



Local Government At Work

The Auburn Account

Pennrose Closes on Purchase of Mary D. Stone

Volume 10, Issue 3 July 2020



Pennrose and the Town of Auburn are pleased to announce that Pennrose has secured all financing and closed on the purchase of the former Mary D. Stone Elementary School. Construction has begun on the project, a 1.25-acre parcel and 3-story 1920s era historic school building which will be

developed into 55 units of senior housing. The redevelopment plan includes the renovation of the original school building, demolition of later built wings, and construction of a new addition. The completed structure will include amenity space and community rooms available to the Town for meetings and events.

The development will include 55 total units comprised of studio, one-bedroom, and two-bedroom apartments. Eighty percent of the units will be for seniors at or below 60% of the area median income (AMI). The additional 20% of units will be at market rate rents. Community amenities include a community room, meeting room, and laundry rooms. As part of the development plan, Pennrose has contributed \$25,000 to the Town for new equipment for the playground which will remain behind the building and owned by the Town for resident's continued use. Pennrose will also be adding landscaping and benches to enhance the area.

Pennrose was selected as the developer following a Request for Proposals issued by the Town seeking to redevelop the vacant school property with a preference for senior housing. "Since being selected for the project, Pennrose has worked closely with the Town of Auburn to progress the design and financing plan," said Charlie Adams, Regional Vice President at Pennrose. "We see great opportunities here to create some intergenerational experiences for our residents and the community. This is an exciting step in the first of two pivotal projects for the community."

"On behalf of the Town of Auburn, I want to congratulate Pennrose on securing all of the necessary financing to advance this project," said Town Manager Julie Jacobson.

Continued on next page...

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Auburn Town Hall
104 Central Street
Auburn, MA 01501
www.auburnguide.com

Important Contact Information (508) 832-

Town Manager	7720
Board of Selectmen	7720
Building Inspector	7719
Clerk	7701
Fire	7800
Health	7703
Library	7790
Planning	7704
Police	7777
Public Works	7814
Senior Center	7799
Treasurer/Collector	7705
Veterans	7706

Hours of Operation **CHECK FOR COVID HOURS**

Due to the global pandemic Covid-19, as of this printing all municipal offices remain closed to the public. Some offices may be open by appointment only. Call ahead for information.

Drive Through Kiosk Hours:
M—TH 8:00 AM—4:00 PM
FRI 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM

In this issue: Annual town meeting, Pool Safety, Covid 19 updates, Movie night, Farmers Market, Animal Care, Town Elections results, Mary D. Stone redevelopment, and much more...

"I also want to acknowledge and thank the Baker-Polito Administration and Lieutenant Governor Karyn Polito for her support and advocacy for this project, as well as the many advocates and supporters involved. This truly has been a collaborative effort involving our local, state and federal officials, including Congressman McGovern, Senator Moore, Representative Frost, the Board of Selectmen, the Historic Commission, the Elementary School Re-Use Advisory Committee, the Planning Board and the Zoning Board of Appeals, Town Meeting members, as well as the many department heads and employees who have worked diligently to bring this property to closing and facilitate the redevelopment of the Mary D Stone School into much-needed affordable housing for seniors. We are thrilled that the redevelopment of the property is underway and we look forward to continuing to work with Pennrose officials as the project moves forward."

To gain community input, an Aging-in-Place Charrette, co-sponsored by Enterprise Community and Pennrose, was hosted in September 2017 at the Auburn Town Hall. Invitees included town officials, the Auburn Council on Aging, the Elder Services of Worcester, Fallon Health (a PACE provider), the Lorraine Gleick Nordgren Senior Center, town department heads, and the MA Executive Office of Elder Affairs. The well-attended charrette allowed the development team to rely on the expertise of the individuals to brainstorm and prioritize important elements of quality senior housing that addressed isolation issues of seniors and promoted mental and physical health. The goal was more than just creating units to meet the local demand for affordable housing, but to make these safe, welcoming homes where seniors can continue to be active members of the community. From this design charrette a prioritized list of needs and wants for the future developments was created. Preliminary plans were also been presented at the Senior Center to solicit input from the seniors.

"Now more than ever we need this kind of housing," says Timothy I. Henkel, Principal and Executive Vice President. "This housing offers seniors who are currently living in unhealthy housing conditions like basements, overcrowded situations, or simply in isolation, access to safe and secure housing which will enhance their mental and physical well-being."

Financing for the project includes 9% Federal Low Income Housing Tax Credits and State Low Income Housing Tax Credits through the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCD). DHCD has provided HOME, Housing Stabilization Funds, and Affordable Housing Trust Funding addition to Project Based-Section 8 rental housing assistance to make units affordable seniors. Massachusetts Historic Commission provided State Historic Tax Credits. Pennrose's equity and debt partners include CREA, Dorfman Capital, BlueHub Capital, Massachusetts Housing Partnership and Citizens Bank.

"We are so appreciative of the support from the Commonwealth that begins with Governor Baker and Lieutenant Governor Polito and the dedicated staff at the Department of Housing and Community Development, MassHousing, and CEDAC," says Adams. "Equally important is the support from Secretary of State William Galvin whose office provided critical needed Historic Credits."

Pennrose and the Town of Auburn also have plans to develop the former Julia Bancroft School into a 60-unit, senior, mixed-income rehabilitation project. That site is 3.3-acres with an existing 37,000 square foot, 2-story historic building. The redevelopment plan includes the renovation of the original 1920s historic structure while demolishing the later addition and replacing it with a new, 3-story structure. Pennrose currently has an application for funding for the Julia Bancroft project pending with the State.

