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Date 2024-12-02 11:10:16+00:00
Subject Property value jump, enrollment drop, lead testing, EPA on turf

News Recap & Peak Into The Week

-Dec. 2, 2024-

Visiting Memories through a Different Lens...

She was in the difficult pre-teen stage when her parents "dragged her along" on a trip to Washington, D.C., with her grandmother and great-uncle, who were visiting from Italy.

Squished in the car for the long drive, then "forced" to visit countless landmarks, share a hotel room, and spend hours with no one her age to play with, she couldn't wait for the overnight trip to end.

Yet all these years later, through the lens of experience and loss, she holds close the memory of that trip—and feels grateful she wasn't left behind with a babysitter.

Her great-uncle had a large family back in Italy. Many years later, she had the chance to meet his grandchildren, many now her own age, and show them photos of their late grandfather in America. She also fondly recalls watching her grandmother and great-uncle reunite and interact as siblings after war and economic hardship had kept them apart for decades. And despite her grandmother's broken English, she had no problem teaching her granddaughter how to create a paper cup to collect water from a fountain.

She regrets not appreciating all of these childhood encounters in the moment. If only she could go back and relive all the "boring" occasions, and cherish them for what they were: once-in-a-lifetime experiences with people she loved.

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, Dec. 2 -- Pedestrian & Traffic Safety Advisory Committee, 11 a.m. -- Key topics: Discussion of **resident requests for safety improvements**; update on **Complete Streets grant**; and update on **downtown pedestrian safety improvements**. Detailed resident requests are listed on agenda, and include issues related to trucks on Elm Street, school traffic on South Street and Adams Street, speeding on Causeway Street and Summer Street, and signal lights at Public Safety Building.

Monday, Dec. 2 -- Transfer Station and Recycling Committee, 6:30 p.m. -- Key topics: Shaw's and Big Belly signage; Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection conference recap; potential contribution to Spoonfuls (food recovery and distribution); **financial update** (revolving fund and recycling dividends fund); **Transfer Station usage and upcoming sticker cycle**; composting education; **Montrose School update**; bins, drives/collections (including string lights, household goods/clothing (Dec. 7, and clothing/textiles -- Jan. 11 & 12); and next meetings (Jan. 6, 9 a.m., and Feb. 3, 6:30 p.m.).

[Tuesday, Dec. 3 -- Board of Health](#), 5 p.m. -- Key topics: **Montrose School hearing** (stormwater/drainage review); Health Agent update; Charles River Public Health District update; acknowledgement of individuals actively supporting public health; Medfield Day 2025 planning; continued review of **tobacco regulations**; and multiple permit approvals, including a **new one for catering** (Iron Hog Barbeque), plus various renewal requests for food, tobacco and pools.

[Tuesday, Dec. 3 -- Select Board](#), 6 p.m. -- Key topics:

- * **Public hearing (with Board of Assessors) - tax classification** (6:15 p.m.);
- * **Bellforce renovation update** and Medfield Historic District Commission application;
- * **Medfield Community Market** request to use Meeting House Pond for Community Market;
- * Memorandum of Agreement with **Medfield Permanent Firefighters Association**, Local 4478, IAFF, AFL-CIO;
- * Resignation of Kirsten Poler from **Conservation Commission**;
- * Director of Public Works **request for approvals of various contracts** (\$102,000 for Ford F550 Utility Vehicle, \$29,825 for new generator for Indian Hill sewer lift station, \$105,000 for MXU transmitters, \$38,390 for a water and sewer rate evaluation and M35 water audit, and \$34,933 for recycling compactor);
- * **American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding discussion** (\$3,000 for ARPA coordination, \$20,000 for shared housing services agreement, \$12,100 for call fire force pagers, Capital Budget allocation for fiscal years 2024 and 2025);
- * Appointment of Daniel Warner as **Alternate Wiring Inspector**;
- * Request for approval of **rent increases on affordable units at 67-71 North Street** ranging from 2.2 to 2.7 percent;
- * Citizen comment;
- * Request for approval of **10th annual Hunter's Run 5K and 1 mile fun run** on April 6;
- * **Town Administrator update** and **Select Board member reports**;

- * Informational item -- Comcast notice regarding price increases effective Dec.10, 2024 and bill reformatting; and
- * **Executive Session** (at end of regular meeting) to consider the purchase, exchange, lease or value of real property (former **Medfield State Hospital** campus).

