Town Receives Bond Rating Upgrade from Moody’s Investor Services; S&P Reaffirms Strong AA+ Rating

Town officials are thrilled with the results of the recent bond rating review by both Moody’s Investor Services and Standard & Poor’s. The positive news will benefit taxpayers as the Town will have lower borrowing costs as a result of the strong bond ratings. “We are very excited to receive the upgrade from Moody’s to an Aa2 rating and to retain our AA+ rating from Standard & Poor’s. These strong ratings reflect the Town’s multi-year commitment to implementing its financial policies, building reserves and addressing pension and healthcare liabilities”, Town Manager Julie Jacobson stated.

In August, Moody’s Investors Service assigned the Town of Auburn a bond rating of Aa2, an upgrade from the previous Aa3 rating. The rating upgrade reflects the Town’s improving financial position over the past five years bolstered by strong fiscal management. The upgrade is a result of the multi-year financial strategy undertaken by Town administration undertook in an effort to boost the bond rating from Moody’s. The Town’s improved financial position is marked by steady growth of fund balance and cash reserves with a commitment to addressing its pension and healthcare liabilities. The bond rating upgrade highlights the improved financial strength of the Town resulting from the adoption of strong Financial Policies, Five Year Budget Forecasts and Multi-Year Capital Projections, as well as implementation of reforms with emphasis on fiscal discipline. The upgrade will result in lower borrowing costs for the Town’s current and future debt needs, which translates to savings in taxpayer dollars.

The news from Standard & Poors was also excellent as the agency reaffirmed the Town’s AA+ rating, which is one step from the highest rating that a municipality can receive. The rating is reflective of the Town’s adoption and implementation of strong key management practices and key financial policies, including long range financial forecasting of both revenue and expense for operational and capital budgets.

Continued on next page:
Other noted factors that contributed to the high rating is multi-year trend regarding budgetary performance, budget flexibility by increasing unused levy capacity, addressing and maintaining an annual OPEB contribution of $500,000, increasing stabilization, increasing reserves, and increasing free cash and undesignated fund balance. Standard & Poor’s recognizes that town management has formally put into place well embedded policies and practices that translate into maintaining long-term balanced operations and financial stability. Specifically, Standard & Poor’s noted the Town’s “very strong liquidity”, “very strong economy,” “very strong budget flexibility”, “strong budgetary performance”, “strong management conditions”, “strong debt and contingent liabilities”, and “good financial policies and practices that are embedded and sustainable”.

Assistant Town Manager and CFO Ed Kazanovicz stated, “The Town has worked very hard to demonstrate a multi-year trend of increased reserves, increased fund balance, and strong budgetary performance. The recognition of our strong fiscal management by the rating agencies will benefit the taxpayers of this community for years to come.”

We want to acknowledge and thank the department heads and our financial advisors at Unibank as well as the Board of Selectmen, the Finance Committee and Town Meeting members for their support.

### News from the Town Clerk...

#### Census

Annual Town Census will be mailed out to all residents the beginning of January 2016. Please sign and return to the Town Clerk’s Office.

Dog licenses may be paid for and mailed in with the census. A late fee of $10.00 is charged for any dog not licensed the previous year in addition to the license fee. Fees are unaltered dogs $20.00 and spay/neutered dogs $15.00.

#### John E. & Ethyl E. Riley Outstanding Citizenship Award Nominations

Nominations are currently being accepted for the John E. & Ethel E. Riley Outstanding Citizenship Award. Deadline is Monday, October 19, 2015 at 4:00PM. 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 A. Gremo, Town Clerk, 104 Central St., Auburn, MA 01501.

**History**

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 1952 and Ethel served as an Assistant for many years.
Town Meeting an Election Reminders

Fall Town Meeting – October 27, 2015

THERE ARE 4 ELECTIONS IN 2016!
March 1, 2016 (Tuesday) - Presidential Primary Election
May 17, 2016 (Tuesday) - Auburn Annual Town Election
September 2016 - State Primary Election
November 8, 2016 (Tuesday) - State Election

SAVE TIME-AVOID LINES & AGGRAVATION-KNOW BEFORE YOU GO

All Auburn Voters vote at Auburn High School: 99 Auburn Street, Auburn MA 01501

Knowing Your Precinct and Voting Status will save you time on Election Day

Use the QR code below to obtain your voting status and precinct information, or call the Town Clerk’s Office at 508-832-7701

Link to Secretary of State on line voter registration https://www.sec.state.ma.us/OVR/

Annual Board, Commission and Committee Training 6:00 PM October 21

The Annual Board, Commission and Committee Training will be held on Wednesday, October 21st at 6:00 PM in the Board of Selectmen’s Room in Town Hall. All members of town boards, commissions and committees are encouraged to attend this training which focuses on the state’s Conflict of Interest Law, Robert’s Rules, and other pertinent issues that may affect volunteers and the entities on which they serve.

