



The Auburn Account

TOWN MANAGER JULIE JACOBSON RETIRING

Volume 13, Issue 1 Jan 2023

After twelve years in the role, Town Manager Julie A. Jacobson will be retiring effective January 31st. Ms. Jacobson was hired as the Town's first Town Manager under its Amended Town Charter and assumed the position on January 30, 2011. Below is a letter from Town Manager Jacobson to the Auburn Community:

To the Auburn Community:

It is with mixed emotions that I write this last communication to the Auburn community as I will be retiring at the conclusion of my contract on January 30th. While I am looking forward to spending time with my family and seeking new adventures, I will miss the Auburn community and the many wonderful individuals and organizations who welcomed me to the Town and with whom we have worked collaboratively over the years on a broad range of projects and issues.

When I began this position 12 years ago, my priorities were to reorganize the structure of the town government to be more effective and efficient; increase accountability and enhance transparency; develop an overall vision and goals for the town and develop plans and strategies to attain our goals; create an economic development program to stimulate business expansion, retain existing and attract new businesses; create a favorable environment for businesses; develop sustainable green initiatives to reduce energy consumption and provide lower cost energy options; strengthen the financial condition of the town and improve its bond rating; aggressively seek and secure grants; enhance the quality of life for residents including community events, programs and services; develop a strong relationship with the school department and work collaboratively on projects; develop an effective communication and outreach strategy; strengthen our emergency management planning and responsiveness; and engage the stakeholders in the community at all levels. These key priorities have remained in the forefront since I started this position in addition to new priorities that emerged over the years, most notably the Covid-19 pandemic and the resulting changes that were required and measures put into place to ensure continuity of essential municipal operations and to protect the health and safety of our employees and the public. These priorities have guided many of the decisions and strategies within each of the municipal departments as we directed and targeted resources towards achieving these goals.

(Continued on Page 2)

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: Police Department reorganization; Hazardous Waste Disposal Program; new firefighters and police officers; library programs; recreation calendars; Julia Bancroft Apartments; and more

(Continued from Page 1)

Reflecting on my tenure as town manager, I am proud to have been a part of so many exciting and critical initiatives that have positioned Auburn well for the future: economic development projects and initiatives resulting in the redevelopment of vacant properties and new and expanded businesses; numerous community planning initiatives resulting in solid plans and blueprints for action; Drury Square revitalization; Green Community designation; municipal aggregation; legislative advocacy; new and updated General Bylaws; new and updated Zoning Bylaws; signature community events and programs; a model Roadway Improvement Program; developing and implementing strong financial policies; conservative budgeting and increased reserves resulting in a very strong and healthy financial condition; establishing an OPEB Trust Fund; achieving two bond rating upgrades; securing over \$16 million in grant funding; facilitating the redevelopment of the Mary D. Stone and Julia Bancroft schools into much-needed affordable senior housing; developing emergency management plans and securing new equipment; the development of the Facility Improvement Plan to maintain and preserve municipal assets; and numerous projects and services that have had a positive impact on the quality of life for Auburn residents. The omnibus Reorganization Plan approved in 2011 has provided a stable, centralized, strong governmental structure that has enabled town administration to accomplish the goals set by the Select Board and to achieve the successes mentioned above, as well as provide the mechanism to bring efficiencies and transparency to local government.

During my tenure in Auburn, I experienced two tragic events – one personal and the other professional. We lost our beloved son, Matthew, in September 2014, and in May 2016 Auburn Police Officer Ron Tarentino, Jr. was killed in the line of duty. The Auburn community was a tremendous source of support to me and my family during that difficult time, and the community grieved with the Auburn Police Department and the Tarentino family in the wake of that tragedy. I will be forever grateful for this community's compassion and outpouring of support during both of these unimaginable losses.

Beginning in March of 2020, and for nearly three years, the Covid-19 pandemic has tested the resiliency of the Auburn community, town administration, and each one of us individually. This unprecedented health crisis forced us to adapt to new technologies, implement new processes, undertake new health protocols, and alter our methods of business and social interactions. The Auburn community and town administration emerged from the pandemic stronger, more resilient, and better prepared than ever before. Our emergency management planning, operational flexibility and public health preparedness enabled us to navigate through the uncharted waters of the pandemic. As such, I am confident in Auburn's ability to adapt to any unanticipated future public health challenges.

I am incredibly proud of the talented and skilled management team we have built and of the dedicated employees across all departments. Their dedication and tireless efforts have enabled Town Administration to accomplish our goals, priorities and vision. Auburn is so fortunate to have such experienced, professional department heads, division heads and employees who have and will continue to provide an exceptional level of quality services to the community. I am also grateful to Assistant Town Manager/Chief Financial Officer Ed Kazanovicz for his support, friendship and commitment to the Town. Auburn will be in excellent hands when Ed becomes Town Manager upon my retirement effective January 31st.

I am also proud of - and grateful for - the strong relationships I have developed with residents, businesses, organizations, elected officials and other stakeholders in the community. Forming these critical public-private partnerships has enabled us to all work together as a community to attain our common vision. Thank you to past and present members of the Select Board, Town Meeting members, the Finance Committee, our state and federal legislators, the School Department, all board and committee members, our business community and the residents of Auburn. It has been a pleasure to work with you, communicate with you and, most of all, to serve you.

It has been an honor and a privilege to serve as Auburn's first Town Manager. Auburn is a tremendous community and I am grateful for the opportunity I have had to help shape the community and create a strong foundation for its future.

Auburn will always hold a special place in my heart.

Warm Regards,

Julie H. Jacobson



CONFLICT OF INTEREST REQUIREMENT

The Summary of the Conflict of Interest was distributed in December, as it is every year. Board, commission and committee members are considered Municipal Employees under Massachusetts General Law. If you serve on a board, commission or committee or volunteer for the Town in some capacity you should have received the Summary in the mail or as an email attachment. Some part-time volunteer positions are exempt. The Summary and a list of exempt positions are on the Town Website [auburnguide.com](https://www.auburnguide.com/246/Conflict-of-Interest-Information) under the Town Clerk Department - Conflict of Interest. <https://www.auburnguide.com/246/Conflict-of-Interest-Information>.

The online training needs to be completed every two years and the **acknowledgement** is due every year. Once you have printed the training certificate, please either email the certificate along with the acknowledgement or print and drop off at the Town Clerk’s Office. If it is not the year for your online training you can reply to the email sent that you received the summary with your name. Additional information can be found on the State Ethics Commission website at <https://www.mass.gov/orgs/state-ethics-commission>.



If you have any questions, please contact the Town Clerk’s office at (508)832-7701.

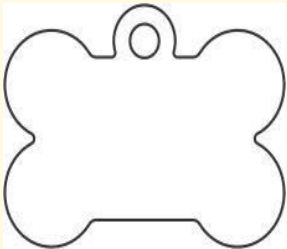
CENSUS



2023 census forms will be mailed at the beginning of January. **Please fill out, sign and return, promptly.** 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. If a voter is made inactive, the voter must fill out a form and provide proof that they still live at their Auburn address.

DOG LICENSING

On the bottom of the census form is a dog license form for 2023. To license by mail, fill out the form and enclose with the signed census and enclose a check to cover the fee. If you would prefer to license on-line: https://www.mapsonline.net/auburnma/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. If you no longer have a dog you can email the town-clerkemail@town.auburn.ma.us and we will update our records.



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 website. 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

Daniel Carpenter
33 Goulding Drive
Cell: 508-277-9519
Email: dcarpenter@town.auburn.ma.us

Sarah Rufli (Vice Chair)
32 Waterman Road
Cell: 619-729-6769
Email: skchilson@gmail.com

Steven Chambers
61 Bancroft Street
Cell: 508-287-4837
Email: schambers@town.auburn.ma.us

ASSESSING, BILLING, AND EXEMPTIONS



EXEMPTIONS:

Applications were mailed out after Labor Day to current applicants for the Senior, Veteran & Blind Exemptions. We would like to encourage people to get those returned with ALL documentation needed for processing as stated in the letters mailed with the applications. **DEADLINE IS FRIDAY, MARCH 31, 2023 to apply for Fiscal 2023.** If you are interested in seeing if you may qualify, please contact our office at 508-832-7708 and we will be happy to go over the qualifications with you.

