

IN TOWN NEWS



A newsletter for Town of Wrentham Employees

Issue 4

November 2018

Fire Department

Wrentham Deputy Fire Chief Antonio Marino has been appointed to be the department's new full-time Chief. Effective November 1st, Marino took over the duties as Fire Chief from Interim Chief Robert Hollingshead. In his first official act, Chief Marino named veteran fire Captain Robert Maduskie as his new Deputy Fire Chief. Both men have over 30 years of service to the Town of Wrentham Fire Department. Congratulations to Antonio and Bob for their well-deserved appointments.



Wrentham's new Fire Chief Antonio Marino (R) and Deputy Chief Robert Maduskie (L)

Clerk's Corner

Early Voting took place October 22 to November 2, turnout was steady and residents liked the convenience. The Office would like to take the time to thank each and every Election Worker and volunteer for giving up their time to help during these busy election periods.

The Office staff completed Advanced Cyber Security Training mandated by the State. The training focused on e-mail, social media, passwords, and mobile device security.

Voter Registration for the November 19th Town Meeting will be held on **Friday, November 9, 2018**. Registration will be held from **8:00 a.m. to noon at the Town Clerk's office**, and from **12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. in the Public Safety Building**. Any Wrentham resident who is not registered or will become 16 years of age on or before November 19, 2018 may pre-register/register to vote. Please call the Town Clerk's office at (508) 384-5415 for questions.

Be on the lookout for your 2019 Census. It will be mailed to each household the first week in January 2019. Compliance with this State requirement provides proof of residence to protect voting rights, veteran's bonuses, housing for the elderly and related benefits as well as providing information for selection of jurors.

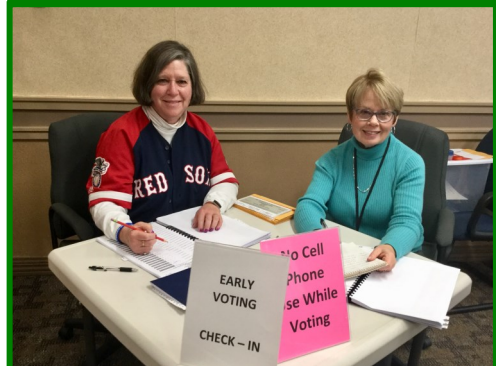
2019 Dog Licenses will be available starting January 1st.

IMPORTANT: The deadline to license your dog in 2019 is the last day in February (2/28/19). Dogs licensed after the last day in February will be assessed late fines of \$50 per dog (Mass. General Law). Dogs licensed after May 1st be charged additional late fines of \$100 per dog (Wrentham Bylaws). All dogs six (6) months or older, moving to Wrentham must be licensed with 60 days.

Nomination papers for the April 1, 2019 Annual Town Election will be available in early January.

Calendar

- Nov 19 Fall Town Meeting
- Nov 20 BOS Meeting
- Nov 22 Thanksgiving Day
Turkeywacker 5K
- Nov 25 Holiday Tree Lighting
- Dec 04 BOS Meeting
- Dec 18 BOS Meeting
- Dec 25 Christmas Day
- Dec 31 New Year's Eve
- Jan 01 New Year's Day



Election workers
Karen Heinz (L) and Susan Harris (R)

Wrentham Public Schools

2018 MCAS Scores

Every spring, Massachusetts public school students in grades 3 through 8, and 10, take a series of state assessments, called MCAS. The MCAS measures how well the students know the key concepts and skills taught in reading, writing, math, and science. Students at Delaney School and Roderick School continued their excellent MCAS performance in 2018. The majority of them met or exceeded their performance targets and showed growth from one school year to the next. Thanks to their hard work, and the hard work of their teachers and families, Wrentham Public Schools rank among the higher performing school districts in the region and the state.

School Safety Training

School safety is the first priority of the leaders of Wrentham Public Schools. The school district works closely with the Wrentham Police Department, Wrentham Fire Department, and Town Hall to ensure our schools are secure and our faculty and staff members prepared for emergencies. This fall, we had our annual school safety training for faculty members, staff members, and substitute teachers. We reviewed our safety procedures and practiced responses. It was a beneficial day and part of our ongoing work to keep the schools safe.

Wrentham Police Department Substation at Vogel School

The Wrentham Police Department and Wrentham Public Schools are working to create a police substation at the Vogel School. The police substation will increase the presence and visibility of police officers on the Wrentham Public Schools campus. This will enhance school safety and facilitate positive interactions between police officers and students, faculty and staff members, and the community. The plan is to have the substation open by the end of November.

Roderick School Playground Project

Wrentham Public Schools created a committee to study the Roderick School playground. The committee, which is led by Roderick School Principal Kevin Martes, will review the existing playground, develop a plan for improvement, and lead the fundraising campaign to pay for new equipment. The committee hopes to have the ribbon cutting on the improved Roderick School playground prior to the start of the 2020-2021 school year.