Even if you have attended a training session in the past, we urge you to attend again this year as regulations, laws and guidelines do change periodically. This is also a great change to ask questions of Town Counsel Robert Hennigan who leads the training session, along with Town Manager Julie Jacobson and Assistant Town Manager Ed Kazanovicz.

The Town is always seeking volunteers to fill vacancies on boards, commissions and committees. For the most updated vacancies and to apply electronically, check out the home page of the Town’s web site (www.auburnguide.com) for a link to Boards and Commissions or click on www.auburnguide.com/pages/AuburnMA_Bcomm/Vacancies/index.

We thank all of our volunteers for their dedication and commitment to the Town of Auburn!
In the Auburn Public Schools, the summer of 2015 was appropriately dubbed the *Summer of Transitions* due to the many shifts that took place. I am very pleased to report that all projects were completed on schedule, thus allowing us to welcome students back on Tuesday, September 8th, the first day of the 2015-2016 school year.

The official ribbon cutting ceremony was held on Saturday, August 29th and there was an impressive crowd in attendance. Following a brief opening ceremony, guests were encouraged to tour this beautiful new facility and rave reviews were received from all who did so. Mr. Jack McCarthy, Executive Director of the Massachusetts Building Authority (MSBA), was one of the guest speakers, and he commented on the tremendous crowd in attendance, with him stating that the same spoke clearly to the support the Auburn Public Schools – and especially our students – receives from the entire Auburn community. Thank you!

From the media center to the classrooms, the sky lit foyer to the outdoor classroom/courtyard area, the full-size gym to the synthetic turf field, and everything in between, it is truly a gift from the entire Auburn community to our adolescent students! Special thanks, once again, to the School Building Committee (SBC) for their tireless efforts in working with the construction team – Skanska USA Builders, Owner’s Project Manager; Lamoureux-Pagano Architects; and Fontaine Bros., Inc. Construction – and in seeing this project through to completion. SBC members include: Mark Imse, Chairperson; Wayne Page, Vice Chairperson; and, listed alphabetically Lonn Beaudin; Jim Bonofiglio; Joe Fahey, Rene Gibree, Bob Grossman, Paul Marrone, Joe Miller, Bob Murray, Mike Sampson, Jeff Slomski and Bill Westerlind, along with non-voting members: Joe Gagnon, Cecelia Wirzbicki, Julie Jacobson, Ed Kazanovicz and Maryellen Brunelle.
In addition to the opening of the brand new Auburn Middle School, much work took place in our remaining buildings as well. Each received a thorough cleaning, as is always the case, along with the annual repairs and updates having been made, as needed.

Pakachoag School’s parking lot was completely repaved, with additional playground swings installed and the entire play area lowered to better accommodate the K-2 students.

Bryn Mawr School’s sidewalk was replaced, with an expanded playground area also completed. Finally, a new roof was installed as part of the MSBA’s Accelerated Repair grant program. MSBA contributed 54.16% toward the cost of this roof replacement, saving the Auburn community hundreds of thousands of dollars.

Considerable renovations were also made to the Swanson Road Intermediate School as it was transformed into an elementary school for all of Auburn’s grades 3-5 students. Swanson Road, in addition to a new roof and boiler through the MSBA Accelerated Repair program – which likewise saved the Auburn community hundreds of thousands of dollars - had a new kitchen installed, along with lower level handicapped-accessible student bathrooms, a new office area, a new nurse’s area, painting throughout the building and the installation of hallway wall carpeting and hooks to replace the lockers. The interior trim was repainted, a brightly colored accent wall was painted in every classroom and new fixtures installed, and some of the student bathrooms upgraded.

Special thanks, once again, to the Master Plan Team for their oversight and coordination of this work, including Chairperson Rick Ringgard; Vice Chairperson Ron Prouty; and all members, listed alphabetically, Sean Bushe; Joe Fahey; LeeAnn Gibree; Casey Handfield; Gail Holloway; Paul Kosky; Tracy Lewis; Susan Lopez; Joe Miller; Steve O’Toole; Patti Renner; and Maryellen Brunelle.

It was an extremely busy summer, but an extremely productive one, too!

Thank you once again to the entire Auburn community for your unwavering support of the Auburn Public Schools.
The Auburn Public Schools is extremely excited to announce that the former grades 3-5 Pakachoag School has been recognized as a 2015 National Blue Ribbon School for their exemplary work in closing achievement gaps. This national recognition was given to only five Massachusetts elementary schools in 2015, signifying the high standards that were met. With the former Julia Bancroft School having earned this same prestigious honor in 2014, the entire Swanson Road Intermediate School team - to include the many teachers and administrators who may have retired and/or moved on - can take great pride in knowing that all have positively impacted our students and their achievement. GREAT JOB!

