



Methuen Community CONNECTION

June 2021

www.cityofmethuen.net

Methuen Fireworks Celebration Highlights Summer Recreation



Mayor Perry is excited to invite Methuen families to an Independence Day Fireworks Celebration at The Loop on Saturday, July 3rd! Live music, a comedy show, face painting, superhero photo ops, DJ, inflatables, food trucks, backyard games, community tables, and giveaways are in store! Live entertainment begins around 6pm with the fireworks display at 9:30pm! Bring your lawn chairs and blankets and find the perfect spot to take in the festivities. Check www.cityofmethuen.net and City of Methuen on social media for the most up-to-the-minute parking/traffic instructions, details, and happenings!

In addition to the Fireworks Celebration, the Recreation Department's popular free playground program returns July 6, Monday-Friday, 9am-1pm at the Marsh Grammar School, Comprehensive Grammar School, Gill Ave Park and Tenney Street Park. Each day will be filled with crafts, games, sports, and tons of laughs. Tennis and flag football will also return as well as pickleball, bubble soccer, and more.

Forest Lake is open 10am-7pm daily to Methuen residents only. Seasonal passes (\$50.00) and daily passes (\$10.00) are available at the entry gate or through the Methuen Recreation Department. One entry per car, per day. The beach area is closed to the public outside of posted hours of operations. For more information about Forest Lake and all recreation programs, visit <https://www.cityofmethuen.net/recreation-department> or call 978-983-8590 for additional info.

Save the Date: Methuen Day Returns October 2, 2021!

All are welcome to celebrate Methuen Day SATURDAY OCTOBER 2, 2021, 10am – 3pm in downtown Methuen! Mark your calendars for this wonderful annual community event that is popular with residents of all ages. You don't want to miss the marketplace, local entertainment, giveaways, and more!

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, Methuen Day was a drive-through event in 2020. We are happy to announce that in 2021, we are back in Downtown Methuen and cannot wait to see everyone! The planning committee has been hard at work putting together a terrific lineup of local businesses, food, refreshments, family activities, and some great surprises!

GET READY FOR A FUN-FILLED EVENT! Follow us on social media, #MethuenDay. Information is also available on the city website at: <https://www.cityofmethuen.net/methuenday>



Methuen City Hall Hours of Operation:

Monday - Thursday: 8am to 4:30pm, Friday: 8am to Noon
Searles Building; Connecting All Departments: (978) 983-8500.
41 Pleasant Street, Methuen, MA 01844

<i>Opportunities for All.....</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Energy & Environment.....</i>	<i>3</i>
<i>Community Involvement.....</i>	<i>4</i>
<i>Scanning the City.....</i>	<i>5</i>
<i>Get the Vax.....</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>Conexion Comunitaria.....</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>Mayor's Message.....</i>	<i>8</i>

Free Meals for Methuen Teens and Kids!

FREE SUMMER MEALS PROGRAM
METHUEN HAS 3 GREAT LOCATIONS FOR SUMMER FUN!
TENNEY STREET PLAYGROUND
July 6 – August 20
Breakfast 8am - 9am
Lunch 11:30am - 12:30pm
NEVINS LIBRARY PICNIC LUNCH
July 6 – August 13
Tuesday - Friday
10:45am - 11:15am
METHUEN HIGH SCHOOL CRAB & GO MEALS
July 6 – August 27
Monday - Friday
10am – 11am
This institution is an equal opportunity provider

FREE MEALS FOR KIDS & TEENS ACROSS OUR COMMUNITY
Meals4kids.org/meals
FREE MEALS UNTIL JUNE 2022
Methuen Public Schools Grab & Go Curbside Pickup Schedule
June 21st through July 2nd
Tenney Grammar School
Monday - Friday 10 am - 11 am
July 6th - August 27th
Methuen High School
Monday - Friday 10am - 11am
This institution is an equal opportunity provider.

Tribute Parade & Ceremonies Highlight Memorial Day



As part of Methuen's Memorial Day observance, Mayor Neil Perry joined the Methuen Fire and Police Departments in a tribute parade to visit Methuen Gold Star Families. The mission of America's Gold Star Families is to provide honor, hope and healing to those grieving any military loss through active-duty service in the United States Armed Forces.

The Methuen caravan paid tribute and visited the Vicente (pictured left), DiGrazia, Roy, Currier, Henrick, Campagnone, and Potter families. Mayor Perry purchased and presented flowers to these families and talked with them about their dearly departed heroes. It was a moving and reflective Memorial Day for all.

