

From "Medfield Insider" <editor@medfieldinsider.ccsend.com>
To jfarinacci@doverma.gov
Date 2024-03-18 13:08:14+00:00
Subject TA salary bump, Moderator QA, West St. crash, alpaca
goodbye

News Recap & Peak Into The Week

-March 18, 2024-

Cheering on the Stewards...

Helping out at the local museum, she was excited to meet a visitor eager to research the history of his newly purchased house.

Knowing that so many beautiful and significant old homes meet their fate through demolition, she praised his desire to learn more about his residence -- and even before she learned the address.

But when the details were shared, she couldn't contain her joy:

"It's 661 Main St.? You bought the Lucy Bran house?" she practically screamed in excitement.

Filled with relief that a treasured landmark (painted by a famous artist no less) appeared to be in safe hands, she wasted no time in trying to answer his questions. Others eagerly jumped in to help with his research too.

She thought to herself that her town had a rare gift in its midst -- an alumnus who returned to his childhood town, bought a beloved landmark, had no intention of tearing it down, and wanted to be a good steward. On this chilly, grey-sky day, she sure wasn't about to let a sunny spot in history fade too quickly.

(Interested in learning about Lucy Bran? Here's a piece by Rob Gregg.)

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, March 18 -- Community Choice Aggregation Committee \(private executive session\)](#), 8:30 a.m. -- Key topic: To discuss trade secrets or confidential, competitively sensitive or other proprietary information provided in the course of activities conducted as a municipal aggregator of electricity [under Massachusetts law](#). The Community Choice Aggregation Committee will reconvene in open session after its executive session.

[Monday, March 18 -- Community Choice Aggregation Committee](#), 9:30 a.m. -- Key topics: Document review and discussion about the second "adder" to Medfield Community Electricity plan.

[Monday, March 18 -- Wheelock School Site Council Meeting](#), 3:45 p.m. -- Key topics: Site Council norms; updates on teacher conferences, parent webinar on placement, St. Patrick's Day, Read Across America and tile project; "deep dive" into [school priority #3 \(whole child\)](#); action topics for upcoming school year; open forum; and next meeting dates.

[Monday, March 18 -- Planning Board \(public workshop\)](#), 7:30 p.m. -- Key topics: In-person public workshop to discuss required zoning changes mandated by [Massachusetts law](#) known as "**Multi-Family Zoning Requirement for MBTA Communities**" or "MBTA Zoning." Topics include potential MBTA Zoning locations and draft zoning language. Attendees will have opportunity to participate in question-and-answer session, and provide feedback to consultant and Planning Board. Community members are encouraged to attend in person to better facilitate active participation. [More information on MBTA Zoning can be found here.](#)

[Tuesday, March 19 -- Community Choice Aggregation Committee \(private executive session\)](#), 11 a.m. -- Key topic: To discuss trade secrets or confidential, competitively sensitive or other proprietary information provided in the course of activities conducted as a municipal aggregator of electricity [under Massachusetts law](#). The Community Choice Aggregation Committee will **not** reconvene in open session after its executive session.

[Tuesday, March 19 -- Select Board \(private executive session\)](#), 4:30 p.m. -- Key topics: To discuss preparation for **negotiations with Police Chief**, Michelle Guerette, and to consider purchase, exchange, lease or value of **former Medfield State Hospital property**. Select Board will return to the open session of its regular meeting.

[Tuesday, March 19 -- Board of Health](#), 5 p.m. -- Key topics: Plan review of **Garrison Path subdivision** (5:10 p.m.); health agent update (5:20 p.m.); public health nurse update (5:30 p.m.); appointments to Inspector of Animals (Jennifer Cronin and Robert LaPlante), Burial Agents (Thomas Caruso and Nancy Bennotti), and **Associate Board of Health member (anesthesiologist Ramaa Rao, MD)**; tobacco

regulations review; and permits to be issued.

[Tuesday, March 19 -- Board of Assessors](#), 6 p.m. -- Key topics: Fiscal year 2025 3ABC applications (for return of property held for charitable purposes), and recertification update. **Private executive session** to follow to discuss non-public records related to fiscal year 2024 motor vehicle and real estate abatements and/or exemptions, and pending litigation.

