

From "Medfield Insider"
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To jfarinacci@doverma.gov

Date 2024-09-30 11:07:44+00:00

Subject Med Day pics, Dover trail, fire grant, school contract

News Recap & Peak Into The Week

-Sept. 30, 2024-

Soaking in the Sense of Community

A blue-sky & warm-weather welcome.

Rather than her usual wordy opening, she hopes the images can convey the sense of joy that the annual town event brings to the community.

A day walking around, visiting booths, and connecting with friends and neighbors, is always a day well spent!

*Officer Hain with K9 Nova
and friends.*

Old-school recruitment at work.

Select Board member Pete Peterson and Rep. Denise Garlick.

Seeing the future!

Medfield High School Jazz Band with Ryan Dexter directing.

MEMO Medfield Day organizer Russ Hallisey.

Town Administrator & ticket seller Kristine Treirweiler

Lowell Mason House in action.

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.)

Tuesday, Oct. 1 -- Blake Middle School Site Council, 3:30 p.m. -- Key topics: School update, budget/planning update, district strategic plan/school improvement plan, and parent/family education/engagement.

Tuesday, Oct. 1 -- Board of Health, 5 p.m. -- Key topics: Hearing at 5:15 p.m. on developer request (Matthew Smith) for septic system-related variance to reduce setback requirement at 48 Elm St.; health agent update; Sustainable Medfield update; BOH citizen recognition initiative; tobacco regulation review; and permit approvals (new catering vendor, food retail).

Tuesday, Oct. 1 -- Select Board, 6 p.m. -- Key topics:

- * Town Clerk request for Nov. 5 State Presidential Election Warrant approval;
- * UCC/Medfield TV Hayride request;
- * Discussion/designation of off-leash areas for dogs at Medfield State Hospital;
- * Medfield Garden Club funding (\$2,800) for maintenance and beautification of town sites;
- * Appointment of Roger O'Donnell to Council on Aging board;
- * Appointment of Bill Massaro as Select Board special advisor for Medfield State Hospital Overlook area;
- * Annual contract for Medfield participation in Bureau of Substance Addiction Services MassCALL3 Part B program through Hopkinton;
- * Appointment of Darcie Robertson to Medfield Outreach Advisory Board;
- * Bids for 2024-2025 joint purchase of salt and DPW Director contract authorization;
- * Town Administrator updates and Select Board member reports; and
- * Informational: early voting schedule (Oct. 21 to Nov. 1) at Medfield Town House.

***** Meeting packet available here.*****

Wednesday, Oct. 2 -- Council on Aging, 9:30 a.m. -- Key topics: Building-use agreements; director updates; staff reports from outreach, volunteers/programs, transportation and respite program; and open discussion.

Thursday, Oct. 3 -- Capital Budget Committee, 9:30 a.m. (tentative time) -- Key topics: *Agenda not available at time of writing*. Anticipated topics include Police and Fire Department requests.

[Thursday, Oct. 3 -- Conservation Commission](#), 7 p.m. -- Key topics: *Agenda not available at time of writing.* Anticipated hearings include Montrose School, 86 Plain St. and 88 Bridge St., plus discussions related to Eagle Scout project, Danielson Pond and/or Kingsbury Grist Mill.

[Thursday, Oct. 3 -- Affordable Housing Trust](#), 7:30 p.m. -- Key topics: *Agenda not available at time of writing.* Project updates, as needed, including Medfield Housing Authority, group homes, Habitat for Humanity and Medfield State Hospital/Trinity.

*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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Hydrant Flushing Now Underway;

Water Customer Portal Coming

Department of Public Works is reminding residents that hydrant flushing began **Sunday, Sept. 29** and will continue through **Friday, Oct. 11**, ultimately reaching every neighborhood.

The work takes place between 8 p.m. and 5 a.m. to minimize disruption.

[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. However, residents may experience a **temporary discoloration** of their water.

When discoloration occurs, the Water Department asks residents to flush their water system by running cold water until it runs clear -- about 15 to 20 minutes. Use of the bathtub faucet is advised since a higher volume of water flows from it. When neighbors run their water the same time, it helps move the discoloration out of the system more quickly. [This "frequently asked questions" document](#) may help to address other issues or concerns related to hydrant flushing.

Getting more customers onboard

With 50 percent of Medfield water customers now having the new digital meter-reading system installed, the town is moving closer to rolling out a customer portal that provides real-time information about water usage. However, more households need to be on the system before it can move forward.

