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**Town Hall Has Officially Moved to 450 Washington Street**

All good things are worth waiting for!

As of June 22, 2020 the former Ames School Building is now the new Dedham Town Hall and Senior Center.

The previous location of Dedham Town Hall will become a combined public safety building that will house both the Dedham Fire and Police Departments.

Although the new town hall remains closed to the public, town staff are continuing to provide contactless services. If you would like information, please reach out to the appropriate department and we would be happy to help with whatever you need.





**Public meetings are being postponed or held remotely.** The state's Open Meeting Law has been modified to enable local governments to carry out essential functions during the COVID-19 outbreak per the governor's emergency order. Please refer to [the Town calendar](#) to join a public meeting remotely by using the links or dial-in instructions published in the meeting's agenda.

Residents are encouraged to visit the website, [dedhamcovid19.com](http://dedhamcovid19.com), for all town updates as the COVID-19 situation develops. Visitors can subscribe via email to receive notifications for new posts.

Locally, residents are always encouraged to contact the Dedham Health Department at 781-751-9220 with any questions or concerns.

By continuing to practice social distancing, regular handwashing, and wearing a face covering, we can ensure that our return to the new normal is not delayed.



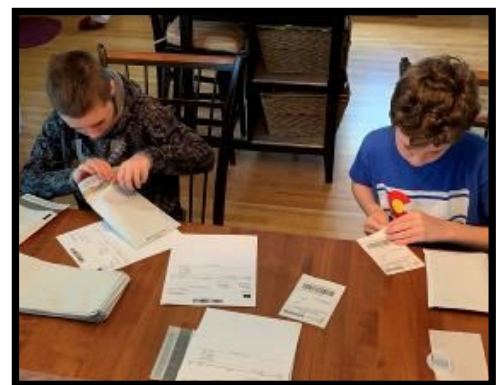


**As the pandemic continues and many Dedham residents remain out of work, the Town is staging an effort to help meet our neighbors' needs.**

The Dedham COVID-19 Relief Fund, established by Dedham Town Manager Leon Goodwin, the Select Board, the Dedham COVID-19 Relief Task Force, and other community leaders in partnership with United Way of Massachusetts Bay, will help individuals and families who have been financially impacted by this coronavirus pandemic with a focus on our most economically vulnerable neighbors.

There are many ways to give back—and have fun!—being organized by the COVID-19 Fund-raising Committee, led by resident Tom Turner.

- On Saturday, July 11<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm, join the Virtual Dedham Crawl and enjoy performances by a half dozen musical acts performing via Zoom and be entered to win some STELLAR raffle prizes. Learn more at <https://www.facebook.com/events/1349947171862506/>.
- Run the Social Distance 5K and earn a custom face mask, while supporting the Fund! Learn more at <https://www.facebook.com/socialdistance5K/>.
- More events to come!



*The Rotchford Family of Dedham is organizing the Social Distance 5K. Here, the Rotchford boys model the official race face masks and ship out masks to participating runners.*

All gifts are tax-deductible and 100% of the proceeds (net credit card fees) will go to individuals seeking assistance via nonprofits already working in our community.

Donations can be made by credit card online or by sending a check to United Way of Massachusetts Bay, PO Box 51381, Boston, MA 02205-1381. Please make checks out to United Way of Massachusetts Bay and include “Dedham COVID-19 Relief Fund” in the memo of the check.

For more information on resources available to residents, including a new Resource Guide, visit <https://dedhamcovid19.com/resident-resources/>. Residents who need help can also call the COVID-19 Resource Line at 781-751-9126 to be connected to resources.

# Assessors Department

The Town of Dedham operates on a fiscal year that starts on July 1<sup>st</sup> and ends on June 30<sup>th</sup> each year. We use a quarterly tax billing system, meaning we mail tax bills four times per year:

- First quarter: July 1 (Preliminary Tax Bill)
- Second quarter: October 1 (Preliminary Tax Bill)
- Third quarter: January 1 (Actual Tax Bill)
- Fourth quarter: April 1 (Actual Tax Bill)

Therefore, be on the lookout for your First quarter tax bill for Fiscal Year 2021. We send tax bills 30 days before their due date. Your quarterly tax bills are DUE on these dates:

- First-quarter bills: August 1
- Second-quarter bills: November 1
- Third-quarter bills: February 1
- Fourth-quarter bills: May 1

If the first of the month falls on a weekend, your bill is due on the following Monday.