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

Tuesday, Dec. 3 -- Board of Assessors, 6:15 p.m. -- Key topics: **Joint hearing with Select Board for tax classification**, then move to Warrant Room for further business, including fiscal-year 2025 final tax rate document approval; review of **fiscal-year 2026 budget** for Assessor office; final chapter 61 A & B applications for 315 North St. (for agricultural/horticultural or open space/recreation exemptions); and **Executive Session** to discuss non-public records regarding motor vehicle abatements, exemptions and commitments for fiscal year 2025.

Wednesday, Dec. 4 -- Council on Aging Board, 9:30 a.m. -- Key topics: **Garage update** with Benjamin Jachowicz, facilities project manager; **building use agreements**; director updates; and **staff reports** on outreach, volunteers/programs, transportation and respite program.

Wednesday, Dec. 4 -- Permanent Planning & Building Committee, 3 p.m. -- Key topics: **Pfaff Center update/next steps**, Request for Proposals for new garage at The Center (Council on Aging), and **update on deteriorating solar array ballasts** at Public Safety Building.

Thursday, Dec. 5 -- Conservation Commission, 7 p.m. -- *Agenda not available at time of writing.* Likely topics include **Montrose School continued hearing**.

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.

Chief Extends Outdoor Fire Ban through Dec. 2

Medfield Fire Chief William Carrico [announced on Nov. 25 that the outdoor fire ban was extended through Monday, Dec. 2.](#)

Burning yard waste is already prohibited across Massachusetts through Jan. 15 according to state regulations.

The local fire ban also restricts the **outdoor use of fire pits**, candles, **cooking/heating equipment**, and other ignition sources, as dictated by Massachusetts Comprehensive Fire Safety Code. The Code gives local fire officials the power to prohibit open flames, and other ignition sources under certain hazardous conditions, including extreme drought.

Carrico relies on **advisories from multiple state agencies** to determine the best course of action for Medfield regarding weather conditions and fire danger.

BOH to review Montrose project...

EPA Considers Artificial Turf Impervious in Proposed Stormwater Revisions

As the **Montrose School project** continues its review and public hearing process through town boards, the proposal for **artificial turf** continues to generate questions and concerns.

Board of Health (BOH) is next up with its hearing on **stormwater management** for the project. The hearing takes place on [Tuesday, Dec. 3 at 5 p.m.](#) This will be the first time the board will discuss the Montrose proposal in detail.

Due to the **Dover Amendment**, which frees educational institutions from most zoning requirements, the Planning Board and Zoning Board of Appeals have limited ability to regulate the Montrose project.

However, Conservation Commission and Board of Health may have broader authority over certain aspects of projects protected by Dover Amendment. Yet even then, artificial turf proposals fall into a grey area.

Complicating matters is a recent announcement by **Environmental Protection Agency** that:

- * Proposes actions to further regulate certain stormwater discharges from commercial, industrial, and **institutional properties** (including private schools) with **one acre or more** of impervious surface in the **Charles**, Neponset, and Mystic River watersheds; and
- * Puts forth draft general permit language to reflect regulatory changes as they relate to the properties noted above, in an effort to **meet water quality standards**.

(Medfield is located in both the Charles River and Neponset River watersheds. The Montrose School lies adjacent to Vine Brook, which flows into the Charles River watershed.)

A summary of the EPA proposal and information on public comment opportunities are available from the [Federal Register](#).

[Detailed information on the EPA proposal is also available here.](#)

During recent public hearings, Montrose School representatives have touted the benefit of parking lot replacements with artificial turf as a way to reduce impervious surface on the campus, thereby claiming improved stormwater management.

However, based on [EPA supplementary information](#) included with its recent announcement, the agency defines "impervious" as "any surface that prevents or significantly impedes the infiltration of water into the underlying soil. This can include but is not limited to roads, driveways, parking areas, other areas created using nonporous material, buildings, rooftops, structures, **artificial turf** and compacted gravel or soil."