BUSINESS OWNERS:

State Form 2 (Forms of List) with your Personal Property Detail sheets were mailed out to you at the end of December. These are done annually and are due back to the Assessors Department by March 1, 2023.

ASSESSOR DATA INSPECTIONS:

Reminder: A member of the Assessor's Office will be out doing property inspections for new sales, building permits and/or cyclical Data Collection/Inspections. If we were at your property, we will leave an orange door hanger.

VETERANS SERVICES.....



Erik Reynolds, Veterans Agent–508-832-7706–ereynolds@town.auburn.ma.us

Available Thursdays 8:30-4:00 or by appointment

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.

Documents required to prove Ch. 115 eligibility include:

- DD214 (Honorable discharge from Military service)
- Employment verification document (Department of Employment & Training Document)
- Housing verification document (Proof of residency, lease agreement, utilities and heat, if a tenant)
- Mortgage statement (Home owners, including insurance and property taxes)
- Marriage Certificate (If requesting benefits for spouse)
- Divorce Decree (If separated or divorced from spouse)
- Death Certificate (If widowed)
- Child support or alimony documentation
- All Income Award letters (Soc. Security, disability, compensation, pension, retirement, etc.)
- Medical verification document (if claiming disabled)
- Any paperwork in regards to 401K funds, stocks, bonds, savings account, where money is saved
- Last three months bank statements (Checking and savings)
- Any outstanding debt paperwork
- Life Insurance documentation
- Medical Insurance card
- Social Security card

What is the PACT Act?

You've likely heard of the recent bill passed by Congress and the Senate called the PACT ACT. This legislation recognizes Veterans from the Gulf War and Global War on Terrorism who were deployed to areas close to burn pits. Burn pit exposure has shown to cause a myriad of health issues that are now covered by VA Health. If you or someone you love were exposed to burn pits while deployed, please contact the VA to enroll on the burn pit registry.

Airborne!

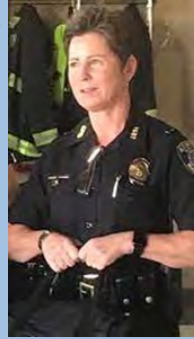
Erik Reynolds





AUBURN POLICE DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL UPDATE

This (2022) has to be the biggest year for personnel change in Auburn Police history. First, Lieutenant Eileen Harrigan retired in February after a 30 year career with the Auburn Police Department. Lieutenant Harrigan, was the third female hired as a sworn member of the Auburn Police Department, and the first female to rise to the rank of Lieutenant. She served as a Lieutenant under Chief Sluckis for 16 years and was the grease that kept our wheels turning.



Next in line to retire was Chief Andrew Sluckis. He retired after 33 years of service in Law Enforcement having served on both the Auburn and Leicester Police Departments. He began in Auburn in 1989 as a Patrolman, was promoted to Sergeant in 1996, made Lieutenant in 2004 and was sworn in as Chief of the Leicester Police Department in December of 2004. He was then sworn in as the Chief in Auburn in December of 2005, where he spent 17 years. Even as Chief, Chief Sluckis was a very active member of the Auburn PD stopping car and making arrests. He truly loved police work.

The retirements of Chief Sluckis and Lieutenant Harrigan, along with the retirement of Sgt. Fred LaFlash at the end of December 2021, started a great personnel shift. In February, Lieutenant Todd Lemon became our provisional Chief of Police, and Detective Sergeant R.S. Mills stepped up as the provisional Lieutenant, filling the shoes of their two predecessors.



Pictured Town Manager Julie Jacobson, newly sworn in (then) provisional Chief Todd Lemon, (then) Provisional Lieutenant R.S. Mills and Assistant Town Manager/CFO Edward Kazanovicz).

Town Manager, and confirmed by the Select Board, as the permanent Chief of Police. He then created a much needed Deputy Chief position and had the honor of making seven promotions in one day after the assessment scores were released. It was a truly historic day for Auburn Police.

In accordance with Civil Service regulations, an assessment center was held in April, and multiple appointments followed. In June, Chief Lemon was appointed by the



Chief Todd Lemon being sworn in by Town Clerk Deb Gremo.

The promotions were as follows:

Provisional Lieutenant R.S. Mills, promoted to the rank of Deputy Chief
Sergeant Stephanie Hayward, promoted to the rank of Lieutenant
Sergeant Kenneth Charlton, promoted to the rank of Lieutenant
Sergeant Daniel Lamoreaux, promoted to the rank of Detective Sergeant
Provisional Sergeant Spiros Kaperonis, promoted to the rank of Sergeant
Patrolman Michael Tarckini Jr., promoted to the rank of Sergeant
Patrolman Luis Santos, promoted to the rank of Sergeant



Pictured left to right: Det. Sgt. Lamoreaux, Lt. Kenneth Charlton, Dep. Chief R.S. Mills, Chief Lemon, Lt. Stephanie Hayward, Sgt. Luis Santos, Sgt. Michael Tarckini, and Sgt. Spiros Kaperonis.

These fine officers have worked hard and have demonstrated the leadership qualities needed to successfully fulfill their new positions on the command staff.

Congratulations to all!

AUBURN POLICE DEPARTMENT CLOSES OUT BUSY YEAR

It has been a monumental year for the Auburn Police Department. We started out the year by saying goodbye to our number one and number two as they retired after a combined 63 years in law enforcement. Their retirements led to a chain reaction in personnel changes, and promotions.

We welcomed a new baby girl to the family, she has four legs, came from Germany and has been training hard, and to top things off, we were busier than ever, with dispatch logging over 2,000 more calls this year compared to last year.

To date, Police and Fire have 23,972 calls for service entered into the log. This includes 295 arrests, 259 warrant applications/criminal summonses, 1,243 offense reports, 1,470 motor vehicle citations and 437 crashes. We also processed over 300 Licenses to Carry a Firearm/Firearms Identification Cards.

Needless to say, 2022 has been a very busy year.





With the promotion of now Sgt. Brian Kennedy at the end of 2021, the School Resource Office was left with some very large shoes to fill. After numerous letters of interest from internal personnel, Officer Jonathan O'Brien was chosen for the position. Just before the start of the school year, he officially certified as an SRO by taking the NASRO weeklong course. In addition to becoming NASRO certified he has taken courses in Adolescent Mental Health Awareness, Behavioral Threat Assessment and School Safety courses.

This past school year was the first time students came back as mask optional after the pandemic. School buses were once again filled with children and buses became the primary

source of transportation for students to get to and from school. Officer O'Brien assists with traffic daily at each school.

At the end of the 2021-2022 school year, the APD played an integral role in the town wide Special Olympics event held at Auburn High School. Officers help lead the athletes in the Opening Ceremony, cheered on the athletes during all the events and handed out the award medals to every athlete that participated in this phenomenal event.

The APD also assisted and handled the security for the AHS Graduation, all the youth Summer time programs at the AMS as well as for school dances and all the AHS Football games, including the Thanksgiving Day Tarentino Cup game against Leicester HS.

Several programs were initiated during the school year including the Youth Diversion Program. This program provides youths and police officers an alternative to arresting or arraigning youths. The program connects youths to local services, ongoing monitoring and active case management support, as well as better availability to mental health services.

Another program that will be introduced into the schools will be the Take Me Home, Keep Me Safe program. This program will assist first responders to help the special needs community in Auburn by collecting important information about special need students so that first responders can better assist with during calls service.

Officer O'Brien has continued to build on the Handle with Care program, which helps school support services with the flow of information from outside of school when a child is involved in a traumatic incident.

Officer O'Brien was part of all the school safety drills and fire drills during the school year. He has also attended numerous school safety meetings with all the schools, so that he and the entire APD force will continue to ensure the safety and security of all the students and staff throughout the year.



AUBURN
PUBLIC SCHOOLS

POLICE DEPARTMENT NEW EMPLOYEES



Pictured left to right: Officer Dominic Walker, Student Officer Alex Meyers, and Student Officer Jason Brooks.