On Wednesday, September 30th, a celebratory program was held at Swanson Road Intermediate School and included all students and staff. Mrs. Deb Kozik, former Pakachoag Principal, and Mrs. Beth Chase, former Mary D. Stone Principal, were in attendance, much to the delight of their former students and staff. In addition, Ms. Holly Hodgkins, an Auburn graduate (and Pakachoag graduate, too), spoke on behalf of Congressman McGovern, offering congratulatory remarks.

Believing that the successes our District continues to realize are the result of our concerted team efforts, CONGRATULATIONS to the entire APS Team and especially our students!
Select Board meetings are held on the second and fourth Mondays each month as well as on the 5th Monday of the month when it applies. 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:

Kenneth Holstrom (Chair)
273 Central Street
Cell: 508-320-4564
Home: 508-832-2580
Email: kholstrom@town.auburn.ma.us

Doreen M. Goodrich (Vice Chair)
21 Hill Street
Cell: 508-951-9157
Email: dgoodrich@town.auburn.ma.us

Denise Brotherton
22 Paul St.
Home: 508-832-4624
Email: dbrotherton@town.auburn.ma.us

Dan Carpenter
33 Goulding Drive
Cell: 508-277-9519
Email: dcarpenter@town.auburn.ma.us

Stephen R. Simonian
102 Rockland Road
Cell: 508-922-4697
Email: ssimonian@town.auburn.ma.us

Selectmen’s Office Hours

Members of the Board of Selectmen have held office hours twice a month on a rotating basis. During office hours, a member of the Select Board is available to talk with residents, businesses and taxpayers about issues that are of interest or concern.

Please note that times and locations may vary so please check the schedule each month. Upcoming Office Hours for the month of October are:

Saturday October 24, 2015 10:00 AM to 11:00 AM – Dan Carpenter
History Room Auburn Public Library

Monday October 26, 2015 6:00 PM to 7:00 PM – Denise Brotherton
Selectmen’s Meeting Room Auburn Town Hall

Office Hours for each month will be posted on www.auburnguide.com, ACTV and the Town’s social media sites. You may also call the Selectmen’s Office at 508.832.7720 for information.
Assistant Town Clerk - Sarah Strozina. Sarah started this past August. She came with many years of customer service experience and is quickly getting acclimated to the duties of the clerk’s office.

Lieutenant Mark Maass retired from the Police Department in June after 33 years as a member of the department. He worked his way up through the ranks from patrolman to sergeant and ultimately to lieutenant. Lt. Maass, who has served as Acting Police Chief during certain periods over the last few years, has made a tremendous mark on the Auburn community during his tenure. While serving as lieutenant, Lt. Maass oversaw the operational aspects of the department and was in charge of internal affairs investigations. Lt. Maass will continue to serve the town in a new capacity as Emergency Management Director (See related story below). Lt. Maass, an Auburn resident and Town Meeting member, continues to serve as the chair of the By Law Review Committee where he led the Committee’s multi-year effort to amend and rewrite the Town’s Administrative and General By Laws, currently under review by the Attorney General’s Office. Lt. Maass is an avid camper and fisherman and looks forward to participating in those activities during his retirement. Congratulations and thank you for more than three decades of dedicated service to the Town of Auburn, Lt. Maass!

Retired Fire Chief Roger Belhumeur has resigned as the Emergency Management Director. Roger has served in this capacity since 2012. During his tenure as EMD, Roger chaired the Local Emergency Management Planning Committee (LEMPC) and was in charge of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) upon its activation during storm emergencies and other conditions. He applied for several emergency management grants including the most recent grant to relocate the EOC to the police station. Roger led the successful, multi-year effort to fully certify the Town’s LEMPC. Thank you for your dedicated service and commitment to the Town as Emergency Management Director!

Retired Lieutenant Mark Maass has been appointed as the new Emergency Management Director. As the EMD, Mark will chair the Local Emergency Management Planning Committee (LEMPC) and will oversee the operations of the Emergency Operations Center (EOC) when activated under certain emergency situations. Mark will also be the liaison with MEMA and FEMA and will work with town administration to apply for grants to support our emergency management efforts. We look forward to working with Mark in his new role!

The AFRD welcomed it's newest career member to the department on August 3rd. This years Firefighter of the Year Award recipient Rick Nicholson began on Group 3. Rick has been an on call member of the department since 2007. Congratulations, Rick!

August 2, 2015 marked the last day of work for Captain Eric Otterson. Eric ended his 16 year career with the Auburn Fire Rescue Department to pursue a new career as a Physician's Assistant. Eric was instrumental in the development of the ambulance service provided by the AFRD as well as one of the lead authors of the business plan that brought paramedic level service to the community. Eric was a tremendous asset to our department and to the Auburn community. He will certainly be missed. (Pictured is Captain Otterson on his last shift.) Congratulations and best wishes in your new career, Eric!
The Auburn Board of Health would like to remind residents to take precautions to protect themselves and their loved ones from mosquito borne diseases, such as West Nile Virus and Eastern Equine Encephalitis, as highlighted in the news recently. Please take a moment to read the tips below and put into action!