Grass athletic fields are generally considered pervious since they allow water to permeate the soil helping to drain rainwater and reduce runoff in the process.

Medfield Board of Health peer review consultant [Beals and Thomas has provided numerous comments on the Montrose School project](#) focused primarily on stormwater management issues. Among the comments was a recommendation that Montrose confirm if the current land use is subject to the EPA draft "General Permit for Private Commercial, Industrial, and Institutional Stormwater Discharges in the Charles, Mystic and Neponset River Watersheds in Massachusetts."

A **FEMA Flood Zone** also runs through the Montrose property, complicating stormwater management review.

New Tax Rate Soon to be Set;

Five-year Values Jump 42%

Select Board will hold a [public hearing on Tuesday, Dec. 3 at 6:15 p.m. for tax classification purposes](#), and ultimately, to allow Board of Assessors to obtain Massachusetts Department of Revenue (DOR) approval of a **new tax rate** for fiscal-year 2025.

According to Board of Assessors, as posted on the town website, the central issue to be discussed during this hearing is whether all five classes of property -- residential, open space, commercial, industrial and personal -- shall be taxed at the same rate or at different rates for fiscal-year 2025.

Historically, **Medfield has not adopted split rates**. However, Board of Assessors provides relevant information at each annual hearing regarding the fiscal effects of doing so.

A uniform tax classification, if approved by Select Board, would result in a proposed tax rate of **\$13.80** for fiscal-year 2025. The new rate would be lower than the \$14.64 tax rate for fiscal-year 2024, according to the Board of Assessors prepared presentation. Tax bills with the new third-quarter rate will be **issued in late December** and **due by Feb. 1, 2025**.

For an average single-family Medfield home value of \$984,100 in 2025, property tax would be **\$13,581** (assuming a uniform tax rate and DOR approval).

Medfield property values increase

Every five years, DOR mandates a review of municipal property values to ensure they reflect market conditions. The entire process takes about a year, and includes a review of Medfield assessing methodologies, and the values derived from the mass appraisal system, according to Board of Assessors. Calendar 2023 sales were used in the fiscal-year 2025 analysis.

Property valuations can change due to a variety of factors, including market trends, property type, new construction and property enhancements.

As part of the revaluation process and after DOR preliminary certification, Board of Assessors disclosed the new fiscal-year 2025 assessments for every Medfield property for public review during a seven-day period in late September.

Key findings from the revaluation process:

- * Over a five-year period, the value of an average single-family home in Medfield increased **42 percent** from \$692,400 for 2021 to \$984,100 for 2025.
- * The biggest one-year jump during the five-year period occurred from **2022 to 2023**, when the value of an average single-family home in Medfield increased **16.5 percent** (\$720,800 to \$839,800).
- * From 2024 to 2025, the single-family home average value reflected about a **9 percent** increase (\$903,200 to \$984,100).

Historical tax and property value data for Medfield is available on the DOR website. [This report was generated from the site.](#)

At the end of December, homeowners can also refer to the [online property assessment database](#) for their new 2025 valuation information.

Medfield residents who disagree with the assessed value of their properties have the right to request an **abatement**, but must do so before taxes are due on Feb. 1, 2025. More

information is available from the town assessor office. [Phone numbers are listed here](#); an e-mail can also be sent to [Administrative Assistant Kathy Mills](#).

Answers to questions available

How are assessments determined? Do taxes increase to the same degree as assessments? How do residents learn about their new assessments? These questions, and many others are [answered on the town website](#) to help taxpayers better understand property values and the assessment process.

New tax exemptions have also been proposed for 2025 to benefit senior citizens, veterans and other groups of residents. ([Preliminary information is available here but may not yet reflect recent updates.](#))

Medfield taxpayers are encouraged to attend the **Dec. 3 Select Board hearing** to ask questions and provide comments related to tax classification. Written statements can also be sent to Select Board members using the [links on the town website](#). The Board of Assessor presentation can be found among the first dozen [pages of the Select Board meeting packet](#).