Police Chief Lemon and Deputy Chief Mills have been committed to getting the Police Department back to a complete staff and they have proudly hired several new patrol officers.

Our first addition was Officer Dominic Walker. Officer Walker came to us patrol ready from the Rutland Police Department and was sworn in on February 15th. He has been a great fit with our agency and is currently a hard-working member of the midnight shift.

The next additions are current student Officers Alex Meyers and Jason Brooks. They began at the Boylston Regional Police Academy in July and are scheduled to graduate December 30th. They'll then enter our

three month field training program before being assigned a shift and hitting the streets on their own.

The next round of interviews brought us Dominick Boschetto. Dominick is also now at the Boylston Regional Police Academy. He began his training in October he will join the APD upon successful completion of academy in March, also followed by our field-training program.



Officer Jordan Ryan sworn in by Deb Gremo

Sworn in October 14th, we welcomed Officer Jordan Ryan. Another great fit, Officer Ryan came to us from the town of West Brookfield. He was also fully trained and able to jump right into patrol. He is currently an active member of our evening shift.



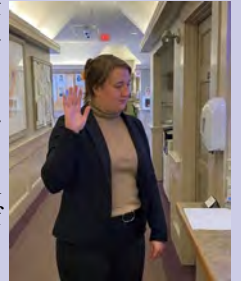
Student Officer Dominick Boschetto.

Our latest addition to patrol brings us Rachel Crowley. Student Officer Crowley began the Randolph Regional Police Academy on December 5th. Upon successful completion of the academy, S.O. Crowley will join us as the fifth ever female on the Auburn Police department in May. She, like the others, will then enter our field-training program.



Communications Director Maryann O'Connor.

What a year and that was only the Police side of things! Our Communications Center had Ms. Maryann O'Connor join the team in September. Maryann is the new Communications Director after working with the town of Westborough as a dispatcher and dispatch supervisor. Maryann has been working tirelessly hiring and training our dispatchers. Running the communications center is no easy feat and she makes it look effortless. She has been an excellent addition to our team.



Student Officer Rachel Crowley.

Welcome to the Auburn Police Department!

APD FUNDRAISING AND COMMUNITY SERVICE

Pink Patch Project



As always, the Pink Patch Project spearheaded by Deputy Chief Mills and Detective Keith Chipman kicked off our charity season. Our proceeds once again went to the amazing Adam Bullen Memorial Foundation, which is a local charitable organization 501(c)3 that provides emotional and financial support for children and adults with cancer. We have collected \$3,060 to date in proceeds from the sales of patches, t-shirts and hooded sweat-shirts with merchandise still being sold. We even had a couple of special visitors.



Pictured here with Deputy Chief Mills is Pat and Jason Bullen. They picked up some APD merchandise while visiting with the Deputy Chief.

Their tireless service for cancer patients and survivors is incredible. Visit adambullen.com for more information on this wonderful charity.

No Shave November



Showing their beautiful beards, left to right: Officer Tod Kuchnicki, Officer Matthew

In November, several members of the Department participated in "No Shave November." Officer Randy McCarthy took the reins on this endeavor, and together they were able to raise \$755 beating the goal of \$500 for Home Base. Home Base provides much needed assistance for military Veterans and their families.

In 2021, 135 New England Based Police Departments joined efforts for No Shave November and raised \$1.2 million for this incredible charity. Auburn PD was a part of that.

If you see Officers with their beards through the winter, Chief Lemon has graciously allowed the Officers to keep the beards through the winter months.

Secret Santa



Donation by the Auburn/Webster Elks accepted and the success of shopping day.

December brings in Secret Santa. Spearheaded by Lt. Hayward, and with the close assistance of Administrative Assistant Stacy Fitzgerald, and Communications Director O'Connor, the Auburn Police Association will make Christmas morning a little more joyous for 50 children in the Auburn Community. Monetary donations allow shoppers to fill in any gaps in a grand day of shopping. Those listed above along with Records Clerk Elizabeth Martinsen, and dispatchers Carrie Girardin and Katherine Nordborg, spent just over \$6,000 this year. This shopping did buy quite a few toys, but also a lot of needed clothing like winter jackets, snow gear and snow boots. This marks year 33 of making wishes come true for the families in our community. We had several generous donations to include the Auburn/Webster Elks, Republic Waste Services, and Builder Systems Inc., all of whom made large financial or toy donations.

Thank you to all who donated!

APD Specialty Units

The Auburn Police Department Drone Unit, now in its' third year, continues to provide aerial support to our officers on the ground. The unit, which is made up of two trained and licensed remote pilots (Officer Matthew Laskes and Officer Randy McCarthy) who are on call 24hrs a day, and report directly to Lieutenant Ken Charlton. This unit is also part of the Central Massachusetts Law Enforcement Council



(CEMLEC) Regional Drone Unit, which covers 62 other towns and cities.

In 2022, The Auburn Police Department Drone Unit responded to 12 calls for service that mainly included Search and Rescue missions and assisting Crash Reconstruction with scene documentation. Our 2022 missions were highlighted by the request on May 14th by the City of Worcester to provide aerial support to Local, State, and Federal Law Enforcement and Fire agencies at the complex scene of a quadruple fatal fire.



Officer Matthew Laskes on scene in Worcester.

DETECTIVE BUREAU



Chief Lemon with Det. Sgt. Lamoreaux.

The Auburn Police Detective Bureau is comprised of 3 detectives, James Lyman, Keith Chipman, and Kendall Perrault, and one detective sergeant, Sgt. Daniel Lamoreaux. Detective Sgt. Lamoreaux took over as head of the Detective Unit with the promotion of Detective Sgt. Mills to provisional Lieutenant.

APD Detectives are assigned to major investigations, crimes that extend beyond the borders of Auburn, and to handle sensitive matters that require lengthy examinations, interviews, and writing court orders such as subpoenas and search warrants.



Detectives Lyman, Perrault and Chipman.

These four veteran detectives were the lead investigators for several high profile incidents to include an attempted murder by stabbing, the successful prosecution of a man convicted of raping a juvenile female, and two overnight commercial burglaries that resulted in the theft of more than \$200,000 in property. APD Detectives noted a 36% increase in death investigations from 2021 to 2022. In-home, natural death investigations are time-consuming investigations that are sometimes conducted in cooperation with investigators assigned to the Office of the District Attorney. APD Detectives also registered and monitored all registered sex offenders that live or work in Auburn. In addition to criminal investigations, these Detectives also completed 17 background checks of potential employees of the Town of Auburn which alone took over 600 hours of work.

K9 PROGRAM UPDATE



As previously mentioned, we had one addition to the Auburn Police Department that has four legs.

K9 Biza was added to the Auburn Police Department in August. She is a 1.5 year old German Shepherd/Malinois mix straight from Germany. She was brought to us with the assistance of Massachusetts Vest-A-Dog program.

Biza has been in training with Officer David Ljunggren and the Massachusetts State Police. To meet minimum standards, Biza and Officer Ljunggren will have to training for 560 hours. Biza and Officer Ljunggren have reached the certification level of tracking and are still working on the Aggression/ handler protection portion of the certification and the running, off leash heel command and some tactical obedience.

Once back from training, Officer Ljunggren and Biza will jump back into patrol but the training will never end. We expect Biza to be certified and patrol ready in January.



Happy to help raise a bit of money for our veterans through our #noshavenovember program that now stretches through the winter.

We think our bearded officers (a few are pictured here) wear it well...

(See related article on page 10.)

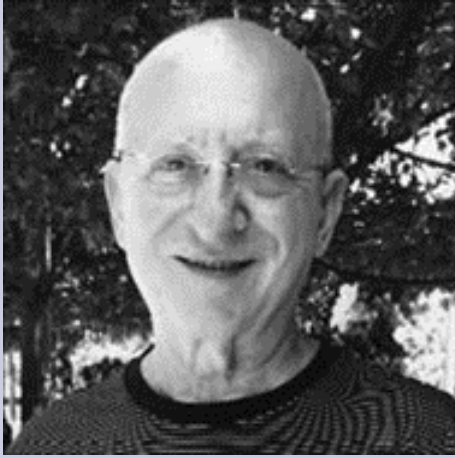
POLICE DEPARTMENT FISCAL 2022 GRANT SUMMARY

For Fiscal Year 2022, the Auburn Police Department applied for and received a total of \$10,146.00 in grant funding. These funds were awarded to APD by the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security Highway Safety Division (EOPSS) to focus on traffic enforcement, specifically dangerous driving and pedestrian safety. APD's recent citizen survey informed this department that traffic concerns are a top priority for the residents of Auburn.

