



Methuen Community CONNECTION

August/September 2021

www.cityofmethuen.net

Methuen Outdoor Movie Nights Return



The Methuen Recreation Department will once again be hosting free outdoor movie nights for community members! With the delayed start due to the rainy weather, we have extended the movie dates into the fall with a special “Halloween-inspired” movie event concluding the 2021 series!

The dates for the outdoor movies will be Friday, September 24th (Greycourt Park) and Friday, October 15th (Forest Lake). Movies will begin at dusk and movie titles being shown will be based on community feedback and polls on the Methuen Recreation Facebook (www.facebook.com/MethuenRecreation) and Instagram (@MethuenRecreation) pages! All final movie selections and estimated start times will be announced on the City of Methuen social media platforms and at www.cityofmethuen.net once these details are finalized.

Thanks to the generosity of Ron and Dianne Marsan, FREE popcorn and treats will be offered at each event for families to enjoy! The Recreation Department will also be doing fun raffles and giveaways for children in attendance. If any Methuen organization or local business would like to be involved with sponsoring or participating in these movie events or any future community event hosted by the Recreation Department, please contact the Recreation Office at 978-983-8590 or email Recreation Director Steve Angelo at sangelo@ci.methuen.ma.us for more information.

Local Photographers: Submit your photos to showcase Methuen!

Calling All Photographers!

Submit your photos to Help us Showcase Methuen

The City of Methuen will soon have a new website, and we are asking our local photographers to submit their photographs showcasing “Methuen: Through the Years”

Submissions can only be of original work, unless photo is historical. Subject matter must be within Methuen City limits. Submission pursuant to this call includes permission for use. Photographer’s digital signature can appear in the bottom left or right of the image. Submission email must include Artist’s name, as well as the location of the subject matter or a brief narrative of the work . Images of any size are accepted. Homescreen banner is 1950x710, departmental banner 1950x230, photos of other sizes will be used throughout.

Email submissions to Chief of Staff Jana DiNatale, jdinatale@ci.Methuen.ma.us

Trust the
Get the

FACTS
VAX

Learn more at mass.gov/CovidVaccine

Commonwealth of Massachusetts

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

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MassSave Offers Home Energy Assessments

As summer continues, you can make your home and air conditioning more efficient. Call MassSave at 978-237-4530 or visit methuensaves.org to save money now!

ARE YOU RUNNING
YOUR AC UNIT ALL DAY?

Learn how insulation can help you keep that
cool air inside you home!



Save money by getting a no-cost Home
Energy Assessment today!

Schedule Today!
methuensaves.org
(978) 237-4530



ESTA USANDO SU UNIDAD
DE AIRE ACONDICIONADO
TODO EL DÍA?

¡Aprenda cómo la insulación puede ayudarlo
a mantener el aire frío dentro de su hogar!



¡Ahorre dinero hoy al obtener una
Evaluación de Energía del Hogar sin costo!

Regístrese hoy!
methuenahorra.org
(978) 237-4530



New Programs and Leadership for Methuen Economic Development



Working with Methuen Arts, AIGMV, LAM Partners, Olson Electric, ECCF Creative County Initiative, the city will be installing programmable lighting to illuminate the Spicket River Falls (pictured left). Plans are underway for the first lighting event to coincide with Methuen Day on October 2.

Video: <http://archive.methuentv.org/Video/6656>

The city received a Housing Choice Initiative grant for pedestrian improvements to Gaunt Square at the Clocktower in downtown Methuen. A total of ten ramps and six crosswalks around the square will be ungraded to improve the walkability and safety in the square and to meet ADA requirements (pictured below). The new crosswalks and state-of-the-art signalization will be completed by the end of August.

William Buckley stepped down after serving more than nine years as Methuen’s Director of the Economic and Community Development. His leadership and guidance will be missed. We wish him all the best in his new venture.

Mayor Neil Perry will be taking this opportunity to reorganize the department and will be presenting his plan to the City Council. In the interim, Planning Division Director Kathleen Colwell and Inspectional Services Director Felix Zemel will be leading the department.



City Clerk Election Information and Call for Election Workers



City Election, Tuesday, November 2, 2021

*Deadline to register to vote in the City Election
is 8PM, Wednesday, October 13*

For more information or if you would like to become an election worker, please contact the Office of the City Clerk by email at cityclerk@ci.methuen.ma.us or by calling 978-983-8515. General voter information may be obtained at www.cityofmethuen.net/office-of-the-city-clerk.