Medfield School Enrollment Declines K-12 for 2024-25

Based on Medfield Public School enrollment information submitted to Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education (DESE), the district has about **two dozen fewer students for the current 2024-25 school year** compared to the prior year.

For the **2024-25** school year, Medfield had a total of [2,478 students in grades Pre-K to 12](#) according to the new data, obtained from a Nov. 7 public records request of the Medfield School Department. [For 2023-24, total enrollment was 2,504](#), based on district data submitted to DESE last year.

Each year, preliminary enrollment information must be annually submitted to DESE by **Oct. 26**, with district administration aware of general numbers at the start of the school year. However, the data is not regularly shared and discussed with School Committee.

Based on the new information received, each school site experienced relatively small changes compared to the previous year:

- * **Memorial School** and **Wheelock School** enrollments remained **relatively unchanged** from the previous year, with net gains of roughly three students at each site. Pre-K enrollment adapts to space availability from year to year since it's not mandatory. And while Kindergarten experienced a 14-student decline, first grade increased by 21 students;
- * **Dale Street School** saw a **net decline** of 20 students with total enrollment now at 384 students. Enrollment in 4th grade declined by 25 students, while 5th grade increased by 5 students.
- * **Blake Middle School** enrollment **dropped** in all three grades (6th, 7th and 8th), with a total decline of 11 students bringing total enrollment to 574 students; and
- * **Medfield High School** saw an increase of 30 students in grade 9, but lost a total of 31 students in grades 10 to 12, resulting in a **net increase** of 1 student for the current school year. For 2024-25, MHS has 704 students.

According to the [school enrollment projection report](#) provided by **FutureThink consultants** in **April 2024** for School Building Committee, a **low-growth projection** for 2024-25 school year was overstated by about 9 students. For the moderate-growth projection, FutureThink overstated enrollment by 21 students.

In an Aug. 23, 2024 *Boston Globe* article, declining birthrates, an aging population across the Commonwealth, and lack of affordable housing for young parents in their 30s are all reasons for drops in Massachusetts public school enrollment, according to Evan Horowitz, head of Center for State Policy Analysis at Tufts University.

The *Globe* article noted that the Massachusetts student population "peaked more than two decades ago, in **2001-02**, and has declined by more than 100,000 since."

Town Testing Water for Lead/Copper as Part of New EPA Requirement

In October 2024, Lead and Copper Rule Improvements were issued requiring drinking water systems across the country to identify and replace lead pipes within 10 years.

According to the [press release issued by Environmental Protection Agency](#), the improvements also require more rigorous testing of drinking water, and a lower threshold for communities to take action on lead in drinking water to protect consumers.

In addition, the release explains that the rule seeks to improve communication within communities so families are better informed about the risk of lead in drinking water, the location of lead pipes, and plans for replacing them.

As an immediate step, regulated water systems are completing initial inventories of their lead service lines, and regularly updating those inventories.

In Medfield, homeowners whose residences were believed to have a higher probability of lead and/or copper pipes were recently invited to participate in a town-sponsored water testing service, with another testing slated for the spring.

Copper occurs naturally and has been used to make parts for plumbing systems, allowing the metal to enter drinking water as it passes through the household. Eating or drinking too much copper can be harmful to health. [Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection provides more information about copper health risks.](#)

Water systems also must create a service line replacement plan that includes a strategy to prioritize replacement considering community-specific factors. The inventory and replacement plan must be made available to the public.

[The EPA Fact Sheet on the Lead and Copper Rule Improvements is available here.](#)

News Briefs & Reminders...

- * On **Monday, Dec. 9** from 5:30 to 8 p.m. at Needham Town Hall, the Medfield community is invited to a celebration for State Representative Denise Garlick as she nears her retirement. As of early January 2025, she will be wrapping up 14 years of service as State Representative for Medfield precincts 1 and 2, and for the towns of Dover and Needham. [Event details available here.](#)
- * Now that the calendar has flipped to December, **Medfield Transfer Station** is following its Wednesday, Friday and Saturday schedule (i.e., no Sunday openings until April). [The monthly schedule is available here.](#)