According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, "In 2020, 6,516 pedestrians were killed and an estimated 55,000 pedestrians were injured nationwide." This grant will allow APD to dedicate officers to traffic posts in response to citizen requests for increased enforcement on their roadways. APD will also be using this funding to focus on pedestrian safety in the busiest crosswalks in Auburn.

IN MEMORIAM

We said our final goodbyes in 2022 to three retired members of the Auburn Police Family.



Joseph "Joe" Messina, 74: Passed on March 25, 2022. Joe worked for the Auburn Police Department as a Patrolman for 31 years, retiring in 2002. During his time, he was a training officer, and a firearms instructor.

Robert "Bob" Johnson, 92: Passed June 17, 2022. Bob, a FBI National Academy Graduate, served the community of Auburn beginning in 1958 and retired in 1988 at the rank of Chief.



William "Bill" Perron, 76: Passed July 13, 2022. Bill worked for the Auburn Police from 1971-1985, leaving us at the rank of Sergeant. Spending his career with a few agencies, he retired as the Chief of the West Boylston Police Department in 2001.

Rest in Peace.



WELCOME FIREFIGHTER JETTE

We were excited to have Sarah Jette start with us on Monday October 3rd as our newest Firefighter/EMT.

Sarah previously worked as a full-time firefighter in Rutland and is completing her Paramedic training in January 2023. She also holds a bachelor's degree in Public Health from Worcester State College. Sarah completed a two week training orientation before taking on her assignment on Group 4.

Welcome to the AFRD, Sarah.



WELCOME NEW FIRE FIGHTERS



On Thursday December 29, 2022 the Fire Rescue Department welcomed four new members to its ranks. In a ceremony held at Town Hall in front of department members, friends and family, Town Clerk Deb Gremo gave the Oath of Office to the newest firefighters and remarks were given by Select Board Chair Sara Ruflin and Assistant Town Manager and CFO Ed Kazanovicz.

Nick Fairbanks, Troy LaFramboise, Autumn Ballard and Tristan Lesnever are the newest members of the department after the Board of Selectmen and Town Meeting authorized the four positions to increase staffing within the department.

A staffing study commissioned by the town in early 2022 recommended the immediate hiring of eight firefighters to increase per group staffing from nine to eleven members. These positions will increase group staffing to ten and will increase the daily minimum shift staffing from seven to eight firefighters. The staffing report recommends the ultimate goal should be thirteen firefighters per group based on current call volume.

To read the full staffing study conducted by Municipal Resources Inc. follow this link: <https://auburnguide.com/DocumentCenter/View/10972/Auburn-Fire-Rescue-Staffing-Study-2022?bidId=>



PUBLIC LISTENING SESSION HELD ON DECEMBER 6TH

On December 6th the town held a Public Listening Session at Auburn High School for the proposed public safety building that will be going before the Town Meeting members and possibly a town-wide vote this May.

Town Manager Julie Jacobson, Assistant Town Manager and CFO Ed Kazanovicz, Fire Chief Stephen Coleman and Police Chief Todd Lemon presented the need for the new public safety building to both an in person crowd at the Auburn High School as well as an online viewing audience.

The proposal calls for constructing a new Police & Fire Headquarters on West Street, the current location of the school administration building and fire station #2. The school department would move to the existing police station once construction was complete and the current fire headquarters on Auburn Street would remain open as a fire station.


To watch the public listening session visit ACTVAuburnMA on YouTube or follow this link:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=V9lGfIRLSSs>

JOIN US FOR A LISTENING SESSION!

Auburn residents are encouraged to attend this informational listening session on the proposed Public Safety Building

Tuesday, December 6th at 6:00 p.m.
Auburn High School Auditorium



FUR FRIENDS DONATE TO FIRE RESCUE K9 RIGGS

On November 29th we had a visit from the Fur Friends of Auburn who presented a check for \$3,000 to K9 Riggs. The money will be used for much needed upgrades to the cage in his car such as heat alarms and cooling fans.

Riggs put on a demonstration of his skills for the Fur Friends.

Thank you so much to the Fur Friends of Auburn for this extremely generous donation and your support of K9 Riggs and his mission.



SIGN UP FOR CODERED™ EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM



Have you signed up to receive emergency and non-emergency information through the towns notification system CodeRED™ ? Use this link to register or update your information.

Having trouble? Contact Sue Strozina in the Town Managers Office for assistance at 508-832-7720.

2022 SANTA TOUR



Santa made another visit to Auburn this year a week before Christmas. The weather held out for Santa, the Grinch and our friend Olaf as they toured the town visiting families. This is always a special day for the community and the AFRD. For over 65 years the AFRD has been bringing this annual tradition to the Town of Auburn.

FIRE RESCUE DEPARTMENT GRANT NEWS

Chief Stephen Coleman is happy announce the department has received a grant award in the amount of \$12,382 from the states Firefighter Safety Equipment grant program. This grant money will assist in offsetting costs to equip two of our four new firefighters with protective equipment. Thank you to the Department of Fire Services and state Fire Marshal Peter Ostroskey for continuing to support this important program for municipalities.



The Department also received a Student Awareness Fire Education (S.A.F.E.) grant in the amount of \$4,381 for fire education programs in the schools and S.A.F.E. grant of \$2,277 for our seniors.

PAKACHOAG SCHOOL FIRE PREVENTION WEEK



Fire Prevention Week was a big success this year as our firefighters visited all of our elementary schools spreading the message, "Fire Won't Wait, Plan Your Escape". Here is Firefighter/Paramedic Bill O'Connor with some students at the Pakachoag School. We are not sure who had more fun, Firefighter O'Connor or the kids.

Have you talked about a family escape plan in your home? Not a bad time to discuss it.

ON THE ROAD WITH DPW...

\$5.00 XMAS Tree Composting – DPW Yard Waste (No sticker required)

The Auburn DPW is offering it's yearly X-mas Tree Disposal Program where for just \$5.00 you can drop of your old tree at the DPW Yard Waste Pile for it to be composted. No yearly sticker is required for this offer. Of course, if you have purchased a Yard Waste Sticker for this year already it will be FREE to drop off your old tree. This program will run through January 8th 2023, after which the Yard Waste Pile will be closed for the winter. The Yard Waste Pile will re-open in April 2023.



ROADWAY MAINTENANCE

The Highway Division of the Auburn DPW has been hard at work sealing cracks since the fall. Thanks to our warm summers and harsh New England winters, pavement will always produce cracks due to thermal expansion and contraction. These cracks are weak points in the armor protecting the structural base of the road. To help preserve the quality and extend the life of the paved roadways, we mend the “armor” by sealing the cracks with an asphalt sealant, as seen below. The first operator (left) applies the asphalt



sealant, while the second operator (right) applies a sealant finisher making it safe to drive on immediately.



In addition to crack sealing, the Highway Division has also been out filling potholes. Much like crack sealing, filling potholes with small batches of hot mix asphalt will help extend the life of the pavement, but more noticeably makes for a less bumpy ride.

RESIDENT SNOW AND ICE REMOVAL

It is prohibited to shovel, plow, snowblow, or otherwise place snow onto the street/sidewalk. This include plowing a driveway across a street to be deposited on the other side. See the Section 13.04 of the Town’s General bylaw for specific language (excerpt shown below).

13.04: Snow and Ice Onto or Across Public Property

- (1) No person, other than an employee or other person in the service of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or the Town of Auburn, shall direct, discharge, dump, shovel, pile, push, blow, plow, or deposit snow, ice, or water under conditions where water would be subject to freezing onto, into, or across any public way, including sidewalks, public property, or fire hydrants or cause, direct, sanction, or authorize any such activity involving snow, ice, or water on a public way or public property.