Methuen 2021 Recycling Calendar: Tear-Out Section

CITY OF METHUEN
2021 BI-WEEKLY CURBSIDE RECYCLING CALENDAR/TRASH DISPOSAL INFORMATION



"WHEN IN DOUBT, THROW IT OUT"



Recyclables are collected every other week on your regular trash collection day. Place bins, paper bags and/or containers marked for Recycling at curb, **separate from Trash, by 7AM**. All A-WEEKS are collected during weeks highlighted in **Blue-A Week** and all B-WEEKS are collected during weeks highlighted in **Green-B-Week** on the calendar below.

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE - PER CITY CONTRACTS

Recycling Collection (Bi-Weekly)/Trash Collection (Weekly) Follows the following Holiday Schedule:
Whenever a scheduled collection day falls on a Holiday, that day's collection and all remaining collections for the week will be delayed one day.
Example "Friday's collection will be on Saturday" Holiday related. NO-Collection days are shaded in RED-H, Holiday.

January 1 - New Year's Day
January 18 - Martin Luther King Day
February 15 - President's Day
April 19 - Patriot's Day

May 31 - Memorial Day
July 4 - Independence - (regular week, trash & recycling)
September 6- Labor Day
October 11- Columbus Day

November 11 - Veterans Day
November 25- Thanksgiving Day
December 25- Christmas Day (regular week, trash & recycling)

A A-WEEK

B B-WEEK

H HOLIDAY

January						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

March						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

April						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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May						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

JUNE						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2	3	4	5
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July						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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August						
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29	30	31				

September						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
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October						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					1	2
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24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

November						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
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28	29	30				

December						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1	2	3	4
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26	27	28	29	30	31	

SINGLE STREAM RECYCLING MAKES IT EASY TO RECYCLE!

- Please recycle everything possible using bins and/or containers (e.g. barrels) marked for Recycling.
 - Flatten cardboard boxes to 3'x3' or smaller (to fit in truck). Flattened boxes can be mixed with other recyclables.
 - Place all recyclables separate (4 ft. or more) from trash at curb by 7AM on your collection day.
 - PLEASE DO NOT MIX TRASH OR OTHER CONTAMINANTS (plastic bags, coat hangers, food scraps) in with recyclables.
- Thank you for recycling and helping to save Tax Dollars by reducing unnecessary trash disposal costs.

SAVE THE DATE: Household Hazardous Waste Day
Saturday, June 12, 2021
Methuen Transfer Station, 50 Huntington Ave, Methuen, MA 01844



SPRING LEAF COLLECTION/YARD WASTE PROGRAM - Begins Monday - 5/3/2021(B week) - Friday 6/25/2021 (A week)

- Dates to be determined for the fall at a later date.
- Residents are required to put leaves/grass clippings in paper bags ONLY, NO PLASTIC BAGS, or they can be put in garbage cans clearly marked Yard Waste.
- Brush/Branches will be tied in bundles, not in barrels, of no more than four (4) feet in length and four (4) inches in diameter.

National Awards and New Podcast Studio Highlight MCS News

“Carolyn’s Farm Kitchen” produced out of the Methuen Community Studios (MCS) kitchen has won a National Hometown Media Award from the Alliance for Community Media Foundation. In the category of Instructional and Training, the winning episode called “Three Hands” featured Host Chef Carolyn Grieco teaching “Methuen Now” host Michelle Houle how to make Chicken Scampi. The program had a twist – Carolyn was recovering from surgery and could only use one hand, thus, Michelle was the other two hands for creating the dish.

“We were absolutely thrilled after winning a regional award to win a National award,” said Grieco. “It is most definitely a team effort. I am so grateful to MCS for all their support.” The program is directed by resident Sandi Seglin and crewed by other Methuen residents. MCS staff member Carol Ann Rousseau oversaw production.



Each year, nearly one thousand entries are submitted. These programs are submitted and evaluated on several factors resulting in over 100 award winners. A panel of judges from the industry evaluate the entries. Awards are presented to the most creative programs that address community needs, develop diverse community involvement, challenge conventional commercial television formats, and move viewers to experience television in a different way. The award winners are pictured left to right: Michelle Houle, Carolyn Grieco, Sandi Seglin, Carol Ann Rousseau

MCS will celebrate the Grand Opening of its Podcast Studio, Saturday, August 28 from 10am-1pm. The studios are located at 20 Aegean Drive, Unit 11 in Methuen. The Ribbon Cutting for the studio is at 10:30am and will feature the creation of a podcast. Visitors will be able to see the state-of-the-art facility and sign up for training to start their own podcast.

