. Stone School has been years in the making. The school closed in 2015, and it remained vacant until after the redevelopment project was finished in late 2021. Forty-five of the units were offered as affordable units to limited-income seniors, and in April 2022, the building reached 100% occupancy. The second phase of this collaboration will see Julia Bancroft School redeveloped as senior housing, for which construction is expected to be completed Autumn of 2022. The redevelopment of the two schools is crucial in helping Auburn meet demand for both mixed-income and senior housing!

**Town Planner Adam Menard; Economic Development Coordinator Brooke Hultgren; Town Manager Julie Jacobson; and Congressman Jim McGovern.**



# FACE COVERING ADVISORY



## The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

Executive Office of Health and Human Services  
Department of Public Health  
250 Washington Street, Boston, MA 02108-4619

CHARLES D. BAKER  
Governor

KARYN E. POLITO  
Lieutenant Governor

MARYLOU SUDDERS  
Secretary  
MARGRET R. COOKE  
Acting Commissioner

Tel: 617-624-6000  
[www.mass.gov/dph](http://www.mass.gov/dph)

### ADVISORY REGARDING FACE COVERINGS

**This Advisory has been updated as of June 10, 2022**

The Department of Public Health urges all eligible residents to get vaccinated and stay up to date on COVID vaccinations including when eligible for booster doses. Vaccination remains the most effective protection against serious illness, hospitalization, and death.

Effective July 1, 2022, the Department of Public Health advises individuals should wear a mask or face covering when indoors (and not in your own home) if you have a weakened immune system, or if you are at increased risk for severe disease because of your age or an underlying medical condition, or if someone in your household has a weakened immune system or is at increased risk for severe disease.

As a reminder, there are multiple conditions that may put someone at higher risk for severe disease; information on those conditions can be found on the [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's website](#). Your primary care provider can advise you whether you are at increased risk.

Individuals who are considered close contacts or who have tested positive must follow the [isolation and quarantine guidance](#) which includes wearing a mask in public for 5 more days after they leave isolation or quarantine on day 5, regardless of vaccination status.

All people in Massachusetts (regardless of vaccination status) are **required to continue wearing face coverings in certain settings**, including health care facilities. Please see [www.mass.gov/maskrules](http://www.mass.gov/maskrules) for a complete list of venues where face coverings remain required.

When you wear a face covering or cloth mask, it should:

- Be the highest quality mask that is comfortable and that you will wear consistently,
- Fit snugly but comfortably against the side of the face,
- Be secured with ties or ear loops,
- Include multiple layers of fabric,
- Allow for breathing without restriction, and
- Be able to be laundered and machine dried without damage or change to shape.

For more information, please refer to the [CDC website](#). This advisory may change based on public health data and further guidance from the CDC.





**Clean and green up part of the Blackstone River Watershed!**

**Saturday August 27, 2022**

**8 am-5 pm**

Along the banks of the Blackstone River, the American Industrial Revolution was born, and the Blackstone became known as America's "hardest working river." From its headwaters in Worcester, Massachusetts, to the Pawtucket Falls in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, the Blackstone River and its tributaries were home to over one hundred mills and mill villages, making it one of the busiest industrial areas in the United States.

But industrialization caused problems, and by the 1960s the Blackstone was one of the most polluted rivers in the country. However, the local people did not stand by and let their river be

a sewer. A grassroots group, later named ZAP!, worked hard to stop further pollution of the river and to remove the garbage that others had dumped. Their work paid off, and the river's health keeps getting better.

The Blackstone River is now home to more than twenty species of fish and aquatic mammals like beavers and river otters. Snapping turtles and a variety of birds have also returned. Once America's hardest working river, today the Blackstone is a place of recreation, reflection, and renewal.

Events will be happening all day watershed-wide from Rhode Island to Massachusetts.

Visit [www.zaptheblackstone.com](http://www.zaptheblackstone.com) for additional information and sign up to volunteer!



# CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION

## Survey cont.

**Where is your primary residence?  
(Town name)**

**What is your race or ethnicity?  
(Circle all that apply)**

- ☐ Asian  
☐ Black or African American  
☐ Hispanic or Latino  
☐ Middle Eastern or North African  
☐ Native American or Alaska Native  
☐ Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander  
☐ White or Caucasian  
☐ Another race or ethnicity:

**What is your current age?**

- ☐ Under 18    ☐ 50-59  
☐ 18-29    ☐ 60-69  
☐ 30-39    ☐ 70-79  
☐ 40-49    ☐ 80-89  
             ☐ 90 or older

**Thank you for taking the survey! Stay updated by providing your email below or by visiting [cmrprcregionalservices.org/Imagine2050](http://cmrprcregionalservices.org/Imagine2050)**

**I'd like to join the mailing list and see our plan come to life:**

Email:



## About Imagine 2050

Imagine 2050 is a region-wide comprehensive planning initiative that will establish long-range strategies for the 40-community region.

Working directly with stakeholders, CMRPC will facilitate development of the community-driven plan set to finalize in FY '24. The project aims to identify the resources, problems, possibilities, and needs of the region to inform a plan to improve the welfare and prosperity of those who live, work, and visit Central Mass.

## About CMRPC

CMRPC is the designated planning entity for Central Mass. CMRPC provides a variety of planning services to our community with an emphasis on regionalization. CMRPC's services include Regional Collaboration and Community Planning, Transportation, Homeland Security, and Geographic Information Systems.

## Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission

1 Mercantile Street, Suite 520  
Worcester, MA 01608  
508.756.7717  
[www.cmrpc.org](http://www.cmrpc.org)

@CentralMassRPC  
 CentralMassPlanning  
 /CMRPC



[cmrprcregionalservices.org/Imagine2050](http://cmrprcregionalservices.org/Imagine2050)

## Spring 2022 Survey!

Here in Central Massachusetts we are planning our Comprehensive Regional Plan: Imagine 2050! This plan will be a guide for future funding and planning priorities for the Central Massachusetts region. We want your feedback on what matters to YOU.



Take the paper survey  
OR scan this QR code  
for the mobile survey

Allow us to set the scene: we are Imagining our ideal 2050. This survey does not include budgetary restrictions, project delays, or compromises. Complete your rankings by considering which priorities most align with your values.