Customers who are unsure if they have the new digital system installed are encouraged to check in with the Water and Sewer Division at 508-906-3004 or [e-mail Sarah Downs](#) for confirmation and next steps, if needed.

Dover Advances Rail Trail Project

Creating Hope for Medfield Connection

Medfield Rail Trail volunteers recently shared that Dover has announced a "proposed Rail Trail Construction Project" with [details published on the town website.](#)

The goal, as stated, "Is to develop a recreational trail and shared-use pathway, providing residents with safer, healthier opportunities for outdoor activities and transportation."

According to the project timeline, planning is scheduled to start next month, with design completed in April 2025. The remainder of 2025 will be spent on cost estimation, funding, final planning and approval, if all goes well.

When the Bay Colony Rail Trail effort was first launched in 2010, connecting Medfield, Dover and Needham was a key goal. Although Needham and Medfield found success with their own rail trail projects, with Dover in the middle, it has prevented the two towns from connecting. However, if the Dover rail trail moves forward, all three towns will finally benefit from having a recreational path that stretches for seven miles, and could even connect with Newton.

Dover is recruiting volunteers to get involved in the project, with leadership coming from [Parks & Recreation Director Mark Ghiloni.](#)

Fire Dept Receives \$1.1M Grant

to Hire FT Firefighters/Paramedics

The town announced that it was awarded a grant of \$1,138,176 through the Staffing for Adequate Fire and Emergency Response (SAFER) program to benefit Medfield Fire Department.

According to the town announcement, the funding will enable Medfield to hire four full-time firefighters/paramedics, and support their salaries and benefits for three years. In doing so, the town can staff a second ALS ambulance, and have more firefighters responding on an engine when needed.

Fire Chief William Carrico had applied for a SAFER grant once before, but was unsuccessful. At the [Oct. 17, 2023 Select Board meeting](#), he explained that if Medfield were to receive a grant, the department would have six months to hire the firefighters/paramedics.

He added that a SAFER grant does not cover clothing or equipment for new hires, so the town will need to assume that expense.

Once the SAFER grant funding is exhausted at the end of three years, the town would need to cover the salaries and benefits of the additional firefighters/paramedics that were hired, or discontinue the positions.

SAFER is governed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). Based on a FEMA ["frequently asked questions" document](#) about SAFER, it is unclear if Medfield has been given approval to generate program income from grant-funded hires, such as through advanced life support services to other towns.

A year ago, Carrico shared with Select Board his concerns about a paramedic shortage, noting that "people have been jumping departments left and right." He added that while Medfield has successfully retained its fire staffing, the town would benefit from having firefighters who are cross-trained as paramedics.

On a related note, Medfield fire and police departments are scheduled to present their capital budget requests to the Oct. 3 Capital Budget Committee meeting.

About the SAFER program

The SAFER Act was signed into law in November 2003, and was reauthorized on July 9, 2024 until Sept. 30, 2030, along with other federal fire grant programs.

According to FEMA, "The goal of SAFER is to enhance the local fire departments' abilities to comply with staffing, response and operational standards established by the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA 1710 and/or NFPA 1720)."

Medfield was one of six Massachusetts municipalities -- out of 191 total in U.S. -- to receive a 2024 SAFER grant. [FEMA SAFER grant information can be found here.](#)

Metacomet Pickleball Topic

Draws Residents to Meeting

When Parks & Recreation Commission met on Sept. 25, the meeting kicked off with a discussion on **Metacomet tennis court needs** and the **prospect of a pickleball addition**.

Seeing residents in attendance for the pickleball topic, Commission Chair Mel Seibolt moved it to the top of the agenda, with Parks & Recreation Director Katie Walper quickly putting concerns at ease.

"There had been requests to look at this (project) as a multi-use sports court to do pickleball and tennis, but I don't think it's the best idea to add pickleball at Metacomet," said Walper.

She noted a variety of reasons for her recommendation to abandon pickleball plans, including **noise**, the added **challenges and costs associated with sound mitigation**, plus concerns about additional **parking** impacts at the heavily used site, and potential **player disagreements**.

"What we're seeing in the parks and recreation world is tennis players and pickleball players not getting along at the courts, unless you have dedicated courts for each sport," said Walper. (The Sept. 23 Medfield Insider shared an [article from Needham Observer](#) about tennis/pickleball player disputes in that town.)