**Avoid Mosquito Bites**

**Apply Insect Repellent when Outdoors.** Use a repellent with DEET (N, N-diethyl-m-toluamide), permethrin, picaridin (KBR 3023), oil of lemon eucalyptus [p-methane 3, 8-diol (PMD)] or IR3535 according to the instructions on the product label. DEET products should not be used on infants under two months of age and should be used in concentrations of 30% or less on older children. Oil of lemon eucalyptus should not be used on children under three years of age.

**Be Aware of Peak Mosquito Hours.** The hours from dusk to dawn are peak biting times for many mosquitoes. Consider rescheduling outdoor activities that occur during evening or early morning.

**Clothing Can Help Reduce Mosquito Bites.** Wearing long-sleeves, long pants and socks when outdoors will help keep mosquitoes away from your skin.

**Mosquito-Proof Your Home**

**Drain Standing Water.** Mosquitoes lay their eggs in standing water. Limit the number of places around your home for mosquitoes to breed by either draining or discarding items that hold water. Check rain gutters and drains. Empty any unused flowerpots and wading pools, and change water in birdbaths frequently.

**Install or Repair Screens.** Keep mosquitoes outside by having tightly-fitting screens on all of your windows and doors.

**Protect Your Animals**

Animal owners should reduce potential mosquito breeding sites on their property by eliminating standing water from containers such as buckets, tires, and wading pools – especially after heavy rains. Water troughs provide excellent mosquito breeding habitats and should be flushed out at least once a week during the summer months to reduce mosquitoes near paddock areas. Horse owners should keep horses in indoor stalls at night to reduce their risk of exposure to mosquitoes. Owners should also speak with their veterinarian about mosquito repellents approved for use in animals and vaccinations to prevent WNV and EEE. If an animal is diagnosed with WNV or EEE, owners are required to report to DAR, Division of Animal Health by calling 617-626-1795 and to the Department of Public Health (DPH) by calling 617-983-6800.

More information, including all WNV and EEE positive results, can be found on the Arbovirus Surveillance Information web page at [www.mass.gov/dph/mosquito](http://www.mass.gov/dph/mosquito) or by calling the DPH Epidemiology Program at 617-983-6800.
SENIOR

FLU CLINIC

When: Thursday, October 8, 2015
9:00 AM – 12:00 PM

Where: Auburn Senior Center
4 Goddard Drive
Auburn, MA 01501

**Please bring all insurance cards, including Medicare cards with you to this vaccination clinic

Pre-Registration is preferred but not required - Please call the Senior Center at (508) 832-7799 to sign-up for this vaccination clinic

Sponsored by the
AUBURN BOARD OF HEALTH

** This event is scheduled to serve Auburn citizens age 65 and older.
A flu clinic for the general public will be held at a later date.
Billing, Exemptions, and Discounts...

**Tax bills** for the 2\textsuperscript{nd} quarter real estate and personal property will be mailed for October 1\textsuperscript{st} and payable without interest by November 2\textsuperscript{nd}.

The Assessor’s Office is now taking applications for **exemption for** the Fiscal Year 2015 tax bills. Qualified applicants may include seniors over 68, surviving spouses, veterans with war related disabilities and their surviving spouses, and the legally blind. If you feel you may qualify, you should contact the assessor’s office at (508) 832 - 7708 for further information. In order for your exemption to be reflected on the January 1\textsuperscript{st} installment of your tax bill we must receive your application no later than December 1\textsuperscript{st}. If file with us annually and did not get your new application in the mail please let us know to send you a new one.

Please remember, if you received an exemption last year you must file an application annually to continue to receive your exemption.

Information on the **Veterans Tax Work-Off** program as well as applications is available in the Assessor’s Office. Please don’t hesitate to call us with any questions you may have.

We are in the process of finishing up the final phase of our cyclical **property inspections** for the year. Most property owners we due for inspection should have received a letter recently telling them we will inspecting their property within the next 30 to 60 days. When somebody comes to your property, always be sure that they have proper identification issued by the town with them. When in doubt you should call the Assessor’s Office immediately for verification. We do occasionally have someone in the field on weekends. If it is outside of business hours the Police Department is notified who is out there, as well as the area they will be working in, and you can verify the information with them.

**Valuations** for the upcoming fiscal year will be available on the Auburn Maps OnLine and Assessing Data website sometime mid-November. As always, we encourage you to download your property record card and review it to avoid any potential errors in your property’s assessment.
Veterans Services  Larry Corbin, Director of Veterans Services
8:30 - 5:00 M-F by telephone only 508-832-7706 or 508-478-4300

Presidential Memorial Certificate

A Presidential Memorial Certificate (PMC) is an engraved paper certificate, signed by the current President, to honor the memory of honorably discharged deceased Veterans.

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) administers the PMC program by preparing the certificates which bear the current President's signature expressing the country's grateful recognition of the Veteran's service in the United States Armed Forces.