## Survey Purpose

These survey results will be used to articulate a vision for Imagine 2050. Stay tuned for more surveys & opportunities to engage: [cmrprcregionalservices.org/Imagine2050](http://cmrprcregionalservices.org/Imagine2050)

## By 2050, I Imagine a Central Massachusetts with...



## ECONOMY

Local economic development & workforce development

**Rank the following 1-10  
(1 = most important funding priority)**

- ☐ Many small, local businesses  
☐ Vibrant town centers  
☐ Walkable, mixed-use areas  
☐ Distribution centers  
☐ Career-centered technical schools  
☐ Support for work from home  
☐ Investment in tourist attractions  
☐ Diverse housing options  
☐ Decreased regulations on businesses  
☐ Expanded industry clusters (biotechnology, healthcare, education, infrastructure)

Other Comments:



## ENVIRONMENT

Local intersections of all living species, climate, & resources

**Rank the following 1-10  
(1 = most important funding priority)**

- ☐ Open space conservation  
☐ A thriving local food system & farms  
☐ Lots of renewable energy use  
☐ Many trails throughout the region  
☐ Environmental education in schools  
☐ Reduced greenhouse gas emissions  
☐ Many recreational opportunities  
☐ Preparedness for the local impacts of climate change  
☐ Clean waterways & good stormwater management  
☐ Clean air, water, & soil

Other Comments:



## EQUITY

Consistent & systematic fair and impartial treatment

**Rank the following 1-10  
(1 = most important funding priority)**

- ☐ Housing that is affordable  
☐ Cheap & convenient public transportation  
☐ Health care for all income levels  
☐ Promotion of healthy living/preventative care  
☐ Transparent local government  
☐ Access to healthy food for all  
☐ Broad accessibility for those w/ disabilities  
☐ Geographic fairness of regional benefits  
☐ Equal access to education (regardless of race, income, and location)  
☐ Engaged & inclusive community leadership

Other Comments:



## OWLET UPDATE FROM ANIMAL CONTROL



We have wonderful news to share – the owlets from Rochdale Street have been rescued! Get ready, because it's a roller coaster of a story that needs to be read in its entirety to even believe it.

On Tuesday, May 17, 2022 Animal Control was called to a property on Rochdale Street for a possibly injured owl. The homeowners had witnessed an owl fall from a tree on their property and after monitoring it, they noted that it was not able to fly. Animal Control responded to the property and was able to capture the injured owl, which was an adult Barred Owl, and

transport it to Tufts Wildlife Clinic for medical assessment and treatment.

While discussing the owl rescue with the Town's Solid Waste and Recycling Coordinator, Collen Hynes, Colleen mentioned that she had also seen a deceased owl on Rochdale Street that morning while on the road. Up until this point, the deceased owl had not been reported to the town as having been hit by a car or as being deceased in the road. Animal Control responded to the area and found the deceased bird - another adult Barred Owl, which was less than ¼ mile away from where the injured owl was picked up earlier that same morning. Upon examination of the deceased owl, a brood patch was found on its abdomen. A brood patch is a featherless area on the abdomen of a bird which is used to incubate eggs – in the case of Barred Owls, this only exists on a female. Animal Control was able to determine that the deceased Barred Owl was a female that had, at the very least, incubated eggs at some point this season. Finding these two owls so closely together seemed unlikely to just be a coincidence and after discussing the situation with owl experts, it was deemed likely that this was a mated pair which meant there was a potential for now orphaned owlets in the area.

Rochdale Street is one of the last heavily wooded areas in town so a nest could have been anywhere and owls are born with the perfect camouflage to protect themselves. A plea went out on Facebook for residents of the Rochdale Street and West Street area to be on the lookout for any active Barred Owl nests or for any owlets in the area. The original homeowners, the Milinazzo family, that found the injured owl on their property were also contacted and asked to be on the lookout, in the off chance a nest was nearby.

At almost 10:00 PM on Wednesday night, the Milinazzo family reached back out to Animal Control to say that they found the owlets on their property. They were in a heavily wooded area, high in the trees, and calling to one another – and to their parents that could not no longer respond to help or feed them. This would prove for a challenging rescue as the owlets were 35+ feet in the trees, so Animal Control reached out to Jessica Zorge-Perna from Raptor Tales Rescue of Shrewsbury for assistance as this rescue would require technical tree climbing.

The following morning, Thursday, Jessica was able to connect Animal Control with tree climber Andrew Joslin to begin the rescue efforts. This technical rescue involved multiple trees and setting multiple lines, which is a lengthy process when done correct and safely. The first owlet proved to be a fairly easy rescue - Andrew was able to net the owlet from the tree and lower it down to Animal Control. The next rescue attempt was more challenging. After going into the second tree to attempt to capture two owlets that were staying close together, we learned that they were capable of flight between the trees and were evading us. While setting a new line in the tree they migrated to, another owl was found about 30 feet away from where Animal Control and Andrew were working, perched on a fallen branch. The calling of the first owl that was rescued (while it was caged on the ground) actually brought this owlet to the ground and closer to where they were working and it was easily captured.



This owlet was initially in one of the highest branches of one of the tallest trees on the property and would have not been easily accessible.

With two owls captured, focus returned to the remaining pair. With further coordination from Jessica, a second climber, Jesse Brad was able to respond to the scene for additional support. For the third rescue, Andrew was able to harass the owlet from above while Jesse was able to work the owlet from below and they were able to drive it to the ground, where Animal Control was able to capture it.

The fourth owlet proved to be tricky. It was the best flyer and had flown into a heavily leafed sugar maple nearby but could not be seen. After working on the property for hours, it was now sundown and without a visual on the owlet, the decision was made to call the rescue for the night and return the next day. However, a mere minutes after the decision was made, the owlet decided to finally make its presence known and it flew to ground about 40 feet away from where everyone was standing. The team flew into action and the owlet was captured on the ground and reunited with its siblings.

Jessica and her husband, Nick Perna, met everyone on scene and Jessica was able to give the owlets a quick health assessment before transporting them. Although all of the owlets were hungry and underweight, they were in overall good condition. The plan was to renest two of the strongest owlets in a known, active nest with similarly aged owlets on Friday. The parents would not have been able to support all four owlets plus their own, so it left two of the Auburn owlets without immediate placement. Due to the timing of owl season, there were no other known nests with similarly aged owlets.

Fast forward to Friday morning, all of the owlets were doing extremely well and were finally well fed. Jessica happened to have two of the four of the owlets in her car while driving in Shrewsbury when she came across a dead Barred Owl owlet in the road – and even though she works with raptors, Jessica never actually sees them in the wild. She pulled over to pick up the dead owlet and move it into the woods when she looked up and saw both parents watching her as she carried their owlet back into the tree-line. The adults began calling out and came closer to investigate. Seeing their interest, Jessica decided to see if the grieving parents would accept the orphaned owlets. The Auburn owlets were placed on a branch and the adults quickly flew down to the babies. After some observation of their interactions, it was apparent that the adults were accepting the orphans as their own and would continue to care for them.

With the dilemma now solved as to where two of the owlets would be placed, the remaining two can continue on with the plan to renest them later in the day.

Everything aligned perfectly to make this rescue not only possible but so successful. The interworkings were so intricate, that if one piece hadn't happened, it could have fallen apart. To start, it is already rare for Barred Owls to lay four eggs, and then to have all four owlets survive with only one parent able to physically care for them is a feat in itself. Then to have the male owl fall from the tree in view of residents and then have the female found the same day was another perfect alignment. Then the owlets happened to be nested in an area which made them visible to those same residents. Every piece of the rescue came together perfectly, including having two of the only tree climbers who also assist with animal rescues available and on site, which made a tricky and difficult rescue possible. Then to have the owlet's rehabber happen to come across a pair of Barred Owls right after the loss of their owlet in the wild, is unbelievable.

