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Subject Med Day, smoker plug, pickleball update, more Montrose

News Recap & Peak Into The Week

-Sept. 23, 2024-

A Welcome Return of Nature...

In the early days of living in her house by the pond, summer nights were filled with lightning bugs and the flutter of black wings all around the yard.

She and her husband would watch a dozen or so of the nocturnal creatures in awe, knowing they were a vital part of the ecosystem, keeping nature in balance.

But over the span of about 30 years, the flying mammals somehow vanished. She didn't realize how much she missed them until they were gone.

Then, on the night of a recent lunar eclipse under a bright full moon, the creatures magically returned. She couldn't take her eyes off the bats as they flew excitedly overhead, as if celebrating a homecoming.

Though her attempts to capture photos of the extra-speedy creatures failed, she took in the night sky with a sense of awe and wonder, leaving the photography to the gifts of the Internet. She sure wouldn't mind a repeat performance of picture-perfect evenings in the days ahead, and an inkling that all is not lost with nature.

(Photo credit: Creative Commons)

The Week Ahead...

(When "**Executive Session**" is noted, it means a private meeting is scheduled, as allowed by law, only for [specific topics](#). While the public is not permitted to attend these sessions, each one must be preceded by a brief public meeting to allow citizens to learn the reason for the private session.)

[Monday, Sept. 23 - Select Board site visit \(86 Plain St.\)](#), 11 a.m. -- Key topic: Proposed 40B "Winder Estates" site visit, former alpaca farm at 86 Plain St.

[Monday, Sept. 23 - Medfield Outreach Advisory Board](#), 6 p.m. -- Key topics: General and prevention updates, including interns, youth leadership program, funding, "Raising the Bar" and suicide prevention awareness; needs-based updates, including backpack distribution, birthday wishes and community outreach; and upcoming programming, including Medfield Day.

[Wednesday, Sept. 25 -- Parks & Recreation Commission](#), 6 p.m. -- Key topics: Disc golf course, capital projects, Metacomet tennis courts (current lighting and future plans), upcoming events and middle school ski program.

*Meetings may be held in person, virtually via Zoom, or using a hybrid format. **Notices should be read closely to determine how the meetings will be held.***

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Swap Closes Saturday, Sept. 28;

Reduced Hours, Help Needed

The **Swap at Transfer Station** will close for the season on **Saturday, Sept. 28**.

These specific times are noted:

- * **Drop-offs** only allowed until **11 a.m.**
- * **Shopping** only allowed until **12 p.m.**
- * Packing up donated items for charity will take place from 12 to 4 p.m.

Volunteers are needed throughout the day, and also on **Oct. 2, 4 and 5** from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., and possibly the week after.

Packing, storing tables, shelves and other supplies are among the tasks required. [Contact Nancy Irwin for additional details or to confirm volunteer participation.](#)

Sept. 28 is Medfield Day, so volunteers are asked to plan accordingly.

Fall Hydrant Flushing

Begins Sunday, Sept. 29

Hydrant flushing will begin **Sunday, Sept. 29** and continue through **Friday, Oct. 11** ultimately reaching every neighborhood.

[More information, including a link to the specific zones/street schedules, can be found here.](#)

The flushing program helps to clean Medfield water mains and improve water quality.

Rosebay Project on Slow Track; Developer Eludes Neighbors

For more than a year, **Pound Street** neighbors and town officials have sought to discuss the **resubmitted Rosebay project** proposal with NewGate Housing developer Brian McMillin, but he has eluded them.

Even Medfield Housing Authority board members were repeatedly told by Executive Director Candace Avery that McMillin would be in attendance at meetings to discuss the 45-unit project, but he would cancel at the last minute. However, without any advanced (or public) notice, McMillin showed up at a January 2024 MHA board meeting.

More recently, on Sept. 4, McMillin appeared at a **Council on Aging board** meeting to discuss a "senior housing project proposal." The agenda made no mention that he would be in attendance, or that the project proposal was Rosebay. He was apparently invited to the meeting by the COA board chair.

Avery announced to the MHA board on Aug. 13 that the Rosebay project had been approved by the state in July, but no details were shared regarding who granted the approval, and no written documentation was made available.