Eligible recipients include the next of kin and loved ones of honorably discharged deceased Veterans. More than one certificate may be provided.

Eligible recipients, or someone acting on their behalf, may apply for a PMC in person at any VA regional office or by U.S. mail. Requests cannot be sent via email. Please be sure to enclose a copy of the Veteran's discharge and death certificate to verify eligibility, as we cannot process any request without proof of honorable military service. Please submit copies only, as we will not return original documents.

Attached is the form you must use VA 40-0247. A complete form must be used for EACH person you are requesting. REMEMBER....COPIES OF DD-214 OR A DISCHARGE CERTIFICATE MUST ACCOMPANY EACH REQUEST. YOU CAN GET COPIES AT THE TOWN HALL CLERKS OFFICE BRING THE ORIGINAL WITH YOU.

Please direct any questions to Larry Corbin, Veterans Agent, at 508 832 7706.
**Injured Coyote**

The Auburn Police Department and the Animal Control Officer spent the week of September 21\textsuperscript{st} trying to capture a coyote which appeared to be very ill. The animal had lost a great deal of its fur coat and was appearing in and around the area of the Bryn Mawr Ave School for several days. Recess and all outdoor activities for the children were cancelled until the animal was captured. A trap was set for the animal in the woods off of Jay Street once permission had been granted by state wildlife officials.

On Friday morning the animal was spotted once again in a residential back yard on Rockland Road. Officers responded and were able to dispatch the animal near the power lines on Rockland Road Court. The school superintendent was notified and the children were able to once again participate in outdoor activities.

**Auburn Police Participate in Child Passenger Safety Day at Lundgren Honda**

On September 19\textsuperscript{th}, National Car Seat Safety day, the Auburn Police Department participated in the Child Passenger Safety Day event held at Lundgren Honda.

Auburn Police Officers Justin Starkus, Ronald Tarentino and Keith Chipman, along with Major Sue Anderson of the Massachusetts State Police, Officer James Ward from the Worcester Police Department and a few members of the UMass Injury Prevention Center, conducted car seat checks and installations. In total, fourteen car seats were checked and corrected, including taking three car seats out of service and issuing the children and parents a brand new replacement seat. The funds to pay for the new car seats were obtained through a grant from the Executive Office of Public Safety which was secured by Sergeant Daniel Lamoreaux. As part of that car seat grant, the Police Department is required to conduct or participate in at least one public car seat safety event.

Officer Keith Chipman coordinated the event with Lundgren Honda public relations manager Michael Meyer. The Police Department thanks Lundgren Honda and their team, who were exceptionally accommodating, and who purchased additional car seats to distribute if needed. Lundgren also offered face painting for the kids and provided food and refreshments for everyone.

Thanks to all who participated in this great event!
Pet Oxygen Mask

On August 17, 2015 Auburn residents Kim and Bruce Dufresne pictured with their pet rabbit Bentley presented the department with a brand new Pet Oxygen Mask to be used by fire rescue personnel when handling an emergency involving an animal.

Jerome Ave Training

The AFRD was donated an old house for training on Jerome Ave. that was slated for demolition. For two weeks department members were able to practice skills such as ventilation, forcible entry, wall breaching and search and rescue. These types of donations are very much appreciated and extremely beneficial to firefighters who can train in environments with real building materials instead of steel and other metals in a training building.

Summer Camp

The AFRD was happy to participate in this years summer camp at the High School hosted by the Auburn Recreational & Culture Department on August 20, 2015.

The kids had an opportunity to speak with firefighters about the job, fire safety and they got to use and see some of our equipment. It was a great day for us to be with the kids.

Auburn Police Department Launches Facebook Page

In April, the Auburn Police Department launched its Facebook Page. The page already has over 1,860 “likes”! Facebook is another mechanism for the Police Department to conduct outreach into the Auburn community. The department also has uses Twitter and its web site (www.auburnmasspolice.org/) to keep residents and businesses informed.

If you haven’t already checked it their Facebook page, visit www.facebook.com/Auburn-MA-Police-Department.
New Tower Truck

On August 3, 2015 Chief Coleman, Lt. Justin Brigham and DPW Fleet Mechanic Ken Rabouin traveled to the Sutphen plant in Ohio for the final inspection on the department's new Tower truck. The truck arrived in Auburn on August 8th and department members received factory training from a Sutphen Engineer for a week.

The truck was officially placed into service on September 17, 2015 after additional training and the equipment was mounted.

Hazardous Material Incidents Training

On September 20, 2015 Chief Coleman and Asst. Chief Johnson provided a training session at the Auburn Mall for Security Officers and Mall Management on hazardous material incidents that may affect the mall.

The AFRD is proud to have such a strong working relationship with the business community to provide them training so they are better prepared in the time of emergency.

Fire Extinguisher Training

On August 28, 2015 the AFRD conducted fire extinguisher training for Corrosion Materials on St. Mark Street.

The department provides extinguisher training to local businesses in the community free of charge.