Pennrose began construction in late June. There will be no access to the field or playground during the construction period due to safety concerns and regulations. The project is expected to be completed by September 2021. Throughout construction, Pennrose Properties will provide the public updates regarding their progress. Town Administration will also routinely post updates on Auburn-guide.

We would like to thank everyone who has played a pivotal role in facilitating this important redevelopment project.

For more information, contact Shannon Regan, the Town of Auburn's Economic Development Coordinator, at 508.832.7703.

See related article on Virtual Groundbreaking event on page 10.



The Annual Election was Tuesday, May 19, 2020. It is the third Tuesday in May annually. Polls were open from eight o'clock AM to eight o'clock PM. We had 10% turnout this year with 2020 casting ballots out of the 11986 registered voters. Complete details for all candidates and Town Meeting Member results are posted on Town Clerk's website. <https://www.auburnguide.com/ArchiveCenter/ViewFile/Item/1442>

ELECTION RESULTS WINNERS MAY 19, 2020

HOUSING AUTHORITY MEMBER FOR FIVE YEARS

ALICE M. REA

HOUSING AUTHORITY MEMBER FOR THREE YEARS

WAYNE C. PAGE

HOUSING AUTHORITY MEMBER FOR THREE YEARS

JOYCE W. LAMOREAUX

LIBRARY TRUSTEES, AUBURN FREE PUBLIC FOR 3 YEARS

SUZETTE C. DOWD

MATTHEW A. TOTH

LIBRARY TRUSTEES, AUBURN FREE PUBLIC FOR 1 YEAR

MARY K. DECOURCEY

MODERATOR FOR 1 YEAR

CHESTER S. STENCEL, JR

SCHOOL COMMITTEE FOR 3 YEARS

JESSICA D. HARRINGTON

GAIL N. HOLLOWAY

BOARD OF SELECTMEN FOR 3 YEARS

DANIEL S. CARPENTER

ANDREW J. SLUCKIS, JR. (Declined seat)

SWCRVSC 3 YEARS

DONALD H. ERICKSON

QUESTION #1 – TENURE

YES

CENSUS – 2020 ANNUAL STREET LISTING

Notices were recently sent out to residents at the beginning of June for anyone that has not answered the census. If you have received a notice, please sign and return if you are still living in town or if someone in your household has moved, please forward to them to sign so we can remove as a voter.

The census was mailed to every household in early January and **needs to be signed and sent back every year**; even if all the information is correct. Although you pay a bill to another department, this does not update your census. We need to confirm, pursuant to Massachusetts General Laws, Ch.51, s.4, all residents living in Auburn. Notices were just mailed out for anyone that did not answer the census.

If you are new to the town, you can print the form and mail in: <https://www.auburnguide.com/DocumentCenter/View/478/Annual-Street-Listing-Form-PDF?bidId=>

DOG LICENSES

Late fees for licensing dogs went into effect May 1st. In addition to the dog license fee of \$15.00 for spay/neutered dogs or \$20.00 for male/female dogs there is a \$10.00 late fee. Any person seventy (70) years of age or older, upon proof of age, shall be exempt from the annual fee for one dog, per household, per year.

Licenses can be paid on line through the website with an updated rabies certificates on file. https://www.mapsonline.net/auburnma/dog_licensing

John E. & Ethel E. Riley Outstanding Citizenship Award

The John E. & Ethel E. Riley Outstanding Citizenship Award was created in 1976 to honor the Riley's for their contribution to serving and making life for Auburn Citizens better. John served as the Town Clerk from 1922 to 1975 and Ethel served as an Assistant for many years. There was money donated and put into a Certificate of Deposit. The interest earned is given to the recipient chosen each year. The committee consists of the Town Clerk, Chair of the Selectmen, a Town Meeting Member chosen by the Moderator, an educator named by the School Committee, the High School Senior class president, the President of the Auburn Ecumenical Cluster, a News media person covering news in Auburn and a Citizen of Auburn named by the Selectmen, Master of the Masonic Lodge, Grand Knight of the Auburn Knights of Columbus, and Commander of Chester P. Tuttle Post (American Legion).

Nominations are currently being accepted for the John E. & Ethel E. Riley Outstanding Citizenship Award. Deadline is Monday, October 05, 2020 at 4:00 PM. Nominations should include reasons why a person being nominated has been an outstanding citizen and made life for Auburn residents better. Submit to Riley Award Committee, C/O Debra Gremo, Town Clerk, 104 Central Street, Auburn, MA 01501

ELECTIONS - 2020!

ELECTION	DAY OF ELECTION	DEADLINE TO REGISTER
State Primary & Special Town Election	Tuesday, September 1, 2020	Wednesday, August 12, 2020
State Election	Tuesday, November 03, 2020	Wednesday, October 14, 2020

Your enrollment as a voter will affect the primary in which you can vote September 1, 2020 State Primary.

There are four political parties in Massachusetts. If you are enrolled in one of the political parties shown below you will only be able to vote that party's ballot

**D – Democratic Party R – Republican Party J – Green-Rainbow
L – Libertarian**

Unenrolled voters and voters who are members of a Political Designation (Unenrolled formally known as independent)

CAN CHOOSE WHICH PARTY'S BALLOT THEY WOULD LIKE TO VOTE

ELECTIONS

Need to check your voter registration?

Not registered? You can register online <https://www.sec.state.ma.us/ovr/>

Wondering what party you are registered in?