Not forgetting our roots, MCS will also create a television talk show at 11:30am as part of the kickoff to our 25th Anniversary serving the City of Methuen. Residents can also sign up for training in television production and learn about creating their own TV shows. Throughout the day, there will be refreshments, productions, and tours. Donations to our Dave Skelly Memorial Scholarship Fund will also be welcomed. We ask that members of the public who are not COVID vaccinated wear a mask while inside the facility. For more information, call 978-689-8627 or visit methuentv.org

MassNotify Provides Another Option to Stop the Spread of COVID-19

MassNotify is a new tool that works through smartphones, with a focus on privacy, to alert users who may have been exposed to COVID-19. You can enable MassNotify on your iPhone or Android phone to add another tool to our fight against the spread of COVID-19 and help Massachusetts remain open safely. Scan the QR Codes below for more information.

HELP MASSACHUSETTS
REOPEN SAFELY.
ADD YOUR PHONE
TO THE FIGHT.



SCAN THIS CODE
TO TURN ON
MassNotify



MassNotify
COVID-19 Exposure Notifications



Mass.gov/MassNotify

AYUDA A MASSACHUSETTS
A REABRIR DE FORMA SEGURA.
SUMA TU TELÉFONO
A LA LUCHA.



ESCANEA
ESTE CÓDIGO
PARA HABILITAR
MassNotify



MassNotify
Notificaciones de exposición de COVID-19



Mass.gov/MassNotify

Scanning the City

City of Methuen Observes the 20th Anniversary of 9/11

September 11, 2021 marks the 20th Anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, one of the darkest and most haunting days in our nation’s history. In memory of those tragic events and the many lives lost, the City of Methuen will hold Memorial Ceremonies beginning at 11am on Saturday, September 11, 2021.

The Methuen Fire Department will conduct its traditional bell-ringing 9/11 Remembrance Ceremony and an 11am Firefighter’s Memorial Ceremony at the Central Fire Station, 24 Lowell Street. At Noon, Mayor Neil Perry and the City of Methuen will conduct a 9/11 20th Anniversary Memorial Service at Patriots Bridge on Lowell Street.



As we went to press, details and plans for these events were still being finalized, so please visit **cityofmethuen.net** and check out the City of Methuen on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram for details and updates. Indeed, we, as a community, will Never Forget the events of September 11, 2001. Together as a city, we shall remember, mourn, and pay homage.

Nevins Library Seeks Community Literacy Volunteers



It has been wonderful to see so many patrons back in the Children’s Department, enjoying our programs, books, and company. We have lots of other great programs and events in August and September – just check out the Children’s Calendar at **nevinslibray.org** for further info and to register. We’d also like to ask a favor of parents of preschoolers: would you mind taking a short survey to help us think about what programs we could offer for your little ones in the fall? Your insights would be so appreciated – just go to our website. We thank you very much for your input! Have you seen the Teen Section’s new makeover?

Come lounge on one of our new sofas or relax in one of our new chairs while reading a great new teen book or graphic novel! Be sure to check out the bottom of our teen summer program webpage where we have the Methuen Public Schools required reading lists for all grades. Have you been looking for some way to assist your fellow Methuen citizens? If you have a desire to help, a high school diploma,

and a fluency in English, you can become a tutor with the Literacy Volunteers of Methuen! What is Literacy Volunteers of Methuen exactly? It's a program where we partner with the Methuen Adult Learning Center and Literacy Volunteers of Massachusetts to provide free, private, flexible, and individualized one on one instruction to adults who would like to gain proficiency in English.

To become a tutor, you need to attend training sessions, on Wednesdays, from September1 through October 6th. You must be able to commit to a minimum of nine months of two hours of tutoring per week. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Grace at 978-686-4080 x32 or **LitVolMeth@gmail.com**. We have the final Porch Chat coming soon - on September 8th. All are welcome. Join us to chat about all the great books you’ve been reading this summer. Our Adult Summer Reading Program is still going on as well. There are two more weeks to tell us what you’ve read and enter to win the grand prize of a new Kindle Fire! Find more information on that on our website. As always, be the first to know about all that is contained here and more by following us on our social media accounts. Search for Nevins Library with the appropriate age group, teens, or children, and we’ll pop right up for you.