F.I.E.R.O. Conference


The mission of F.I.E.R.O. is to improve firefighter health and safety. Chief Coleman and Lt. Steele attended the conference with two other departments from MA, Southbridge and Worcester.
Work on the Town’s 2015/2016 Roadway Reconstruction project by the Town’s contractor P.J. Albert, Inc. is ongoing. Reconstruction of Burnett St, Lorna Dr, Sara Dr, Karen Ave, Brook Rd, Highland St, Wethered St, Goulding Dr, Heritage Dr, Federal Hill Rd, and Rochdale St is substantially complete. Drainage work is currently underway along Stone St, Grove St, and George St, Shore Dr, Ravine Dr, Bay Ridge Rd, and Curtis St. These roadways along with Mount View Ave, Munger Dr, Hickory Ln, and Jefferson Dr are expected to be reconstructed before the winter, weather permitting. The resurfacing of Oxford St North is scheduled for the spring/summer of 2016.

Roadway work along West Street has been completed, as part of the new Middle School project. This work included construction of sidewalks and widening of the roadway to accommodate an additional travel lane near the intersection of West St and Route 12.

Construction is complete on an additional dugout at the Dr. Arthur and Dr. Martha Pappas Recreation Complex. Facilities Maintenance Division employees, James Beauregard and Timothy Yurkus, constructed a second dugout, this summer, at the Fuller Baseball Field with materials donated by the Auburn Little League.

Thank you, Auburn Little League and Jim and Tim!
The Highway Division was busy this spring trimming trees that overhang Auburn’s roadways, to improve sight distance, visibility of traffic signs, and overall safety. This was accomplished using a bucket truck obtained through a state-funded regional Community Innovation Challenge grant.

Auburn is one of six communities that share the bucket truck, where each community has the opportunity to use the equipment two months per year.

### 2015 YARD WASTE

#### 2015 YARD WASTE Schedule

For customers on the Town Trash System, Republic Services will be picking up leaves, twigs and lawn clippings in biodegradable bags or open containers weighing less than 50 lbs.

Please do not use plastic bags or your toter for yard waste.

They will be picking up yard waste on the following Saturdays, please have it to the curb by 7:00 a.m.

- October 31st, 2015
- November 7th, 2015
- November 14th, 2015
- November 21st, 2015
On September 17, 2015, the Massachusetts Department of Public Utilities approved Auburn’s Community Choice Municipal Aggregation Plan which aims to provide its residents and businesses with a fixed electricity supply rate. The approval process, which historically has taken 12-18 months to secure complete state approval, was completed in record time of less than 4 months thanks to the professional efforts of the state’s Department of Public Utilities (DPU), the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources (DOER), and the outstanding team at Colonial Power Group Inc. We are very excited to receive this approval from DPU as it will enable us to provide stability in pricing and hopefully decrease energy costs for residents and businesses throughout the community.

The next step for Town administration is to obtain pricing from the market’s electricity supply companies. Colonial Power Group will solicit bids in early October and provide the Town with rates from multiple suppliers for review before the Town Manager enters into a formal contract. The Town hopes to be able to secure a contract with a supplier before the 2015-16 winter rates escalate in November.

This is an opt-out program. Once a supplier is chosen and a contract is signed by the Town Manager, eligible town residents and businesses that are not currently under contract for competitive supply pricing will automatically be enrolled in the program starting in November 2015. The Program rates will be reflected in the Supplier Services section of your December 2015 National Grid bill. Before that happens, customers will receive a letter in the mail from the Town of Auburn that contains details about the new fixed supply price and its contract duration. These letters should arrive in your mailbox sometime during mid-October if the Town secures a new supply rate early in the month. The letters will also provide eligible residents and businesses with instructions to opt-out of the service by completing a postage-paid reply card and mailing it back to Colonial Power within 30 days of receipt.

The Town will provide additional outreach to the community through its social media sites, the Town’s web site, and Auburn Cable Television. Residents and businesses with questions are encouraged to call Colonial Power at 508.485.5858.

Residents in Auburn and communities across the State are faced with escalating electric costs which increase household expenses and put a burden on homeowners, families, low-income populations and seniors. Commercial customers are challenged by high electricity costs which are consistently highlighted as a barrier to economic growth in central Massachusetts. Residents and businesses in Auburn and other communities in the Commonwealth have felt the impact of skyrocketing electricity supply costs over the past two winters.

The Town’s Municipal Aggregation Plan is designed to address this uncertainty in electricity costs by combining the purchasing power of its residential and commercial customers and by competitively and transparently bidding that load on the open market. By combining this purchasing power, the Community Choice Municipal Aggregation Plan will enable homeowners to achieve stability in their electric rates and control their electric costs through competitive rates and will assist businesses in overcoming this barrier to economic growth.

The Town of Auburn has been working with its municipal energy consultant, Colonial Power Group, Inc. since April of 2015 when they were chosen by the Board of Selectmen after a competitive process. The Wind Turbine & Alternative Energy Committee had held interviews for 3 municipal aggregation consultant candidates over the course of 2014 before recommending Colonial Power Group to the Selectmen this past April.