Community leaders and citizens also joined together for Memorial Day ceremonies conducted by both the Methuen American Legion and VFW. The American Legion ceremony took place at Walnut Grove Cemetery with moving words, stirring tributes, and a real sense of thanks to those veterans who have gone before us.

At noon, A wonderful crowd gathered at Elmwood Cemetery for the VFW ceremony (pictured right). Again, some wonderful words and prayers were shared in a unified gathering of appreciation. Special thanks to Veterans Services Officer Paul Jensen for his work with both the American Legion and VFW in organizing these events.



Looking for a New Career? Work With Us!

Work With Us



Wednesday!

If you're looking for challenging, exciting, and interesting employment, check out job openings within the City of Methuen government. We currently have several openings across numerous departments and are looking for dedicated applicants committed to respectful and collaborative service to the community.

Every Wednesday is WORK WITH US WEDNESDAY, when we post an announcement on all job openings across our social media platforms.

If you want the chance to have a positive impact and make a daily difference in our community, come Work With Us in the City of Methuen! For current employment opportunities, visit: [#WorkWithUsWednesday](https://www.cityofmethuen.net/employment)

Methuen Taking Energy Efficiency Steps & Reducing Carbon Emissions



We are here to listen!

WANT TO HELP METHUEN GO GREEN?

With your help, we can make Methuen more sustainable and find the best programs for you

Take the survey!

bit.ly/Methuenlistens



As an officially designated Green Community, Methuen has set a municipal goal of reducing municipal energy use and carbon emissions by 20% over five years. The city has been working toward that goal by replacing inefficient heating & cooling systems, upgrading lighting to LED fixtures, installing building system controls, and undertaking air-sealing measures in buildings.

Mayor Perry encourages all Methuen households and small businesses to join in the City's energy-saving campaign. Take a few minutes and complete a brief survey of your household's energy use at www.bit.ly/Methuenlistens.

Residents can also visit www.methuensaves.org to sign up for a no-cost home energy assessment available to homeowners and renters through MassSave as a first step in saving on your monthly bills and making your home more energy efficient. Give a call today and discover the many zero-cost benefits available to participating homes.

Methuen residents who would like a free LED lightbulb may also contact the Methuen Cares Center at (978) 609-1866, while supplies last.

Save the Planet, Save Money - Buy a City of Methuen Compost Bin

Methuen households in 2020 generated 19,379 tons of trash collected curbside by the city, a 9.1% tonnage increase over the previous year. While much of the increase may be attributed to more residents at home during the pandemic, our city continues to have one of the Commonwealth's highest rates of trash generated per household!

Every Methuen household can play a role in helping curb cost growth by reducing trash tonnage. Composting materials are often the heaviest items in residential trash, and home composting can significantly reduce costs while enriching soil with nutrients. The form to order a reduced cost (\$25) compost bin can be found online: www.cityofmethuen.net/sites/g/files/vyhlif886/f/uploads/compostform6921.pdf. This offer is available to Methuen residents, who should make checks payable to City of Methuen. You can also email jgeary@ci.methuen.ma.us. To learn more about recycling, check out www.RecycleSmartMA.org or contact Environmental Planner Joseph Cosgrove at jcosgrove@ci.methuen.ma.us



Methuen Embraces Energy Efficiency with LED Lighting



The City of Methuen is using National Grid incentives to convert lighting at municipal facilities to more efficient LED lamps. Crews are working to install new exterior LEDs at the Water Treatment Plant. Over the coming weeks & months, lighting upgrades are planned at DPW facilities, fire stations, administrative offices, the Senior Center, and Nevins Library.

Together, this year's efficiency lighting projects will curb the City's electricity usage by an estimated 345,000 kWh and reduce the City's annual electricity costs by \$66,000. Methuen residents can also make use of utility incentives, save energy, reduce emissions, and cut energy costs by signing up for a no-cost home energy audit at www.Methuensaves.org



Slowing Down COVID-19!