WINTER PARKING BAN

The yearly Parking Ban is currently in effect! Each year from November 1st through March 31st a parking ban for on street parking goes into effect from 1:00am-6:00am each day. Parking on street is also prohibited during snow storms, failure to remove vehicles prior to a snow storm could result in the ticketing and/or towing of the vehicle to allow proper space for the snow plows to clear the road.

ROADWAY PAVING PROGRAM FY2022

The Engineering Division of the Auburn DPW has awarded the contract for Roadway Reconstruction and Resurfacing to P.J. Albert, Inc. through the required public bidding process. P.J. Albert got an early start and was able to quickly begin construction this year. Drainage infrastructure (catch basins, pipes, manholes, etc) has been repaired and/or replaced and the pavement has been temporarily patched for the winter. This allows for the earth beneath the pavement to settle and further compact throughout the winter before P.J. Albert returns in the spring or early summer to repave the street in it's entirety. Ensuring good, even compaction is key in producing a smooth and even pavement throughout it's lifetime.



Below you can find the list of streets that are being repaved this fiscal year.

STREETLOCATION

Brook St Riverside Dr to Millbury town line
Bryn Mawr Ave Briarcliff Dr to Leicester St
Rock Ave Oxford St N to Bryn Mawr Ave
Eastford Rd Bryn Mawr Ave to White Oak St
Harvard Dr Eastford Rd to Vine St
White Oak St Harvard Dr to Vine St



EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

SEWER DEPARTMENT PERSONNEL



Employee Promotion – Alan Henrichon (Sewer Operations Foreman)

Alan has been an employee of the DPW since August of 2021. Alan started out as the Town Custodian, and soon moved to the Sewer Division as a Sewer Mechanic. Since that time Alan has shown great work ethic, leadership, and initiative, and has quickly learned the many different skills needed to help run the Town's extensive sewer system. Alan will be responsible for overseeing the day-to-day operations of the Sewer Division and helping manage the many needs of the sewer system. If you see Alan, please congratulate him on his hard work and please reach out to him if you have any sewer system questions!



New Employee Spotlight – Kevin Spillane

Kevin joined to the Town of Auburn DPW - Sewer Division this past August after having previously worked as a garbage collector and also as a restaurant manager for several years. In his time here Kevin has quickly shown great initiative, work ethic, and a great mechanical aptitude. He has also shown great leadership qualities and has quickly made a positive impact on the department. Kevin has his hoisting license and is in the process of obtaining his CDL.



New Employee Spotlight – Brandon Timmons

Brandon joined to the Town of Auburn DPW - Sewer Division this past September after having previously worked as a summer temporary employee for the Parks Division. Brandon showed a great work ethic in his times at the Parks department and continues to show that at the Sewer Division. We welcome Brandon's positive attitude and initiative to the Division. Brandon is in the process of obtaining his CDL and plans to obtain his hoisting license as well.



New Employee Spotlight – Parker Plona

Parker joined to the Town of Auburn DPW - Sewer Division in November after having previously worked several summers as a seasonal employee of the Pakachoag Golf Course. Parker's hard work and ability to quickly learn new tasks was noticed in his time at the Golf Course and continues to show at the Sewer Division. In his spare time Parker also works on the change-over crew setting up events at the DCU center. Parker is in the process of obtaining his CDL and plans to obtain his hoisting license as well.

Please welcome Kevin, Brandon, and Parker when you see them around town!

FLOODPLAIN DISTRICT ZONING BYLAW

Floods occur naturally and can happen almost anywhere. They may not even be near a body of water, although river and coastal flooding are two of the most common types. Heavy rains, poor drainage, and even nearby construction projects can put you at risk for flood damage.

Floods are unpredictable. Since flood risk is always changing, communities use tools to understand their risk and take actions to protect their families, homes and businesses.

Flood maps are one tool that communities use to know which areas have the highest risk of flooding. FEMA maintains and updates data through flood maps and risk assessments.

The Town of Auburn is included in FEMA's Flood Map Update for the Quinebaug River Watershed. This generally encompasses the western quarter of the town, the remainder of the town is within the Blackstone River Watershed. FEMA expects to issue a Letter of Final Determination (LFD) for Auburn in a few months for flood maps that will become effective in the spring of 2023.

After years of devastation from flooding across the nation, Congress created the National Flood Insurance Act of 1968 in an attempt to offer flood disaster relief in the form of insurance. This insurance would be available to residents of communities that voluntarily adopt and enforce floodplain management ordinances that meet at least minimum National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP or the Program) requirements.

As a participating National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) community, Auburn will need to adopt these new maps and update the town's Flood Bylaw at the annual Town Meeting in the spring of 2023, so that Auburn's status in the NFIP will remain active.

If you have questions regarding the soon to be released Quinebaug River Watershed flood maps or the proposed change to the town's Flood Bylaw contact Dr. Adam Menard at amenard@town.auburn.ma.us.



MASSDEP RECYCLING DIVIDENDS PROGRAM GRANT



The Town of Auburn is the recipient of a grant from the MassDEP Recycling Dividends Program in the amount of \$14,300!

We look forward to using the funds to improve our recycling and waste reduction education programs.

Residential Household Hazardous Waste Disposal Program

Sponsored by the Auburn Board of Health



Auburn residents can visit NEDT to drop off certain hazardous materials for safe and proper disposal. Each household will receive \$50 off the cost of disposal, once per year. Please contact the Board of Health at 508-832-7703 with any questions.

ITEMS ACCEPTED

- Latex and Oil-based Paints
- Fertilizers
- Automotive Fluids
- Carpet Cleaner
- Computers and Electronics
- Solvents and Thinners
- Gasoline
- Antifreeze
- Furniture Cleaners and Polish
- Pool Chemicals
- Monitors and Televisions
- Pesticides and Herbicides
- Motor Oil
- Corrosive Cleaners
- Glue and adhesives
- Driveway sealers

Ask about senior
and military
discounts!

ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED

- Ammunition
- Asbestos
- Reactive Chemicals (i.e. cyanides, water reactives)
- Commercial Waste
- Medical Waste/Sharps
- Unidentified Compressed Gas Cylinders
- Appliances/White Goods
- Explosives/Shock Sensitive Materials
- Radioactive Materials



New England Disposal Technologies
508-234-4440

83 Gilmore Drive · Sutton, MA 01590
www.NEDT.org

Please note, the Board of Health accepts mercury containing items, such as fluorescent bulbs, and batteries at the Town Hall and will continue to do so at no cost to residents.

2023 Recycling Calendar

January

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

February

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28				

March

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19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

April

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23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

May

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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	✱	30	31			

June

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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	

July

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16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

August

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13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

September

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October

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22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

November

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12	13	14	15	16	17	18
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26	27	28	29	30		

December

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24	✱	26	27	28	29	30
31						

RECYCLING COLLECTION FOR MONDAY-THURSDAY AND FRIDAY ROUTE-B

RECYCLING COLLECTION FOR FRIDAY ROUTE-A

PLEASE SEE NEXT PAGE FOR FRIDAY ROUTES STREET LISTINGS

RECYCLING WILL BE PICKED UP ON THE RECYCLING WEEKS ONLY. TRASH IS PICKED UP EVERY WEEK.

CARTS MUST BE CURBSIDE BY 7 AM ON COLLECTION DAY.

MAY 29-MEMORIAL DAY; JULY 4-INDEPENDENCE DAY; SEPT 4-LABOR DAY;

NOV 23-THANKSGIVING; DEC 25-CHRISTMAS

IF A HOLIDAY FALLS ON A WEEKEND, THERE WILL BE NO CHANGE IN THE SCHEDULE.

✱ IF YOUR TRASH AND/OR RECYCLING PICK UP FALLS ON ONE OF THE ABOVE HOLIDAYS, IT WILL BE DELAYED BY ONE DAY.