We would like to thank everyone who dedicated their time to help save this family. A big thank you to the Milinazzo family for their caring and thoughtful observation of wildlife of their property, to Jessica of Raptor Tales Rescue of Shrewsbury for all of her advisement and for taking in the owlets, to Andrew Joslin for dedicating his day to the tree climbing endeavor, and to Jesse Brad for joining the climb and help to make the rescue of the final two owlets possible. Animal Control is beyond appreciative to be surrounded by such a caring and compassionate village of animal professional who are always ready to step in offer assistance. This rescue was only possible due to the help of everyone involved!

You were warned this was going to be a long story, but we hope you made it to the end and by reading it in its entirety you are able to grasp sheer miracle it was that these four Barred Owl owlets now have a chance at survival!

# THANK YOU FROM ANIMAL CONTROL



We would like to take a moment to thank all of our state licensed wildlife rehabilitators!

In just a one month time frame from mid-May through mid-June, Animal Control has connected with dedicated rehabbers in Shrewsbury, Sutton, Carver, and Russell in order to give 14 orphaned wild animals a fighting chance at life. This has included 8 raccoons, 4 barred owls, and 2 wood ducks.

While some rehabbers are 501c3 certified and have the help of volunteers, many are also small scale or solo operations and support their wild guests on their own, as wildlife rehabbers don't receive any government funding. For orphans and wildlife

recovering from injuries, it is a weeks to months long commitment made by rehabbers when they accept the animal into their care.

So thank you to all of our wildlife rehabilitators for all of your hard work and for opening your doors to not only the wildlife from Auburn, but wildlife from across the state!

A complete listing of all licensed wildlife rehabilitators can be found at: <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/find-a-wildlife-rehabilitator>

## RODENT PROTECTION

**Warm weather is here and we need your help to prevent rodent activity in our community: Important tips you should know about rodents**

### 1. Rodent attractions commonly found on residential property

Improperly stored trash and recycling	Bird feeders
Improperly maintained compost bins	Stagnant water
Wood piles	Cluttered conditions
Overgrown vegetation	Animal waste

### 2. Signs of Rodent Activity

- Burrows (cluster of 2 or more smooth holes ~ 2-4 inches in diameter)
- Droppings (curved and sausage shaped with pointed ends ~ 3/4 inches long)
- Rodent runways (smooth, worn-down pathways resulting from repeated travel- often found along lines and corners such as building foundations, fences and sheds)
- Sebum/rub marks (oil and dirt from rodents' skin rubbed on walls, fences and flooring next to runways)

### 3. Rodent-Proof Your Home

Rodent control begins with sanitation. While rodents find warmth and shelter inside structures, food is their first reason for living in and around structures. Take the following steps:

1. Sanitation: Remove attractants such as food, water, and harborage areas from your property.
2. Exclusion: Inspect your foundation to ensure it is free of holes and other rodent entry points. Seal all cracks and openings.
3. Get rid of clutter both inside and outside your home.
4. Control weeds, shrubs and bushes around your yard.
5. Manage your garbage, and keep trash & recycling carts clean.
6. Elimination: Hire a licensed Pest Control Operator to treat your property. Pest Control Operators should take an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) approach to safely and effectively reduce rodent populations.



# PREVENT NEGATIVE ENCOUNTERS WITH BEARS

## REMOVE ALL FOOD SOURCES FROM YOUR YARD AND NEIGHBORHOOD

- NEVER intentionally feed bears
- DO NOT feed birds – All birdfeeders, suet, and spilled seed attract bears
- NEVER leave trash bags out - Store in a secure building or container and put trash out the morning of pickup
- DO NOT feed pets outside
- DO NOT use open compost
- CLEAN barbeque grills and grease traps

**KEEP BEARS WILD – feeding can cause bears to lose their fear of people which can result in the bear being euthanized**

## IF YOU SEE A BEAR IN YOUR YARD

- HARASS the bear - bang pots and pans, blow a whistle or an air horn
- CHECK for and REMOVE food sources

## IF YOU ENCOUNTER A BEAR

- Talk to the bear in a calm voice
- Back away – DO NOT run
- FIGHT BACK if a black bear makes contact with you

## DOG OWNERS

- KEEP dogs leashed
- Check your yard for bears before letting your dog out
- DO NOT let dogs chase or interact with bears
- If you encounter a bear while with your dog, back away and leave the area
- The presence of a dog could trigger a bear to be aggressive

**Learn more at:  
[Mass.gov/Bears](https://Mass.gov/Bears)**



MASSWILDLIFE

For questions or to  
report a bear encounter  
contact MassWildlife at  
508-389-6300

Contact the Massachusetts Environmental  
Police outside normal business hours and  
on weekends at: 1-800-632-8075



## TEXTILE RECOVERY: A NEW CHALLENGE UNFOLDS



We love our clothes. But what happens when it's time to let go? Textile recovery can sound daunting, but we promise it's not! Because we throw away so many valuable textiles in the trash, the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection has adopted a new rule to promote more repurposing and recovery. As of November 1, 2022, MA residents and businesses can no longer throw clothing and textiles in the trash. For more info google "MassDEP Textiles Waste

Ban." This means that residents will need to bag up their unwanted clothing, towels and sheets and bring them to a textile drop off site or have them collected curbside.

Read on for some fast facts about textiles in Massachusetts.

- Clothing and textile products amount to 6% of all material going into U.S. landfills and incinerators...that's 230,000 tons annually in Massachusetts alone!
- Textile reuse and recycling has the second highest potential environmental impact on reducing greenhouse gases compared to other recyclables.
- 95% of all used clothing, footwear, and other textile products can be reused or recycled, yet only 15% of reusable textiles are recovered from the waste stream.
- Textiles are defined in the waste ban as "clothing, footwear, bedding, towels, curtains, fabric, and similar products, except for textiles contaminated with mold, bodily fluids, insects, oil, or hazardous substances."
- To retain their value and avoid mildew contamination, all donations must be clean and dry. Even textiles that are worn, torn, and stained have value (really!).
- About 45% of donated textiles are reused and sold as secondhand apparel, either in the U.S. or abroad. Another 30% is converted into industrial wiping cloths, and 20% is remanufactured into products like carpet padding, insulation, or sound-proofing material. The final 5% is thrown away because it is wet/mildewed, or otherwise unsuitable for reuse.
- Many municipal transfer stations host textile drop boxes. If you need help finding a textile donation location, visit MassDEP's Beyond the Bin directory. RecyclingWorksMA also offers a Find-a-Recycler tool to help Massachusetts businesses locate textile recyclers.



The next time you are considering the purchase of a new item of clothing, consider visiting local or online secondhand clothing stores first!