[Tuesday, March 19 -- Select Board](#), 6 p.m. -- Key topics:

- * Bellforge presentation on [Town Meeting citizens' petition seeking to purchase former Medfield State Hospital property](#) (including chapel) currently leased;
- * Conditional **appointment of William Crisafulli to Police Officer** effective March 22 pending transfer;
- * Update on **launch of Medfield Community Electricity Program**;
- * 2024 Town Meeting and fiscal-year 2025 budget items (with vote anticipated);
- * Discussion and potential vote on **Annual Town Meeting Warrant Articles**;
- * Change of Ann Thompson status from full member to associate member of Affordable Housing Trust;
- * **Affiliation agreement with Worcester State University** for clinical educational experiences for nursing, speech language pathology, and occupational therapy students;
- * Request for **various contract approvals**, including Clear Span Fabric Structures, Inc. for wastewater treatment plant (with cost to be partially covered by insurance); Southeastern Regional Services Group for various public works services and supplies; Nardone Electric for new wastewater treatment plant generator (\$272,891); Rise Engineering for rooftop heat pump units (\$31,918) and Norel for replacement sprinkler heads (\$27,303), both for Medfield Public Library; and Suburban Glass and Mirror for ceiling repairs at Parks & Recreation Pfaff Center (\$7,840);
- * Request for **waiver of building permit fees** for various work associated with prior contracts/repairs noted, as well as for emergency repair at Public Safety Building to allow for removal of diesel exhaust from apparatus bay;

- * Permission for MEMO to hold its **44th Annual Discover Medfield Day** on Saturday, September 28 from 10 a.m. a.m. to 4 p.m. Request includes use of town-owned land, common victualler/food-serving license, Main Street banner, and waiver of \$50 fee;
- * Permission for MEMO to hold its **Summer Concert Series** on Thursdays from June 6 to Aug. 15 at gazebo. Request includes use of town-owned land around the Gazebo, and Main Street banner;
- * Approval of **2024 to 2027 employment contract with Town Administrator** Kristine Trierweiler;
- * Various sign and event requests, including basketball training camps, launch of Medfield Community Electricity, Medfield "Youth Little League"*, Opening Day festivities and parade on Sunday, April 28; and annual Maverick 5K on May 5, 2024 which will begin and end at Montrose School. (*Likely [Medfield Youth Baseball & Softball](#)); and
- * Town administrator updates, Select Board member reports, and informational items.

[>> Meeting packet accessible here. <<](#)

[Tuesday, March 19 -- Warrant Committee](#), 7 p.m. -- Key topics: Discussion of general Town Meeting articles, including **Dog Control Bylaw**, **Town Charter Amendment-Moderator Term**, Enforcement of Zoning Bylaw Violations, and substitution of "Select Board" and "Select Board member" in town bylaws; discussion of **citizens' petition regarding sale of former Medfield State Hospital property to Bellforge** (currently leasing); update from Town Finance; and informational items.

[Wednesday, March 20 -- Parks & Recreation Commission](#), 6 p.m. -- *Agenda not posted at time of writing.* Anticipated topics include: various updates, including current and fiscal-year 2025 budget, summer camp and staff hiring, overall programs, Hinkley Playground, and open commission member seat/interim replacement.

[Wednesday, March 20 -- Zoning Board of Appeals](#), 7 p.m. -- Key topic: Public hearing regarding Comprehensive Permit/40B Application from The Jacob R. Cushman Realty Trust for **441 and 439 Main St.** to allow the construction of an additional two units and the renovation of existing six multi-family residential units. The final development will consist of eight rental, non-age restricted dwellings. Of the units, four will be designated as affordable at 70 percent of the area median income, while four will be market-rate units.

[Thursday, March 21 -- School Committee](#), 6 p.m. -- *Agenda not posted at time of writing.* Anticipated topics include: **Statement of Interest for Massachusetts School Building Authority**, fiscal-year 2025 budget, district fees, **proposed policy amendments**, and update on school start time committee efforts.

[Thursday, March 21 -- Conservation Commission](#), 7 p.m. -- *Agenda not posted at time of writing.*
Anticipated topics include: [Public hearing](#) to provide retroactive review of removal of four trees within 100-foot wetland buffer zone at 52 Harding St.; fiscal year 2025 budget update; and conservation agent status.
Possible continuation of various [topics discussed](#) on March 7.