Senior Center Sends a Fond Farewell to Lynneanne Moss

The staff of Methuen Senior Activity Center would like to take this opportunity to wish a very Happy Retirement to Lynneanne Moss (pictured right with Executive Director Corinne LaCharite). Closing out an impressive 41-year career in the City of Methuen, Lynne has spent the last 24 of those years dedicated to the Senior Center and all its participants. Between maintaining office financial records, attending to dozens of details involved in everything we do, or sharing her artistic flair decorating the center for all the special events, holidays, and seasons, Lynne has been instrumental to the success of our senior center.



Even during the most hectic days, she found time to say hello, ask about families, and celebrate participants’ special events in their lives. Please join us in wishing her a wonderful retirement and thanking her for her years of dedicated service to the community of Methuen! As always, be sure to check out the complete listing of events and programs in our monthly newsletter available at the Center or at **www.cityofmethuen.net/senior-center/pages/senior-center-newsletter**. 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.

Your donations of paper goods or shelf-stable items (pasta, rice, potatoes, beans) are appreciated. Thank you!

If you'd like to donate or have questions, please call 978-609-1866.

Methuen Cares Center and MPD Food Drives

The Methuen Cares Center, in partnership with the Methuen Police Department, is co-hosting three scheduled food drives at Market Basket at the Loop. The Cares Center could really use the support of everyone in the form of food donations for these events.

Food Drives are scheduled for Tuesday, September 14th and Wednesday, September 29th from 4-6pm. If you would like to donate or have questions, call 978-609-1866.

COVID-19 Small Business Relief Grants Available



The City of Methuen has committed up to \$375,000 in one-time funds to create a Small Business Relief Fund Program. The objective of this program is to offer financial assistance to qualifying microenterprises--small businesses located in Methuen that have 5 or fewer employees, 1 or more of who owns the enterprise—adversely impacted by COVID-19.

Grants of up to \$25,000.00 (effective 4/27/21) for microenterprise businesses for tenant-based rents, commercial mortgages (principal & interest only) and/or utility costs (electric & heating fuels). The grant is designed to aid in maintaining their business and workforce. For more information and to apply for a Small Business Grant, visit cityofmethuen.net/economic-community-development/pages/apply-for-small-business-relief-grants or email Pat Antoon at plantoon@ci.methuen.ma.us.

Vaccines, Education, and Yoga Highlight Health in Methuen

The Methuen Health Department, in conjunction with Greater Lawrence Family Health Center (GLFHC), is continuing to create opportunities for all Methuen residents to be full educated about the COVID vaccines as well as obtaining the vaccine. Most recently, we held Saturday vaccination events at Market Basket stores on Pleasant Valley Street as well as Haverhill Street with great success.

The number of COVID cases is increasing across the state, and it is more important than ever that we do all we can to prevent the continued spread. Social Media outlets aren't reliable for scientific and correct information, please go to the CDC website at <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html> or call Methuen Public Health Nurse Nancy Zabbo at 978-983-8835.

The Health Department is working to bring more free health events to the public. Most recently, one of our amazing yoga instructors, Joan Lawrence, went to MAN, Inc., to teach yoga to day campers. The kids loved it, and she will be back every Tuesday until the end of the summer with the program.

Joan has also agreed to teach our new program “Yoga in the Park” at Riverside Park for two classes, back-to-back, if weather permits. The classes are held at 4pm & 5pm, sign up at <https://permiteyes.com/met/metrec/loginpages.asp>. Come down for relaxing yoga and meditation. Bring a towel, water, a pillow, and some bug spray. If you have questions or issue regarding registration, please call 978-983-8590. This is for ALL ages.



The Yoga Experience and the Great Outdoor
YOGA IN THE PARK
with Joan Lawrence

Where: Riverside Park
971 Riverside Drive Methuen

When: Mondays Starting August 2, 2021


Time: 4pm (20 spots)& 5pm (20 spots)

To sign up go to:
<https://permiteyes.com/met/metrec/loginpages.asp>


Please bring mat, towel, water, and bug spray and a pillow
for meditation

For questions with registration please contact the rec office at 978-983-8950

Participate in the 9/11 Never Forget T-Shirt Design Contest




VETERANS OFFICE



Methuen Public Schools
Trust Honor Integrity

20th ANNIVERSARY OF 9/11 T-SHIRT DESIGN CONTEST OPEN TO GRADES 5 -12




IT WAS ONE OF THOSE ICONIC MOMENTS...