## TOWN OF AUBURN EXECUTES CONTRACT FOR MUNICIPAL AGGREGATION

The Town of Auburn is pleased to announce that Dynegy has been chosen again as the supplier for the Community Choice Power Supply Program ("Program"). Dynegy, based in Houston, Texas, is a competitive supplier of power, renewable energy and energy management products and services for homes and businesses in Massachusetts, Ohio and Illinois. The contract will provide participating Auburn residents and businesses with a fixed electricity supply rate of 17.860 cents (\$0.17860) per Kilowatt Hour (kWh) for 5 months starting in June 2022. The renewable energy content of the supplied energy meets Massachusetts renewable energy requirements, which means 51% of the electricity is offset with Renewable Energy Certificates (REC's) derived from clean energy resources located in the New England region.

### IMPORTANT UPDATE FROM THE TOWN OF AUBURN

The Town of Auburn has participated in Community Choice Power Supply Program (a.k.a. Municipal Aggregation) since 2015. Since Program inception, The Town has been able to secure electric rates that are significantly less than National Grid's Basic Service Rate. But, due to the timing of the expiration of the most recent contract, the Town had to solicit bids for a new contract in a volatile market. The market was already elevated this past fall/winter. Initially, it was due to a winter premium which generally lowers in the Spring. However, due to the Russia-Ukraine conflict, as well as national and international economic conditions, the market has remained very high.

NGrid purchased 50% of their 2022 summer load last September 2021 and the remaining 50% in March 2022, whereas the Town needed to buy 100% of its load before its 3-year contract expired (for a June start) in an extremely high, volatile market this spring. Thus, the Town's rate for the 5 month period from June to November is higher than NGrid's Basic Service Rate. The Town will be soliciting new rates regularly until November 2022 in an attempt to secure more favorable rates for the next contract period. While we cannot predict the future, over the coming months we will continue to work with our municipal aggregation consultant, Colonial Power, to secure a steady long-term rate. While some customers may want to opt-out of the Town's program to take advantage of NGrid's lower Basic Service Rate for the next 5 months, we hope most will stay with the program as it has yielded significant savings over the life of the program and has yielded stable, long-term rates that are lower than NGrid Basic Service Rates. However, future savings cannot be guaranteed because NGrid's Basic Service Rates change twice a year or more, depending on rate class.

### **OPT INTO MUNICIPAL AGGREGATION**

Please remember that this is an optional program! Town residents and businesses who were enrolled in the Community Choice program under the last contract (June 2019-June 2022) will remain enrolled and do not need to take any action. Those residents and business will receive a postcard in the mail (PDF) that contains details about the new fixed supply price and its contract duration.

Customers who had previously opted-out of the program will not be automatically enrolled. NGrid Basic Service customers that do wish to participate can opt-in to the program at any time! To opt-in/opt-out, please have your NGrid bill handy and visit [colonialpowergroup.com/auburn](http://colonialpowergroup.com/auburn) OR call Dynegy at (866) 220-5696.

You may OPT-OUT or OPT-IN at any time in the future with NO CHARGE.

Residents and businesses with any questions are encouraged to call Colonial Power at 508-485-5858, or the Town's Energy Manager at (508) 832-7700 x 1224.

### **CUSTOMERS UNDER CONTRACT WITH ANOTHER SUPPLIER**

Those customers who are under contract with another supplier will not be automatically enrolled in this municipal aggregation program. Those customers may opt into municipal aggregation at any time at no charge, although there may be penalties, fees or fines to cancel a contract with the supplier. Please talk with your contracted supplier before taking any action to avoid penalties, fees or fines.

To sign up manually, have your NGrid account number ready and contact Colonial Power Group at 508-485-5858 or click [HERE](#) for more information.

### **ABOUT MUNICIPAL AGGREGATION**

Residents in Auburn and communities across the State are faced with escalating electric costs which increase household expenses and put a burden on homeowners, families, low-income populations and seniors. Commercial customers are challenged by high electricity costs which are consistently highlighted as a barrier to economic growth in central Massachusetts. Residents and businesses in Auburn and other communities in the Commonwealth have felt the impact of skyrocketing electricity supply costs.

The Town of Auburn's Municipal Aggregation Plan is designed to address this uncertainty in electricity costs by combining the purchasing power of its residential and commercial customers and by competitively bidding that load on the open market. By combining this purchasing power, the Community Choice Municipal Aggregation Plan enables customers to achieve stability in their electric rates and control their electric costs. However, savings cannot be guaranteed.

### **PROCESS**

In Spring 2022, Town Officials began meeting with Colonial Power Group while they solicited energy pricing in the most volatile market in recent years. Colonial was soliciting pricing first weekly, then daily, with the goal of getting Auburn residents the most favorable rate possible. Over the course of 5 weeks, the Town and Colonial were in near-constant contact regarding the rates. In late May, we were able to catch a dip in the market and execute a contract for the fixed rate of \$0.17860 per kWh for all rate classes for 5 months. The Town intends to continue to solicit bids in order to find a long-term stable aggregation rate.

The Town of Auburn has been working with its municipal energy consultant, Colonial Power Group, Inc. since April of 2015 when they were chosen by the Board of Selectmen after a competitive process. The Wind Turbine and Alternative Energy Committee had held interviews for 3 municipal aggregation consultant candidates over the course of 2014 before recommending Colonial Power Group to the Town Manager. The Town Manager concurred with the recommendation of the Committee and recommended Colonial Power to the Selectmen.

# POOL SAFETY REMINDERS FROM THE BUILDING DEPARTMENT

## U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) *Calls for Increased Water Safety Vigilance After Two Years of Pandemic Summers*

The annual drowning and submersion **report** released in June 2022 by the **U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission** (CPSC) shows fatal child drownings and nonfatal drowning injuries in children under age 15 remain high. CPSC urges families to make water safety a priority, particularly as children ages 5-14 return to community pools and summer camps, following two summers when COVID precautions kept kids away. Child drownings continue to be the leading cause of unintentional death among children ages 1 to 4 years old.

CPSC's latest data for the U.S. show:

- Across 2017 through 2019, there were an average of 389 pool- or spa-related, fatal drownings reported per year involving children younger than 15 years of age.
- Pool- or spa-related, hospital department-treated, nonfatal drowning injuries involving children younger than 15 years of age spiked 17 percent in 2021 with 6,800 injuries reported, compared to 2020 with 5,800.

Of the reported pool- or spa-related fatal child drownings, seventy-three percent involved children younger than 5 years of age.

"Child drowning rates and nonfatal drowning injuries among children under 15 years old remain high, and water safety vigilance is as important as ever this summer for parents and caregivers," said CPSC Chair Alex Hoehn-Saric. "Whether a child is playing in a community pool, a neighbor's pool, or your own, we urge parents and caregivers to prepare their children for water-related activities by reviewing *Pool Safely* tips and signing up for swim lessons this summer. Working together, we can help reduce pool- and spa-related fatalities."