Wrentham Public Schools Community Survey

We invite all members of the Wrentham community to share their thoughts about Delaney School and Roderick School. Please take a few minutes to complete this short and anonymous survey. The School Committee and superintendent will use your feedback to identify what we are doing well and what we should improve. We will discuss the results and next steps at a public meeting later this school year. [Please click here](https://goo.gl/forms/OiQov3gIDsuEW3dv2) or go to <https://goo.gl/forms/OiQov3gIDsuEW3dv2> to complete the survey. You may get a paper copy of the survey in the superintendent's office, located in the Janelli Annex of Delaney School, 120 Taunton Street.

Public Health Nurses

In addition to all of our regular duties, our office has given 600 flu shots this Fall. We provided 2 Public and 6 Private Flu Clinics in Wrentham. Our focus now is giving the flu shots in our office. Just a reminder, if you haven't had your flu shot yet it's a good time to get it before the Holidays arrive. Please feel free to come to our office. We also want to thank all the volunteers and nurses that worked at our Flu Clinics and made it such an easy and pleasant experience for everyone that came. Without all their help it wouldn't be possible.

In October Lauren Hewitt, RN celebrated her first anniversary in our office. Lauren is such an asset and welcome addition to the Nurses' Department. The experience and knowledge she brings is a valuable resource for our residents and Wrentham is fortunate to have her serving our Community.



Lauren Hewitt, RN celebrates one year anniversary with the Public Health Nurses



Senior Center

Planning and Zoning

Please welcome Rich McCarthy who will serve as the part-time Interim Director of Planning for the Town of Wrentham. Rich will be working in the Planning Office on Fridays 8 a.m to 12 p.m. until a permanent Director is hired. Rich is currently the full-time Planning Director in the Town of Norfolk. A seasoned Planner, he has worked as the Town Planner for Dedham, Raynham and Randolph. In addition, he worked for the Regional Planning Services Office, when the planning services were shared between Franklin, Wrentham and Norfolk back in the mid 90's.

Chronic Pain Self-Management

Dates: November 13, 20, 27 & December 4, 11, 18

Time: 1:00 to 3:30 pm

Location: Wrentham Senior Center

400 Taunton St, Wrentham, MA 02093

To register call: **Senior Center – 508-384-5425**

The course meets for 2 1/2 hours per week for six weeks.

During these six weeks you will learn:

- Disease related problem-solving
- Practical ways to deal with pain, fatigue, and stress
- Better nutrition and exercise choices
- How to improve your patient/physician relationship
- Medications & Management

Anyone is welcome!

FUEL ASSISTANCE

Applications are available at the Senior Center now. There are various requirements for different situations, so we strongly urge you to call the Senior Center to determine what documentation you will need to provide. After filling out the application, you will be required to have a meeting with our Outreach Worker, Fran Padula, to ensure you have the proper documentation. Please call 508-384-5425 to schedule an appointment. No drop-ins please!

Diabetes Prevention Program

Classes begin on Monday, Nov. 19, from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. If you're at risk for type 2 diabetes, you can make small, measurable changes that can reduce your risk and help you live a happier, healthier life. Sponsored by the Hockomock YMCA. Please call the Senior Center at 508-384-5425 to sign up.

COMMUNICATIONS

Training- Peter Bagdon was recertified as a Fire Service Telecommunicator.

New employee introductions- Welcome Marge Descoteaux & Sean McRae as full time dispatchers.

Farewell- We said goodbye to Peter Curran who moved on to a new chapter in St John, USVI.

General Department news- State 911 released refresher training for NEX GEN 911 phase 2 Text 911 calls.

Recreation Department



Wrentham Recreation to Host First Annual Turkeywacker 5K Race

Thanksgiving Day Race Around the William Rice Complex Welcomes Runners and Walkers of All Ages

- Where:** William Rice Complex
54 Emerald Street
Wrentham, Ma 02093
- When:** Thursday, November 22, 2018
- Time:** 8:00 a.m. start
- Cost:** Adults = \$30 Under age 17 = \$25

To register visit: <http://wrentham.ma.us/wrentham-ma-depts/wrentham-mass-recreation/turkeywacker5k>.

Following the race, prizes will be awarded to the top three male and female finishers. Additionally, locally made pies will be available for sale as will select merchandise from Wrentham's White Barn Farm. All participants will receive an official Turkeywacker sticker; t-shirts and tuques will be for sale with proceeds benefiting the Wrentham Recreation Department. Participants are also encouraged to bring canned goods in support of the Wrentham Food Pantry.

Questions? Contact Adam Moon at moona@wrenthamschools.org



Before and after photos of historic grave markers in the Center Cemetery

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

DPW is on the second phase of cemetery rehabilitation. This has been a partnership with volunteers and local monument company, Tribute in Stone.

It has been over a generation since any restoration has been done. They have been focusing in the oldest section and have begun with historic markers.