Check your voter registration status <http://www.sec.state.ma.us/VoterRegistrationSearch/MyVoterRegStatus.aspx>



2020 Special Town Election

Tuesday, September 1, 2020

Information and Calendar

7:00 AM

Annual Town Election-Precincts 1,2,3,4 & 5

8:00 PM

Auburn High School Gym

NOMINATION PAPERS – Available June 10, 2020

Tuesday, July 14, 2020

5:00 PM

Last Day for candidates to file nomination papers with the board of registrars

Thursday, July 30, 2020

5:00 PM

Last day for filing objection/withdrawals

Wednesday, August 12, 2020

8:00 AM -
8:00 PM

Last day to register to vote

Monday, August 24, 2020
(ly)

4:00 PM

Campaign Finance Reports (Town-wide on-ly)
8 day report

Thursday, October 1, 2020

4:00 PM

Campaign Finance Reports Due **30 day report**

NOMINATION PAPERS – NUMBER OF SIGNATURES REQUIRED

Town-wide Office Minimum of 50 voters of the town. No more than four blank nomination papers issued

BALLOT OPENINGS

SPECIAL TOWN ELECTION

SEPTEMBER 1, 2020

1 Board of Selectmen

3 years

1 Board of Selectmen

1 year unexpired term

Want to know about upcoming events and information?

You can sign up on the town website www.auburnguide.com Notify Me <https://www.auburnguide.com/list.aspx?Mode=Subscribe#newsFlash>

BECOME AN ELECTION WORKER!

The Town Clerk's Office is looking for enthusiastic individuals who want to work at the elections. There is no guarantee of an appointment, but positions are expected to be open. Contact the Town Clerk at (508) 832-7701 or at dgreml@town.auburn.ma.us

Interested Applicants must be:

Registered to vote in Auburn and living here.

Reasons to become an Auburn Election Worker

- You'll work side-by-side with your neighbors and meet new people.
- You'll play a vital role in the democratic process to elect our leaders.
- Your community needs you.
- Auburn must recruit more election workers every year, 2020 remaining elections State Primary and General Election
- It's a great opportunity to help people, serve your community and have fun doing it.
- Snacks are provided (pastries and coffee)
- Learn how elections actually work.
- Earn \$10.00 per hour.



Annual Town Meeting Held Outside on High School Football Field



Covid-19 has affected all of us and has had tremendous social and economic impacts across the globe. Here in Auburn, our municipal operations have been impacted as well, as we have had to develop new strategies and new measures to ensure that we continue to provide essential and critical services to our community.

As a result of emergency legislation that was passed into law in Massachusetts, the Board of Selectmen voted to postpone the Annual Town Meeting, originally scheduled for May 5th, to Tuesday, June 2nd. Under the Governor's Order, the 10-person maximum gathering requirement does not apply to legislative bodies, which enables towns to move forward with Annual Town Meetings. In order to create an environment that was safe for all attendees and participants, the Annual Town Meeting was held on June 2nd outdoors on the football field at the High School at 6:00 PM (changed from the usual 7:00 PM to hold the Meeting in daylight). Fortunately, we did not need to postpone to any of the rain dates that had been scheduled, although we did experience a brief rainfall early in the Meeting.

Town administration put several measures into place to ensure the health and safety of Town Meeting Members and town employees. Those measures included:

Holding the meeting outside on the football field at the Auburn High School as opposed to indoors in the Auditorium as the football field was large enough to allow us to arrange for seating that, at a minimum, meets the CDC's and the State's 6 foot social distancing guidance.

For any Town Meeting Member who could not walk onto the football field or prefers to remain in their own vehicles, we provided parking spaces available near the football field so those members can remain in their cars yet still hear the discussion on the loud speakers or listen to it through their car radios on 1610 AM through which we streamed the audio during the Meeting. We provided paddles for those in their cars to hold up outside of their car windows to indicate either a "Yes" or "NO" vote. We had counters walk through that portion of the parking lot to count the votes for each warrant article.

Town Meeting Members were checked into the meeting at the entrance to the football field. The check-in area was marked with six-foot distancing lines to maintain safety and compliance with the 6 foot distancing guidance.

Since the Governor's Order requiring face coverings went into effect on May 6th wherever social distancing is not possible, and although we were outside with seating at least 6 feet apart, we asked all attendees and participants to wear face coverings as an extra precaution. We supplied re-usable surgical masks for anyone attending the meeting who needed a mask. We also supplied disposable gloves for anyone attending who wanted to wear gloves.

We removed any non-essential, non-time sensitive articles from the Annual Town Meeting Warrant. The 30 remaining articles were critical to continued municipal operations. That included three articles authorizing easements that were necessary in order to close on the sale of the Mary D .Stone property to Pennrose Properties to facilitate the redevelopment of the property into 55 units of senior housing.

To shorten the meeting, we eliminated the presentations normally given under Article 1 by the Town Manager, School Superintendent, and any boards, commissions or committees. The Assistant Town Manager/CFO still provided a brief presentation on the FY21 budget under Article 3. We provided hard copies of Town Manager Julie Jacobson's presentation, School Superintendent Dr. Maryellen Brunelle's presentation, and Assistant Town Manager/CFO Ed Kazanovicz's presentation in the packets mailed to Town Meeting members along with the Annual Town Meeting Warrant. These presentations were also posted on the Town's website at www.auburnguide.com and each presentation was been taped and made available to view on the Town's website. We also encouraged Town Meeting Members to call town administration if they had any questions on warrant articles in advance of Town Meeting.

Individual calls were made to every town meeting member two weeks ahead of the Town Meeting to explain the precautions and safety measures that would be in place and to ask if the member planned to participate by either sitting on the football field or remaining in their car.

We were very pleased to welcome 97 Town Meeting Members that evening, exceeding the quorum of 80 that was required. In fact, the 2020 Annual Town Meeting was one of the highest attended Town Meetings in recent years. We thank those Town Meeting members who participated for their support and commitment to the Town of Auburn.