The preliminary tax is based on the prior year's adjusted net tax on the property plus the 2.5 percent tax increase allowed under Proposition 2 ½ (and any tax increase attributable to approved overrides or exclusions, if any). The preliminary tax is payable in two equal installments; due on August 1<sup>st</sup> and November 1<sup>st</sup> as mentioned above.

After the Town of Dedham sets its tax rate, the Assessors make the actual tax commitment and the Collector mails actual tax bills for the year. The 3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter actual tax bills will have the new valuation set by the Assessors and approved by the Department of Revenue as well as the new set tax rate approved by our local Select Board. Your actual tax is calculated by taking the new assessment valuation per thousand multiplied by the new tax rate. The actual tax due is the balance after the first and second preliminary tax installments are credited against the total tax due. The actual tax is payable in two equal installments; due on February 1<sup>st</sup> and May 1<sup>st</sup> as mentioned above.



# Council on Aging

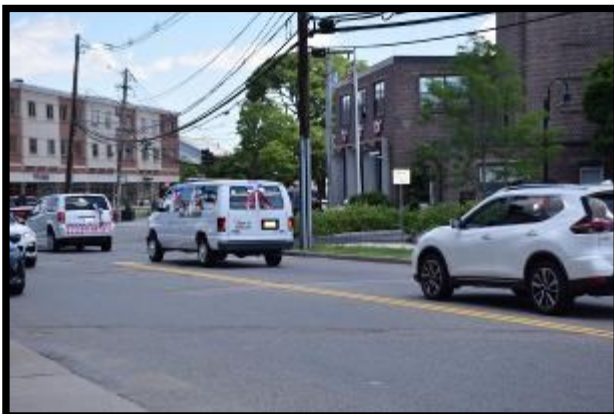


On July 2, 2020, the Dedham Council on Aging organized a rolling Patriotic Sing-a-Long which traveled to the Dedham Senior Housing Developments and a few Dedham neighborhoods.

We were thrilled to work with all those involved including Rob Blaney, Director of the Youth Department and his staff who provided terrific traditional music, the Dedham Police Department who provided our escorts, and with the Dedham Housing Authority's Joanne Toomey and Carrie Moore. Representative Paul McMurtry also joined in the celebration.

Our neighbors all enjoyed the music, singing, and the occasional breaking out into dance by the staff and the audience. It was an uplifting and fun time that we hope provided holiday festivities and helped reduce the social isolation brought about by the current COVID-19 Pandemic.

A fun time!



# Dedham Police Department



## We will miss you Officer Tracy!

Animal Control Officer Jayson Tracy has served the Town of Dedham since May of 2014. Jayson will be leaving his employment with the Town on July 17, 2020 to pursue an employment opportunity with another agency. Over the past six plus years, Jayson has proven to be a most valuable asset to the Police Department and the community. Jayson's dedication to his responsibilities and the community has been exceptional. One of the first things Jayson did was to establish standard operating procedures for animal control functions. He built a strong relationship with the Animal Rescue League. He has participated in community events including Dedham Day, open houses at the Police Station, the Citizens Police Academy and more. Jayson consistently and effectively has assisted residents with both domestic animal and wildlife issues and concerns. His tremendous animal control knowledge and interpersonal skills in working with members of the community will be missed. We all wish Jayson success and happiness in his future endeavors.

# Dedham Police Department



## Ruby has had a busy month of June!

She has been regularly attending training through Golden Opportunities for Independence on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays. On June 26th, she received the American Kennel Club S.T.A.R. Puppy award. S.T.A.R. stands for Socialization, Training, Activity and Responsibility. In order to receive this award, Ruby attended at least 6 puppy classes, displayed behavior that was free of aggression towards people and other puppies, allowed petting by people other than the handler and followed basic commands. She is working towards her Good Citizen test which is planned for the end of September. Pictured is Ruby training with Wrentham's Community Resource Dog, Cruiser, at Gillette Stadium on Wednesday, June 24th. When not at training, she has met and interacted with many people at the Dedham Public School food program. Kids are very excited to spend time with her and get to know her. While on patrol, she meets many members of the community and the police department. She was happy to meet and greet voters at The Riverdale School polling location on June 27th. Ruby's training was put into action as she responded to provide support for a family that were victims of a housebreak. Officers at the scene, along with Ruby, discussed how being a victim of a crime impacts the fear of crime and she helped relieve some of the anxiety associated with this incident. Ruby participated in numerous birthday day parades and attended the Dedham Middle School Promotion Rolling Rally on June 18th.