A public records request of the Executive Office of Housing and Livable Communities resulted in receipt of a year-old [letter to former MHA board chair Lisa Donovan, with Avery copied](#). The letter provides conditional approval to transfer the surplus land, subject to a contract for financial assistance for development of affordable housing, plus other stipulations. Medfield Land Use and Planning Director Maria De La Fuente noted that she had not seen the 2023 letter.

De La Fuente explained that when the Rosebay developer applies to the state for a Project Eligibility Letter (which is a prerequisite for the local Comprehensive Permit application), it is required to notify the town. The state then has 90 days from receipt to approve or deny the project, and the town has 30 days from receipt to submit feedback.

De La Fuente also confirmed that she has not received any notifications regarding a Project Eligibility Letter (PEL) request, which then allows the developer to apply for a Comprehensive Permit with the town. At that point, Medfield will then be required to either approve or deny the entire proposed development. Even if Medfield is nearing "Safe Harbor" with a need for 25 units, for example, it cannot seek to lower the number of units in any project, even if it proposes more units than what the town needs.

ConComm Holds First Hearing

on Montrose School/Field Plan

On Sept. 19 **Conservation Commission** held its first public hearing on the **Montrose School "campus improvement plan"** with about 12 school representatives/consultants present, plus Medfield community members.

Montrose School was founded in 1978, and is a private Catholic girls school serving 257 students in grades 6 through 12.

Montrose representatives stated the proposed project is a continuation of redevelopment efforts launched after the **29 North St.** property was purchased in **2005**.

Proposed work includes:

- * Field replacement and expansion using **artificial turf**,
- * **Expanded landscaping**,
- * Changes to **parking and traffic circulation**,
- * Changes to **pedestrian ways**, and
- * Repair/replacement of **foot bridges over Vine Brook**, plus construction of a **pond platform** as part of a larger "living classroom" project.

As noted by the lead consultant, Vine Brook is a perennial stream that runs north/south through the campus. Proposed work will take place in the riverfront area.

After Montrose representatives provided a detailed presentation on the proposed project, Conservation Commission members focused their discussion not so much on project details, but on how the commission might structure its review moving forward.

Members discussed how they would **coordinate efforts with other town boards and committees**, including shared use of **independent peer reviewers** who would represent town interests. However, at the last Planning Board hearing, a Montrose project leader expressed concerns about the proposed cost of those peer reviews -- an expense Montrose would shoulder for Medfield site plan and traffic studies.

As of Sept. 3, the estimated cost for peer review was nearly **\$14,000**, but did not include any **stormwater-related peer reviews** -- something both Conservation Commission and Board of Health will require, especially since artificial turf is proposed.

Beyond commission member feedback, input from members of the public included concerns about **flooding from Montrose runoff**, especially after significant rainfall.

Project reviews continue

Along with Planning Board, Conservation Commission will continue holding public hearings on the Montrose School project.

While the "**Dover Amendment**" significantly limits Planning Board zoning-related oversight/control over the Montrose project, Conservation Commission does not have the same constraints, according to various case law and legal opinions, including [one regarding the Martha's Vineyard Regional High School artificial turf project](#). ("Dover Amendment" is the common name for Massachusetts General Law Chapter 40A, Section 3, which exempts agricultural, religious and educational uses from certain zoning restrictions.)

Future Montrose School-related public hearing dates (subject to change) include:

- * **Oct. 1 -- Board of Health**
- * **Oct. 3 -- Conservation Commission**
- * **Oct. 7 -- Planning Board**

While Department of Public Works does not have a public review/hearing process for the school, DPW has been reviewing the Montrose plan and will be providing its input to other town boards, according to one commission member.

The [Montrose presentation to Planning Board and Conservation Commission is available here](#), but the file is very large, so downloading may be difficult.

Community members can submit written comments about the Montrose project (or any others under review) [via e-mail to Maria De La Fuente, Director of Land Use and Planning](#).

In other business, Conservation Commission voted to allow Division of Capital Asset Management (DCAMM) to proceed with its well-monitoring project at the former Medfield State Hospital site without further review, and the hearing for the proposed 40B development, "Winder Estates," at 86 Plain St. (former alpaca farm) was continued to **Thursday, Oct. 3**.