(To verify notices or check for new meetings later in the week, refer to [calendar on town website](#) or [subscribe to the Civic Plus notices](#). See QR code below.)

*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.***

The QR code shown can be scanned to sign up for Town Alerts & Notifications.

New Administrator Contract

Includes Sizeable Pay Jump

At its upcoming March 19 meeting, Select Board will discuss and likely vote on a new employment contract for **Town Administrator Kristine Trierweiler**, who marked her **25th work anniversary** with Medfield on March 1.

The existing three-year contract expires on June 30, 2024; the new contract will then run from July 1, 2024 to June 30, 2027.

Chief differences between the [existing contract](#) and proposed [new contract](#) include:

- * Discontinuation of the annual performance bonus of \$10,000 (it does not appear in new contract).
- * A nearly **10 percent salary increase** as of July 1, 2024 (existing salary of \$210,641 would rise to \$231,673); and
- * Annual **increases of 5%** over the next three years vs. previous 3% annual increases for last three years.

Of Trierweiler's 25 years with Medfield, more than five years have been spent as town administrator. She was initially hired as assistant town administrator, a position she held for nearly 20 years. Prior to coming to Medfield, Trierweiler served as town planner in Northbridge.

(Pictured: In 2019, then new Town Administrator Kristine Treirweiler gathered with Sen. Paul Feeney and State Rep. Denise Garlick after the legislative act was passed allowing the town to sign a 99-year lease with Cultural Alliance of Medfield for two former Medfield State Hospital buildings for use as arts center. Photo credit: Rep. Garlick legislative staff.)

MBTA Zoning Workshop

Invites Resident Feedback

As Town Meeting, May 6, inches closer, local officials have taken additional steps to help residents become familiar with the **proposed MBTA Communities Zoning bylaw** that will be put forth for a vote -- and to provide opportunities for feedback.

At 7:30 p.m. on [Monday, March 18, a public workshop](#) will take at the Public Safety Building.

During the workshop, attendees will have a chance to learn about the potential MBTA Zoning locations, review and provide feedback on draft zoning language, participate in a question-and-answer session, and provide additional input to the consultant and Planning Board on other related MBTA matters.

Following the workshop, public hearings will be held on these dates (both at 7:30 p.m.):

- * [Thursday, March 28](#)
- * [Monday, April 1](#)

The MBTA Communities Zoning is **not a mandate to build** multi-family housing -- it is a requirement to change zoning that would allow for multi-family zoning by right in certain community-specified locations.

As explained by Planning Board members, in many cases, the potential zoning locations identified, such as Medfield Gardens on Pleasant Street, the Parc off West Street, or various downtown parcels, already meet (or come close to meeting) the targeted number of multi-family units needed to help reach compliance with the law through re-zoning.

Additional resources:

[Frequently asked questions](#)

[General overview](#)

Medfield Bids Farewell to Resident Alpacas, Emu

Last week, Karen and Niels Borgstein closed the doors to their home and barn, wrapping up about 14 years of owning an alpaca farm at 86 Plain St. – the only one of its kind in Medfield.

The farm owners and Netherland natives made the difficult decision to sell the 15-acre property and move back to Europe, where they will settle in France.

The Borgsteins shared on social media that a total of 10 alpacas, and Emmett the Emu, left for their new home at Ledgecreek Farm in Union, Connecticut, allowing the animals and bird to stay together.

Over the years, the Borgstein Alpaca Farm, mostly tended by Karen Borgstein and her two school-aged daughters (now adults), welcomed anyone who was interested in visiting, lending a hand, or seeking to purchase the alpaca-wool products made by the family. The Borgsteins also bred alpacas for sale.

Regular Borgstein farm visitors included Girl Scout troops, veterinary technician students, and civic groups. A weaver and knitter, Borgstein was also a regular exhibitor at the Holiday Stroll, Medfield Day, and in area shops and at craft fairs. The animals also participated in alpaca shows.