# Dedham Youth Commission



Please share with middle and high school aged youth!

## **DEDHAM YOUTH! YOUR IDEAS ARE VALUED & NEEDED!**

On July 15th, Middle School & High School Youth are needed to participate in focus groups regarding the future and design of Dedham. The middle school focus group will take place on July 15th at 12 Noon. The High School focus group will take place on July 15th at 1 PM. These focus groups will happen via Zoom. 12-15 students are needed for each group! Community service will be granted, and a \$10 gift card to Dunkin Donuts will be given to each participant.

To sign up, please email [rblaney@dedham-ma.gov](mailto:rblaney@dedham-ma.gov) with the following:

- Name:**
- Year in School:**
- Email address for the Zoom Invite**

This is a great opportunity to learn about Town Government and have your voices heard!



# Endicott Estate

In addition to being the location for many weddings, corporate and social events, art shows, car shows, summer concerts and film shoots, the Endicott Estate along with its rich history and beautiful grounds are truly a source of overall enjoyment for the Town of Dedham.

Listed on the National Register of Historic Places, the Estate belonged to the Endicott Family, and was built in 1904 by well-known 19<sup>th</sup> century architect: Henry Bailey Alden.

Alden designed several other well known buildings in and around Boston, such as the beautiful Chatham Bars Inn in Chatham and the Colonial Arms Hotel in Gloucester. The Endicott Estate was designed in a classic Colonial Revival with Georgian influence style, and was said to represent “an excellent example of a generous, comfortable country residence.” In an article titled “A New Colonial House in an Old Colonial Town,” from the 1906 publication of “*Indoors and Out: The Homebuilders’ Magazine*”, the author remarked that “living in this type of house is delightful any season of the year.”

As we walk through the Estate now, over a century later, we are greeted by Honduras Mahogany and quarter sawn oak paneled rooms, intricate carved woodwork and attention to detail around every corner. A true example of classic elegance and charm rarely found today.



Photo taken from *Indoors and Out: The Homebuilders’ Magazine* c.1906

# Engineering Department



## **Rustcraft Road Sewer Improvements Project Update**

Construction for the Rustcraft Road Sewer Improvements Project began in full swing on Monday, 6/22. The project started at Station 48+86 (near #105 Rustcraft Road) with the excavation for and installation of the new 10" force main. Construction will continue to head towards the Kiss N' Ride along Rustcraft Road over the next month or two. Police details are out each day directing traffic around the work site.

For more detailed information regarding this project and to get week to week updates on project schedule, please visit the Town's website at <https://www.dedham-ma.gov/departments/engineering/projects/rustcraft-road-sewer-improvements>



# Environmental Department



The Sustainability Advisory Committee is pleased to present to the community the Sustainable Dedham Climate Action & Resiliency Plan. Dedham has been a leader in sustainability and continues to show leadership through the creation of this plan which outlines over 60 actions to address climate change creating a more sustainable and resilient Dedham. The recent report from the United Nations Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), which is the body for assessing science related to climate change, stresses the need for the global community to respond urgently to our changing climate to avoid dire consequences for humanity. Through the work of our Committee and the Town's Environmental Department we are addressing and reducing our impact on the environment through the installation of solar panels on our schools, conversion of our streetlights to LED's and the addition of renewable energy in our Community Choice Aggregation which again set Dedham apart as a leader, being only one of two communities in the state, at that time to make such a commitment.

The Sustainable Dedham Climate Action & Resiliency Plan can be found on the Environmental Department's website at [www.dedham-ma.gov](http://www.dedham-ma.gov) or on our Sustainable Dedham Dashboard at <https://sustainablededham.org/home> .