On average, from 2019 through 2021, 80 percent of children treated in emergency departments for pool- or spa-related, nonfatal drowning injuries were younger than 5 years of age. Where known, 73 percent of nonfatal incidents in children under age 5 that led to emergency room visits occurred at a residence, compared to nearly 27 percent that occurred in a public location. Two-thirds of reported fatal child drownings in pools or spas occurred in residential settings such as the victim's home, the house of a family member or friend, or a neighbor's residence.

Parents and caregivers can follow ***Pool Safely's simple steps*** to keep children safer in and around the water:

- Never leave a child unattended in or near water, and always designate an adult Water Watcher. This person should not be reading, texting, using a phone or be otherwise distracted. In addition to pools and spas, this warning includes bathtubs, buckets, decorative ponds, and fountains.
- If you own a pool or spa, install layers of barriers to prevent the unsupervised child from accessing the water. Homes can use door alarms, pool covers, and self-closing, self-latching devices on fence gates and doors that access pools.
- Learn how to perform CPR on children and adults. Many communities offer online CPR training.
- Learn how to swim and teach your child how to swim.
- Keep children away from pool drains, pipes and other openings to avoid entrapments.
- Ensure any pool and spa you use has drain covers that comply with federal safety standards and if you do not know, ask your pool service provider about safer drain covers.

Visit the **Pool Safely Kids' Corner** to keep children entertained and educated with virtual water safety games and activities.

Take the **Pool Safely Pledge** as a family, and find customized water safety resources using the **Pool Safely Safer Water Information Match (S.W.I.M.) tool**.

You can get more information and read the full report by visiting **PoolSafely.gov**.





## ASSESSING, BILLING, AND EXEMPTIONS

**Fiscal Year 2023 begins July 1, 2022.**

**FY 2023 Real Estate and FY 2023 Personal Property Bills are due by August 1, 2022.**

**FY 2023 Trash Bills are due by August 1, 2022.**

**RETURN OF INCOME AND EXPENSE FORMS:** Income and Expenses forms were mailed out in February to all Commercial & Industrial and Mixed-Use properties. Please return your form completed and signed as soon as possible.

**EXEMPTIONS:** Senior, Veteran & Blind Exemptions are mailed out to current applicants after Labor Day. If you are interested in seeing if you may qualify please contact our office and we will be happy to go over the qualifications with you.

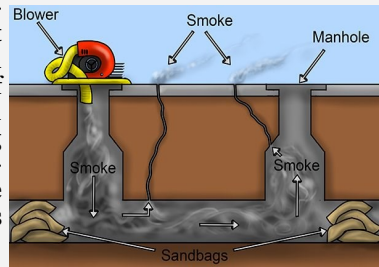
**ASSESSOR DATA INSPECTIONS:** A member of the Assessor's Office will be out doing property inspections for new sales, building permits or cyclical Data Collection/Inspections. If we were at your property, we will leave an orange door hanger if no one is home.



## On The Road...

### SEWER SMOKE TESTING

As part of our MassDEP required Sewer System evaluation Survey (SSES) program, the DPW – Sewer Division has been conducting investigations of select portions of the Town's municipal sewer system in an effort to identify and eliminate in-flow and infiltration (I/I) into the sewer system. This past spring, the Sewer Division contracted with Environmental Partners LLC to conduct CCTV inspections and cleaning of the sewers within those targeted areas. That work will continue this summer with smoke testing, likely beginning in Mid-July. Smoke testing is a standard method of detecting sewer defects and storm water cross connections to the sanitary sewer system. Any potentially affected residents will be notified in advance of the smoke testing work.



## EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

### GAIL BROWN



Gail comes to the Town of Auburn DPW - Sewer Division after having previously worked for the City of Worcester Sewer Department. She will bring to Auburn 5 years' experience in the field and will be filling the much needed role of Senior Sewer Mechanic. Gail is a veteran of the United States Air Force, and possesses her CDL and Hoisting licenses.

### GORDON SIEBENHAAR



Gordon comes to the Town of Auburn DPW - Highway Division after having previously worked for Comcast as a Project Coordinator for several years. Gordon has hit the ground running as Custodian and has already made an impact in the Facilities Section of the Highway Division.

# Senior Center and Elder Affairs News



The Auburn Senior Center is open Monday and Friday from 8:00am to 3:00pm and Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8:00am to 4:00pm. You can reach the senior center by calling 508-832-7799.

Congregate lunches through Elder Services of Worcester are served daily at 12:00pm with a suggested donation of \$2.50. Please call (2) days in advance to make your reservation.

Transportation is available to Auburn residents by scheduling at least (2) days in advance of your appointment. Please call the WRTA at 508-752-9283. Clients using the vans for transportation must wear a face covering. If you are ill or do not feel well, please stay home.

## SHINE HEALTHCARE



Patrick Morris, certified SHINE counselor can assist with health care options: Medicare, prescription insurance, Medigap plans, Medicare advantage plans, low income subsidy, prescription advantage, etc. Appointments only, please call 508-832-7799 to schedule. To reach the Central Mass SHINE Program by phone: 508-422-9931 or by email: [info@shinema.org](mailto:info@shinema.org) For other regions call 1-800-243-4636 and wait for the SHINE prompt. Visit Central Mass website ([www.shinema.org](http://www.shinema.org)) for useful information and applications for various programs.

## FILE OF LIFE CARDS

Medical emergencies can happen anytime. When they do, there is confusion, panic and urgency. Paramedics arrive on the scene with no information about the person in need. Seconds count, they can make the difference between life and death. Does the patient have prior medical conditions? Allergies? What medications are they taking? Who do they want us to call? How do we contact their family or friends?

File of Life puts these answers at their fingertips. It allows first responders to immediately begin the best possible treatment, notify loved ones, and pass this vital data on to awaiting physicians at the emergency room. File of Life has already saved thousands of lives. It is an absolute asset to emergency preparedness, and peace of mind, for every household and community across the nation. Please call the Senior Center at 508-832-7799 if you would like a file of life card mailed to your house.

**FILE OF LIFE**

KEEP INFORMATION UP TO DATE !!  
Review At Least Every Six Months

MEDICAL DATA REVIEWED AS OF: MO. YR. OF.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Doctor: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Preferred Hospital: \_\_\_\_\_

**EMERGENCY CONTACTS**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

## TRANSPORTATION SERVICES



The Auburn van is available for Auburn residents 60+ and younger disabled. Those under 60 years of age with a disability need to provide a doctor's note or letter from a service agency. To register to use the service, please call the WRTA at 508-752-9283. Appointments must be booked two days in advance.

The ADA transportation provides longer service hours with a slightly higher cost. To register for ADA transportation, call the WRTA at 508-752-9283.

## OUTREACH

Usha Verma, Outreach Coordinator is available Monday through Friday between 9:00am - 3:00pm. She is available to provide information and referrals for: Fuel Assistance, SNAP, food pantries, transportation options, benefits check-up, housing assistance, real estate tax exemptions, abatements, referrals to support groups for caregivers, grandparents raising their grandchildren and many more. All information is kept confidential.