Other Farm-related & Open Space News

Medfield community members can soon look forward to these two additional ways to enjoy the great outdoors and nature:

- * The grand opening for the new "**Medfield Community Market**" is slated for 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on **Sunday, May 19**, in the Montrose School parking lot. Featuring locally grown produce, food items and other goods, the market is designed to support local farmers and makers. [More information, including e-mail list sign-up, is available here.](#)
- * **The Trustees of Reservations** announced on March 12 that it had acquired **Millborn Farm**, a 195-acre property with frontage on the Charles River situated in the towns of Sherborn and Millis. The farm is connected via the Charles River to nine other Trustees reservations, including Medfield's Shattuck Reservation and Medfield Meadow Lots. Additionally, hiking trails from Shattuck Reservation connect to Noon Hill Reservation, also in Medfield. As noted in the [Trustees press release](#), the non-profit organization recently finalized the purchase of the property and will continue fundraising to support reservation activation costs, and an endowment for its long-term care. Ultimately, the plan is to open the property to the public for passive recreation such as birdwatching,

hiking, horseback riding, and snowshoeing. Given the extensive waterfront, The Trustees will also determine how best to provide water access.

Housing Authority Taps

Tri-County for Gazebo

Medfield Housing Authority (MHA) is once again working with the carpentry students at **Tri-County Regional Vocational Technical High School** on a Tilden Village project.

In late 2019, Tri-County students built a shed for the Tilden site, and by the time it was done, COVID had hit preventing an official ribbon-cutting from taking place. This time, the project will be a **gazebo on or near the patio off the community room**. MHA commissioners reviewed possible gazebo styles at its last meeting on March 12.

MHA Executive Director Candace Avery noted that she has previously worked with Tri-County carpentry students on a variety of other projects (including a Millis gazebo), and has been pleased with the work.

"We pay for the materials, and Tri-County provides the labor, which results in huge savings," said Avery, who explained that Jeremy Barstow is a Tri-County instructor who readily seeks out **community carpentry projects** for his students.

Other projects completed by Barstow's students include:

- * Pirate ship for Medway playground;
- * Dugout for Wrentham Youth Baseball & Softball; and
- * Pearl Harbor display case for North Attleboro Town Hall.

The timing of the Medfield Housing Authority gazebo project has yet to be determined, but in the meantime, it appeared commissioners were fairly united on the designs they liked best.

West Street Accident

Results in Med Flight

At approximately 1 p.m. on March 13, a hydroseeding truck and passenger car collided at or near the intersection of West Street and North Meadows Road (Rte. 27), resulting in a medical airlift for the automobile driver.

Based on media reports and individuals who know the airlifted driver report she **survived the accident with no life-threatening injuries**.

Traffic was re-routed around the accident for hours. Cars heading west on West Street from North Street vicinity were back up to the Adams Street intersection.

Various media outlets arrived in Medfield to [report on the accident](#), including NBC Boston 10.

Mike Pastore Engages in Q&A as Town Moderator Candidate

Medfield Insider reached out to **Mike Pastore, candidate for Town Moderator** in the 2024 local election on **Monday, March 26**, to learn more about him, and his views. Thanks to help from readers submitting questions, his answers appear below. Pastore was asked to limit each response to 50 words or less.

Candidate voting records are easily obtained from Medfield Town Clerk; the record for Pastore [is here](#).

Medfield Insider questions:

1. Tell us about yourself.

I am a husband, a father of an 8- and an 11-year-old, an attorney, and have been fortunate to call Medfield my home for nearly a decade. I am currently one of three elected Town Trust Fund Commissioners, the Chair of the OPEB Trust, a member of the Town Collective Bargaining Committee, and the Clerk of the Medfield TV Board of Directors. I also served for three years on the Warrant Committee, two of those as Chair. I have been actively involved in every Town Meeting since 2017 both from the floor and from the stage.

2. Why do you want to serve as Moderator?

That's an easy one – I love this Town and I love the legislative process. With respect to the first point, Medfield relies heavily on volunteers for its government, and I am proud to play a small part in that operation. On the second point, I worked for several years at the MA State House before going to law school, and always enjoyed the process of drafting legislation. I have found the Town Meeting process of lawmaking to present its own enjoyable set of challenges.