According to Walper, who also shared information last week with the Capital Budget Committee, pickleball sound mitigation for just two or three courts is estimated at **\$65,000 to \$85,000** (on top of surface work), so the cost of doing the same for four courts at Metacomet would be substantially more. (Estimates were based on the high school tennis court bids, with pickleball courts as an alternate cost. The prospect of pickleball at MHS tennis courts was tabled.)

Commission meeting attendees suggested looking at McCarthy Park as a potential site for pickleball courts, but Walper noted, "We're having a **hard time keeping up with our current properties**, so adding a sole structure for pickleball would need to be self-funded by a group -- and not just money to build courts, but for their longevity. (Court) maintenance is now all run by Parks & Recreation."

Shifting the focus to tennis

Walper shared that the cost estimate for addressing the primary problems with Metacomet tennis courts was in the **\$500,000 to \$600,000 range**, and does not include fencing. She explained that based on her view of current issues plus vendor advice, the estimate is for **court reconstruction, not resurfacing**, with reconstruction "the only option."

According to this [Patch article](#) (from a Parks & Recreation press release that included the photo, as shown), the last time the major work was done on the courts was the summer of **2017**.

Additional key points Walper shared with the commission or Capital Budget Committee in a follow-up meeting, include:

- * Court reconstruction could have a **10- to 20-year life span**, with a fine-tuned estimate based on a historical weather analysis to come.
- * **Parks & Recreation isn't able to be sole funder** of the tennis court reconstruction -- town funding is needed, similar to the high school court project, especially since high school tennis teams use Metacomet courts.
- * The **new tennis court lighting has drawn more people** to Metacomet courts, causing an increase in player and department concerns about court conditions, and their overall safety.
- * Additional funding sources are being pursued, including a grant from **U.S. Tennis Association**, and possible formation of a **fundraising group** to raise money for the courts.

Regarding the tennis court funding request, Capital Budget Committee Chair Mike Marcucci recommended **deferring a vote** on the project until all Capital Stabilization Fund requests could be considered. His fellow members agreed.

School Committee OKs Worker Contracts; Discusses Range of Other Topics

On Sept. 19, Medfield School Committee announced that in executive session prior to the regular meeting, it had approved new contracts for **district administrative assistants**, **cafeteria workers** and **custodians**.

The previous contracts had expired on **June 30, 2024**.

Traditionally, one or more Medfield School Committee members had been designated as representatives for the purpose of union negotiations. However, as part of the recent reorganization of Medfield School Committee, members never voted on collective bargaining assignments, and they have not designated the superintendent for the negotiator role.

Beyond the recently completed contracts, Superintendent Jeffrey Marsden told school committee that he has also been engaged in impact bargaining talks with the Medfield Teachers Association (MTA). It appears no committee members have been present for the talks to date. (The impact bargaining talks with MTA were prompted by a proposed change in school start times scheduled to take effect during the 2025-2026 school year which would result in a change in working conditions for school staff. The regular teacher contract expires in 2026; the teacher aide contract expires in August 2025.)

The Massachusetts Association of School Committee statement on its website reflects state law stressing that school committees:

- * Act as employer for collective bargaining purposes;
- * Designate a negotiator or negotiating team; and
- * Receive advice from the superintendent about educational consequences of bargaining positions.

(Nationally, school boards/committees did not lose their collective bargaining governance with the Educational Reform Act of 1993.)

Other school committee business...

-A quorum of three committee members voted to **increase hockey fees from \$300 to \$450**, with the funds going into one pool of money that supports all school sports. Of the other two members, Tim Knight abstained, while Leo Brehm, who was participating remotely, disappeared from Zoom. During the discussion preceding the vote, Marsden noted that other sports had been subsidizing hockey for some time. However, two hockey parents spoke up with concerns about **perceived inequality** between the junior varsity and girls varsity hockey teams noting that access to ice time for the girls has been challenging, despite the Title IX law that prohibits discrimination in education.

-As part of his summer maintenance report, Michael LaFrancesca, director of Finance & Operations, noted that **winter equipment sheds are in the process of being installed** at all schools as a new requirement from the Medfield building commissioner (something that was not mentioned during Capital Budget Committee meetings last year when the estimated **\$50,000 total shed cost** was discussed). It was noted that the sheds are mandated to keep flammable equipment separate from the schools.