Other future commission hearings and agenda items include a DCAMM request for a "Certificate of Compliance" for work at the former Medfield State Hospital site, 88 Bridge St., an Eagle Scout project, and

Smokers' Advocate Speaks Up at Board of Health Meeting

The recent Board of Health meeting via Zoom had an **out-of-town guest**: Stephen Helfer, co-founder of Cambridge Citizens for Smokers' Rights.

Apparently seeing the topic of **tobacco regulations** on the meeting agenda, Helfer said he was in attendance to speak up against a "**generational smoking ban**" that has been increasingly implemented in towns and cities across Massachusetts. However, Board of Health Chair Stephen Resch told Helfer that the ban was not the subject of proposed changes to tobacco regulations for Medfield.

"So far, the Medfield edits contemplated have not addressed generational regulations -- only the **different types** of (nicotine) products we're missing that should be included, and a **sunsetting provision** for tobacco sales licensing," said Resch. (The sunsetting provision would end the automatic transfer of a tobacco sales license from an existing retailer to someone who buys the business in Medfield.)

Helfer has been fighting tobacco controls and anti-smoking legislation for about 30 years, with the generational sales ban his recent focus. With many Board of Health meetings now held via Zoom, virtual attendance makes his advocacy efforts easier.

The generational nicotine sales ban, as recently covered in the ***Boston Globe***, began to snowball after Massachusetts Supreme Judicial Court upheld a Brookline bylaw that banned the sale of nicotine products to **anyone born after Jan. 1, 2000**. The bylaw went into effect in 2020.

The Globe has reported that a number of communities have since passed similar generational nicotine sales bans, including Stoneham, Wakefield, Melrose, Malden, Winchester and Reading, and that Newton, Lexington and Medford have the topic on their radar.

Proponents of the generational nicotine sales ban tout the health benefits of the action, while opponents cite economic harm to retailers.

[Massachusetts Boards of Health data](#) shows that as of 2011-2015, Medfield had an adult smoking rate of 9.4 percent of its overall population, considered low.

[Gallup poll results released last month](#) show that a majority of adults believe nicotine products, with the exception of pouches, to be harmful.

MHS Pickleball Paused,

Metacomet Plans TBD

Superintendent Jeffrey Marsden shared with School Committee last week that a \$235,000 **quote for tennis court repairs and fencing at Medfield High School had been received**, and that the add-on costs for pickleball lines, sound proofing and basketball court were not included "in this project" (leaving the possibility open for the future). The contract for the tennis court work is still to be executed.

At **Metacomet Park**, the story may be different, as Parks & Recreation Director Katie Walper brings forth tennis court expansion and possible pickleball plans to the Parks & Recreation Commission at its [upcoming meeting on Wednesday, Sept. 25](#). Walper had said at a meeting earlier in the year that she planned to pursue pickleball at the Metacomet courts.

Across the Commonwealth, as pickleball has gained in popularity and more outdoor courts have been created, neighbors in earshot of the courts have become increasingly vocal about the unwanted noise. As a result, plans for new court installations have been met with more opposition, with attorneys and sound engineers brought on to plead neighbors' cases to town officials.

In Falmouth, [a settlement agreement announced in May](#) resulted in the closing of pickleball courts, and Braintree residents [told NBC Boston 10](#) they are eyeing a similar path after soundproofing measures failed.

[WBUR also released a story](#) about legal action in other parts of the country, and how the sound of pickleball has affected neighborhoods, not just with sound issues but also divisiveness.

In July, the [Needham Observer reported](#) on the ongoing feud between Needham pickleball and tennis players over court access, to the point of vandalism and police involvement. At Medfield 2024 Town Meeting, tennis players spoke up against the prospect of tennis courts being converted to pickleball.

Contributing to the problem is a lack of town bylaws that mandate public review of proposed pickleball courts, with abutters notified. During deliberations on a recent Medfield Zoning Board of Appeals permit request for a sports court in a residential neighborhood, members expressed concerns about the challenge of pickleball noise, declining property values, and their inability to address the various issues through the permitting process. In a village on Long Island, a consultant provided [recommendations for a sample bylaw](#).

Town Clerk Shares Early Voting

Details for November Election

While the 2024 Presidential/State Election is **Tuesday, Nov. 5**, Medfield residents registered to vote have the option of voting early in person between **Oct. 21 and Nov. 1** [based on this detailed schedule](#).