3. How do you see the role of Moderator evolving?

The role of Moderator is to preside over Town Meeting and make certain appointments, including to the Warrant Committee. While the issues that come up at Town Meeting are always different, the role of Moderator is set out in the Town Charter.

4. What are the 1-2 things you might change about Town Meeting?

Changes to Town Meeting are the purview of the voters and the Select Board. Although styles may change, my job as Moderator would be to preside over Town Meeting.

5. What specific steps should a new Moderator take to prepare for the role?

Too many to count. If I am lucky enough to be elected, I will have an extremely busy six weeks preparing for Annual Town Meeting. One of the most important things will be to develop a deep familiarity with the Warrant. Much of that time will also be spent working with the Town Clerk, Town Administrator, Select Board, and others in fine-tuning the mechanics of this year's Annual Town Meeting (ATM).

6. What can a new moderator do to help a diverse group of voters feel welcome at Town Meeting, and boost attendance?

To me, the best way for a Moderator to make all voters feel welcome is to treat each speaker with respect and with equal consideration. Everyone should have the same opportunity to be heard whether that person has lived in Medfield for 30 days or 30 years. On attendance – I would love to see more people participate at ATM, and look forward to discussing ways to make Town Meeting more accessible to today's voter.

Reader questions (with Medfield Insider clarification in parentheses):

7. Recent years have seen the Moderator limit individuals' floor participation in order to complete the meeting in one night. Do you share his objective or believe the potential benefit of more time on major articles?

I don't agree with the premise. I think Moderator McDermott did a great job understanding which articles needed more time for debate and which could be heard and voted on more quickly. The objective is not necessarily to finish in one night, but to conduct an efficient Town Meeting where voters are given a full opportunity to understand the issues, and all sides are given a reasonable time to state their case.

8. As a candidate whose party affiliation is well-known, despite the fact this is, traditionally, a non-partisan role, how do you intend to keep even (unbiased) and when issues cross into territory covered by national (or local) politics?

I view Moderator as a process-focused position. I would be presiding over the mechanics of Town Meeting, not making policy or opining on any Warrant Article. My party affiliation or personal views have nothing to do with keeping time and order.

9. An important element of the Moderator's duties include appointments to the Warrant Committee. What criteria and other considerations will guide your search for Warrant Committee candidates?

Now this is a question very close to my heart. My experience as Warrant Committee Chair taught me that balance is essential to a successful Warrant Committee – and that applies to ideology, stage in life, time in Town, and so many other things. For an individual trait, I would prioritize candidates that are able to consider an article on its own merits.

10. What constitutes free speech (at Town Meeting) and what should not be allowed?

I'm not entirely sure that a Constitutional discussion is within the scope of this Q&A. As a general matter, a speaker should stick to the topic being voted on. I view personal attacks as off-limits, and disqualifying for a speech at the microphone or podium. And swearing is probably a bad idea.

News Briefs & Reminders...

- * The [Town Administrator Update for February has been published](#). Highlights include **Fire Department** and **Trinity Financial/Medfield State Hospital redevelopment** updates.
- * As recently [announced by Massachusetts Congressman Jake Auchincloss](#), Medfield has been awarded **\$500,000 of fiscal-year 2024 federal funding for Pleasant Street sidewalk infrastructure improvements**. The town is one of 15 Community Project Funding requests that resulted in financial support for towns and cities in his district. The Pleasant Street funding is designed to improve pedestrian safety, community/visitor access, and Americans with Disabilities Act compliance. Details will be forthcoming regarding the timeline required for expending the funds.
- * The Transfer Station and Recycling Committee will hold a Styrofoam/"foam" collection on **Saturday, March 23** from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the swap area of the Transfer Station. All qualifying materials should be **clean and dry**, and dropped off in **clear or white leaf or trash bags**. Items that qualify include packing foam used to ship electronics, appliances, and other items; foam coolers; and foam egg cartons and food trays. Items not accepted for recycling include foam wrapping sheets; foam urethane/spongy packing material; pluck foam (spongy/ridged packing material); and foam with dirt, dust or spider webs, or labels, tape, attached paper and/or glue. Anyone donating is urged to follow all guidelines as noted to prevent traffic backups and collection delays.
- * Medfield community members are encouraged to attend the **Economic Development: Community Visioning Session #2** at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, **March 27**, via Zoom with Metropolitan Area Planning Council. This session is a follow-up to the previous one held last year during which

attendees were asked to help shape the vision for the Industrial-Extensive (IE) district in the North Meadows Road/West Street area. Input on possible strategies that could support increased economic activity in the area is encouraged. [Registration is available here](#) and [materials from the first session are available here](#).