**YOUR
ACTIONS
ADD UP!**





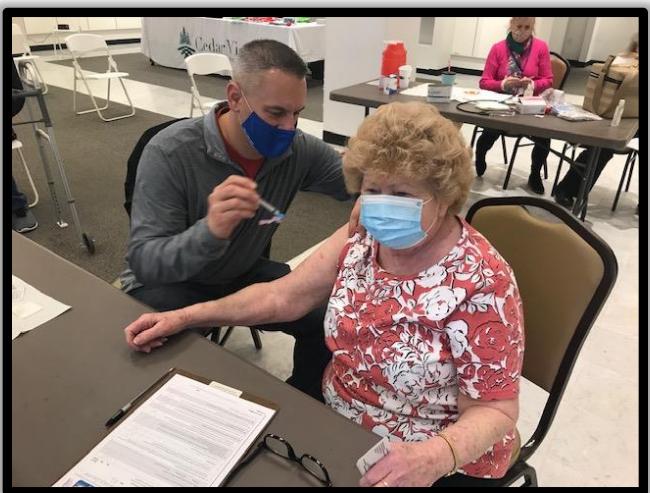
cityofmethuen.net/covid19vaccination



COVID-19 Vaccinations a Priority for Methuen Health Department

The Massachusetts mask mandate was lifted on May 29, and the number of positive COVID-19 cases has continued to decline. We would like to take the opportunity to make you understand that while things are looking up, and the state is starting to return to a sense of normalcy, the pandemic is NOT over. It is important to still follow DPH guidelines and wear a mask if you are not vaccinated or when unable to keep a 6-foot distance.

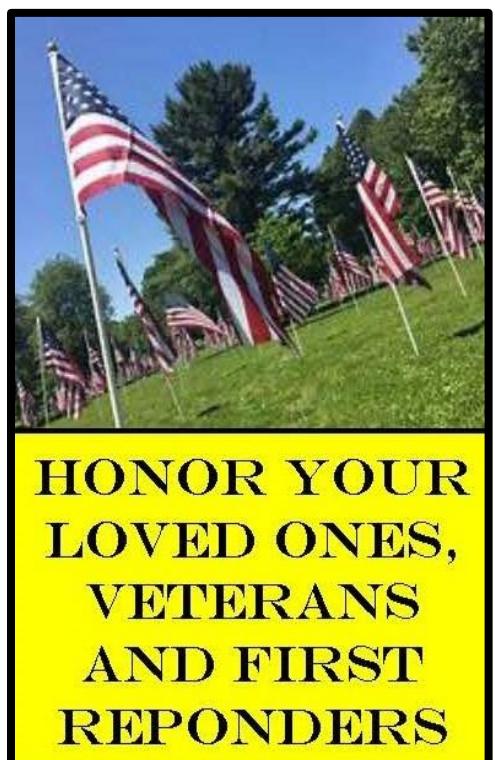
COVID vaccines have been created using science that has been around for decades, they are proven safe and effective. The more individuals who are vaccinated, the sooner we can return to our pre-pandemic activities. If you are still having any questions, please visit <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/vaccines/vaccine-benefits.html> for more information. As of June 25, Methuen Vaccine Clinics will no longer be conducted at the LOOP.



The City of Methuen will continue to collaborate with Greater Lawrence Family Health Center (GLFHC) doing mobile clinics around town. Vaccines will continue to be available at CVS, Walgreens, and GLFHC. Please visit www.cityofmethuen.net for mobile clinic sites near you.

Nancy Zabbo, Methuen's Public Health Nurse, is currently planning on offering blood pressure and diabetes screenings as well as chronic disease education and wellness events. Details will be posted at www.cityofmethuen.net. You can also follow the Health Department on Facebook at Methuen Health Department for details as well as health tips and articles to increase and maintain the safety of the Methuen Community. Summer is here, and with that comes safety issues regarding, swimming, heatstroke, increase in food borne illness, and protection from insects, for more information visit, <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2019/p0517-eight-tips-healthy-summer.html>.

Sign up to Receive News on Veterans' Events and Activities



It has been a fun and busy time for the Veterans Services Office. A Veterans' Cookout was held at Forest Lake on Saturday, June 12. Many thanks to the Fire Department for cooking hamburgers and hot dogs and providing drinks, to the Department of Public Works for getting the place ready, and to Mayor Perry for providing the ice cream truck. A good time was had by all, and we were rowdy enough even to have someone call the police on us because we were too loud! LOL.

In association with Methuen Day on October 2, we are planning a Field of Honor to pay respects to loved ones who served in the military or as first responders.

For a donation of \$100, you will be able to fly your flag in front of Nevins Library for 1 week and at the end, take home the flag (3x5) with included pole and wall mount, and a set of custom dog tags with your loved one's information.