Included in the early voting schedule is **one Saturday option** on **Oct. 26** from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Early voting takes place on the second floor of **Medfield Town House**. Voters are requested to use the rear elevator entrance.

For anyone **not already registered to vote**, 5 p.m., **Saturday, Oct. 26** is the deadline to do so. Anyone not registered to vote by then **cannot vote in the Nov. 5 election**. [Voters can check their voting status here.](#)

Vote-by-mail is also an option, but it first requires submission of a **ballot application** that must be received by Medfield Town Clerk no later than **5 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 29**. Registered voters would have received ballot applications via U.S. Postal Service mail about a week ago.

Once the actual vote-by-mail ballot is received from Town Clerk, it should be returned to the Town House by 8 p.m. on Nov. 5. It **should not** be brought to the polls.

Vote-by-mail applications and ballots can be dropped off at the Town House using the indoor drop-box on the first floor, or the outdoor box behind the Town House.

For any voter who requested a vote-by-mail ballot and decides to vote in person instead, should go to the Town Clerk office before voting in person.

Traditional in-person voting on Election Day, Nov. 5, takes place at The Center at 1 Ice House Road. Poll hours are 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.

In preparation for elections, an electronic version of the [Information for Voters booklet](#) that was mailed to homes is now available. In addition to voter registration and voting details, the booklet includes information about these five 2024 ballot questions (as noted in booklet):

- * State Auditor authority to audit the legislature;
- * Elimination of MCAS as a high school graduation requirement;
- * Unionization for transportation network drivers;
- * Limited legalization/regulation of certain natural psychedelic substances; and
- * Minimum wage for tipped workers.

News Briefs & Reminders...

-Town Administrator Kristine Treirweiler recently shared that **Brittney Franklin**, assistant to town administrator and public information coordinator, had her baby (Anna Rose) on Sept. 5. During her absence, Tracey Klenk, Assistant Town Clerk, and resident Joanne Lafrancesca, will be assisting with duties typically

handled by Franklin.

-**Select Board** spent more than 40 minutes of its Sept. 17 meeting discussing the controversial **gate proposed by a Grist Mill Road homeowner** on his property behind the town-owned **Kingsbury Pond Gristmill site**. While Conservation Commission approved the gate from a wetlands perspective, a [Conservation Easement filed with the deed](#) by the owner/developer in 1992 states that "No building, sign, utility pole, or other temporary or permanent structure accessory to any residential, commercial, or industrial purpose shall be constructed, placed, or permitted to remain in the Easement Area." The easement document also gives the town the right to enforce the terms. Grist Mill Road and Preservation Way neighbors whose properties had been part of a homeowner's association when the subdivisions were created, and with guaranteed pond and trail access, spoke up in opposition to the proposed gate. [The Gristmill discussion with Select Board can be viewed here.](#)

-**The Senior Tax Work-Off Program** is gearing up again. Applications will be available at The Center on **Tuesday, Oct. 1**. Completed applications are due back to the COA by **Monday, Oct. 28**. The Senior Tax Work-Off Program is open to senior citizens (60 years or older) who own property and pay real estate taxes in the Town of Medfield. Participants will be expected to complete 67 hours of service in the program year, which runs from Nov. 1, 2024 to Oct. 18, 2025. A \$1,000 property tax credit minus any required withholdings will be applied to the participant's actual real estate bill, due Feb 1, 2026 and May 1, 2026. [More information is available here.](#)

-**Medfield Energy Committee** and **Medfield Environment Action** is hosting another ["Medfield Decarbonizer" webinar](#), scheduled for **Tuesday, Oct. 8** at 7:30 p.m. It will feature several Medfield residents who have invested in solar panels, heat pumps, or an electric vehicle greatly reducing their carbon footprint. The webinar will also include a resident who has opted up to "Medfield 100" which provides 100 percent renewable electricity through Medfield Community Electricity. Active participation/questions welcome. Information on other events and activities are available in the [latest Sustainable Medfield e-newsletter.](#)

-**Water & Sewerage Board** approved a 5 percent increase to water rates, and a 4 percent increase to sewerage rates. Customer-focused projects slated for the new fiscal year include changing to quarterly billing, and introduction of a new customer portal to provide real-time view of water consumption.