The Town would like to thank State Senator Michael Moore and State Representative Paul Frost for their support and recommendations of this plan to the DPU. The Town also thanks the Wind Turbine & Alternative Energy Committee, the Auburn Board of Selectmen, Town Manager Julie A. Jacobson, Town Planner Matthew C. Benoit and Energy Manager Eric L’Esperance for their efforts with this energy initiative.
Friday, October 30th at 1:00pm at the Auburn Senior Center. At this meeting we will be discussing your options for MEDICARE IN 2016. We will be reviewing changes to MEDICARE Health Plans, we will also talk about MEDICARE Part D coverage and how it works. Finally we will speaking about programs that may be available to assist you with some or all of your MEDICARE costs. Please call 508-832-7799 to sign up for the meeting. Remember MEDICARE Open Enrollment is from October 15th to December 7th. YOU MUST MAKE ANY CHANGES TO YOUR PLAN BY DECEMBER 7th. If you have any questions call us at 1-800-AGE-INFO/1-800-243-4636 option 3 or call our direct line at 508-422-9931.

The Friends of the Auburn Senior Center offer the Auburn Travelers

Come Fly With Me The Music of Frank Sinatra
Tuesday, November 10th, Rob Zappulla and his 7 piece band perform the timeless hits of Frank Sinatra. Dine at the Castle of Knights in Chicopee. $74 per person

A Christmas Carol at the Norwood Theatre in Norwood MA
Tuesday, December 1st $89 per person

New York City Shopping& Sightseeing Saturday,
November 14th $59 per person. Canadian Maritimes Cruise featuring Montreal, Quebec, Nova Scotia & more

For more information on trips contact Lynne Guittar or Rich Hedin at the Senior Center 508-832-7799 or email them at Auburntravelersfasca@myway.com

JOIN US FOR LUNCH

The Nutrition Program is sponsored by the Elder Services of Worcester Area, Inc. which services lunch at the Auburn Senior Center Monday through Friday at noon. Please call at least 2 days in advance if you would like to have lunch. Your donation of $2.50 per meal helps keep the program running.

Do you need a ride?

Seniors and those under 60 years old who are disabled in Auburn have access to transportation Monday through Friday. For more information on the Auburn Vans or Paratransit services call 508-791-WRTA and then push the number 3 on your keypad or attend a presentation by the WRTA at the Senior Center on October 19th at 10:00am.
Upcoming Senior Center Programs

Facebook Clinic
Wednesday, October 7th at 1:00pm

Sutton Serenaders to Entertain
Tuesday, October 13th at 12:45pm

Celebrating New England Award Winning Storyteller Davis Bates
October 15 at 10:00am

Name that Tune
October 20th at 10:30am

RSVP are Writing Letters to Soldiers
Monday, October 26th at 10:00am

Senator Mike Moore’s Annual Turkey Dinner
Friday, November 6th at 11:45

Call to register for the programs above 508-832-7799.

Town Clerk Services at the Senior Center
Every third Thursday of every month from 11-12
Notary service, Voter registrations etc., dog registrations or anything that we can do to help.
The Notary fee is $1.00 per signature.

Monday Movies at 1:00pm
October 5th – Aloha
October 12th – No movie, Senior Center Closed for Columbus Day
October 19th – No movie
October 26th - Cinderella
November 9th - I’ll See you in My Dreams
November 16th - The Age of Adaline
November 23rd - Spy
November 30 - Paul Blart: Mall Cop 2

Drop-In Weekly Exercise Classes at the Senior Center
Mondays - Muscle Building at 1:00pm $3 per class
Tuesdays - Yoga at 9:00am $3 per class
Wednesdays - Line Dancing at 10:00am $3 per class
Thursdays - Strength & Balance at 10:00am $3 per class
Fridays - Pedaling Class at 10:00am

Blood Pressure Clinics at the Senior Center
1st and 3rd Fridays from 9:00-10:30am . First come, first served. This service is proved at no charge by our local Auburn Visiting Nurses and includes checking your blood pressure, pulse and weight.
The Auburn Cultural Council announces that applications are now available for the 2015 Mass Cultural Council program to promote the availability of rich cultural experiences for every Massachusetts citizen. Individuals, schools and cultural organizations are eligible to apply for project support from their local council for field trips, afterschool programs, festivals, lectures, theatre, dance film etc. to take place in schools, elder centers, libraries, community centers, town halls and parks. Applications are available online at massculturalcouncil.org. at Auburn Library and Town Hall.

**Deadline for submission is October 15, 2015.**

Two (2) copies of the completed application should be sent to:

Auburn Cultural Council  
c/o Town Clerk  
Auburn Town Hall

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The Auburn Library has added **507** books to its collection since Aug 1st!