9/11...ANOTHER DATE THAT WILL CERTAINLY
“LIVE IN INFAMY.”

Twenty years after the attacks of September 11, 2001, we remember the 2,977 individuals killed that day. Let's ensure that members of our community never forget the losses, sacrifices and lessons of that important day in history.

Design a T-shirt to commemorate “the compassion we showed to one another, the resolve we demonstrated to the world, and how, in the face of unfathomable loss, we rose as one¹.”

HOPE | RESILIENCY | UNITY ¹9/11 Memorial Website



CITY OF METHUEN 9/11 NEVER FORGET T-SHIRT DESIGN CONTEST

- Open to grades 5 -12
- Submit your entry to your school's main office
- All entrees must be received by the end of day on **Tuesday, Sept. 7**
- The Winner will be announced at the 9/11 ceremony by Mayor Perry

Design Criteria
Creative & artistic value that depicts the relevance of the events of 9/11

Extra Points

1. Somehow tie to Methuen
2. Clever logo for your design

Conexión Comunitaria de Methuen

Programa de Becas de Ayuda Para Pequeñas Empresas COVID-19



ATENCIÓN PROPIETARIOS DE PEQUEÑAS EMPRESAS DE METHUEN: La ciudad de Methuen ha comprometido hasta \$375,000 en fondos únicos para crear un Programa de Fondos de Ayuda para Pequeñas Empresas.

El objetivo de este programa es ofrecer asistencia financiera a las microempresas que califiquen (pequeñas empresas ubicadas en Methuen que tienen 5 empleados o menos, uno o más de los cuales es propietario de la empresa) que se vieron afectadas negativamente por COVID-19.

Subvenciones de hasta \$25,000.00 (effective 4/27/21) para microempresas para alquileres basados en inquilinos, hipotecas comerciales (solo principal e intereses) y/o costos de servicios públicos (combustibles eléctricos y de calefacción).

La subvención está diseñada para ayudar a mantener su negocio y su fuerza laboral. Para obtener más información y solicitar una subvención para pequeñas empresas, visite cityofmethuen.net/economic-communitydevelopment/pages/apply-for-small-business-relief-grants o envíe un correo electrónico a Pat Antoon a plantoon@ci.methuen.ma.us.

Información Electoral del Secretario Municipal y Convocatoria de Trabajadores Electorales

Elección preliminar (si es necesario), Martes 14 de Septiembre
La fecha límite para registrarse para votar en las elecciones preliminares es el Miércoles 25 de Agosto a las 8 p.m.

Elección de la ciudad, Martes 2 de Noviembre del 2021
La fecha límite para registrarse para votar en las elecciones de la ciudad es el Miércoles 13 de Octubre a las 8 p.m.

Para obtener más información o si desea convertirse en un trabajador electoral, comuníquese con la Oficina del Secretario de la Ciudad por correo electrónico a cityclerk@ci.methuen.ma.us o llamando al 978-983-8515. Se puede obtener información general para los votantes en www.cityofmethuen.net/office-of-the-city-clerk.



Noticias y Notas

**AYUDA A TU COMUNIDAD
A DETENER EL COVID-19**

**MUCHAS personas en esta comunidad
han resultado positivas.**

TÚ TIENES EL PODER DE SALVAR UNA VIDA

- Usa una máscara.
- Lava tus manos.
- Mantén tu distancia.
- No compartas comida, bebidas o utensilios.
- ¿Te sientes enfermo? Quédate en casa.
- Hazte la prueba.