-Medfield **Board of Health** Agent Bridget Sweet recently reported that much of her time has been spent on the **summer recall** of more than 70 types of Boar's Head deli meat produced in Virginia between May 10 and July 29. It was this deli meat that was linked to a listeria outbreak resulting in multiple deaths and hospitalizations. While Sweet said she found **no evidence that Medfield retailers sold or served the recalled products**, it was still her job to conduct research that required going back many months. As of the Sept. 10 meeting, she had contacted local retailers, reviewed their invoices, and shared best practices in recordkeeping. Sweet told the board that with **28 critical violations** at the Boar's Head plant, she believes it'll become a bigger issue than anticipated, with "more eyes on Boar's Head and other deli meat moving forward."

-With **final Select Board approval** on Sept. 17, the **Charles River Public Health District** inter-municipal agreement is now in effect. Formed through a **shared services grant**, Medfield can now tap into funding and administrative support as it collaborates with Needham, Sherborn and Dover to strengthen each other's public health services. As [noted in the agreement](#), the program empowers participating towns to "hire new public health staff, send staff to trainings, and purchase relevant supplies and software, among other activities, to strengthen local and regional public health in Massachusetts." The Charles River Public Health District Advisory Group meets monthly via Zoom. The next meeting is **Oct. 17 and is open to the public.**

-Also at the Sept. 17 Select Board meeting, **\$330,000 was approved for West Street and North Meadows Road/Rte. 27 designs** as part of an initial Intersection, Control and Evaluation (ICE) process involving Massachusetts Department of Transportation. Both a traditional intersection/traffic light concept, plus roundabout possibilities, will be studied. A public hearing and abutter outreach will take place at later dates.

-**Town of Medfield was recognized once again for its budgeting excellence**, now three years in a row. Town Administrator Kristine Treirweiler was recently notified that it had been awarded the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA)

[Distinguished Budget Presentation Award](#). According to the program website,

the award was established in 1984 to encourage governments to prepare

high-quality budget documents and to adopt best practices, with transparency

a key objective. "To earn recognition, budget documents must meet program

criteria and excel as a policy document, financial plan, operations guide,

and communication tool," states Government Finance Officers Association.

-**Council on Aging** has announced that the **shredding truck** will be coming to

The Center from 9:30 a.m.to 12:30 p.m. on **Friday, Oct. 18**. The event is open to all.

Further Ahead...

(Dates/topics based on town calendar, public hearing notices, or prior meeting information; subject to change)

Tuesday, Oct. 1:

-- Board of Health (Montrose School)

-- Select Board

Wednesday, Oct. 2:

-- Council on Aging Board

Thursday, Oct. 3:

-- Conservation Commission (Montrose School, 86 Plain St., 88 Bridge St.)

Monday, Oct. 7:

-- Planning Board (Montrose School)

-- Transfer Station and Recycling Committee

Tuesday, Oct. 8:

-- Dale Street School tour (4:30 p.m.; school building project related)

Wednesday, Oct. 9:

-- School Building Committee (*rescheduled from Oct. 2*; site selection discussion regarding Dale Street as preferred location)

-- Medfield Energy Committee

-- Medfield Historical Commission

Saturday, Oct. 12 -- Council on Aging/The Center closed.

Monday, Oct. 14 -- COLUMBUS DAY -- non-emergency offices closed; no public meetings

Tuesday, Oct. 15:

-- Select Board

Wednesday, Oct. 16:

-- Dale Street School tour (1 p.m. during school day; school building project related)

Thursday, Oct. 17:

-- Charles River Public Health District Advisory Group

Tuesday, Nov. 5 -- ELECTION DAY -- Presidential/State Elections -- polls open 6 a.m. to 8 p.m., The Center, 1 Ice House Rd.

Wednesday, Nov. 6:

-- School Building Committee (site selection vote)

Community Events & Initiatives...

The BIG DAY returns!

The **45th annual Discover Medfield Day**, organized by Medfield Employers & Merchants Organization (MEMO), will once again feature more than 140 booths, plus numerous food options, live entertainment, games, and all-around community enjoyment.

Unique booth attractions include a **used sneaker collection** at Soles of Medfield (#75), free **COVID tests** from Board of Health (#84), Medfield Historical Society (#39) poll on a timely topic via **antique town voting box**, and School Building Committee (#80) information on elementary school project **site selection** process.