ALL SUBSEQUENT PICK UPS THAT WEEK WILL ALSO BE DELAYED BY ONE DAY

PLEASE CALL CASELLA WASTE AT 888-485-1469 OR

TOWN OF AUBURN DDIS-BOARD OF HEALTH AT 508-832-7703 WITH ANY QUESTIONS

JULIA BANCROFT APARTMENTS RIBBON CUTTING EVENT



The Julia Bancroft Apartments officially opened following a wonderful ribbon cutting event on December 16, 2022.

Speakers at the grand opening event included Karyn Polito, Lieutenant Governor; DHCD Undersecretary Jennifer Maddox, Senator Michael Moore, Representative Paul Frost, Town Manager Julie Jacobson, Select Board Chair Scott Wrenn, Assistant Town Manager/CFO Ed Kazanovicz, Pennrose De-

veloper Karmen Cheung and Regional Vice President Charlie Adams. Attendees included a number of town staff members and local residents.



This historic redevelopment project has been years in the making, with the goal that the structure be redeveloped into housing for seniors while keeping the historic façade intact. The Julia Bancroft Apartments provide 60 units of mixed-income housing for seniors 62 and older. Preference was given to Auburn residents



during the pre-application lottery period. This project would not have been possible without the perseverance and thoughtful design of the Pennrose development team, who own the building and handles the leasing of the units, and the hard work of so many local, state and federal officials.



In May 2022 Julia Bancroft's sister project, Mary D. Stone Apartments, opened at 10 Church Street. This project was also completed by Pennrose Development through a public-private partnership with the Town, federal and state officials

and agencies. Mary D. Stone Apartments won Affordable Housing Finance Magazine's Annual Readers' Choice Award for national Best Historic Rehab and Best Overall Development! At the Julia Bancroft ribbon cutting, Pennrose presented Town Administration with mementos celebrating this achievement!



DEVELOPMENT COORDINATING GROUP (DCG)

The Development Coordinating Group (DCG) reviewed approximately 51 projects and/or licenses in 2022! The DCG meets bi-monthly and consists of representatives from various municipal departments and the Auburn Water District. DCG reviews 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. 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 2023!

JOIN THE BUSINESS ROUNDTABLE

Are you an Auburn business owner or manager? If so, the Business Roundtable is looking for additional members. The Business Roundtable was created to encourage and foster regular communication between Town Staff and the business community in Auburn. The Roundtable meets quarterly to review important town updates and address any questions or concerns raised by the Business Roundtable members. This group provides valuable feedback to the Town Manager and Town Administration.

If you are interested in learning more about the Business Roundtable or would like to attend an upcoming meeting, please reach out to the Economic Development Coordinator, Brooke Hultgren, at bhultgren@town.auburn.ma.us or 508-832-7700.



Protect yourself, your family, and your community from COVID-19.

Get vaccinated and stay up to date.



The best protection against COVID-19 is staying up to date on COVID-19 vaccines. That means being fully vaccinated and getting a booster. Fully vaccinated people are much less likely to get sick or spread the virus that causes COVID-19, especially if they have their booster shot. Learn more at mass.gov/CovidVaccine

Take a test.




Testing for COVID-19 is widely available, including at-home rapid tests. Get tested if you have symptoms. Learn more at mass.gov/GetTested

Get treatment.



If you test positive, talk to your doctor right away about treatment options that are available for people who have mild to moderate symptoms. Learn more at mass.gov/CovidTreatments

Stay home when you are sick.



Staying home helps prevent the spread of illness.

Mask up if you need to.



Learn more at mass.gov/MaskUpMA

Enable MassNotify on your Smartphone.



MassNotify is an anonymous tool that works to alert users who may have been exposed to COVID-19. Learn more at mass.gov/MassNotify

Wash your hands.



Wash your hands often with soap and warm water. Or use hand sanitizer with at least 60% alcohol.

Learn more at mass.gov/CovidVaccine



FREE AT-HOME COVID-19 TEST KITS



PICK UP LOCATIONS:

Auburn Public Library, 369 Southbridge St

Auburn Senior Center, 4 Goddard Dr

Town Hall, 104 Central Street- DDIS Office, 2nd Floor

SHOULD I BE TESTED?

You should get a test for COVID-19 if:

You develop *any* symptoms of COVID-19, even if they are mild, **or**

On day 6 following an exposure to someone who has tested positive for COVID-19
You can consider testing before spending time with someone who is at high risk for severe COVID-19 (due to older age or medical conditions) especially if you are in an area with medium or high [COVID-19 Community Level](#).

For detailed information, visit the CDC's webpage: [Testing for COVID-19](#)

You can also call 2-1-1, a 24-hour state-supported telephone hotline.



Public Health
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

AUBURN BOARD OF HEALTH

Any Questions? Please call: 508-832-7703

Using a COVID-19
Rapid Test

You can take a rapid
test at home or
anywhere!

They are easy to use
and give you rapid
results.

Self-tests may be
used if you have
COVID-19 symptoms
or have been
exposed to an
individual with
COVID-19.

PCR tests are not
required to confirm
rapid antigen test

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 services are available to Auburn residents age 60 and over or younger disabled residents by scheduling at least (2) days in advance of your appointment. Please call the WRTA at 508-752-9283 to register for an account or to schedule a ride.

Upcoming January 2023 Special Programs

Please call the Senior Center to register for the programs listed below, 508-832-7799

January 10 at 1:00pm – Dementia Presentation – Dr. Clermont will present the latest information on this disease

January 11 at 1:00pm – Better Breathers support group - Education and support for those who experience respiratory & pulmonary disease. Facilitated by Cheryl Firth from CareOne at Millbury

January 18 at 1:00pm – Osteoporosis and low bone density can cause fractures and significant health problems. Learn more about this topic from Dr. Lingisetty, Chief Medical Officer of eternalHealth

January 24 at 1:00pm -Floral Arrangement class with Herbert Berg Florist
Make a fresh floral arrangement with white and blue flowers, \$15.00 payable upon registration

January 30 at 12:45pm – Singer/Songwriter Heather Rae will be performing at the Senior Center. Join us for a musical afternoon.

January 31 at 11:00am – Public Safety building presentation with Fire Rescue Chief Stephen Coleman and Police Chief Todd Lemon. Learn about the need for new building, plans, time line, funding, etc

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.

SHINE Program



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 For other regions call 1-800-243-4636 and wait for the

SHINE prompt. Visit Central Mass website (www.shinema.org) for useful information and applications for various programs.

FASCA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE FOR 2023

FASCA (Friends of the Auburn Senior Center) is a non-profit fundraising group that supports the Auburn Senior Center. They help pay for many of the events held at the Senior Center and assist with purchasing needed supplies. Please re-new or register for a FASCA yearly or lifetime membership. If you would like to re-new, please submit a check for \$5.00 for one year or \$50.00 for a lifetime membership. With your paid membership your name will be submitted into a monthly drawing with a chance to win \$25.00. The Senior Center relies on the generous financial assistance from FASCA. Thank you for your contribution. Yearly memberships expired on December 31, 2022.

Please make checks payable to: FASCA. Checks/cash can be mailed or dropped off at the Senior Center:

FASCA, Auburn Senior Center, 4 Goddard Drive, Auburn, MA 01501

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

Elder Services of Worcester: 508-756-1545

Fuel Assistance: 508-754-1176

Mass Health: 1-800-841-2900

Medicare Help line: 1-800-333-4114

Shine: 1-800-243-4636

Social Security Administration: 1-800-772-1213

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

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

Veterans: 1-800-698-2411

Auburn Town Hall: 508-832-7720

Auburn Food Pantry: 508-798-8779

Auburn Fire Department: 508-832-7800



UGLY SWEATER CONTEST



On Monday, December 5, the Senior Center had an ugly sweater contest and Christmas sing-a-long. Larry Lewis sang a variety of Christmas songs and we enjoyed singing along with him. Life Care Center of Auburn donated trays of peppermint and melted snowman cookies which were delicious. The winner with the ugliest sweater was Delores Withers and the 2nd place winner was Theresa Chad. We thank everyone for participating!