- Fuel Assistance- Worcester Community Action Council assistance program
- Food Assistance- Food Pantries, SNAP (food stamps)
- Medical alert buttons
- Transportation options
- File of life- a card you complete with your emergency contacts, medications, allergies, etc. and placed on your refrigerator. The paramedics look for it if they respond to a medical emergency
- Benefits checkup- (you may qualify for a discount program that you don't know about)
- Housing help- downsizing, affordable rent, or to apply for subsidized housing
- Caregiver Assistance- information about memory care programs, nursing homes, or assisted living options
- Real Estate tax-exemptions and abatements
- Referrals to support groups for caregivers, grandparents raising their grandchildren, specific diseases or specialty groups
- Prescription Advantage – is a program to help defray the cost of seniors' medication costs when they reach that “donut hole” in Medicare Part D. call: 1-800- 243-4636
- AARP Tax Help- During tax season counselors are available to complete taxes at no charge for low or moderate income clients. Call the senior center for information.
- Meals on Wheels - federally sponsored home delivered meal service program administered locally to deliver well-balanced, lunchtime meals to frail, homebound individuals who are at least 60 years of age. Contact Elder Services of Worcester for information 508-756-1545.

## 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION





## WEEKLY EVENTS AT THE AUBURN SENIOR CENTER - JOIN US!

Please call the Senior Center for a complete list of programs and upcoming activities for the month.

**Monday:**

9:00 am – walking club—Lemansky track  
 10:00am – senior sweat, \$3.00 donation  
 10:30am – coloring for adults  
 11:00 am- yoga, \$3.00 donation  
 12:00pm – lunch (reserve 2 days in advance, call 508-832-7799)  
 12:45pm – canasta  
 12:45pm – movie of the week or entertainment

**Tuesday:**

10:00am- chair dance, \$3.00 donation  
 12:00pm – lunch (reserve 2 days in advance, call 508-832-7799)  
 1:00pm – Let's move together – exercise, \$3.00 donation

**Wednesday:**

9:00 am – walking club—Lemansky track  
 9:30am – knit and stitch  
 10:00am – strength and balance, \$3.00 donation  
 11:00am – drop in tech  
 12:00pm – lunch (reserve 2 days in advance, call 508-832-7799)  
 1:00pm- pitch  
 6:00pm – cribbage

**Thursday:**

10:00am – chair dance, \$3.00 donation  
 12:00pm – lunch (reserve 2 days in advance, call 508-832-7799)  
 12:45pm – bingo  
 1:00pm – I-pad club

**Friday:**

9:30am- blood pressure clinic, 1st Friday of the month  
 9:30am – American sign language class  
 10:00am – strength and balance, \$3.00 donation  
 11:00am – meditation  
 12:00pm – lunch (reserve 2 days in advance, call 508-832-7799)  
 12:00pm – quilting  
 12:45pm- dominos  
 6:30pm – pitch



**Chair Dance Class** – Join us every Tuesday & Thursday at 10:00am



**Bob and Pam** – participating with Harry the Juggler



**Millbury Care One** - Sun-flower painting class

## IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Auburn Senior Center: 508-832-7799

Auburn Housing Authority: 508-832-3852

Auburn Library: 508-832-7790

Elder Abuse Hot line: 1-800-922-2275

Fuel Assistance: 508-754-1176

Medicare Help line: 1-800-333-4114

Social Security Administration: 1-800-772-1213

Suicide and Crisis Hotline: 1-800-784-2433

Auburn Town Hall: 508-832-7720

Auburn Food Pantry: 508-798-8779

Auburn Fire Department: 508-832-7800

Elder Services of Worcester: 508-756-1545

Mass Health: 1-800-841-2900

Shine: 1-800-243-4636

Food Stamps/SNAP: 1-617-887-8765

Veterans: 1-800-698-2411

## ON GOING ACTIVITIES

### Canasta



Only  
\$2

Every Monday  
12:45pm

### Adult Coloring Club

Join Jessie Harrington  
for a relaxing hobby.

Every Monday

10:30am—No Charge

Coloring pages, colored pencils



### Cribbage



Every Wed.—6:00pm



We meet Every Mon. & Wed. at  
9:00am at Lemansky Track

### Dominos



Fridays at 12:45pm

**FITNESS CLASSES:** are paid from a grant  
through Executive Office of Elder Affairs  
(EOEA). Participants are urged by EOEA to  
make a donation towards fitness classes.

The donations are used to replace equipment,  
supplies and expenses for programs offered  
at the Senior Center.

### Strength & Balance

with Lin Hultgren, ACE certified fitness instructor  
Every Wed. & Fri. 10:00am—\$3.00 class donation  
Strengthen & tone your body while improving your mobility.

### YOGA for Mindfulness

with Ann Ramsey, certified instructor, E-RYT 500 level  
Every Monday 9:30am—\$3.00 class donation  
Increase flexibility & improve joint health  
& mental clarity.

### CHAIR Dancing

with Forty Arroyo, instructor  
Every Tuesday & Thursday 10:00 am—\$3.00 class

Join us for Fun, Energizing & Social activity

### WEEKLY TECH CLINIC

with Scott Baeder & Paul Holzwarth—No Charge  
Every Wednesday 11:00am—12:00pm

If you're having trouble with email or any questions we will  
work with you to solve the issue or make it work better.

### iPad Club

How do you use your iPad?  
Every Thursday at 1:00pm—No Charge  
Join us as we investigate the world of iPad apps.

### MEDITATION CLASS

with Usha Verma—No Charge  
Every Friday at 11:00am

Meditation positive effects on our health, well-being,  
sleep problems, chronic pain, anxiety & depression.

### Blood Pressure Clinic

with Auburn Visiting Nurses—No Charge  
Every 1st Friday of the month 9:30-10:30am  
Includes checking your blood pressure, pulse & weight.

**QUILTING—No Charge**  
Every Friday at 12:00 noon

No experience necessary, we adapt to whatever skill  
levels students bring to class. Ideas for projects welcomed.

### WHIST



Only \$2

Every Tuesday  
1:00pm

### Senior Sweat

with Dr. Harvey Clermont

Mondays at 10:00am

This class emphasize balance,  
stretching and strengthening.  
We will deal with posture,  
coordination and essential  
muscle groups, such as upper  
chest, core and buttocks.

Most of the time, we will be in a  
chair or use a chair for safety.

Bring a water bottle.  
\$3.00 class donation



Every Thursday  
12:45pm



### PITCH

Wed. 1:00pm  
Fri. 6:30pm

## VARIETY SHOW



**Supercharged  
and  
Entertaining!!!!**

*Mike & Beth*

# VARIETY SHOW



***A Crowd Pleasing,  
Uplifting, Fun-Loving,  
Dynamic Duo!!!***

**Friday, July 29<sup>th</sup>  
12:45pm**

### **Interactive Variety Show that Highlights:**

*Familiar and Upbeat Sing-A-Longs for audience*

*A Repertoire of Music that takes you on a*

*Journey Through the Ages*

*Interactive Audience Participation*

*Knee-slapping Jokes & Creative short Story Telling*

"This program is supported in part by a grant  
from the Auburn Cultural Council,  
a local agency which is supported  
by the Massachusetts Cultural  
Council, a state agency."