We will begin selling flags on July 3rd at the City of Methuen Fireworks Celebration at the Loop. Look for the Veterans Tent! Spots are limited, so reserve early. Proceeds will benefit needy Veterans and future Veterans events. The Office of Veterans Services is creating a data base of Methuen Veterans to better serve your needs. Please sign up to receive information on Veterans' activities and events. Send your name, address, email, and phone number to pjensen@ci.methuen.ma.us, call 978-983-8585, or fill out and submit the form at cityofmethuen.net/sites/g/files/vyhlif886/f/uploads/veterans_corner.pdf

Visit the Nevins Library "Methuen Friendship Quilt Project"

In the mid-1800s, "Friendship Quilts" were a popular way to commemorate events and memories, often with a large group of people creating the quilt for a particular person or family. With this history in mind, the Nevins Library developed the Methuen Friendship Quilt Project.

Starting in December 2020, the Library put out requests for quilt squares to be included in the Friendship Quilt project. Crafty citizens of all ages contributed to the effort. Methuen residents Diane Ayer and Norma Zimmermann generously volunteered their time and expertise in assembling these squares into the wonderful quilts now on display throughout the library.

This was truly a community project that shows the heart, creativity, and positivity that lives right here in Methuen.

Please stop in at 305 Broadway and take a look at these special quilts; the library is open Monday – Thursday 9am - 9pm and Fridays 9am - 5pm this summer



Scanning the City

As Pandemic Numbers Improve, Senior Center in Re-Opening Mode

Greetings from the Methuen Senior Activity Center! Slowly and carefully, we have begun the long-awaited re-opening process. A variety of exercise programs and other activities including The Talk, Bocci on the Lawn, Bean Bag Toss, and more are currently available. A complete schedule is available in our monthly newsletter and can also be found at <https://www.cityofmethuen.net/senior-center>

We are excited to reintroduce even more activities beginning in July. The weekly Blood Pressure Clinic will resume on Tuesdays from 9:00-10:30am. The congregate meal program will begin serving lunch again on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 11:30am. (Lunch reservations must be made for the lunch program 2 days in advance). Bingo, Mah Jong, and Coloring & Conversation will all start up again. Also in July, we welcome back Tai Chi, an exercise program now enhanced with Qigong techniques. Please note that at this time, attendance at all programs is by pre-registration or appointment only. We are also using this new beginning as an opportunity to update registration and emergency contact information. Be sure to complete your form before you arrive for your scheduled activity. Call us at 978-983-8825 to sign up or for more information.



A variety of transportation options are now available. The NEET (Northern Essex Elder Transport) Program is operating for medical appointments. The MVRTA's EZ Trans service is operating and applications for reduced rate (1/2 price) ticket books are available through the Senior Center office. The City of Methuen and Mayor Neil Perry have introduced the new *Methuen Cares Transportation Program*, a free taxi service for essential transportation needs. Senior Center staff is available to address your questions and concerns Monday-Thursday, 8:30am-4:00pm and Fridays, 8:30am-12:00n by calling 978-983-8825. We look forward to seeing you all again!

Summer Programs for All at the Nevins Memorial Library

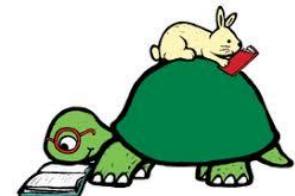


If you haven't been by the library recently, we have great news. We're back to our regular, pre-pandemic hours again: Monday through Thursday 9am-9pm, and, during the summer, 9am-5pm on Fridays. (We'll reopen again on Saturdays in the Fall).

We always have a slate of amazing programs for all ages during the summer, and excitingly this summer, a whole lot of the children's programs will be in person (as long as the weather and temperature stays OK).

Our Children's Programs are awesome this summer. You can meet Beluga Whales from the Mystic Aquarium (virtually), attend a Family Concert (in person), and we have tons of craft opportunities - from our Craft Club to Crafts at the Market (each Friday at the Farmer's Market on our front lawn). And as always, we have the fun storytimes done by our talented children's librarians.

Also, don't forget to come by the Children's Department to get our fun-filled Summer Programs bag and start logging activities to participate in our Bead Bonanza! Get beads for beading and other activities. Your child can become a Participant, which enters them into our end-of-summer prize drawing. Each child Participant will receive a certificate of participation and an invitation to our special "Fall for a Book" event in the autumn!