Board of Selectmen

Select Board meetings are held on the second and fourth Mondays each month as well as potentially on the 5th Monday of the month when necessary. If a holiday falls on a Monday, meetings are held the following Tuesday. Minutes and agendas are available on the Town's web site. Meetings are televised live on Auburn Cable Television.

To contact the Board of Selectmen during regular Town Hall business hours:

Phone: 508-832-7720

Fax: 508-832-4270

To reach individual members of the Board of Selectmen:

Dan Carpenter (Chair)

33 Goulding Drive

Cell: 508-277-9519

Email: dcarpenter@town.auburn.ma.us

Doreen M. Goodrich (Vice Chair)

21 Hill Street

Cell: 508-951-9157

Email: dgoodrich@town.auburn.ma.us

Lionel Berthiaume

13 Rochdale St

508-245-9334

Email: LBerthiaume@town.auburn.ma.us

Drive-Through Kiosk and Treasurer/Collector's Outside Service Window



Auburn's town administration has been working diligently to develop a reopening plan for our municipal offices so that we will be able to open to the public under safe conditions and in accordance with all governmental requirements. The Town is subject to certain State and insurance requirements and processes to reopen to both employees and the public. We are working to ensure that we will be in compliance with all of these regulations and provide a safe environment for all entering our municipal buildings when we do reopen.

Examples of the types of services are provided through the Kiosk include:

<u>Drop Off Services</u>	<u>Pick Up Services</u>
Tax Bill payments (check only): real estate, excise	<i>All payments for services must be pre-paid on-line (if available) or over the telephone with the appropriate department (i.e. Town Clerk, Development and Inspectional Service, Board of Selectmen.</i> Birth Certificates
Sewer Bill payments (check only)	Death Certificates
License Applications (check only) (Obtain on-line or via telephone from the Board of Selectmen's Office)	Marriage Certificates
Parking Ticket payments (check only)	Dog Licenses
Business certificate applications	DBA (Business) Certificates
Planning Board applications/plans	Burial Permits
Zoning Board of Appeals applications/plans	Building Permits
Conservation Commission applications/plans	Licenses issued by the Board of Selectmen
Written correspondence	Other documents for which requests are made in advance

**Please note that cash and credit cards cannot be accepted at the Kiosk. Only checks can be accepted at the Kiosk.*

In order to continue to provide services and be accessible to the public while remaining in compliance with the State's Reopening Plan, Town Administration has installed a Drive-Through Service Kiosk outside at Town Hall through which citizens can drive up to the window, remain in their vehicles, and conduct certain transactions and business.

The Drive-Through Kiosk opened on Monday, June 1st. The hours of operation for the first week were limited to Monday through Friday 8:30 AM to 12:00 Noon to gauge the demand and refine its operations. We are pleased to say that many residents and businesses used the Kiosk during that first week and the feedback from the public has been extremely positive. As a result, we expanded the hours of the Drive-Through Kiosk. The Drive-Through Kiosk hours are Monday through Thursday 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM and Friday 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

In addition to the Kiosk, we installed a new window at the Treasurer/Collector's Office through which we can service the public with outside access. The Treasurer/Collector's Outside Service Window is located behind Town Hall near the back entrance door, accessible via the handicapped ramp. Residents can pay bills, including in cash, at this window. Employees from the Treasurer/Collector's Office will also be available to answer inquiries at this window. The Treasurer/Collector's Outside Service Window began limited operations on Monday, June 1st. On Monday, June 8th those hours were expanded to the regular operating hours of Town Hall (although Town Hall and other municipal offices remain closed to the public). The hours of operation of the Treasurer/Collector's Outside Service Window are: Monday 8:00 AM to 7:00 PM., Tuesday through Thursday 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM, and Friday 8:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

All persons doing business at the Drive-Through Kiosk or Outside Window at Treasurer/Collector's Office must wear face coverings unless health conditions prevent the use of masks.

Residents, businesses and property owners can continue to utilize the Outside Drop-Box 24/7 accessible by the handicapped ramp, next to the Outside Window at the Treasurer/Collector's Office near the back door of Town Hall.

These additional services provide an opportunity for residents, businesses, property owners and visitors to conduct business at Town Hall even while the building remains closed to the public in addition to the ability to conduct business on-line and by telephone, the latter of which can be done during normal business hours.



Billing, Exemptions, and Discounts...



First Quarter Preliminary Bills for Real Estate and Personal Property are due on August 3, 2020.

Exemption Applications for Qualifying Seniors, Surviving Spouses, Disabled Veterans and Blind will be mailed out starting the week after Labor Day. If you received an exemption last year, you will automatically get an application in the mail to apply for this year. If you would like information to find out if you might qualify for an exemption for the upcoming year, please contact the Assessors' Office at 508-832-7708.

Chapter Land filings for 61, 61A and 61B applications will be mailed out in August 2020. Please make sure that all forms are completed and returned to the Assessor's Office no later than October 1, 2020.

Business and Economic Development...



Virtual Groundbreaking Event held for Mary D. Stone Apartments



A virtual groundbreaking event was held on July 27th to mark the start of construction on the Mary D. Stone Apartments, a major milestone in the redevelopment of the former Mary D. Stone Elementary School into much needed affordable housing for our seniors. The Mary D. Stone Apartments will provide a quality and safe housing option for those seniors who wish to remain independent and age in place while still being a part of the Auburn community, without having to worry about the upkeep and cost of a single family home. In addition to quality housing for seniors, its economic impact includes tax revenues that will be generated from putting the building on the tax rolls that can be invested back into the community.