## MUSIC IS LOVE

# Music is Love

***Dawn Kelley  
& Dick Miller***

**formed their duo,  
"MUSIC IS LOVE",  
over 35 years ago.**

**Monday,  
July 18<sup>th</sup>  
12:45pm**



They play popular tunes from the 1930's through the 1980's of all genres, including Irish Tunes, Broadway Show Tunes, Soft Rock, Country/Western and Jazz. The duo combines all these talents, music, magic and a touch of comedy, for a truly unique show - a show unlike anything anyone else is doing.

"This program is supported in part by a grant  
from the Auburn Cultural Council,  
a local agency which is supported  
by the Massachusetts Cultural  
Council, a state agency."



**Please call 508-832-7799 to reserve your spot.**



# SUMMER IN THE PARK CONCERT SERIES 2022

Riley-Pappas Performance Pavilion at the Dr. Arthur & Dr. Martha Pappas Recreation Complex  
Thursdays - 6-8PM - Rain date of the following Tuesday 6-8PM

June 9th - XS Band (Motown to Top40)

June 16th - Stone Country (Country & Southern Classic Rock)

June 23rd - Throw Back to the 60's (60s Rock)

June 30th (Independence Day) - Outrigger (Classic Rock)

July 7th - Aquanett Band (80's Rock)

July 14th - Ash & Eric (Folk)

July 21st - He said, She Said (Classic Rock)

July 28th - Red Light (Dance, Funk Rock)

August 4th - 4EverFab (Beatles Tribute)

August 11th - Dock 10 (Classic rock)

August 18th - Below Deck (Yacht Rock)

August 25th - Boom Boxs (70's, 80's & 90's)

September 1st - Viva Las Elvis (Elvis Tribute)



**Farmers Market**  
Thursdays 4 - 7pm.  
Starts June 9th.



## TOWN OF AUBURN VETERANS SERVICES



**Erik Reynolds, Veterans Agent—508-832-7706—[ereynolds@town.auburn.ma.us](mailto:ereynolds@town.auburn.ma.us)**

The purpose of the Veterans Agent is to serve the Veterans and surviving spouses in their given town. Primarily my responsibilities include managing the M.G.L. Chapter 115 benefits for residents of the town. Chapter 115 is a Massachusetts state benefit for those Honorably Discharged Veterans and their surviving spouses whose income is less than \$2,265 and have less than \$8,400 in liquid assets. If you or someone you know meets these criteria you may qualify for state Veterans benefits.

If you have questions about Chapter 115 then the Veterans Agent is your go-to person. Please feel free to call or email me, or stop by the office inside of town hall. Lastly, if you'd like information or guidance regarding VA Benefits I can provide such guidance. However, I am not an approving authority or authorized processor of such benefits.

Airborne!

Erik Reynolds

## Welcome Summer!



### *The Joy of Flying a Kite!*

## Reflections from Spring - and Preparing for Summer

As we develop our program schedules and prepare for a very busy summer, we offer a look back at a cross section of our spring programs. Participating can inspire creativity, nurture social connections, educate, entertain, and support our mission of serving our residents as a community hub in the town of Auburn. Remember there is *never* a charge for any programs or materials offered from the Auburn Public Library!



## SPRING 2022 PROGRAMS



*Loena and Ardi: Doing their part to keep Auburn litter-free!*

### Earth Day

Our Earth Day program drew more than 100 attendees, as they visited the many reading, social, and craft areas offered from the Library; received nature-themed hand or arm painting; engaged in scavenger hunts; visited the Enviroscape™ offered by the Town Engineer and DPW Director Joanna Paquin; and learned about composting and recycling from DDIS Director Darlene Coyle.

### Earthworms

Children learned about earthworms in a hands-on program where they held wiggly worms, learned to respect nature and their part in the environment, and then built a worm farm.



*Who can resist the giggles and smiles of joy and pride as these children observed and held a wiggly worm!*

### Kites

It was a 'full house' for the spring kite day program. More than 20 children participated, assembling and decorating their kites, and then taking them to sky at the back of the Library!

### Butterflies

Our third annual butterfly metamorphosis program was as well received as ever. More than 20 children attended a program to learn about the metamorphosis process and brought home their caterpillars. They watched the transformation from caterpillar to chrysalis and then to the emerging butterfly!

*Lily, Katie, and Jillian nurtured their chrysalises and then released them as butterflies!*



**Living Fire Pit** | This was such a well-received program that a third session was added to accommodate most of those on the wait list.



*All three sessions of the “Living Fire Pit” filled immediately: Gardeners at work!*

**Pysanky Ukrainian Egg Decorating** | Another very well received program; we offered two back-to-back sessions for adults, both of which were filled immediately.



*With no prior experience, these ‘Auburn Artisans’ created beautiful works of art!*

**\*All photos were taken by Library staff and posted to the Auburn Account newsletter with permission of the attendees.**

## LIBRARY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

I and the Library staff would like to offer our sincere thanks and appreciation to Jennifer Lee Shea and Erika Briesacher for their contributions to the Library Board of Trustees as they step down to pursue other interests.

The staff and I also enthusiastically welcome Jon Danilowicz and Vera Kirrane, both of whom were elected as our newest Board Members at the May 2022 Town Meeting!

## CONSTANT CONTACT

Constant Contact™ is your best resource for notification of Library programs and Information. If you would like to know about our programs and services as soon as they are open for registration, join the more than 600 patrons who have registered for our email notification system, [Constant Contact](#), via the link available at the top of our home page at [www.auburnlibrary.org](http://www.auburnlibrary.org).

Program and informational updates will be sent to your mailbox weekly, or as information is updated. You may opt out at any time with the click of a button.



**Auburn Public Library**  
300 Southbridge Street  
Auburn, Massachusetts 01501  
508.832.7790 (phone)  
508.832.7792 (fax)

**Hours**  
Monday - Thursday: 9:00 am - 8:00 pm  
Friday: 9:30 am - 6:00 pm  
Saturday: 9:00 am - 1:00 pm  
Sunday: Closed

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[Library Hours](#)  
[Library Catalog Online](#)  
[Children's Catalog](#)  
[Community Information](#)

[Join our Program Notification System](#)

[Check out some of our newest books and materials.](#)



## NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK

**National Library Week** was the perfect opportunity to promote reading awareness and collaborate with the reading specialists from Pakachoag and Bryn Mawr, Julie Benoit and Dawn Fenuccio. Library staff supplied book bags filled with reading incentives, literacy sheets, craft packs, and library cards to nearly 350 children! Thank you to *all* the teachers for distributing the book bags and taking the time for photos!