On August 6th, Auburn resident Kate Hanscom delighted her large audience of children ages 2-7 by reading her book *Creative Christopher*.

On August 20th, the Library presented its first author-hosted book discussion via Skype!

Author Maryanne O’Hara discussed her writing experience and her book *Cascade* via a very successful Skype book discussion.

More **eBooks** are coming! In October Auburn residents will enjoy access to even more econtent through the Library website.

3,997 people visited the Auburn Public Library in person within the past 3 weeks!

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**Calendar of Upcoming Events**

Check the Website for additional upcoming programs

**Drop-in Craft for Children** Every Friday all day while supplies last. Most projects are designed for ages 5 and up, younger children may need assistance.

**Toddler Dance Party** Every Tuesday at 11:00 am. Toddlers and Preschoolers with their families are welcome to attend. Have some fun and enjoy music and dance. Bring your own instrument or use one of ours!

**Fireflies Pajama Time** October 5th, November 9th & December 7th at 6:30 pm. Stop by in your pajamas and bring your favorite sleep buddy to relax while we read you several bedtime stories. No registration required.
**Family Storytime** Tuesdays beginning September 29th at 6:30 pm. Family Story Time is a 30 - 45 minute program for families with children 5 years and younger. We will read stories and make a craft or participate in an activity together. This is a six week program open to 15 children. First session begins September 29th. Second session begins November 17th. Registration is required. Registration is required.

**Book Babies** Wednesdays at 10:30 am. Book Babies is a 30 minute program for babies 0 – 2 years old. We will share nursery rhymes, songs, music, and increase our motor skills with fun activities. This is a six week program open to 15 children. First session begins September 30th. Second session begins November 18th. Registration is required.

**Growing Readers Story Hour** Thursdays at 1:30 pm. Growing Readers Story Hour is a 45 – 60 minute program for 3 -5 year olds. We will read stories and create a craft or participate in an activity together. This is a six week program open to 15 children. First session begins October 1st. Second session begins November 19th. Registration is required. Registration is required.

**Color Me A Story** Mondays at 10:30 am & Wednesdays at 6:30 pm. Color Me a Story is a 20 minute weekly drop-in activity for children 5 years and younger. We will read a story and color a related picture. No registration required.

**Family Game Night** The first Thursday of each month from 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm. Family Game Night is a monthly program for families to come and play board games together. No registration required.

**Lego Challenge** Saturday, October 10th & Saturday October 24th at 10:30am. Children of all ages are welcome to join us for building challenges and free-play. No registration required.

**Gadgets to Goulash** a cook's club meets the third Monday of each month. October 19th: All in one: Slow cooker, casseroles & one pot meals. November 16th: Appetizers. December 21st: Cookies.

**Evening Book Discussion Group** meets on the second Thursday of each month. October 8th at 6:30 pm: *Life After Life* by Kate Atkinson. November 12th: *The Grief of Others* by Leah Hager Cohen. New members are always welcome!

**Weekly Knitting Group** Every Monday at 11:00 am and Wednesday at 6:30 pm. Drop in! All skill levels welcome!
Recreation and Culture Events

It was a great summer in the Auburn Recreation and Culture Department. Summer camp hosted at the Auburn High School, Over 21 Soccer league, Girls Varsity basketball league and Men’s Flag Football league. This fall we are excited to host some outdoor movies partially through a grant through the Auburn Cultural council for the community. We are looking to have one more outdoor movie on October 2nd showing Paddington at 7:30pm at Dr. Arthur and Dr. Martha Pappas Recreation Complex performance Pavilion. Also we will be hosting our 8th annual Fall Festival and Homecoming on October 10th with a concert 4-6pm at the Dr. Arthur and Dr. Martha Pappas Recreation Complex performance Pavilion with Glenn Stewart. Our 3rd annual Holiday Craft Fair will be held at the Auburn High School on December 12th. Last year we had an astounding 80 vendors last year. Through our events in the community we are able to raise great awareness of nonprofit programs, town programs as well as great Central Mass Artisans. Please join us!

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<td>4</td>
<td>Over 21 coed soccer League at Pappas Recreation Complex</td>
<td>Group Fitness 7:00-8:30 PM</td>
<td>Family open Gym $3 drop in</td>
<td>Water Color Painting 9:00-11:00 AM Check only please</td>
<td>Group Fitness 9:00-11:00 AM</td>
<td>Cool Basketball Over 30 $8-10 pm-AHS</td>
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<td>11</td>
<td>Checks can be made out to Town of Auburn</td>
<td>Columbus Day</td>
<td>Water Color Painting 9:00-11:00 AM</td>
<td>Strength and sculpt</td>
<td>Group Fitness 9:00-11:00 AM</td>
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<td>Group Fitness 7:00-8:30 PM</td>
<td>Cool Basketball Over 30 $8-10 pm-AHS</td>
<td>Beach Body class 6:30 pm</td>
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October 2015
Auburnguide.com
508-832-7736
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 January 2016.