- * **Sustainable Medfield** continues to seek interest in biweekly curbside composting. [More information and preregistration is available here](#) for the Black Earth Compost service. Medfield is just shy of meeting the minimum number of participants to move forward with curbside composting.
- * **Charles River Health District Advisory Board**, formed just over a year ago with meetings open to the public, met virtually on Nov. 21, 2024 with representatives from the four member towns of **Dover, Sherborn, Needham and Medfield**. Key items discussed included a budget for the annual allocation of \$325,000 (for a three-year grant), and how member public health representatives can tap into the newly executed intermunicipal service agreement and shared grant dollars. Among the ways towns can benefit include use of a shared public health nurse and health inspectors. [The Nov. 21 primary meeting recording \(part 2\) is here \(part 1 contains no content\)](#).
- * A boost to Charles River Health District Advisory Board efforts and other initiatives that could help Medfield, was Governor Maura Healey's Nov. 20 signing of the **\$4-billion, multidimensional Mass Leads Act to increase economic development in the Commonwealth**. Beyond the headlines touting climate, life sciences and AI benefits, also within Mass Leads Act is funding for an amended State Action for Public Health Excellence (SAPHE) Act to modernize and professionalize the service delivery capacities of local public health departments. The Act also provides for **\$400 million for Mass Works infrastructure grants** and **\$50 million for the Cultural Facilities Fund**, both of which could benefit the Medfield State Hospital/Trinity/Bellforge redevelopment project. Additionally, \$150 million has been allocated for public library building updates or rehabilitation. Towns must have passed **MBTA Communities Zoning** to be eligible for Mass Leads Act grant opportunities.
- * Since 2018, Medfield Public Schools has received results from the annual Massachusetts ["Views of Climate and Learning" \(VOCAL\) survey](#) that is administered to students in grades 4, 5, 8 and 10 during spring MCAS tests. However, Medfield School Committee has never discussed any of the VOCAL results during the survey's **seven-year** existence.
- * On a related Medfield School Committee note, by **Aug. 1 each year**, state law requires the superintendent to publicly present to school committee (and report to the state) a description of the **proposed budget for mental, social or emotional health support personnel for the district**, and the cost associated with assigning a **school resource officer (SRO)**. Based on a public record request to the state department of education, Medfield Public Schools allocated **\$2.23 million** for its mental, social, emotional health support personnel budget during the 2022-23 school year (the latest available data), and no amount for an SRO. The 2022-23 and 2023-24 related budget information was never presented to Medfield School Committee, [as required](#). And while the district now has a new SRO (John Plant), the Memorandum of Understanding between Medfield Public Schools and Medfield Police Department has not been updated since 2018 to reflect the 2022 model agreement put forth by a [state review commission](#). Medfield School Committee must vote to authorize the superintendent to sign a new MOU, according to Massachusetts Association of School Committees.

Further Ahead...

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

Monday, Dec. 9:

-- Planning Board (*Montrose School*)

Tuesday, Dec. 10:

-- Medfield Housing Authority

Wednesday, Dec. 11:

-- Medfield Energy Committee
-- Medfield Historical Commission
-- School Building Committee (*MSBA update expected*)

Thursday, Dec. 12:

-- School Committee

Monday, Dec. 16:

-- Planning Board

Tuesday, Dec. 17:

-- Select Board

Thursday, Dec. 19:

-- Conservation Commission

Tuesday, Jan. 7:

-- Town Meeting 2025 warrant deadline & closing (citizen petitions due by this date)

Community Events & Initiatives...

TOWN AWAITS event-filled weekend

Here's an updated line up of **holiday-related festivities** for **Dec. 6 to 8:**

FRIDAY, DEC. 6

- * **Bellforge Holiday Stroll** begins at 4 p.m., followed by/in parallel with **MEMO Holiday Tree Lighting** and **Joy to the World** singing at 6:30 p.m. in **Baxter Park**. [View the detailed schedule here.](#)
- * Community members can also participate in the new [Gingerbread House Contest \(details here\)](#). **Monday, Dec. 2 is registration deadline.**

The **Holiday Stroll** features more than [30 artists selling their creations](#) across four main sites -- Zullo Gallery, United Church of Christ, Medfield Public Library and Middlesex Savings. Multiple other sites offer different attractions, including:

- * Hands-on activities & crafts for children;
- * Live music;
- * Movie showings;
- * Food vendors;
- * Magic show; and

- * Santa greetings.