## SUMMER 2022 READING PROGRAM



**Auburn Public Library | Summer 2022 Reading Program (SRP)**

**Kick-off Friday July 8th 11:00am – 6:00pm and Saturday July 9th 10:00am – 1:00pm**

*\*Children may also register at any time during the 6-week program*

This year we highlight on Our Amazing Earth. We focus reading, books, programs, and other initiatives on respecting and nurturing our earth, with special emphasis on \*Recycling and Composting \* Respect for Nature and Animals \* Environmental Awareness \* Water Conservation \* Oceans and Ocean Life \*Plant Life, and more.

### **NEW Streaming Video Database!**

In conjunction with our Amazing Earth theme, we will soon offer remote access to an exciting new video streaming database: BBC Landmark Video Collection: Second Edition. Access to this database will be available in the beginning of July 2022 to Auburn patrons who hold a valid Auburn Public Library card.

This exciting series launches with a total of 105 full color, HD streaming videos documenting science, natural history, geology, geography, earth science, climate science, environmental science, biology, anthropology and more. Topics include Big Cats, Galapagos Islands, Earth's Natural Wonders, Blue Planet I and II, Planet Earth, Life Story of Animals, Africa, Dinosaurs (in 3D), Incredible Predators, and much more! Additional log-in information will be provided from our website and from Constant Contact in early July.

*\*Per our license agreement, content is available to patrons who hold an Auburn Public Library card in good standing. If you do not currently have a library card and live in Auburn, you may request one at the Library during operating hours. Bring your ID and mailing address information; we can issue you a card immediately. Sorry, patrons with CWMARS cards from other libraries are not eligible to access the content remotely. However, you may stop in to the Library and we can provide access from one of the computers in the library.*

Stay tuned for additional SRP information as we continue to develop and summer programs related to literacy awareness and Our Amazing Earth!



## ALL AGES SUMMER PROGRAMS



**Additional Summer Programs for all Ages** (\*indicates a program in process of organization)

Some of the *more than 50* programs in our summer 2022 line-up include: Children's Theater groups for 3 age-specific groups; \*Pirates and knot-tying; STEM for ages 3-5: STEM for ages

6-10; Night Sky; Silk scarf painting (adults); Nature Color Walk; Animal Adventures for Adults; Dinosaurs; Making 'duckie' soaps (children); \*Turtles; Whales; New England Stone Walls; Gardening with Children; Grow a Summer Salad; Toddler programs each week; Bird House painting; Creation Stations; STEAM Kit Cars; Flower planting for children; and much more. Visit our [Library calendar](#) on an ongoing basis to view the evolving program line-up.

## SUMMER READING



**Auburn Public Schools | Bay Path Regional Vocational Technical High School Reading Lists**

The Library has copies of all the Auburn Public School readings lists and assignment sheets. We also offer 90% the titles on the lists, including a great selection of biographies and the entire "Who Is" series for students from Swanson, who have the exciting option to choose which biography to read this summer! Many of the books on the lists are held aside for Auburn students, so stop in and see us – we are happy to help!

## MUSEUM PASSES

We continue to increase our museum pass availability and are once again the leading library with quantity and variety of museum and local attraction passes.

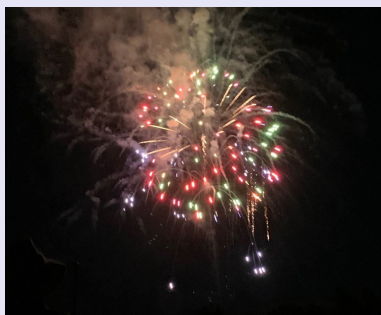
As of July 1, 2022, we offer 37 passes; an additional 9 are in progress, coming soon. Passes are available to patrons who hold a CWMARS library card in good standing, with no outstanding fines or overdue loans. A recent anonymous 3-question survey from Library administration (survey is still open, available at [Museum Pass Program Feedback](#)) on museum pass preferences resulted in responses from 46 patrons. Eighty two percent of respondents were from Auburn, with the remaining respondents from Charlton, Millbury, Leicester, Oxford, and Worcester. The Auburn Public Library routinely provides passes to residents from 12 surrounding towns.

All survey responses included multiple preferences listed. Most highly favored (in no order of preference) were Magic Wings, Eric Carle Museum, Salem Witch Museum, Old Sturbridge Village, Ecotarium, Southwick Zoo, Roger Williams Park Zoo, Davis Farmland, Museum of Science, Worcester Art Museum, Isabella Stewart Gardner, Discovery Museum, Animal Adventures, Plimoth Patuxet Plantation, Tower Hill Botanic Gardens, and The Butterfly Place. Thank you to all who weighed in!

To learn more about borrowing guidelines and which passes are available, visit our customized Auburn Public Library Museum Pass Website at <https://www.aplmuseumpasses.com/>, visit the Library and browse through the sites from our large digital touch screen computer, or call the Library for more information. Information flyers are also available in print from the Library.



# ANNUAL INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION RETURNS



The Town of Auburn's annual Independence Day Celebration was held on June 30<sup>th</sup> at the Dr. Arthur and Dr. Martha Pappas Recreation Complex after a two-year hiatus due to the Covid-19 pandemic. It was a beautiful, sunny day with a clear evening sky, perfect for viewing the fireworks.

Several thousand people attended the event with festivities beginning at 5:00 PM with an array of food and product vendors, children's games, and the always popular train rides. At 6:55 PM, the American Legion Tuttle Post Chapter 279 Color Guard participated in the Grand Entrance into the Riley-Pappas Pavilion area to present the

colors. Following the invocation by Reverend Dennis Knight, the crowd recited the Pledge of Allegiance and Auburn High School sophomore Kweku Akese sang the National Anthem. Town Manager Julie Jacobson emceed the brief speaking program, with welcoming remarks delivered by Select Board Vice Chair Tristan Laliberte and School Committee Vice Chair Meghan McCrillis.

The popular band The Outrigger once again performed the Event's evening concert from 7:00PM to 9:30 PM, entertaining and engaging the crowd with music for all ages. bank-Hometown once again sponsored this year's concert.

At 9:30, a spectacular fireworks display capped off the celebration.

Free shuttle buses ran all evening, shuttling attendees from the Auburn Mall to and from the Pappas complex.

The Town of Auburn extends its sincere gratitude to our sponsors and partners: the Worcester Regional Transit Authority (WRTA), AA Transportation, the Auburn Mall, and bank-Hometown.

We also thank all of the town employees who worked to plan for and hold this great community event: the Department of Public Works, the Department of Development and Inspectional Services, the Police Department, the Fire Rescue Department, as well as our local Community Emergency Response Team (CERT).

Happy 4<sup>th</sup> of July to all!



Question or comments? Contact us at [townmgr@town.auburn.ma.us](mailto: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 October 2022.



Town of  
*Auburn*  
Massachusetts