# Environmental Department

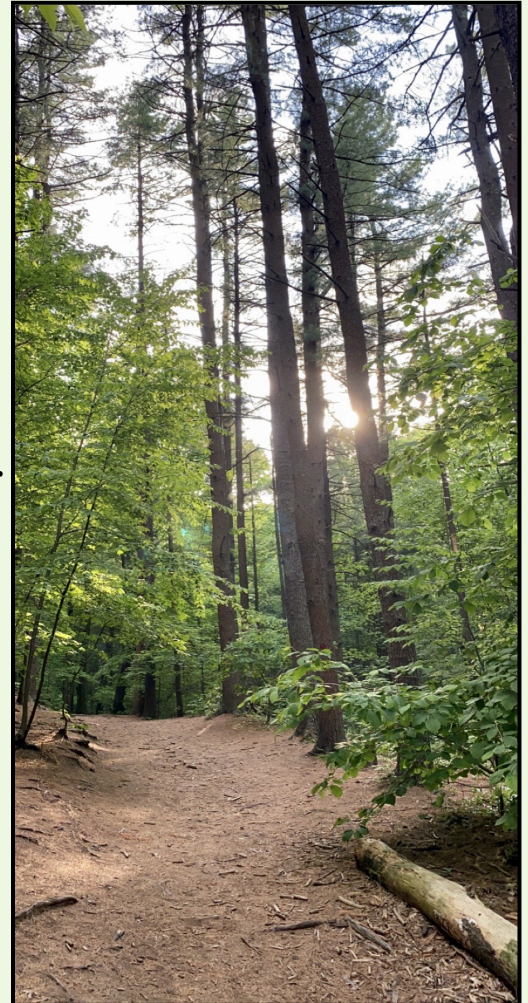


## Dedham Trails

Due to COVID-19 and the concern of gathering in large crowds we are not planning to hold Dedham Trails Day this year. It will be the first time in 8 years that we have not held the event. We are disappointed, but the safety of our Dedham Trails friends is our first priority.

We look forward to seeing you on the trails – send us your pictures or tag us @dedhamtrails on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

Happy and safe Trails!



## Stormwater Pollution Prevention

Do you know why its important to pick up dog waste? Dog waste carries high levels of harmful E. coli bacteria and other pathogens that can wash into storm drains and waterways when left on streets or in parks, increasing public health risks and causing infections.



More information on protecting our waterways can be found at <https://yourcleanwater.org/residents/pet-waste/>

# Office of the Treasurer/Collector

## Office of the Treasurer/Collector – Important Billing Information

Your ongoing patience and understanding now, and over the past few months is much appreciated. My staff, and I continue to work hard on all the tasks associated with the office as we unpack to settle into our new home at 450 Washington Street.

Below is a status update on the Town's upcoming due dates, and on delinquent bills. Please call 781-751-9160 with any questions.

- The 1<sup>st</sup> quarter FY21 real estate, and personal property tax bills were mailed on 6.30.20 with an 8.3.20 due date. Payments can be mailed to the lockbox in envelopes included with bills; paid online via the Town's website ([www.dedham-ma.gov](http://www.dedham-ma.gov)) on Invoice Cloud using an ACH method from a bank account (\$.40 fee), or a credit card (fee scale based on balances). Also, checks can be placed in the secure drop-box at the rear entrance to the old Town Hall until the new receptacle is set up on the front door of the new Town Hall. Payments received after hours in the drop-box are credited to accounts on the next business day.
- The 4<sup>th</sup> quarter FY20 real estate, and personal property tax bills, are past due with interest accruing daily. Demand bills will be issued shortly on unpaid balances. Partial payments are allowed, but interest will be charged on any balance remaining until paid in full. Postmarks are not accepted.
- Sewer bills that were due on 7.1.20 are now delinquent with interest accruing daily. Please make your full payment promptly to avoid additional interest. Partial payments are allowed even though interest will accrue on any balance remaining after the due date until paid in full.
- The motor vehicle excise tax demand bills that were due on 6.12.20 for bills originally due on 3.9.20 are now past due. Deputy Collector Warrants from PKS will be mailed shortly, and will include additional fees set by MA General Law plus more interest. Partial payments are NOT allowed on excise taxes.
- Motor vehicle excise tax bills that were due on 6.29.20, are also now delinquent, and accruing interest. Demand bills will be issued soon. Partial payments are NOT allowed on excise taxes.





Town Hall Talk will be published monthly and will be available on the [Town website](#).

Please subscribe to receive notification of each new issue!

**Town of Dedham, MA**

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