-Summer facility projects included building an **internal wall at Dale Street School** to separate the library from the makerspace room -- space that can also be used for special education meetings. Marsden noted that the cost of building the wall was more expensive than originally planned due to new building codes.

-Key strategic plan priorities for the new year include a variety of initiatives, such as:

- * An earlier public release of **Metro West Adolescent Health Survey results** than in the past (results were received over the summer; a fall school committee presentation on results was noted);
- * The launch of a “**soft pilot**” of **social-emotional programs** for grades 6 to 12 during student advisory time;
- * **Enhanced school safety measures**, including installation of additional cameras, especially in the high school, and the creation of one or more ["Threat Assessment Teams;"](#)
- * **Improved school translation services** to meet the needs of more families coming into the district in which English is a second language;
- * **Review of the homework policy** updated six years ago to see if adjustments are needed;
- * Documentation of current practices to support **transitions between schools**;
- * Development of a **curriculum review process** (and making it publicly available via district website);
- * **Re-evaluation of five-year capital plan** (requiring school committee review, per Town Charter);
- * Establishment of **new revenue streams**, including possible fees (e.g., bus and/or devices);
- * Long-term, sustainable **technology strategies**; and
- * Creation of a **Mobile Technology Task Force** to look at the impact of cell phones and social media on student well-being and the learning environment. (The October meeting will be used to discuss how to structure the task force so it can launch in mid-October/early November.)

Recognizing high school reaccreditation

Prior to meeting adjournment, Marsden pointed out that Medfield High School Principal Robert Parga received a [letter from New England Association of Schools and Colleges](#) (NEASC) confirming reaccreditation of MHS. In the letter, NEASC commended Medfield High School for growth in more than 20 areas, and noted these three areas for continued growth, as identified by MHS:

- * Expanding culturally responsive strategies to support a safe, equitable, and inclusive school environment;
- * Improving family engagement through student work; and

- * Implementing 9th grade orientation.

The next Medfield School Committee meeting is scheduled for 6 p.m. on Oct. 10 in the Medfield High School library.

News Briefs & Reminders...

-On **Tuesday, Oct. 1**, applications for the **Senior Tax Work-Off Program** will be available at The Center on Ice House Road. Completed applications are due back to the COA by **Monday, Oct. 28**. [More information is available here.](#)

-**K9 Nova and handler Officer Robert Hain** will be on hand from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., **Wednesday, Oct. 2** at Starbucks in Medfield Center to celebrate "National Coffee with a Cop Day." All are welcome to stop in for photos. In other Medfield Police news, John McKenna is the latest officer to be [featured in the Patch](#). **McKenna** joined the department in 2022.

-School Building Committee is organizing tours of Dale Street School at **4:30 p.m. on Tuesday, Oct. 8**, and **1 p.m. on Wednesday, Oct. 16** (while school is in session). Pre-registration for either tour is required via [an e-mail to the SBC](#). Additionally, the next SBC meeting is set for **7 p.m., Wednesday, Oct. 9** in the Public Safety Building. Dale Street-area abutters are encouraged to attend the meeting where site selection will be discussed. On **Nov. 6**, the SBC is scheduled to officially vote on the school site.

-**Medfield Energy Committee** and **Medfield Environment Action** is hosting another ["Medfield Decarbonizer" webinar](#) at 7:30 p.m. on **Tuesday, Oct. 8**. 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.

-At the recent Parks & Recreation Commission meeting, member Rob Tatro provided an update on the **proposed disc golf course**. He noted that based on a meeting with Town Administrator Kristine Treirweiler and Select Board Chair Eileen Murphy, use of former Medfield State Hospital land near **McCarthy Park and/or sledding hill** may be not be allowed for the disc golf course. This opinion was said to be based on a 2019 letter from Massachusetts Department of Conservation & Recreation (**DCR**) only permitting passive recreation on the former agricultural land, and that DCR considers disc golf to be active recreation. Further study will be needed of the former Medfield State Hospital property near McCarthy Park and the sledding hill to determine its viability as a disc golf course. As part of the project, some portion of the site would be needed for parking.

-With the popularity of new Hinkley Playground, Parks & Recreation is determining how to best respond to **increasing numbers of requests to rent the playground for birthday parties**. Parks & Recreation commissioners discussed at length various ways to handle the requests, the revenue potential, and associated challenges, including trash management and perceived lack of inclusivity if regular playground visitors think the public park is closed for a private party. Ultimately, no decision was reached and further discussion is anticipated.