- * Beginning **Sunday, March 31**, the town will be conducting its **spring fire hydrant flushing** in the evening to minimize inconvenience to community members. In the event discoloration occurs, the Water and Sewer Department recommends running cold water for a few minutes until the water is clear. Dates for 2024 hydrant flushing on specific streets will soon be posted on the [town website](#). Residents can also contact the department at 508-906-3004 to obtain the confirmed flushing schedule.
- * The [Planning Board is seeking to fill a vacant Associate Member position](#). Any Medfield resident interested in serving on the board should submit a letter of interest to [Maria De La Fuente](#) by **April 1, 2024**. The purpose of the Planning Board is to guide the development of the Town in the best interests of all its residents. Regular members are elected to the position, while associate members are appointed to attend and participate in meetings, though they are not considered regular voting members of the board.
- * **Medfield dog owners** are reminded that their canine companions **must be licensed by the town by April 1**, or a \$25 late fee will be incurred in addition to the \$10 licensing fee. [More information is available here](#).
- * From 9 a.m. to 1 p.m., Department of Public Works will host its annual **Household Hazardous Waste Day** on **Saturday, April 27** at the town garage off North Meadows Road/Rte. 27. [Additional details, including items accepted, can be found here](#).
- * **Medfield Public Schools is hiring Substitute Nurses**. Substituting gives qualified nurses the chance to learn what school nursing involves, and to interact with students. Qualifications include a current Massachusetts RN license, and at least one year of pediatric experience. School-year duties include tending to student health needs, dispensing medication, and communicating with parents. A basic orientation is provided. Interested candidates should [e-mail Brittany Hardiman](#), Nurse Leader, for more information.
- * **Council on Aging is seeking a Transportation and Facilities Coordinator**. The position is full-time, hourly, and responsible for driving the passenger van/mini bus within Medfield and surrounding towns. Responsibilities also include scheduling and coordinating routes and vehicle maintenance, light janitorial duties, and set up for programs and events. [More information is available on town website](#).

Voter Engagement

(This is a new nonpartisan section for sharing basic election and town meeting information, plus notices about town political committee meetings in Medfield formed under MGL Chapter 52, Section 2, and open to the public. Notices can be sent to [Medfield Insider](#).)

Town Election is Monday, March 25;

New Moderator to Oversee Proceeds

Polls will be open from 6 a.m. to 8 p.m. at The Center, One Ice House Rd. The town website provides further details, including a [link to the specimen ballot](#) with candidate names.

Citizens will also be asked to vote on revoking civil service for Medfield Police Department ranks of patrol officer, sergeant and deputy chief. [A previously published \(but revised\) pros & cons article on civil service is available here.](#)

*(See **Q&A article above** featuring Town Moderator candidate **Mike Pastore**. Special thanks to readers for submitting questions.)*

Annual Town Meeting is Monday, May 6;

Updated List of Warrant Articles Now Available

Information on 2024 Annual Town Meeting, including an **updated list of warrant articles** (as of March 6, 2024) [can be found here](#). The **Annual Warrant Hearing** will be held at 7:30 p.m., **Tuesday, April 2** at the Town House. Medfield residents are welcome to attend and ask questions about town meeting articles.

Community Events & Initiatives

GARDEN CLUB features Art 'N Bloom

Always one of the first signs of spring, the annual **Art 'N Bloom** will be held from **Thursday, March 21 to Sunday, March 24** during [regular library hours](#). It will feature floral displays created by Medfield Garden Club members alongside creative artwork by students in the Medfield High School Visual Arts Department.