Information Technology

New IT Systems Administrator—Craig Gavazzi

Please join me in welcoming Craig Gavazzi as the new IT Systems Administrator. Craig joined the team on September 24th and he will be working primarily in support of Public Safety. Craig can be found in the same office previously occupied by Darrell True. Craig's former experience includes EMC Corporation as a client support engineer, IT technician and most recently with private sector firms in the positions of Systems Administrator and IT support Specialist supporting both hardware and software applications. Craig's technical hands-on knowledge includes hardware such as desktops, laptops, and servers. He is adept at troubleshooting and resolving end-user technology based issues.

Craig will be the primary contact for administrating, troubleshooting, maintaining and supporting the public safety building's IT infrastructure (servers, operating systems, storage devices, switches, routers, firewalls, desktops, laptops, telecommunications and desktop application software). Craig will also be the Public Safety Liaison for vendor-specific hardware & software.

Craig can be reached at 508-384-6927 (or ext. 1008) or by email at cgavazzi@police.wrentham.ma.us. Please welcome Craig as he embarks on the critical role of IT systems administrator for Wrentham Public Safety.

Citizen Engagement Initiative

Continuing the effort the Town Hall started years ago to provide timely information to the Town's residents with newly designed web site, and the option to sign up for Nixle; our most current effort directed from the new Town Administrator, Kevin Sweet has included the installation of monitors at each Town Hall entrance to greet residents and guide them to the appropriate floor and office for their business at hand. The monitors will also contain the dates & times for key public meetings such as Board of Selectmen, Planning Board, Board of Assessors, and the Board of Health, etc.

Additional monitors have been installed at the Public Safety Building to be used in training, seminars and will also serve to keep the Incident Commander & public safety personnel current in the event of a Wrentham emergency management incident. A wide screen monitor has been installed in the Building department for displaying building plans, blue-prints, structures, etc. when discussing with tradespeople.

Town Hall Server upgrade & replacement

With the Network infrastructure upgrade (switches, routers, fiber optic connections) recently completed, the Physical and Virtual server infrastructures supporting all application at the Town Hall are undergoing a software operating system upgrade to the latest versions (OS2016, Exchange 2016, hyper-V, VMware). This hardware and software will accommodate the demands of the Town Hall well into the next decade.

Telephone system billing consolidation and carrier change

In an effort to streamline the monthly billing & payment process the Town hall has partnered with Spectrotel (as done three years ago for the Public Safety building). Additions include; a new emergency management phone number and dedicated line, connecting directly to the Town Administrator / Incident Commander's office. An additional direct line has been added to the building department Building Commissioners office to accommodate the increased growth and demand for building, electrical, plumbing permits and related business. The ability to dial extensions among the Town's buildings in lieu of dialing the 10 digit phone number has also been expanded.



Board of Health

The Massachusetts State Legislature passed a bill through both the House and the Senate in the spring that will raise the minimum age to purchase tobacco from 18 to 21. The law goes into effect on December 31, 2018, those who turn 18 prior to the law going into effect will be grandfathered in. The bill also bans the smoking of e-cigarettes in places where cigarettes are currently banned, such as on school grounds. It prohibits pharmacies and health care institutions from selling tobacco.

Fiske Library

Sign up at the circulation desk or by calling 508-384-5440 for any of the following events:

Sam Ducharme -- Hiking the Appalachian Trail

Thursday November 8 -- 6:30-8:00PM

Join Sam Ducharme and learn about his 2180 mile 14-state backpacking trip from Georgia to Mt. Katahdin.

Honora Rainville—Pilgrimage in France and Spain

Thursday Nov. 29, 2018 -- 7:00PM

Hear about her 500 mile pilgrimage from Saint Jen de Pied de Port in France through northern Spain.

Southwick Zoo

Tickets are still \$15.00 each, no limit for Wrentham card holders, limited to 2 tickets for non-Wrentham card holders. (Regular admission this year was \$28 for Adults, \$24 for Children (3-12) and \$22 for Senior Citizens) You MUST have your library card to get the tickets. Tickets do not expire so get them now, they are a great gift idea.

Find a complete listing of library events at <http://www.fiskelib.org/>

Finance Department

Please welcome new employee Marina Malamud, Payroll Specialist, who began in October in the Accounting Department.

The November real estate tax due date is complete. The next tax due date will be February 1, 2019.

Tax certification will be completed in December 2018

Assessors

The Assessors Department has been very busy the last few months. Sandy Genna left in August to take a position closer to his home, and we have been lucky to have an Interim Assessor Anne Carney step in and help us through the Actual billing process. Anne is a retired Assessor from Easton, a current member of the Sharon Board of Assessors. Anne will remain with us until the middle of December.

We are currently going through a CAMA software conversion from PK to Vision. It has been a grueling but learning experience for all of us, and we are happy to say we are in the final stages of completion.

Ann MacCarthy completed the MAAO Course 3 in August and is currently taking the MAAO course 200 towards her certification.

The Assessors Department has been busy updating maps, processing exemptions received, and verifying Chapter Land applications received.

The Assessors' office will be closed Friday, November 23, 2018.