-**Council on Aging** reminds the community 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.

-[The "Elections and Voting" page on the town website has been updated](#) with graphics to help residents navigate information about early in-person voting, mail-in voting and traditional election day details. Early in-person voting takes place between **Oct. 21 and Nov. 1**. For anyone **not already registered to vote**, 5 p.m., **Saturday, Oct. 26** is the deadline to do so in order to vote in the **Nov. 5 election**. [Voters can check their voting status here](#). An electronic version of the [Information for Voters booklet](#) that was mailed to homes is also available and includes ballot question explanations.

Further Ahead...

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

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)*
- Medfield Housing Authority

Wednesday, Oct. 9:

- School Building Committee (**rescheduled from Oct. 2**; site selection discussion regarding Dale Street as preferred location with abutters personally invited)
- Medfield Energy Committee
- Medfield Historical Commission (25 Hillcrest Rd., and 208 Causeway St. demolition hearings)

Thursday, Oct. 10:

-- School Committee (teacher contract, school start times, mobile phone task force, high school student advisory presentations)

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)*

-- Parks & Recreation Commission

-- Zoning Board of Appeals (hearings for 13 Pound St. and 8 Eastmount Rd.)

Thursday, Oct. 17:

-- Charles River Public Health District Advisory Group

-- Capital Budget Committee (Facilities Department request)

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)

**Pre-registration for Dale Street tours required via e-mail to School Building Committee.*

Community Events & Initiatives...

HISTORICAL SOCIETY releases Oct. newsletter, sponsors talk

The [October issue of "The Portal,"](#) the Medfield Historical Society e-newsletter is now available. The issue includes information on upcoming programs, plus articles on a variety of topics, including the passing of Medfield Society member/newsletter contributor, **Tim Flaherty**, and Medfield's first selectwoman, **Sandra Munsey**; the musical life of the late **David Allan**; the 1961 Medfield High School **football victory**, as recalled by Flaherty; plus early career guidance and docent training.

Among **upcoming Society programs** is one on **Monday, Oct. 7** at 7 p.m. featuring 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 a Medfield High School graduate. More information about the program [is available here](#).

GARDEN CLUB hosts Japanese floral arranging demo

At 10 a.m. on **Wednesday, Oct. 9**, Medfield Garden Club will provide a presentation on "Ohara Ikebana" at The United Church of Christ, 496 Main St.

Ikebana is the traditional Japanese art of arranging flowers and other natural materials; Ohara is the name of a prestigious school that teaches Ikebana.

Featured guest is Russell Bowers, who holds both instructor and masters certifications from the Ohara School of Ikebana in Japan. Bowers will demonstrate the unique floral art while offering insights into its historical and cultural contexts. Non-member admission is \$5 at the door; members are free.

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](#).

MEDFIELD TV prepares for scarecrow event

Medfield TV is once again hosting its "Scarecrow Spooktacular" from 12 to 4 p.m. on Saturday, Oct. 19 at Baxter Park. Attendees can enjoy fall festivities, entertainment, local vendors, and a display of unique

decorated scarecrows entered into the event contest. GEICO of Braintree, the event sponsor, is also holding a costume contest open to all attendees.

Scarecrow contest registration is open until 11:59 p.m. on Oct. 12 for anyone who would like to submit a unique scarecrow for judging and display. Winners will be named for scarecrows that earn such titles as "most creative," "spookiest," "wackiest," and "most dazzling." Scarecrows will remain on display until Saturday, Nov. 2. First-place winners receive a trophy and monetary prize.

[More information on the event is available here.](#)

ZULLO CONTINUES exhibit, art class registration

The **30th Zullo Juried Exhibit** continues through Nov. 2 featuring 75 pieces from 67 artists, including paintings, drawings, prints, photographs and mixed-media. The exhibit can be viewed in person on Saturdays and Sundays, 12 to 5 p.m., or virtually [via Zullo Gallery website](#). All work is for sale, with both the artist and non-profit Zullo Gallery benefiting from the proceeds. (*Shown: "Basin" by William Mann.*)

Registration for children's art classes with Kurt Jackson at the Zullo continues. [Details and registration information here.](#) Classes begin on Oct. 21.

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. 23](#) -- Medfield Day prep, hydrant flush, smoker rights attendee, Montrose, Tilden projects, voting

[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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encourages engagement.

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