

Town of Littleton Newsletter



Issue 7

December 2024



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Town Directory

Town Offices Main—[978-540-2400](tel:978-540-2400)
Town Clerk—[978-540-2401](tel:978-540-2401)
Accounting—[978-540-2440](tel:978-540-2440)
Assessor—[978-540-2410](tel:978-540-2410)
Building—[978-540-2420](tel:978-540-2420)
Cemetery—[978-540-2480](tel:978-540-2480)
Conservation—[978-540-2428](tel:978-540-2428)
Elder & Humans Servs—[978-540-2470](tel:978-540-2470)
Fire Station—[978-540-2302](tel:978-540-2302)
Highway—[978-540-2670](tel:978-540-2670)
Human Resources—[978-540-2455](tel:978-540-2455)
LCTV—[978-540-2488](tel:978-540-2488)
Library—[978-540-2600](tel:978-540-2600)
Parks & Rec—[978-540-2490](tel:978-540-2490)
Planning—[978-540-2425](tel:978-540-2425)
Police—[978-540-2300](tel:978-540-2300)
Tax Collector—[978-540-2405](tel:978-540-2405)
Town Administrator—[978-540-2460](tel:978-540-2460)
Transfer Station—[978-540-2674](tel:978-540-2674)
Treasurer—[978-540-2450](tel:978-540-2450)
Veteran Services—[978-540-2485](tel:978-540-2485)

Peace

and

Joy!



Message From Your Select Board

One consistent theme we hear from residents, town employees, officials and volunteers is the need for Littleton's government to keep pace with the evolving needs of the Town. Our population continues to grow, and major public and private projects are underway with more on the immediate horizon. It's been many years since the Town conducted a comprehensive review of our government structure, and a recent, limited report from the state's Division of Local Services identified several areas of potential improvement. The Select Board will therefore appoint a Charter Commission in January to conduct a comprehensive review of our current structure and identify recommendations for improvements. The Commission will be made up of 7-9 members at large. We encourage anyone with an interest in the subject and a desire to give back to the community to submit an application. The application will be posted on the town website, and we plan to make appointments in mid-January. Please keep an eye on the website for details.

Other items of note:

- We hope to see you at the Littleton Police Department on December 14 for LPD's annual Toys for Tots Drive from 10am-12pm.
- Special Town Meeting was held October 29. A huge thank you to the Town Clerk's office and LCTV for running yet another smooth event. Results are available here: <https://www.littletonma.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=379>
- Annual Town Meeting will be held May 6, 2025. Please mark your calendars!
- Negotiations are progressing to lease the Nagog Hill Orchard with a goal to have an agreement in principle by the end of this year. Stay tuned for details on a public meeting with the potential lessee, Bransfield Tree Company. Safety repairs at the orchard are near completion.
- The SB will discuss lifting the truck exclusion on Taylor Street. Please refer to our posted [agendas](#) in December for details on when this discussion and vote will take place.
- Budget season is well underway. We are fortunate that in recent years – unlike many other towns in our area – Littleton has been able to meet all its day-to-day operational needs within the levy. Our goal is to continue to keep the operations budget within the levy, despite the pressures of inflation and capital projects already underway.

Finally, we encourage you to tell your friends about this newsletter and to submit any and all feedback. Click [here](#) to take you to a very short feedback form to let us know what's working and what isn't.

From the Desk of the Town Administrator



The Holidays are upon us. Where did the year go? I'm not the only one asking the same question: where has the time gone? Although, we probably shouldn't be all that shocked because the world is moving at such a hurried pace these days.

The year, for me, went quicker than any other year has in recent memory. This December is a little more special for me because it celebrates my first anniversary (December 17th) here in Littleton. This is a time of year I'm going to reflect and give thanks for my time here in Littleton. To say I have enjoyed the past year is an understatement.



The residents in the town were very welcoming. The support exhibited to me has been, and continues to be, unparalleled.

The Select Board, all of whom put in countless hours regarding a myriad of issues and resident concerns, are determined to do what's in the best interest of Littleton. Simply put, they're an impressive group.

Our State Delegation, comprised of Representative James Arciero and Senator Jamie Eldridge, are nothing short of supportive and constantly advocating for the residents of the town and working with the Select Board and Administration on how they can support the vision.

I've worked with and observed, most of the 30+ boards, committees, commissions, all of which are volunteers, and concluded Littleton has smart, passionate members that take great pride in their roles. An extraordinary cadre of individuals.

I've been in public management for practically my entire professional career, spanning over multiple decades. Over the course of my career, I estimate I probably have worked with well-over a thousand employees. I can state with absolute conviction that the employees working for and affiliated with the Town of Littleton are the most dedicated, hard-working, selfless and honest people I've ever had the pleasure of working with. Additionally, the camaraderie and support employees exhibit towards each other adds to the indelible impression left on me. I'm referring to every town department, including the School Department and Littleton Electric Light Water Department (LELWD).

It's too easy to get distracted and caught-up in the hustle and bustle of life and not express thanks. So, to all the residents, volunteers, elected officials, and employees for all your support, inspiration, patience, and guidance: Thank You!

Assessor's Department



Following State Statutes and Department of Revenue regulations FY25 values have been certified by the State on 10/29/2024. Fiscal Year 2025 values are based on calendar year 2023 Sales. The entire town is adjusted annually according to market data. Highlights include:

- Overall town valuation increased 4.7%
- Average Single-Family home increased 3.39%
- Average Single-Family home value is \$694,868.00
- Residential Valuation increased 3.6%
- Commercial/Industrial increased 6.19%
- Personal Property increased 2.85%

The Town of Littleton has a split tax rate. This allows a portion of the Tax burden to be shifted from Residential Properties to Commercial/Industrial/Personal Properties. The residential factor is voted at the annual Tax Classification Hearing by the Selectboard.