Aprende más en [Mass.gov/DetenCOVID19](https://www.mass.gov/detenCOVID19)

VOLUNTARIOS DE ALFABETIZACIÓN DE METHUEN: un programa en el que nos asociamos con el Centro de Aprendizaje para Adultos de Methuen y Voluntarios de Alfabetización de Massachusetts para brindar instrucción individualizada, privada, flexible e individualizada gratuita a los adultos que deseen adquirir dominio del inglés. Para convertirse en tutor, debe asistir a una de nuestras sesiones de información y a las seis sesiones de capacitación (que se llevarán a cabo este año los Miércoles del 1 de Septiembre al 6 de Octubre), y luego comprometerse a un mínimo de nueve meses de dos horas de tutoría por semana. Si tiene alguna pregunta, no dude en comunicarse con Grace al 978-686-4080 x32 o LitVolMeth@gmail.com

NOCHES DE PELÍCULAS AL AIRE LIBRE: ¡El Departamento de Recreación de Methuen organizará una vez más noches de películas al aire libre gratuitas para los miembros de la comunidad! ¡Con el inicio retrasado debido al clima lluvioso, hemos extendido las fechas de la película hasta el otoño con un evento cinematográfico especial "inspirado en Halloween" que concluye la serie 2021! Las fechas para las películas al aire libre serán el Viernes 24 de Septiembre (Greycourt Park) y el Viernes 15 de Octubre (Forest Lake). Todas las películas comenzarán al anochecer y los títulos de las películas que se mostrarán se basarán en los comentarios de la comunidad y las encuestas en las páginas de Facebook de Methuen Recreation (www.facebook.com/MethuenRecreation) e Instagram (@MethuenRecreation). Todas las selecciones finales de películas y las horas estimadas de inicio se anunciarán en las plataformas de redes sociales de la Ciudad de Methuen y en www.cityofmethuen.net una vez que se finalicen estos detalles.

Message from the Mayor

Looking Forward to a Happy and Healthy Autumn



Mayor Neil Perry

Here we are. Almost at Labor Day! Where did the summer go? With every passing year, time seems to go faster, but a great deal has been happening in the City – so let’s make sure you are all caught up. First, we have completed three rounds of interviews and are down to the final two candidates for the next Methuen Police Chief. I would extend my sincere gratitude to the committee that conducted two vigorous rounds of interviews and gave me three finalist candidates to consider. I am confident that the candidate I nominate will be able to effectively lead the department and engage with our community and continue to move us forward. As we go to press, my nomination for the appointment is scheduled to occur during the City Council Meeting on September 7th.

We are looking at a number of badly needed areas of infrastructure (ex-water and sewer) as areas to use our ARPA funding provided to the City. We will be taking those grants (almost some \$45M) to city council on September 7th as well, with compliance provided by an external objective resource (funded from within the grants). We are also looking at parks, playgrounds, Forest Lake and Tennis Court improvements – as these are once in a lifetime funds. But just to be sure, we ask you, if you have an idea, an area that we should be focusing on – submit your idea to the mayor’s office at rhamilton@cityofmethuen.ma.us. We will collect these ideas, and, if the compliance guidelines allow us to address the issue you have highlighted, you will hear back from us. Road paving is officially underway. Oakland Avenue is the first large street to be done but stay connected to cityofmethuen.net or our Facebook feed for regular updates on locations and dates.

Interviews are in process for our new Economic and Community Development Director, and we have a council subcommittee reviewing he proposed reorganization that would establish Health and Human Services as a separate department – more to come on this next time. At press time, we have completed seven of eight collective bargaining agreements on the city side; 2 approved (Fire, Superintendents) by city council in August, and 5 more (AFSCME A, AFSCME B, DPW, Middle Management and Methuen PD Dispatch) agreed upon and being sent to council for approval in the meeting of September 7th.

Speaking of health, the COVID impact is once again on the upswing, with case counts quadrupling since July. It’s time for all of us to be on our guard. The coming of Fall means a number of cultural events that, to me, signify the turning of the seasons: back to school, The Mahrajan, The Feast of the Three Saints, Friday night High School Football, and dare I even say it, Halloween. I love these events as much as you do – and I also want to participate in them as do you. Everyone I love has been vaccinated. I’d ask you - now that the FDA has fully approved – please do so too. Methuen is lagging behind the rest of the state – protect yourself and your loved ones. Contact our city health department for more information on the vaccine, or any other health related questions – and be sure to join them for the YOGA in the Park program which has been such a big success.

There’s a lot to look forward to in the Autumn. There’s also a lot to look forward to in the City of Methuen. Let’s continue to work together to set a positive standard for ourselves, our children, our community, and each other. We need to continue the dialogue and active listening to build upon our differences, rather than condemn those who disagree. As always, if you have questions or concerns, you can email me at mayorperry@ci.methuen.ma.us or call my office at 978-983-8505. Happy Labor Day!