SATURDAY, DEC. 7

- * From **10 a.m. to 12 p.m.**, **Medfield Garden Club** will host its annual [Holiday Home Sale](#) in a **new location** at United Church of Christ, 496 Main St. (with parking on Miller Street). Shoppers can select from festive table arrangements, wreaths, swags, porch and doorway decorations, boxwood trees, and Christmas ornaments handmade by club members. Proceeds benefit club programming and volunteer initiatives.
- * At **1 p.m.**, the [MEMO Holiday Parade will roll](#) through downtown Medfield and area streets.
- * In the evening, beginning at 7 p.m., the **Lowell Mason House Holiday Concert** will celebrate its 10th anniversary with headliner Boston youth chorus, "Voices of Renaissance," guest speaker Tony Beatrice, Executive Director for the Arts for Boston Public Schools, and an array of local performers. The concert begins at 7 p.m. [Details and tickets available via Lowell Mason House website.](#)

SUNDAY, DEC. 8

- * The [Angel Run, a Medfield Foundation Inc. initiative](#), kicks off from Medfield High School at 11:30 a.m. In-person, day-of-event registration is available. Cost is \$35 per person with proceeds benefiting the local community.

LIONS TREE sale continues

Medfield Lions continues with its **annual Christmas tree sale** in the back parking lot of **St. Edwards Church** off Spring Street/Rte. 27.

Hours are **Thursdays and Fridays, 4 to 7 p.m.**, and **Saturdays and Sundays, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.**, until trees sell out. A **tentative** Saturday, Dec. 21 end date has been set, but based on past brisk sales, an earlier closing date is likely.

Medfield Lions fundraising proceeds help to support a variety of local organizations.

(Photo credit: Marjorie Cappucci)

ZULLO HOSTS exhibit, events with children's book creator

Special events are planned along with the exhibit of work by local children's book author/illustrator, David Biedrzycki, as part of his recent release of **"ARTificial Intelligence."**

A free artist demonstration/talk will be held at the Zullo on **Dec. 15** from 2 to 4 p.m. On Sunday, **Jan 5** at 1 and 3 p.m., Biedrzycki will host [readings of his book for families](#) (ticketed events - \$15 per person, or \$50 for a family of four).

The exhibit runs through Sunday, Jan. 12 with the Zullo open free to the public during regular Saturday and Sunday gallery hours of 12 to 5 p.m. All of the illustrations in the exhibit are available for purchase and autographing by Biedrzycki.

(Image credit: David Biedrzycki)

Planning a community event? E-mail information to MedfieldInsider@gmail.com by 5 p.m. the Friday prior to publication each Monday morning. Brief details in the body of an e-mail is appreciated, along with a PDF flyer and simple photo.

Medfield Insider -- Past Issues

[Nov. 25](#) -- Pfaff discussion/demise, stalled MWAHS results, Rep. Garlick party, hate hotline open
[Nov. 18](#) -- Pfaff \$700K repair, Wilkins Glen/Hinkley fire, Butterfly news, SC start time vote, MSH award
[Nov. 11](#) -- Election results/MCAS ballot divide, more Pfaff, Dale site & school start time votes, fire alert
[Nov. 4](#) -- Election day info., Pfaff wall alert, drought/fire safety, Elm St. & BOH topics, new Harley cycle
[Oct. 28](#) -- Election info./vanishing signs, MSH \$500k, water bills, school traffic risk, gristmill gate update
[Oct. 21](#) -- New MSH off-leash, Montrose turf, 86 Plain St., archaeological sites, Donovan MHA honor
[Oct. 14](#) -- School start-time vote deferral, PSB sign, Commty Mkt season end, bike accidents, vol slots
[Oct. 7](#) -- CivicAlerts, MBTA Zoning okayed, Elm St./Hannah Adams developer issues, gun range noise
[Sept. 30](#) -- Medfield Day pics, School Committee mtg/contracts, Fire grant, rail trail, Metacomet courts
[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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