EMPTY BOWLS slots still available

Once again, the **Medfield High School Clay Club** is sponsoring its **"Empty Bowls"** initiative to support the **Medfield Food Cupboard**. For a suggested donation of \$30, participants can create their own clay bowl. Most clay bowl-making slots for Wednesday, March 20, are full. However, a number of openings still exist for the afternoon of **Thursday, March 21**. Glazing dates follow on April 10 or 11. Bowls can then be filled with ice cream at a special gathering after they've been fired in the kiln. Slots are limited; a non-bowl-making option is also available. [More information and sign-up form is here.](#)

BELLFORGE features MSH talk & lantern parade

Bellforge Arts Center is hosting a [Conversation with Richard DeSorgher](#) about the history of **Medfield State Hospital**, at 7 p.m., **Thursday, March 21**, offsite at Farthest Star Sake Brewery, 120 North Meadows Rd. Along with the DeSorgher talk, on display at Farthest Star will be paintings depicting various MSH buildings by award-winning Sherborn artist **Anne Bell Robb**.

The Bellforge Arts Center **outdoor lantern parade** at the former MSH campus will be held from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. on **Saturday, March 23**. Details about the event are [available on the Bellforge website](#).

MEDFIELD TV hosts Trivia Night

Medfield TV's first **Trivia Night**, sponsored by Needham Bank, will be held from 6 to 10 p.m., **Saturday, March 23**, at the Italian American Club in Walpole. The theme of the night is "Movies," and classic theater snacks will be provided. There will also be a cash bar and silent auction for trips. This fundraiser will not only test participants' knowledge but also contribute to Medfield TV's mission to provide media access and education to all residents. [Register here](#).

FOUNDATION "PITCH IT!" deadline approaches

Monday, March 25, 2024 is the deadline for Medfield non-profit and town organizations to apply for a **Medfield Foundation Legacy Fund Community Impact Grant**. Up to \$40,000 in "Pitch It!" grants will be awarded. More information and the [online grant application is available here](#). The Medfield Foundation Legacy Fund Community Board will review all submissions and select the finalists who will be invited to pitch their proposals next month. The board will make its final selection of grant recipients for the 2024 funding round in May.

LIONS CLUB organizes special event at Zullo

Medfield Lions Club is holding a **"Sip, Savor and Relax"** evening at the Zullo Gallery from 7 to 10 p.m. on **Thursday, March 28**. The evening will feature wine and cheeses from local merchants, a selection of Lindt chocolates, and mini-manicures for attendees, plus art. Door prizes will also be raffled off, with proceeds defraying the cost of the evening. Tickets are \$20 each and will be available at the door with cash or Venmo, or in advance by [using this link](#) or via Venmo handle @Medfield-Lions.

HISTORICAL SOCIETY hosts hat factory talk

The straw hat factory and evolving hat industry shaped Medfield throughout the 19th century and was an economic driver for the town. At 7:30 p.m., **Monday, April 1**, at First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church,

Medfield Historical Society President Peggy Sue Werthessen will share **hat industry history**, and information about other industrious endeavors once prominent in Medfield. The presentation is free and open to the public. First Parish is located at 26 North St.

HUNTER'S RUN returns to raise awareness, funds

The 9th Annual Hunter's 5K Run and 1 Mile Fun Run will kick off at 9 a.m. on Sunday, April 7 at 2 Ice House Rd. in Medfield to raise organ donation awareness, and raise funds for transplant recipients and transplant advocacy organizations. The event also serves to honor Hunter Williams, a two-time double lung transplant recipient who passed away at the age of 15 in June 2023. [Race/fun run registration and additional information are available here.](#)

DWIGHT-DERBY HOUSE launches newsletter, offers tours

Friends of the Dwight Derby House, Inc. has launched a new quarterly newsletter, "Squibob Herald" to share news and information about the historic site. As explained in the [inaugural issue](#), "George Horatio Derby (1832-1861), was the most famous resident of the Dwight-Derby House, and a man considered by many to be one of the original satirists in the United States." Squibob was one of Derby's most popular characters, hence the inspiration for the newsletter name. Anyone can subscribe to it by [filling out this form](#).

The town-owned Dwight-Derby House, established in 1651 and listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is now open by appointment for guided tours seven days a week. To arrange for a tour, [e-mail Geoff Sauter](#), President of The Friends of the Dwight-Derby House, or use the "contact us" tab on the [DDH website](#).