The virtual event, a first for most of us, was in itself significant, as it proved that we can conduct important business and recognize milestone accomplishments in a safe and responsible manner while upholding the Baker-Polito Administration's Reopening Plan for the Commonwealth.

Speakers at the virtual groundbreaking, which had 60 attendees through the Zoom platform, included Lt. Governor Karyn Polito, Congressman Jim McGovern, Senator Mike Moore, Representative Paul Frost, Selectman Dan Carpenter (Chair), DHCD Undersecretary Jennifer Maddox, Town Manager Julie Jacobson, and Timothy Henkel, Principal & Senior Vice President, Pennrose, LLC. The event was hosted by Charlie Adams, Regional Vice President, Pennrose, LLC.

This project has had extensive community engagement and involvement and has been supported by all of our local elected officials, boards and commissions as well as Town Meeting members and the neighborhood-based Elementary School Re-Use Advisory Committee. This has been a collaborative effort across all levels of government – federal, state and local – in conjunction with stakeholders in the Auburn community and the region to build consensus and secure all the necessary resources to facilitate this critical housing development.

There are many stakeholders that the Town of Auburn wants to thank for their support, advocacy and belief in the value of this project: the Baker – Polito Administration with special thanks to Lt. Governor Karyn Polito who has been an exceptional advocate for the project; DHCD; Mass Historic Commission and Secretary of State William Galvin; our Local, State and Federal legislative delegation (Congressman McGovern, Senator Moore, Representative Frost); Board of Selectmen – Chairman Dan Carpenter, Vice Chair Doreen Goodrich and Lionel Berthiaume; Elementary Schools Re-Use Advisory Committee; Town Meeting Members; Auburn Historic Commission; Council on Aging; Planning Board; Zoning Board of Appeals; Town Department Heads who helped facilitate the project, with special recognition to Ed Kazanovitch, Assistant Town Manager and CFO and Shannon Regan, our Economic Development Coordinator. And, of course, Charlie Adams and Karmen Chung and their team from Pennrose, for their commitment to work with Town Administration and the residents of Auburn to design and develop a quality senior living facility and for believing that the Mary D. Stone school has potential.



Courtesy of the Auburn Historical Society and Museum



Courtesy of the Auburn Historical Society and Museum

Re-Opening Restaurants During COVID-19

On June 8, Governor Baker issued an order outlining details for Phase II of the Commonwealth's reopening plan. Part of the order permitted restaurants to provide outdoor dining service with restrictions upon the start of Phase II, which began June 8th. Additionally, in order to provide improved opportunities for outdoor table service, the order issued by Governor Baker also provided flexibility to local licensing authorities to grant approval for a temporary extension of premise for the sale of alcoholic beverages for on premise consumption.

Town Administration acknowledges the hardships businesses face due to the ongoing Covid-19 pandemic and we are all learning how to adapt during these uncertain times. Town Administration and the Board of Selectmen took proactive measures to ensure that businesses are supported during the reopening plan as much as possible. Town Administration is committed to working with local businesses to provide them guidance regarding public health and safety requirements so they can begin to welcome patrons back to their establishments.

In preparation for Phase II, Town Administration worked diligently to prepare a comprehensive checklist and process to reopen local restaurants for outdoor dining as quickly and smoothly as possible. The reopening requirements and checklist were created with the input from the Development Coordinating Group, which is comprised of department heads from the Department of Development and Inspectional Services, Fire Department, Police Department, Department of Public Works and Water District. The local requirements for outdoor dining were created with safety and business friendliness as top priorities.

On June 4th, The Board of Selectmen, in accordance with Governor Baker's Covid-19 Executive Order #35, granted approval of extension of premises for the holders of liquor licenses upon review of Town Administration and approval of the Building Commissioner and Director of Public Health. Additionally, the Board of Selectmen granted approval for the service of food and outdoor dining for holders of common victualler licenses, conditional upon the review of Town Administration and approval from the Building Commissioner and Director of Public Health. The Board of Selectmen also voted to waive any associated local fees with these applications in order to reduce the financial burden on local business establishments. These votes ensured that Town Administration, most notably the Board of Health and Building Department, could move quickly to reopen restaurants for outdoor dining when Phase II began.

The Department of Public Health and Building Department hit the ground running, and started inspections for outdoor dining on the first day of Phase II. Three local restaurants were open to patrons by June 9th. Five establishments are currently offering outdoor dining. The Department of Development and Inspectional Services has been working tirelessly to ensure that all the restaurants are following State and Local guidelines and safety standards to keep workers and patrons as safe as possible. As the State transitions into Part II of Phase II of the Reopening Plan, the Department will continue to work with businesses to safely allow indoor dining. Town Administration is continuously adapting to all the new requirements from the State that are released weekly.

Town Administration would like to thank all of our local businesses for their dedication and hard work during this time. We truly appreciate you being a part of the Auburn community and we will continue to assist you as much as possible as the State continues to reopen.

Business Resources for COVID-19 Relief

In response to the COVID-19 shutdown, Town Administration worked with numerous agencies to collect all available resources and aid for our local businesses. Shannon Regan, Economic Development Coordinator, routinely posted updates on Auburnguide and the Town's social media accounts as well. Additionally, the Business Roundtable and Auburn Chamber of Commerce were routinely updated with new COVID-19 resources for businesses. Throughout the shutdown, the Auburn Chamber of Commerce and the Economic Development Coordinator reached out to businesses to check in and offer them assistance. There were a number of resources created in response to the pandemic, such as the Small Recovery Loan Fund, Economic Injury Disaster Loans, Paycheck Protection Program and local grants through the North Central Massachusetts Chamber of Commerce and Worcester Chamber of Commerce. Town Administration continues to stay apprised of newly released relief programs and aid. You can find business resources and a business reopening guide at Auburnguide.com under "Coronavirus Alerts". If you have any questions or concerns regarding your business please reach out to Shannon Regan at: shannon@town.auburn.ma.us or 508-832-4219. The Town will continue to post updates and work with agencies to help ensure that the business community is supported during this difficult time.