Teens, you have some great programs to look forward to as well, from tie-dyeing a t-shirt (in person) to a virtual Comic Creation Workshop with Jack Purcell (he's penciled and inked for all sorts of DC titles, from Green Arrow to Batman and more!) Make sure to follow the Teen Facebook or Instagram (NevinsLibraryYA on both apps) for all the most up to date Teen happenings. Or check out the Teen Summer Programs page under the tall ship image at <https://www.nevinslibrary.org/>.

Finally, we don't want to leave out the adults. We have virtual author visits with authors like the two sisters who write under the name Liv Constantin. They have a new thriller out in July, "The Stranger in the Mirror," that they'll talk about. We'll also have a conversation between Hank Phillippe Ryan and James Patterson in September about their new books (shh... keep an eye out for that one). We're having monthly porch chats on our front porch where you can come and chat about all the great books you've been reading. All are welcome. And the adults have a fun summer reading program with the grand prize a brand new Kindle Fire!

One quick note about our in-person programs this summer, unvaccinated individuals (including children over the age of 5) should wear masks when they attend library programs. Parents, even if you're vaccinated, please wear a mask when you bring your kids to library events for the safety of all children.



If none of those programs appeal to you, we've saved the best news for last. As of July 1st, you will be able to log into the Hoopla Digital App and borrow 4 digital items a month from their amazing catalog of movies, TV shows, comic books, music albums, and eBooks! It's like Overdrive/Libby, but with much more media and music!

All you need to do is download the app onto your device, log in with your Nevins Library card, and you'll be watching all 5 seasons Leverage in no time. (It even works with Apple TV, Roku, and more!) Stop by the Reference Desk, give us a call, or check out our website for more info on how to get started with Hoopla! Be the first to know about all this and more by following us on our social media accounts (search for Nevins Library).

City of Methuen Honors Lieutenant Eric Ferreira



Mayor Neil Perry proudly met with Methuen Police Lieutenant Eric Ferreira to offer his congratulations and an official Mayoral Citation. Lt Ferreira has been promoted to the rank of Sergeant Major in the United States Marine Corps. Ferreira was born and raised in Lowell and attended Central Catholic High School, graduating in 2000. He went on to attend and graduate from the University of Massachusetts Amherst in 2004.

Immediately upon finishing college, Eric was deployed to Fallujah, Iraq as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom. When he returned to the States, he was hired by the National Security Agency as a police officer. He also served with the NSA Police until he was activated again and deployed to Haditha, Iraq in 2006. Eric was hired by the Methuen Police Department in July 2012. In 2019, Eric, now a First Sergeant in the Marine Corps Reserves, deployed again; this time to the Far East serving in Japan and South Korea. He was recently assigned as the Lieutenant in Charge of the Office of Professional Standard/Accreditation.

In his current role, he and his team are assessing, drafting, and editing the Department policies in order to achieve compliance and certification/accreditation through the Massachusetts Police Accreditation Commission. Eric has been awarded three Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals, a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, and the Combat Action Ribbon. As a police officer, he has received two life-saving awards and multiple academy honor awards and also serves as a firearms instructor and the Officer in Charge of the Department's Honor Guard. He recently received the Justice Sandra Day O'Connor Full Tuition Scholarship from New England Law, Boston and will begin law school part-time in August 2021. He lives in Methuen with his wife, Rebecca, and his two sons, Eric Jr. and Davis. Congratulations to Lt. Ferreira for attaining this lofty honor. The entire City of Methuen is proud of you and thanks you for your service to our city and our country.

Massachusetts Citizens Urged to Continue to Trust the Facts, Get the Vax

While COVID-19 numbers are trending positively, The Baker-Polito Administration continues to urge Massachusetts citizens to Get vaccinated. The COVID-19 vaccine is free. People age 12+ who live, work, or study in Massachusetts can get vaccinated. You don't need an ID or insurance to get it and it is the best way to protect yourself, your family, and our community.

The vaccine doesn't contain the virus that causes COVID-19, so it can't make you sick. You may experience mild side effects after getting the vaccine, but this is a sign that your body is learning how to protect you. Vaccines are safe and are one of the best ways to protect yourself and those around you from getting sick from COVID-19.