The **MEMO booth (#17)** will be an attraction all its own offering a variety of **auction/raffle items** to raise money for high school scholarships. A featured auction item is a "Dine around Medfield" gift basket with restaurant and food gift cards with a total value of more than \$600.

Some groups and committees will also be sharing booths/general space, such as

Sustainable Medfield, and Transfer Station and Recycling Committee (#103), Kingsbury Pond Gristmill Committee and Bay Colony Rail Trail (#102), and Medfield Cares About Prevention and Medfield Coalition for Suicide Prevention (#47), next to Medfield Outreach (#46).

Food court vendors include:

- * Royal Pizza,
- * Medfield's Lion's Club (burgers),
- * Nirvana Tea House & Cafe,
- * Metaxia's Sweet Boutique,
- * Blue Moon Bagel Cafe,
- * Ribpublic BBQ,
- * Pollard's Texas Que, and newcomers,
- * Wasabi and Perfect Strangers Family Kitchen.

Chubs' Ice Cream truck will also be on hand in "Kids' Alley."

Student volunteers are still needed to help MEMO, especially with **monitoring Kids' Alley rides** from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., and from 12 to 2 p.m. [Students can sign up here.](#)

[The exhibitor booth list can be found here](#), and the exhibitor map is [available here](#). Both can also be found on the [Medfield Day page on the MEMO website](#) and will likely appear in the Sept. 26 *Hometown Weekly*.

Medfield Day is held whether rain or shine. The event will only be cancelled if extreme weather conditions are predicted, with a decision to be made the day before.

LIBRARY HOSTS storyteller tackling big questions

On **Thursday, Sept. 26**, the library is hosting ["The Expiration Date," a storytelling performance with Judah Leblang](#). The one-man show deals with some of life's big questions, such as "How does one handle life as a 'junior-senior?'" "Is there an afterlife?" "Does getting older mean becoming wiser?"

ZULLO GALLERY hosts show reception

In celebration of the **30th Zullo Juried Exhibit** now underway through Nov. 2, an artist reception will be held from 7 to 9 p.m., **Saturday, Sept. 28**. The event gives attendees the chance to view the exhibit and talk with artists whose work was chosen through a competitive process. More than 225 pieces of art were submitted for consideration, with 75 ultimately selected representing a mix of paintings, drawings, prints, photographs and mixed media pieces from 67 artists. Beyond the reception, the work can be viewed in person during regular [Zullo Gallery](#) hours, Saturdays and Sundays, 12 to 5 p.m., [or virtually using this link](#). (Shown: "Evening Sky-Spring" by Kathy McDonough)

The Zullo has also opened registration for its fall children's art classes with Kurt Jackson.

Classes begin on Oct. 21. [Details and registration information here.](#)

HISTORICAL SOCIETY shares Isabella Stewart Gardner tales

On **Monday, Oct. 7** at 7 p.m., **Medfield Historical Society** will host a special program with Jay Hurd talking about **Isabella Stewart Gardner and her connection to Medfield**, whether through art or baseball. Hurd is a baseball historian, former librarian at Harvard's Widener Library, and graduate of Medfield High School. More information about the program [is available here](#).

PEAK HOUSE offers final tour of season

Saturday, Oct. 19 is the last day of the season for Peak House Heritage Center "Site and Bite" self-guided tours. Visitors can explore the historic site and garden, plus enjoy Colonial-style cookies from Blue Moon. [Tickets are available here](#).

DDH RELEASES latest newsletter

The latest edition of the [Dwight-Derby House "Squibob Herald"](#) is now out. Featured in the issue are articles about a premiere bonnet maker working with DDH, Sept. 28 Medfield Day preparations (the house will be open from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. with demonstrations), pistol shooting, and highlights from a recent children's tour.

E-mail community event information to MedfieldInsider@gmail.com by 5 p.m. the Friday prior to publication each Monday morning.