We are pleased to inform you that the Town of Auburn has a new solid waste and recycling hauler!



Effective July 1, 2020, Casella Waste Systems will be collecting your trash and recycling. Please note:

- Your collection day will not change
- The bi-weekly recycling schedule will not change
- You can continue using your current trash and recycling containers
- Please continue to use Town approved blue bags for overflow trash that does not fit in the container with the lid fully closed, and continue to comply with the Zero-Sort/Recycle Smart recycling guidelines

We expect a smooth transition, however, should you have any questions or concerns regarding your trash or recycling collection going forward, please contact Casella's customer service department at 508-869-4077.

If you have further questions regarding this process, please call the Town of Auburn's Solid Waste & Recycling Coordinator in the DDIS office at 508-832-7703. ☺



49 Sword Street • Auburn, MA 01501 p. 508-869-4077 • f. 508-754-2984

Dear Auburn Resident,

The local Casella Waste Systems team in Auburn was recently awarded the waste and recycling service contract by the Town of Auburn. Casella was founded in 1975 as a single truck operation in Rutland, Vermont. Today, with over 2,600 employees and 160 locations throughout the Northeast, Casella is a committed service provider to thousands of communities, providing services and resource renewal expertise to municipalities, commercial, and industrial customers. We're excited for the opportunity to provide you with safe, reliable and environmentally sound trash and recycling service.

Your trash will be collected **weekly** and recycling will be collected **every other week** on your current collection day. Please place your containers at the curb the night before your collection day.

2020-2021 Holiday Information

If your service day falls on a holiday, there will be a **one day delay** in your service. All subsequent collection days that week will also have a one day delay. Please reference the collection calendar on the back of this letter. Observed holidays include: Labor Day (9/7/20), Thanksgiving (11/26/20), Christmas Day (12/25/20), New Years Day (1/1/21), and Memorial Day (5/31/21).

Recycle Better™

Toss only acceptable Zero-Sort® recyclables into your bin to ensure service. Recyclables that are contaminated with trash cannot be recycled and end up in the landfill. On the reverse of this letter, you'll find a complete list of acceptable and unacceptable materials to display at your bin. These materials align with the Massachusetts Recycle Smart campaign. Please visit casella.com/RecycleBetter for more information.

It's our mission to make discarding trash and recycling simple for Auburn residents. If you have any questions or need additional information, please call us at **508-869-4077**.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Gerry Galena".

Gerry Galena
General Manager

ZERO-SORT® RECYCLING

Toss **ONLY** the Zero-Sort recyclables listed below into your **recycling bin**

CARDBOARD/PAPER



Corrugated Cardboard
(Wavy center layer)



Boxboard
(Dry-food boxes, egg cartons, & rolls)



Junk Mail, Periodicals, & Office Paper
(Paper bags, envelopes, & catalogs)

PLASTIC



Plastic Bottles, Jugs, Tubs, & Lids
(Empty kitchen, laundry, & bath containers)

METAL



Aluminum & Steel Cans
(Foil & empty food & beverage cans)

GLASS



Glass Bottles & Jars
(Empty food & beverage bottles & jars)

NOT ACCEPTED

DO YOUR PART TO RECYCLE BETTER™
THE ITEMS LISTED BELOW **DON'T** BELONG
IN YOUR RECYCLING BIN



PLASTIC BAGS



BAGGED RECYCLABLES



CLOTHING/TEXTILES



TANGLERS



SCRAP METAL ITEMS



BATTERIES



MEDICAL WASTE



FOOD WASTE/LIQUIDS



ELECTRONICS



HAZARDOUS MATERIALS
OR EXPLOSIVES



PLASTIC WRAP,
FILMS, OR TARPS



WOOD, WASTE,
OR TIRES



DISPOSABLE
ITEMS



WAXY COATED
PAPER ITEMS



CERAMICS OR
BAKING GLASS

REMEMBER TO RECYCLE BETTER!

- No items smaller than 2" in size
- All containers are empty, rinsed, & dry
- Cardboard is flattened & broken down
- There are **NO** items from the **NOT ACCEPTED** list in the recycling bin



For recycling tips and resources, visit casella.com/RecycleBetter • 800-CASELLA

2020/2021 CURBSIDE COLLECTION CALENDAR

- **Trash** is collected weekly on your service day and **recycling** is collected every other week on your service day as indicated below.
- If your service day falls on a holiday, there will be a one day delay in service. All subsequent collection days that week will also be delayed one day.
- Place containers at the curb the night before pickup.

JULY 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4		
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

AUGUST 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

SEPTEMBER 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

OCTOBER 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

NOVEMBER 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

DECEMBER 2020

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

JANUARY 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

FEBRUARY 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

MARCH 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

APRIL 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

MAY 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

JUNE 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			



Questions? Please call 508-869-4077.

■ Holiday ■ Recycling

Observed holidays include: Labor Day (9/7/20), Thanksgiving (11/26/20), Christmas Day (12/25/20), New Years Day (1/1/21), & Memorial Day (5/31/21)

Pool Safety Reminders from the Building Department

With the current Covid-19 Pandemic, more families are staying home and installing swimming pools to help entertain and occupy their children. In the first half of 2020, the Auburn Building Department has seen a record number of building permits for residential pools.