ZULLO SUMMER art class registration now open

The Zullo Gallery in downtown Medfield is once again offering its popular **summer art class program for youth** in grades 1 to 7, featuring teacher **Kurt Jackson**. Classes run Monday to Friday, from 9:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. The first class begins July 8. Class options include drawing/mixed media (grades 1-4), artist studio with a variety of mediums (grades 1-3), cartoons & clay/drawing & building (grades 3-6), and digital art for beginners (grades 4-7). More information and online registration is [available on the Zullo website](#).

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

Further Ahead...

(Dates/topics subject to change)

Monday, March 25 -- [Town election](#) (6 a.m. to 8 p.m., The Center, Ice House Rd.)

Tuesday, March 26 -- Select Board

Wednesday, March 27 -- Planning Board ([Economic Development Visioning Session -- Industrial-Extensive District](#))

Thursday, March 28 -- Planning Board ([MBTA Communities preliminary public hearing](#))

Monday, April 1 -- [Dog license deadline](#)

Monday, April 1 -- Transfer Station and Recycling Committee

Monday, April 1 -- Planning Board ([MBTA Communities public hearing](#))

Monday, April 1 -- Planning Board ([public hearing Memorial School solar site plan](#))

Tuesday, April 2 -- Board of Health

Tuesday, April 2 -- Warrant Committee

Tuesday, April 2 -- Select Board ([Kingsbury Club alcoholic beverage license hearing](#))

Wednesday, April 3 -- Council on Aging Board

Wednesday, April 3 -- School Building Committee

Wednesday, April 3 -- Zoning Board of Appeals (special permit hearings for [AT&T](#) and [T-Mobile](#) Mt. Nebo Water Tower-related telecommunications work, and [Hinkley Playground project](#))

Thursday, April 4 -- Affordable Housing Trust

Thursday, April 4 -- Conservation Commission

Wednesday, April 10 -- Medfield Energy Committee

Wednesday, April 10 -- Medfield Historical Commission

Wednesday, April 10 -- Zoning Board of Appeals

Monday, May 6 -- [Town meeting](#) (7 p.m., Medfield High School gym)

Medfield Insider -- Past Issues

[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

[Dec. 25](#) -- Storm wrap-up, farmer's market news, electricity buying power approved, non-profit list

[Dec. 18](#) -- Lowell Mason House \$300K, Hunter bench, no MSBA, school budget jump, enrollment drop

[Dec. 11](#) -- Chronicle airing/links, Brothers house plan, more Park Street Books, MBTA zoning session

[Dec. 4](#) -- Chronicle alert, 21 North St. conditional approval, Thompson honor, Rep. Garlick talk

[Nov. 27](#) -- 21 North St. historic district retro review, MDA Pound St. vote, holiday event publicity

[Nov. 20](#) -- School Committee resignation, enrollment drop & projections, ConComm Green St. concerns

[Nov. 13](#) -- Saltonstall house/40B, MBTA communities info., Nosh building issues, Veteran's Day photo

[Nov. 6](#) -- Water/sewer bill woes, Nosh hearing date, clock keepers, development forums, Veteran's Day

[Oct. 30](#) -- Town moderator won't run, Chronicle visit, Nosh & Grog building changes, sign proliferation

[Oct. 23](#) -- Tri-City vote, possible Park St. Books offer, Gristmill beer, car break-in warning, solitude

[Oct. 16](#) -- Park St Books news, planning dept. sessions (MBTA, IE zone), Jean Kingsbury passing

[Oct. 9](#) -- Three indictments, new food spots, AEDs for sports fields update, Clark homestead pics

[Oct. 2](#) -- Senior tax work-off, facilities needs, volunteer event, Pulte update, Chapel Hill Landing

[Sept. 25](#) -- Medfield Day pics, Select Board Pulte water/sewer opinion, MCAS results, Tilden update

[Sept. 18](#) -- Pulte water/sewer discussion, approved solicitor web page, fire dept. PFAS, dog hearing

[Sept. 11](#) -- Hannah Adams dig, Board of Health reports, early childhood grants, suicide prevention

[Sept. 4](#) -- Pulte Dover signup, MHC review bypassed, dog control recommendations, new newsletters

[Click here to access back issues from July 2, 2020 through Aug. 28, 2023.](#)

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encourages engagement.

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