Christmas Party December 16, 2022

FASCA (Friends of the Auburn Senior Center) sponsored the annual Christmas Party on December 16, 2023. Delicious appetizers, Christmas punch, coffee and a luncheon began the festivities. The seniors were then entertained by Bill McCarthy who sang a variety of Christmas classics. Santa and Mrs. Claus joined the party and gave gifts to all the seniors in attendance. Thank you to Table Talk pies for their donations for dessert.



Dot Gargolinski & Gerry Gauthier – getting ready for the party!



Bob Breault & Gloria Whorton – ready to greet the guests .



Geri Hallas, Terry Bradley, Pat Fauvel, Bev Geddes & Barbara Powers – our nutrition crew!



George Fournier, Lynne Guittar, Maureen Kuchnick & Alison Merriam- FASCA members.



Seniors enjoying the party!



Great food and music!



Santa giving gifts to all those on his good list!



Rudolph, AKA – Delores Withers

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. The Flagtime Flyer newsletter is also online www.auburnguide.com

Monday:

10:00am – senior sweat, \$3.00 donation
10:00am – walking club, Auburn Mall, meet at the food court
10:00am – knit and stitch
10:00am – 11:30am - blood pressure clinic, 1st Monday of the month
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
11:00am – tai chi, \$3.00 donation (begins on January 10, 2023)
12:00pm – lunch (reserve 2 days in advance, call 508-832-7799)
1:00pm – Let's move together – exercise, \$3.00 donation
6:30pm - pitch

Wednesday:

9:30am – knit and stitch
10:00am – walking club, Auburn Mall, meet at the food court
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

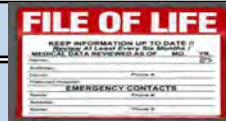
Thursday:

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 – 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

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.

ON GOING ACTIVITIES

Canasta



Only
\$2

Looking
For More
Players

Every Monday
12:45pm

Adult Coloring Club

Join Jessie Harrington
for a relaxing hobby.

Every Monday
10:30am — No Charge



Cribbage



Every Wed.—6:00pm

Would you like to join the
Auburn Senior Center's
WALKING CLUB?



Please call
USHA VERMA
508-832-7799
if you are interested.

We meet Every Mon. & Wed. at
10:00am at Auburn Mall

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.

Tai Chi

with **Sifu Gary Lachapelle** certified fitness instructor
Every Tues. 11:00am – \$3.00 class donation
Includes rhythmic patters of movement in a slow manner.

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 11:00am – \$3.00 class donation
Increase flexibility & improve joint health
& mental clarity.

CHAIR Dancing

with **Forty Arroyo**, instructor
Every Tuesday & Thursday 10:00am – \$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 creates positive effects on our health, well-being,
sleep problems, chronic pain, anxiety & depression.

Blood Pressure Clinic

with **Care Central VNA & Hospice - No Charge**
Every 1st Monday of the month 10:00 - 11:30am
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.

KNIT & STITCH

Every Wed 9:30am—11:00am

Socialize and make new
friends while working on
your project. Join the fun!



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

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

REFLECTIONS FROM FALL 2022



Auburn Public Library **Connecting our Community**

It has been a busy Fall for the Auburn Public Library! In addition to continuing our upward, post-pandemic trajectory of reuniting with our patrons in person, we also continue to expand and redesign our programs and collections to support the evolving needs of our patrons.



Auburn Public Library Welcomes New Board Member

We extend a sincere welcome to the newest member of the Auburn Public Library Board of Trustees, Stephen Redding. Stephen was unanimously appointed by the Select Board and the Library Board of Trustees at a joint meeting on Monday, December 12, 2022.

Stephen's appointment fills a vacancy until the May 16, 2023 annual town meeting, at which time Mr. Redding and other potential candidates will be added to the election ballot to fill the permanent three-year seat. We are excited to have Mr. Redding as our newest member of the Board and appreciate his commitment to the Library and the Town of Auburn. We look forward to working with him!

Partnering with the Auburn Public Schools

KINDERGARTEN

We were delighted to once again be able to welcome our Auburn Public School Bryn Mawr and Pakachoag Kindergarten students to the Library for a field trip! One hundred sixty-eight children toured the Children's Room, listened to stories in the Merriam Room, relaxed with Vox and other books, and chose a book to borrow during their visits.

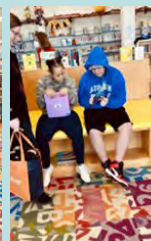
Special thanks to Julie Benoit and Dawn Fenuccio, reading specialists for the Auburn Public Schools, for collaborating with the Library Director on busses and schedules to allow for the eight kindergarten classes to visit over two days! They also helped to coordinate registrations for Library cards. A total of 147 children received their first Auburn Public Library cards, along with book bags containing incentives, welcome letters, and literacy documents and activities.



RISE

We also welcomed students from the RISE (Reaching Independence through Support and Education) Special Education program, partnering with Brittany Cronin, facilitator of the Special Needs Education and Life Skills program at Auburn High School.

Seven children and their instructional aids and teachers visited the Library for an hour on Friday October 21st. Children listened to stories, engaged with Library staff members, completed a craft, toured the Children's Room, and chose books to bring home. At the end of their visit, RISE visitors also received take-home book bags that included incentives and literacy activities. For many, it was their first visit to the Library and we look forward to hosting them for additional visits in the future!



Vox™ Library: Our collection of Vox books, now numbers 409, far more than any other library in the state. We continue to add new titles as they become available, and they continue to circulate consistently and in significant numbers, to Auburn residents and many patrons from surrounding towns. Vox books – ‘books that talk’ – are an innovative design that includes built-in readers. The design enables children to listen to an audio recording directly from a printed book, promoting literacy through audio and other sensory experiences, through an easy push-button format. Vox books are shelved in their own cozy section, the ‘Vox Corner’ in the Children's Room, where children are frequently seen seated in the bean bag chairs while they peruse interesting titles. The “Vox Corner” is always in use!



Program Redesign: We redesigned our toddler program to add sensory/curiosity boxes to the activities, which have been very well received. We also offer break-out sessions for older children who accompany their younger siblings to the programs. The break-out sessions are in the same room and at the same time as the toddler program. Both program sections are library staff-led, focusing on age-appropriate stories and activities.

STEM for ages 3-5!



Thank you to the Auburn Cultural Council for providing the funds to host two STEM programs for ages 3-5. Children followed along with Library staff ‘Lego-leaders’ and socialized while assembling fire trucks – and then of course had to have time to test their creations!



Friends of the Auburn Public Library

We would like to acknowledge the hard work of the Friends of the Auburn Public Library, who generously dedicate many hours of their time to sort through book donations for sale in the foyer and at book sales. The Friends, led by the energetic President Linda Dattis, diligently sort and clean donated books that are in excellent condition, selling them and then providing the proceeds to the Library for programs, decorations and other items to help supplement the Library budget. We are very appreciative of their positive energies and their efforts!

HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION



Our Halloween program was our busiest ever - with approximately 240 children and their families participating! On a picture-perfect Saturday morning in October, Library staff and families first gathered to parade outside, around the building. Visitors joyfully scuffed through the leaves, listened to stories at the Halloween stops, trick-or-treated at various stops, crossed the Halloween Bridge to "The Monster Mash" music, and visited 'Bubble Land', chasing thousands of bubbles released from our bubble machines, and then joined Library staff in performing 'We're going on a Witch Hunt'!

After the parade, everyone gathered inside to participate in the scavenger hunts and additional activities in the Children's Room and the Merriam Room. More than 200 visitors participated in activities in the Children's Room alone. In the Merriam Room, the celebration continued; approximately 720 crafts, including pumpkin decorating, ghouls in a bottle, Halloween crowns, Halloween Mystery Boxes and much more were created, decorated, and enjoyed by everyone. Most people stayed at least an hour and a half, making for a very busy, fun Saturday!

BEMIS CRAFT PROGRAM

Our ever-popular Auburn Public Library / Bemis Partnership Programs continue to bring many community residents together for a fun, productive evening of making a high-quality craft. The program to the right is the Fall Lantern Centerpiece Program, held in October. All Bemis craft programs always quickly fill to capacity, with wait lists. When possible, a second session is added to accommodate as many patrons as possible.