Statistically data shows us who is drowning and when and where these fatal drownings are happening – children, in the summer, at residential locations. This data underscores the need for all families to stay vigilant and practice water safety anytime they are in or around the water. Before heading to a pool this season, I implore everyone to sign the pool safety pledge by visiting <https://www.poolsafely.gov/pledge/> and to take critical safety steps to ensure the joy of swimming does not turn tragic. By working together, we can reduce fatalities.

Parents and caregivers can follow Pool safety tips to keep children safer in and around the water by visiting <https://www.poolsafely.gov/parents/safety-tips/>

- **Install a four-sided fence with a self-closing, self-latching gate around all pools and spas.**
- **Designate a Water Watcher to supervise children at all times around the water. This person should not be reading, texting, using a smart phone or be otherwise distracted.**
- **Learn how to swim and teach your child how to swim.**
- **Learn how to perform CPR on children and adults.**
- **Keep children away from pool drains, pipes and other openings to avoid entrapments.**
- **Ensure any pool and spa you use has drain covers that comply with federal safety standards and if you do not know, ask your pool service provider about safe drain covers.**

CPSC also released an updated report on suction entrapment incidents in swimming pools, spas and whirlpool bathtubs. The key finding is that since the Virginia Graeme Baker Pool & Spa Safety Act went into effect in December 2008, there have been no reported fatalities involving a child being entrapped on a suction outlet cover in a public pool or spa.

You can read the full report on <https://www.poolsafely.gov/>





Protect Yourself from Mosquitoes



Mosquitoes can spread diseases that make you very sick.
Take steps to prevent mosquito bites.

Use an EPA-approved repellent anytime
you're outdoors.



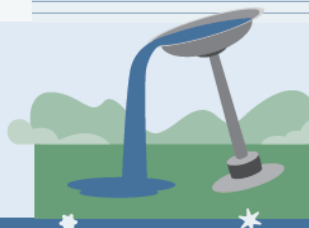
Wear long pants, long sleeves and socks
to reduce exposed skin outdoors.



Repair torn screens early in the season
to keep mosquitoes outdoors.



Remove standing water around the house
to prevent mosquitoes from breeding.



Dusk to dawn is peak biting time for
mosquitoes that carry disease.



Know your risk: stay informed throughout mosquito season.

For more information about each of these important steps, go to:
www.mass.gov/MosquitoesAndTicks



Wildlife Activity in the Spring & Summer



Spring & summer are busy seasons and many of our wild neighbors are hard at work providing for their families. With more mouths to feed, animals have to change their usual habits to be able to provide food and other necessities for their families, which may mean they are more active during times you may not typically see them. A healthy looking wild animal moving around normally during the day is not immediately concerning and can be completely normal. That animal probably has babies, not rabies.

Signs and symptoms that are associated with rabies includes loss of muscle coordination, weakness, paralysis, seizures, difficulties breathing, difficulties swallowing, excessive drooling, abnormal behavior, abnormal aggression, and self-mutilation.

While at a safe distance, it can be a great learning opportunity and experience to be able to watch a wild family grow, thrive, and move away when they mature.

As always, we ask that you keep wildlife wild and to never provide a food source for our wild neighbors.

If you do have any concerns for the health of any wild animals in our community, you can contact Animal Control at acontois@town.auburn.ma.us or 508-832-7703.

The solution starts with all of us. Answer the call.

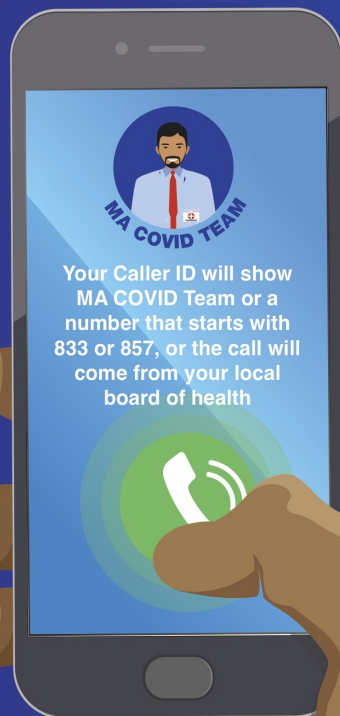
The greatest act of love is answering the call. If you've tested positive for COVID-19, the MA COVID Team or your local board of health will be reaching out via phone to connect you with the support you need through isolation. With your help, they will identify your close contacts and encourage them to get tested and stay home to stop the spread.

Your caller ID will show the call is coming from

MA COVID TEAM or a number that starts with (833) or (857), or from your local board of health

Answer the call.
Stop the virus.

#COVID19MA



Community Tracing Collaborative



**Partners
In Health**

Your name will
not be released.





Senior Center and Elder Affairs News

Due to Covid 19, the Senior Center building remains closed

The Auburn Senior Center is open for staff on Monday and Friday from 8:00am to 3:00pm and Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 8:00am to 4:00pm for any questions or concerns. Congregate lunches through the Elder Services of Worcester meals on wheels program are still offered and being delivered to your house by volunteers. Please call 508-832-7799 if you would like to register for a lunch with a suggested donation of \$2.50.

Transportation is available to Auburn residents by scheduling 48 hours in advance with the WRTA 508-752-9283. Our drivers are equipped with personal protection equipment to keep you safe while riding on the vans.

The Senior Center is closed but there is variety of programs being offered on local cable and on auburnguide.com, senior center page. Please call the Senior Center for a complete list of on line, zoom and cable programs. A limited number of outside programs with capacity limits and social distancing are beginning in July.

If there is any assistance that you need please call the Senior Center so that we can help. Keep Safe!