Preparing for your COVID-19 Vaccination Appointment

Preparing for your COVID-19 Vaccination Appointment

What to know before you go

- The vaccine is free for everyone.
- You must make an appointment to get a vaccine.
- The Pfizer and Moderna vaccines require two doses. Before leaving your first dose appointment, make sure you have either scheduled or you know how to schedule a second appointment at the same site.
- The Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) vaccine only requires one dose.
- You do not need insurance, a driver's license, or a Social Security number in order to get the vaccine.

What you need for your appointment

Your vaccination location may list the below items as necessary, however, that only applies to people who have them. You can still receive the COVID-19 vaccine without insurance or an ID.

- An ID with your name to verify your name in the vaccination system.
- A health insurance card. Your insurance will be billed at no cost to you.

Keep others safe

It will take time for everyone to get the COVID-19 vaccine. Continue to use all tools available to stop the spread - before your vaccine, in-between vaccine doses, and when you are fully vaccinated.

To schedule your appointment, visit mass.gov/COVIDvaccine

Updated 04/29/2021

Cómo prepararse para su cita de vacunación contra COVID-19

Qué debe saber antes de ir

- La vacuna es gratis para todos.
- Usted debe hacer una cita para vacunarse.
- Las vacunas de Pfizer y Moderna requieren dos dosis. Antes de irse de su cita de la primera dosis, usted debe asegurarse de programar o de saber cómo reservar la segunda cita en el mismo lugar.
- La vacuna de Johnson & Johnson (Janssen) solo requiere una dosis.
- Usted no necesita tener seguro de salud, ni licencia de conducir ni número de Seguro Social para vacunarse.

Qué necesita para su cita

El lugar donde se vacune puede indicar como necesarios los documentos a continuación, no obstante, eso solo se aplica a las personas que los tengan. Usted puede vacunarse contra COVID-19 incluso si no tiene seguro médico ni una identificación.

- Una identificación con su nombre para verificar su nombre en el sistema de vacunación.
- Una tarjeta de seguro de salud. Se le facturará a su seguro sin costos para usted.

Proteja a los demás

Llevará tiempo para que todos estén vacunados contra COVID-19. Siga usando todas las herramientas disponibles para detener la propagación: antes de vacunarse, durante el período entre las dos dosis y cuando esté completamente vacunado.

Para programar su cita, visite mass.gov/COVIDvaccine

Actualizado al 04/29/2021

Conexión Comunitaria de Methuen

Celebración de fuegos artificiales del Día de la Independencia

¡El Alcalde Perry se complace en invitar a sus familias a una celebración de fuegos artificiales del Día de la Independencia en el The Loop el Sábado 3 de Julio! ¡Hay música en vivo, un espectáculo de comedia, pintura facial, fotografías de superhéroes, DJ, inflables, camiones de comida, juegos en el patio trasero, mesas comunitarias y obsequios en la tienda! ¡El entretenimiento en vivo comienza alrededor de las 6 pm con la exhibición de fuegos artificiales a las 9:30 pm! Traiga sus sillas de jardín y mantas y encuentre el lugar perfecto para disfrutar de las festividades. ¡Visite www.cityofmethuen.net y City of Methuen en las redes sociales para obtener las instrucciones, detalles y eventos de estacionamiento / tráfico más actualizados



¡Comidas gratis para adolescentes y niños de Methuen!



Noticias y Notas

CENTRO PARA MAYORES DE METHUEN: ¡Saludos desde el Methuen Senior Activity Center! Lenta y cuidadosamente, hemos comenzado el tan esperado proceso de reapertura. Actualmente se encuentran disponibles una variedad de programas de ejercicios y otras actividades, como The Talk, Bocci on the Lawn, Bean Bag Toss y más. Un calendario completo está disponible en nuestro boletín mensual y también se puede encontrar en [https://www.cityofmethuen.net/senior-center](http://www.cityofmethuen.net/senior-center)

BASE DE DATOS DE VETERANS: La Oficina de Servicios para Veteranos está creando una base de datos de Veteranos de Methuen para atender mejor sus necesidades. Regístrate para recibir información sobre las actividades y eventos de los Veteranos. Envíe su nombre, dirección, correo electrónico y número de teléfono a pjensen@ci.methuen.ma.us, llame al 978-983-8585, o complete y envíe el formulario a cityofmethuen.net/sites/g/files/vyhlif886/f/uploads/veterans_corner.pdf