UPCOMING PROGRAMS

Upcoming adult programs include Building a Plant Terrarium, assembling an AeroGarden™ and learning about Hydroponics, Ukrainian Egg Decorating, and others still in the queue. We also continue with our ever-popular toddler program twice each week and will once again offer a Young Scientist STEM program for two age groups in the spring, in addition to programs from Hands on Nature, Learning about and Making RainSticks from ART Ventures, Tribal Masks from ART Ventures, multiple in-house STEM Lego programs, and others. Stay in

REGISTER FOR CONSTANT CONTACT!

If you would like to know about our programs and services as soon as they are open for registration, join the more than 760 patrons who have registered their household for our email notification system, [Constant Contact](mailto:ConstantContact@auburnlibrary.org), via the link available at the top of our home page at www.auburnlibrary.org. Program and informational updates will be sent to your electronic mailbox weekly, or as information is updated. You may opt out at any time with the click of a button.



RECREATION AND CULTURE

The Auburn Recreation and Culture Department had a busy fall. We held our last Farmers' and Cultural Market of the season along with the last Summer Concert in the Park performance of 2022 at the Dr. Arthur and Dr. Martha Pappas Recreation Complex. It was a great season with wonderful music as well as great farmers and artisans along with food trucks and an ice cream truck.



Our first pickle ball league was held at Lemansky Park on Saturdays which was such a hit that now they play indoors at Swanson Road Intermediate School on Wednesday nights. Yoga is held on Wednesday mornings at the Mary D Stone Apartments. We have had such a great turn out that we will be relocating to the Julia Bancroft Apartments as they have a larger community room. Yoga is also held on Friday mornings at Pakachoag Church. We offered tennis lessons for grades one through five on Saturdays and we had a great turn out.

The Annual Fall Festival and Homecoming at the Auburn High School showcased amazing artisans, a truck load of pumpkins donated by Lungren Honda, and great kids' crafts donated by Home Depot. The band, Petty Larceny, was wonderful. It was a great day to be outside, watch great athletic games, listen to live music, and visit great vendors and artists.

The Wednesday night coed basketball program was so popular that we added a second night on Tuesday evenings. This will resume soon. We started a new volleyball league for Middle School and High School students. A second evening was added as it was so popular. Zumba was held on Wednesday nights and the Auburn Fit Club at the High School is still running. The Pop Pilates runs twice a week on Mondays and Thursdays while the Coed Adult Soccer league ran all summer and fall on Sunday nights at the High School. We also offered open gym on Tuesday nights. Unified coed basketball runs every Wednesday night at Swanson Road Intermediate School through the winter.

The Annual Holiday Tree Lighting, next to Fire Station headquarters, once again attracted a large crowd. Santa's arrival on a fire engine was a thrill while attendees enjoyed the renovated park area and gorgeous new gazebo, part of the Auburn Street Reconstruction Project. The Auburn High School Band played while the Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts handed out lyrics for the sing along. Delicious homemade cookies from the Culinary Department at Bay Path as well as hot cocoa, marshmallows, and hot coffee were enjoyed by all.



The Annual Holiday Craft Fair featured 170 artisans while there were over one hundred vendors on a wait list. There were four food trucks at the event with shuttle parking for vendors. It was a wonderful day and Santa even stopped by.

CRAFT FAIR AND SPECIAL OLYMPICS SUNDAY MARCH 19TH

Please join us for the Special Olympics basketball games and the Craft Fair at Auburn High School on Sunday, March 19th from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

Details we be posted on the Town's website at auburnguide.com.



Special Olympics
Massachusetts



January



Recreation & Culture Calendars

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 	2 	3 	4 9:30 am Yoga Unified Basketball 6-8:00 pm Pickle Ball SWS Auburn Fit club AHS 6pm	5 Pop Pilates 5:45 pm-6:45 pm Senior Center	6 	7 Coed basketball \$5.00 residents \$7.00 non residents
8 Unified Basketball is held at Swanson Road Intermediate School	9 Pop Pilates 5:45 pm-6:45 pm Auburn High School \$10 drop in or 10 weeks for \$60	10 Coed basketball Over 20 Auburn High School 8:30-10:00p m	11 9:30 am Yoga Unified Iball 6pm Pickle Ball SWS Auburn Fit club AHS 6pm Over 40 Iball 8:30 pm	12 Pop Pilates 5:45 pm-6:45 pm Auburn High School	13 9:30 am Yoga Pakachoag Church	14 Auburn Fit Club Unified Basketball Pickleball no charge
15 	16 	17 Coed basketball Over 20 Auburn High School 8:30-10:00p m	18 9:30 am Yoga Unified Iball 6pm Pickle Ball SWS Auburn Fit club AHS 6pm Over 40 Iball 8:30 pm	19 Pop Pilates 5:45 pm-6:45 pm Auburn High School	20 9:30 am Yoga Pakachoag Church	21
22 	23 Pop Pilates 5:45 pm-6:45 pm Auburn High School \$10 drop in or 10 weeks for \$60	24 Coed basketball Over 20 Auburn High School 8:30-10:00p m	25 9:30 am Yoga Unified Iball 6pm Pickle Ball SWS Auburn Fit club AHS 6pm Over 40 Iball 8:30 pm	26 Pop Pilates 5:45 pm-6:45 pm Auburn High School	27 9:30 am Yoga Pakachoag Church	28
29 	30 Pop Pilates 5:45 pm-6:45 pm Auburn High School \$10 drop in or	31 Coed basketball Over 20 Auburn High School 8:30-10:00p m	All programs sponsored by Auburn Recreation and Culture Department Auburnside.com		Pop Pilates and Yoga \$10 drop in or 10 weeks for \$60	29 Check only made out to town of Auburn Thank you



FEBRUARY

2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 	Craft Fair & Special Olympics Massachusetts March 19th	Wednesday Yoga is held at Mary D Stone Apartments	1 9:30 am Yoga Unified Iball 6pm Pickle Ball SWS Auburn Fit club AHS 6pm Over 40 Iball 8:30 pm	2 Pop Pilates 5:45 pm-6:45 pm Auburn High School 	3 9:30 am Yoga Pakachoag Church	4 Coed basketball \$5.00 residents \$7.00 non residents
5 Unified Basketball and Pickle Ball is held at Swanson Road Intermediate School	6 Pop Pilates 5:45 pm-6:45 pm Auburn High School \$10 drop in or 10 weeks for \$60	7 Coed basketball Over 20 Auburn High School 8:30-10:00p m	8 9:30 am Yoga Unified Iball 6pm Pickle Ball SWS Auburn Fit club AHS 6pm Over 40 Iball 8:30 pm	9 Pop Pilates 5:45 pm-6:45 pm Auburn High School	10 9:30 am Yoga Pakachoag Church	11
12 	13 Pop Pilates 5:45 pm-6:45 pm Auburn High School	14 Coed basketball Over 20 Auburn High School 8:30-10:00p m Happy Valentine's Day	15 9:30 am Yoga Unified Iball 6pm Pickle Ball SWS Auburn Fit club AHS 6pm Over 40 Iball 8:30 pm	16 Pop Pilates 5:45 pm-6:45 pm Auburn High School	17 9:30 am Yoga Pakachoag Church	18 Auburn Fit Club Unified Basketball Pickleball no charge
19 	20 Pop Pilates 5:45 pm-6:45 pm Auburn High School 	21 Coed basketball Over 20 Auburn High School 8:30-10:00p m	22 9:30 am Yoga Unified Iball 6pm Pickle Ball SWS Auburn Fit club AHS 6pm Over 40 Iball 8:30 pm	23 Pop Pilates 5:45 pm-6:45 pm Auburn High School	24 9:30 am Yoga Pakachoag Church	25 Pop Pilates and Yoga \$10 drop in or 10 weeks for \$60
26 	27 Pop Pilates 5:45 pm-6:45 pm Auburn High School	28 Coed basketball Over 20 Auburn High School 8:30-10:00p m	All programs sponsored by Auburn Recreation and Culture Department Auburnside.com		Check only made out to town of Auburn Thank you	Auburn Recreation and Culture Department 508-832-7736

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 2023.