Outreach:

Our Outreach Coordinator, Usha Verma is available Monday through Friday between 9:00am - 3:00pm to provide information and referrals for: Fuel Assistance, SNAP, Food pantries, R.U.O.K (telephone reassurance program that calls each morning), transportation options, benefits check-up, housing help, real estate tax exemptions, abatements, referrals to support groups for caregivers, grandparents raising their grandchildren and many more. Home visits are available for homebound individuals seeking information. All information obtained during office or home visits is confidential.

SHINE: Health Care Options

Patrick Morris, certified SHINE counselor can assist with health care options: Medicare, prescription insurance, medigap plans, medicare advantage plans, low income subsidy, prescription advantage, etc. He is currently scheduling appointments by phone, zoom or email. Please call 508-832-7799



Employee Spotlight



The Department of Development & Inspectional Services recently welcomed Ginger Buteau to our staff as the Land Use Clerk in March of this year. Ginger comes to the Town with a wealth of experience working previously in municipalities in Conservation, Building, Fire, and Town Clerk departments. She has been able to hit the ground running and is excited about her new position. We are so happy to welcome her our team and know that she enjoys helping each customer contacting the department.

Welcome Ginger!



Veterans Services

VA expands funding for emergency response for Veterans experiencing or at risk of homelessness during COVID-19 pandemic

WASHINGTON — The U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) today announced it is allocating an additional \$400 million of its [coronavirus relief funding](#) to enhance the department's emergency relief response for Veterans experiencing or at risk of homelessness during the coronavirus pandemic.

The Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) allocated \$17.2 billion for the Veterans Health Administration of which \$700 million is devoted to expanding services for and addressing the challenges faced by Veterans who are homeless or at risk of homelessness.

“The additional allocation of CARES Act funding will support the continuity of care of vulnerable Veterans during the COVID-19 pandemic,” said VA Secretary Robert Wilkie. “With this additional funding, VA’s Homeless Programs Office can provide more homeless prevention assistance and emergency housing to make it possible for Veterans to maintain appropriate physical distancing and to ensure they are living in safe conditions.”

The newly allocated funds will be used for the [Supportive Services for Veteran Families Program](#) (SSVF). SSVF offers several ways to secure housing for Veterans experiencing or at risk of homelessness.

In total, \$602 million of coronavirus relief funding has now been allocated for this program, which will also help the [Housing and Urban Development-VA Supportive Housing Program](#) place Veterans in safe housing to isolate them from the virus.

Other coronavirus relief funding devoted to providing emergency shelter and supportive services for Veterans includes \$88 million for the [Grant and Per Diem Program](#) and \$10 million for the [Health Care for Homeless Veterans Program](#).

VA is hosting a national webinar July 17 to support budgeting and planning for grantees of the SSVF funding. [Learn more](#) about how VA is working to protect Veterans during the COVID-19 pandemic and about [VA's homeless programs](#).

Municipal Vulnerability Preparedness

The Town of Auburn received a Municipal Vulnerability (MVP) Preparedness grant from the Executive Office of Energy and Environmental Affairs (EOEEA) in January this year. The project is twofold, to develop best practices to protect the water supply area from contaminants and to develop “green” bridge design to replace culverts where Kettle Brook, the main tributary of the Blackstone River, crosses Sword Street. The project is well underway. A draft on the Best Management Practices has been available for public comment throughout June and will soon be finalized into a working document that will guide town, water district, and state officials as they improve stormwater management methods. Conceptual development of the green bridge is ongoing; discussions involve recycled materials, locally sourced materials, historical information, and pedestrian improvements. Conceptual plans will be used to guide the eventual design of a bridge to replace the failing culverts.

Later this summer as part of the current MVP grant, in partnership with Fuss and O’Neill and the Central Mass. Regional Planning Commission, there will be a public regional workshop. The workshop will promote lessons learned and challenges overcome with the MVP project. The goal of the workshop is to expand awareness of MVP project ideas, identify efforts that would enhance project benefits by going beyond the limits of political boundaries, and acknowledging the opportunities in partnering with other member communities to develop shared responses to climate change threats including identifying watershed based solutions.

The town is applying for the next round of MVP grants, with an announcement of award recipients in the coming months. The proposal will be to continue the work towards replacing the failing culverts at Sword Street. The scope includes field investigations, wetland delineation, geotechnical investigation, and hydrologic and hydraulic calculations. The other aspect of the requested grant is to engage the community regarding water quality improvements to Leesville Pond. Leesville Pond is located partially in the Town of Auburn and partially within the City of Worcester and identified as an impaired water body by the Massachusetts Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (MassDEP) is listed on the Massachusetts 303d list for nutrients as well as organic enrichment/low dissolved oxygen, which are associated with high phosphorus loadings. The proposed multifaceted educational initiative will include residents in Auburn and Worcester.



**Friday
August
14th**



**Friday
September
18th**

**Dr. Arthur and Dr. Martha Pappas Recreation
Complex**

Riley-Pappas Performance Pavilion

For questions, please call Recreation and Culture

508-832-7736 or email kpappas@town.auburn.ma.us

Movies will be shown at 8:30 pm (dusk)



Every Thursday

**Dr. Arthur and Dr. Martha Pappas
Recreation Complex**

June – August 4pm-7pm

June 18, June 25, July 9, July 16, July 23, July 30,
August 6, August 13, August 20 and August 27, 2020

Local Farms and Businesses

www.auburnfcm.org

Question or comments? Contact us at townmgr@town.auburn.ma.us or call (508) 832-7720.

To subscribe to the quarterly municipal newsletter, *The Auburn Account*, visit our website to submit an electronic sign-up form or [click here](#). Our next edition will be released in October 2020.