NOTICIAS DE SALUD: A partir del 25 de Junio, las Clínicas de Vacunas de Methuen ya no se llevarán a cabo en el LOOP. La Ciudad de Methuen continuará colaborando con Greater Lawrence Family Health Center (GLFHC) realizando clínicas móviles en la ciudad. Las vacunas seguirán estando disponibles en CVS, Walgreens y GLFHC. Visite www.cityofmethuen.net para conocer los sitios de clínicas móviles cerca de usted. Nancy Zabbo, enfermera de salud pública de Methuen, actualmente planea ofrecer exámenes de detección de presión arterial y diabetes, así como eventos de educación y bienestar sobre enfermedades crónicas. Los detalles se publicarán en www.cityofmethuen.net. También puede seguir al Departamento de Salud en Facebook en el Departamento de Salud de Methuen para obtener detalles, así como consejos y artículos de salud para aumentar y mantener la seguridad de la Comunidad de Methuen. El verano está aquí, y con eso vienen los problemas de seguridad relacionados con la natación, la insolación, el aumento de las enfermedades transmitidas por los alimentos y la protección contra los insectos. Para obtener más información, visite <https://www.cdc.gov/media/releases/2019/p0517-ocho-consejos-verano-saludable.html>.

Message from the Mayor

Enjoying the Thing We Missed Most – Each Other

Summer is here at last, and we seem to have finally turned the corner on the pandemic. I'd like to start by extending my personal gratitude to the many fine teachers, administrators, parents, and students across the city who have just completed a school year unlike any other. It was a great thrill for me to participate in the Methuen High School graduation, and I wish all the graduates the best of luck – sans masks, looking at those beautiful faces – as they take the next important steps in their lives – while recognizing the significant accomplishment both they and their families have achieved. I remain impressed by the caliber of students we have in Methuen and am committed to ensuring we fund their future. A fine example of that future was on display for Memorial Day as a group of our JROTC members from the High School, planned and led, in conjunction with our Veteran Services Officer Paul Jensen, a magnificent event that culminated in some 300+ volunteers replacing the flags on the graves of our veterans in cemeteries across the city. The turnout and the organization were simply humbling. Another fine example of that future can be seen in the six young folks listed here who were identified as recipients of The President's Award for Educational Excellence: Madeline Hennessey (CGS); Benjamin Catarius, Desmond Cizmadia, Jack Magnan, and Khanh Han Nguyen (Marsh Grammar School); and Joseph Palmisano (Timony). Please join me in congratulating them, their teachers, and their families for this outstanding achievement.



I also had the opportunity to participate in the first annual Methuen Veterans Cookout at Forest Lake. It is a reminder of what a gem the lake is – and we enjoyed a fine day of music, camaraderie, hamburgers, hot dogs, and ice cream – as a simple gesture of thanks to the people who have helped provide the very freedoms we so enjoy. I want to thank the volunteers from the Methuen Fire Department who provided and cooked the food. They have a true sense of community. And before leaving Forest Lake, just a reminder that it officially opens for the season, to Methuen residents only, beginning June 27th. It's a great place to spend a day at a reasonable cost – and we have plans to improve the recreation area using some of our ARPA funds – but more to come on that next issue. Looking ahead, we are excited to offer a celebration of July 4th at The Loop once again, on Saturday July 3rd starting at 6pm. We will have music, food trucks, characters, family games, touch-a-truck, and of course, fireworks as we celebrate both our nation's independence, and our emergence from the pandemic. It is energizing to be able to have these events again, and of course, to see you and celebrate what we have missed most – each other. So, I look forward to seeing you at this great event and ask you to patronize our sponsors at The Loop. I've said more than a few times that you can tell the true character of a community in a crisis. And I've seen the goodness that is our community in Methuen – and I hope you see it too.

We are making positive steps every day in moving this city forward – from moving the police department towards accreditation, to passing our FY 2022 city budget; from soliciting and receiving more than \$45M in funds from the America Recovery Plan Act to ensuring our schools are adequately funded to address the mental health issues exacerbated by the pandemic – and all of it founded in transparent, conservative fiscal management. We will end FY 2021 in the black again despite a reduction in revenues – and add an estimated ~\$2M (Amount still to be verified) to free cash in July. As always, I remain interested in hearing from you. I love being your mayor every day, and I appreciate your kind words and support. I invite you again to take the time to peruse this newsletter, and as with any information, feel comfortable providing me with information you'd like to hear more about in future newsletters, or to provide feedback on existing content. The easiest way is simply to drop me a note at mayor@ci.methuen.ma.us. Happy 4th of July to you and yours!!!