Mensaje del Alcalde

Esperando un otoño feliz y saludable

Aquí estamos. ¡Casi en el Día del Trabajo! ¿A donde se fue el verano? Con cada año que pasa, el tiempo parece ir más rápido, pero han sucedido muchas cosas en la ciudad, así que asegurémonos de que todos estén al día. Primero, hemos completado tres rondas de entrevistas y nos quedan los dos candidatos finales para el próximo Jefe de Policía de Methuen. Extendería mi más sincero agradecimiento al comité que llevó a cabo dos vigorosas rondas de entrevistas y me dio tres candidatos finalistas para considerar. Estoy seguro de que el candidato que nomino podrá liderar el departamento de manera efectiva y comprometerse con nuestra comunidad y continuar avanzando. Al ir a la imprenta, mi nominación para el nombramiento está programada para ocurrir durante la Reunión del Concejo Municipal el 7 de Septiembre. Estamos considerando una serie de áreas de infraestructura que se necesitan con urgencia (antes agua y alcantarillado) como áreas para usar nuestros fondos ARPA proporcionados a la Ciudad. También llevaremos esas subvenciones (casi unos \$ 45 millones) al ayuntamiento el 7 de Septiembre, con el cumplimiento proporcionado por un recurso objetivo externo (financiado dentro de las subvenciones). También estamos buscando mejoras en parques, áreas de juego, Forest Lake y canchas de tenis, ya que son fondos únicos en la vida. Pero solo para estar seguros, le pedimos que, si tiene una idea, un área en la que deberíamos concentrarnos, envíe su idea a la oficina del alcalde en rhamilton@cityofmethuen.ma.us.

Recopilaremos estas ideas y, si las pautas de cumplimiento nos permiten abordar el problema que ha resaltado, le responderemos. La pavimentación de carreteras está oficialmente en marcha. Oakland Avenue es la primera calle grande que se realiza, pero manténgase conectado a cityofmethuen.net o a nuestro feed de Facebook para obtener actualizaciones periódicas sobre ubicaciones y fechas. Las entrevistas están en proceso para nuestro nuevo Director de Desarrollo Económico y Comunitario, y tenemos un subcomité del consejo que revisa la reorganización propuesta que establecería Salud y Servicios Humanos como un departamento separado; más por venir la próxima vez. Al cierre de esta edición, hemos completado siete de los ocho acuerdos de negociación colectiva en el lado de la ciudad; 2 aprobados (Bomberos, Superintendentes) por el consejo de la ciudad en Agosto, y 5 más (AFSCME A, AFSCME B, DPW, Middle Management y Methuen PD Dispatch) acordados y enviados al consejo para su aprobación en la reunión del 7 de Septiembre. Hablando de salud, el impacto de COVID está nuevamente en alza, y el recuento de casos se cuadruplicó desde Julio. Es hora de que todos estemos en guardia. La llegada del otoño significa una serie de eventos culturales que, para mí, significan el cambio de estaciones: regreso a la escuela, The Mahrajan, The Feast of the Three Saints, Friday Night High School Football, y me atrevo a decirlo, Halloween. Amo estos eventos tanto como a ti, y también quiero participar en ellos como tú. Todos los que amo han sido vacunados.

Le pido, ahora que la FDA lo ha aprobado por completo, que lo haga también. Methuen se está quedando atrás del resto del estado: protéjase y proteja a sus seres queridos. Comuníquese con el departamento de salud de nuestra ciudad para obtener más información sobre la vacuna o cualquier otra pregunta relacionada con la salud, y asegúrese de unirse a ellos en el programa YOGA in the Park, que ha sido un gran éxito. Hay mucho que esperar en otoño. También hay mucho que esperar en la Ciudad de Methuen. Sigamos trabajando juntos para establecer un estándar positivo para nosotros, nuestros hijos, nuestra comunidad y los demás. Necesitamos continuar el diálogo y la escucha activa para basarnos en nuestras diferencias, en lugar de condenar a quienes no están de acuerdo.

Como siempre, si tiene preguntas o inquietudes, puede enviarme un correo electrónico a mayorperry@ci.methuen.ma.us o llamar a mi oficina al 978-983-8505. ¡Feliz Día del Trabajo!