Medfield Insider -- Past Issues

[Sept. 16](#) -- Playground opening, roundabout revisited, building energy, gristmill gate, MCAP funding

[Sept. 9](#) -- Montrose project review/turf, housing projects, ConComm (86 Plain, Elm, 0 High, gristmill)

[Sept. 2](#) -- Water main/fire issues, EEE/mosquito alert, school resource officers, new town composter

[Aug. 26](#) -- Montrose project w/turf, lost & found ring, SC meeting recap, alpaca farm update-40B

[Aug. 19](#) -- Safety/incidents, gristmill gate/Elm/Danielson ConComm actions, library events, coyote II

[Aug. 12](#) -- Mother Anna's opening, MSH graffiti, in-law apartments/AUDs by right, COVID/West Nile

[Aug. 5](#) -- West Nile mosquitoes, Tilden Village annual plan, Stigmatine home, ConComm 8/15 topics

[July 29](#) -- Planning Board goals, Hannah Adams home listed, facility plan w/Arrowstreet, more W/S

[July 22](#) -- PSB & court cases update, Parks & Rec mtg recap, interns, Community Electricity update

[July 15](#) -- River search, water/sewer rates, community electricity update, Hinkley opening, Adams site

[July 8](#) -- Legislator history tour, FY2025 key town issues, Registry visit, Metacomet closing, coyote

[July 1](#) -- New train regs, legislator history tour set, county deed registry visit, SBC survey reminder

[June 24](#) -- New school resource officer, site survey, K9 refund, board changes, water plant event

[June 17](#) -- MPD chief contract, horse save, school start times, Bellforge, AHT loan, Perfect Strangers

[June 10](#) -- Brook Street concerns, Kidsborough Blake space, SBC forum summary, heart safe goal

[June 3](#) -- Gristmill cutoff/gate, post-fire help, roundabout debate, MHS graduation, old Hinkley bricks

[May 27](#) -- Memorial Day details, Gold Vets plaque, 21 North opening, MFi Legacy Fund grants

[May 20](#) -- Police topics/enforcement, bears, PFAS litigation, SBC forums, various newsletter links

[May 13](#) -- Town meeting recap, restaurant updates, market promo, school PR cost, SBC forums

[May 6](#) -- Town meeting info., Bellforge line up, school start times, 40B rent increases

[Apr. 29](#) -- PFAS woes, weekend event pics, high school ranking, Red Gate Farm mill clip

[Apr. 22](#) -- Trinity update, future sidewalks, extra garden plot, gazebo names, big event weekend

[Apr. 15](#) -- Dog bylaw update, alpaca farm vernal pool, K enrollment, *Boston Globe* eclipse coverage

[Apr. 8](#) -- 30K town water bill, Officer Manganello departure, solar eclipse, Saltonstall home relisted

[Apr. 1](#) -- Election results, afterschool space, town health help, Paul Alberta, last MBTA Zoning hearing

[Mar. 26](#) -- Special edition-MBTA Communities Zoning

[Mar. 25](#) -- Town election, alpaca farm subdivision, community electricity, hydrant flushing, P&R award

[Mar. 18](#) -- Town administrator pay bump, moderator candidate Q&A, West St. crash, alpaca farm end

[Mar. 11](#) -- Habitat for Humanity, tree hearing, Select Board topics, MBTA & IE sessions, knitting

[Mar. 4](#) -- MBTA Zones narrowed down, SRO shift/officer retirement, Metacomet lights, pickleball

[Feb. 26](#) -- MPD break-in info, community market news, Salvatore buy-up, Danielson mtg recap

[Feb. 19](#) -- Tree removal notice, water/sewer appeals, Rep. Garlick news, Trinity/MSH progress

[Feb. 12](#) -- Candidate list, moderator Q poll, teacher contract/family leave, drop box, Garrison Path

[Feb. 5](#) -- Trinity SB meeting promo, dept. budget insights, election prep, MSBA/Dale questions

[Jan. 29](#) -- Holdovers movie filming, MBTA Zoning update, school budget revision & K planning

[Jan. 22](#) -- MBTA Zoning site review, ATM articles w/Bellforge petition, barn renovation, Danielson Pond

[Jan. 15](#) -- MHC reviews of 13 South St. & Harding subdivision, SBC RFP planning, MEC updates

[Jan. 8](#) -- SBC next steps for Dale, school solar update & ConComm actions, warrant closing

[Jan. 1, 2024](#) -- Top 10 2023 topics, court cases, MSH vandalism, missing pets, rainbow pic

[Click here to access back issues from July 2, 2020 through Dec. 25, 2023.](#)

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strives to create a deeper sense of community, and

encourages engagement.

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