Mensaje del Alcalde

Disfrutando lo que más echamos de menos: el uno al otro

El verano está aquí por fin, y parece que finalmente hemos dado la vuelta a la esquina de la pandemia. Me gustaría comenzar extendiendo mi gratitud personal a los excelentes maestros, administradores, padres y estudiantes de la ciudad que acaban de completar un año escolar como ningún otro. Fue una gran emoción para mí participar en la graduación de la escuela secundaria de Methuen, y les deseo a todos los graduados la mejor de las suertes, sin máscaras, mirando esos hermosos rostros, mientras dan los siguientes pasos importantes en sus vidas, mientras reconocen el logro significativo que tanto ellos como sus familias han logrado. Sigo impresionado por el calibre de los estudiantes que tenemos en Methuen y estoy comprometido a asegurarnos de financiar su futuro. Un buen ejemplo de ese futuro se exhibió para el Día de los Caídos como un grupo de nuestros miembros de JROTC de la escuela secundaria, planificado y dirigido, en conjunto con nuestro Oficial de Servicios para Veteranos Paul Jensen, un evento magnífico que culminó con más de 300 voluntarios que reemplazaron las banderas en las tumbas de nuestros veteranos en los cementerios de toda la ciudad. La participación y la organización fueron simplemente una lección de humildad. Otro buen ejemplo de ese futuro se puede ver en los seis jóvenes enumerados aquí que fueron identificados como destinatarios del Premio del Presidente a la Excelencia Educativa: Madeline Hennessey (CGS); Benjamin Catarius, Desmond Cizmadia, Jack Magnan y Khanh Han Nguyen (Marsh Grammar School); y Joseph Palmisano (Timony). Únase a mí para felicitarlos a ellos, a sus maestros y sus familias por este logro excepcional.

También tuve la oportunidad de participar en la primera comida al aire libre anual de veteranos de Methuen en Forest Lake. Es un recordatorio de la joya que es el lago, y disfrutamos de un buen día de música, camaradería, hamburguesas, perritos calientes y helados, como un simple gesto de agradecimiento a las personas que han ayudado a brindar las mismas libertades que tanto disfrutamos. . Quiero agradecer a los voluntarios del Departamento de Bomberos de Methuen que proporcionaron y cocinaron la comida. Tienen un verdadero sentido de comunidad. Y antes de salir de Forest Lake, solo un recordatorio de que abre oficialmente durante la temporada, solo para los residentes de Methuen, a partir del 27 de junio. Es un gran lugar para pasar un día a un costo razonable, y tenemos planes para mejorar el área de recreación utilizando algunos de nuestros fondos ARPA, pero más por venir en el próximo número. De cara al futuro, estamos emocionados de ofrecer una celebración del 4 de julio en The Loop una vez más, el sábado 3 de julio a partir de las 6 pm. Es energizante poder tener estos eventos nuevamente y, por supuesto, verte y celebrar lo que más nos hemos perdido: el uno al otro. Por lo tanto, espero verlos en este gran evento y les pido que patrocinen a nuestros patrocinadores en The Loop.

Estamos dando pasos positivos todos los días para hacer avanzar a esta ciudad, desde mover el departamento de policía hacia la acreditación hasta aprobar nuestro presupuesto municipal para el año fiscal 2022; desde solicitar y recibir más de \$ 45 millones en fondos de la Ley del Plan de Recuperación de Estados Unidos hasta garantizar que nuestras escuelas cuenten con los fondos adecuados para abordar los problemas de salud mental exacerbados por la pandemia, y todo ello basado en una gestión fiscal transparente y conservadora. Terminaremos el año fiscal 2021 en números negros nuevamente a pesar de una reducción en los ingresos, y agregaremos un estimado de ~ \$ 2M (monto aún por verificar) al efectivo libre en julio. Como siempre, sigo interesado en saber de usted.

Me encanta ser su alcalde todos los días y agradezco sus amables palabras y su apoyo. Lo invito nuevamente a tomarse el tiempo para leer detenidamente este boletín y, al igual que con cualquier información, siéntase cómodo brindándome información sobre la que le gustaría escuchar más en futuros boletines o para brindar comentarios sobre el contenido existente. La forma más fácil es simplemente enviarme una nota a mayor@ci.methuen.ma.us. Feliz 4 de julio para ti y los tuyos!