The new FY25 tax rates are Residential 14.86 and C/I/P 22.94.

Valuations are available online by clicking the link below and by stopping by the Assessor's office in Town Hall. The Assessor's will be available to discuss your new valuations but please keep in mind that abatement season runs from January 1, 2025 thru February 1, 2025.

[CLICK HERE for FY 2025 Certified Values by Location](#)

LCTV



LCTV was out and about the community (as usual) in November! We wrapped up our Littleton High School football season and coverage! A big shout out to our LCTV Crew, Damon Abetz, Ben Stormwind, and Lincoln Palmer.
Great job!



LCTV also provided equipment and support for the annual
Veteran's Day Ceremony on
Littleton Common on November 11th.
We are always proud to support our town celebrations.



On December 1st, LCTV will be at the Rotary Club's Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony on Littleton Common. Our crew rides in with Santa on his Big Red Sleigh (courtesy of the Littleton Fire Department) capturing all the smiles of kids (young and old) awaiting his arrival to light the trees on the common.

On December 7th, stop by and say "hello" to LCTV and Santa as we have been asked to serve as Santa's Elves for the day! LCTV will be taking photos for Santa with all those on his nice list.
Are you on it?



The entire staff of LCTV wished all of you a healthy and happy holiday season!



Employment Opportunities - as of published date

[Please visit the Human Resources Page for updates](#)



[Firefighter/Paramedic](#)

[Fire Prevention Officer](#)

[Communications Officer—Part Time](#)

[Civilian Traffic Regulator](#)

[Library Assistant](#)

[*Download an Application Here*](#)



Health Department

The Littleton Department of Health has received a limited supply of at-home COVID-19 tests. Littleton residents are invited to stop by the Department of Health office to pick up a free test kit on a first come, first served basis. The Littleton Department of Health is located in the Town Hall 37 Shattuck Street, Room B-100. Please see the link below of the flyer to learn more!

[Free Test Kit Flyer](#)

Are you looking for information on recycling in your community, a good start is the website of the Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/how-where-to-recycle>. The site's various search functions allow you to determine where and what you can recycle.

Information Technology



Missed a past Newsletter? Click [HERE](#) to see a full list both past and present.

We would love your feedback of our Town Newsletter!

Submit this [FORM](#) and let us know what you like, what you don't like or what else you would like to see!

Treasurer/Collector



On October 22, 2024, Littleton received a AAA long term bond rating & SP -1+ for short-term borrowing from S&P Global. Here is a link to the [FULL REPORT](#)

S&P Affirms Town of Littleton's Bond Rating of AAA

Standard and Poor's has affirmed the Town of Littleton's bond rating of AAA, its highest rating. S&P defines its AAA rating as "Extremely strong capacity to meet financial commitments. Highest Rating." The rating reflects S&P's assessment of the following factors for the town:

Very strong economy - "Very high wealth and income metrics with ongoing tax base growth"

Very strong management, "Well-embedded financial management policies and practices, with a focus on long-term sustainability and a strong institutional framework score"

Strong budgetary performance - "... we expect the Town will maintain its strong performance as well as strong reserves, despite rising fixed costs in the medium term"

Very strong budgetary flexibility - "Management has demonstrated its willingness to adjust budgetary assumptions to ensure balanced financial results at year-end"

Very strong liquidity - "We have assessed the town's market risk as low, due to Littleton's strong market access, information availability, and takeout authorization"

Very strong debt and contingent liability profile - "Potentially rising fixed costs, but with a clear commitment to addressing unfunded retirement liabilities ..."

DPW



The Town of Littleton DPW is looking for snow plow contractors for the upcoming 2024/2025 winter season. Please click [HERE](#) to see the application for new rates and sign on bonus incentive.

Littleton Common Sewer Project Update



Update on the Littleton Common Sewer Project

The Littleton Common Sewer Project is moving forward to improve wastewater infrastructure in the area. This effort supports local growth, protects the environment, and enhances the community's quality of life. The project involves two major parts:

- Building a new Water Resource Recovery Facility (WRRF): A modern, 1,400-square-foot plant is being built at 242 King Street.
- Expanding the Sewer System: This includes installing about 10,000 feet of new sewer pipes, constructing a new underground sewer pump station near Littleton High School, and upgrading an existing pump station at Russell Street Middle School.

Construction began in June 2023 after bids were awarded. Methuen Construction is handling the WRRF project for \$19.99 million, and Revoli Construction is managing the sewer expansion for \$19.39 million.

Where Things Stand Now

The project is actively under construction. Crews are focusing on installing sewer lines and other infrastructure, mainly around King Street, to serve nearby homes and businesses.

- Sewer Line Work: Most of the sewer and water main installations are nearly done, with about 600 feet left to complete near the Westford town line.
- Working Hours: Crews are working day and night. To minimize traffic disruptions, sewer pipe installations on King Street are happening between 8 p.m. and 4 a.m., while temporary trench paving is scheduled during the day between 9 a.m. and 3 p.m.
- WRRF Progress: Significant progress is being made on the treatment plant. The equalization tank has been installed, site preparation continues, and work on the steel building has started. Once the building is sealed against the weather, the next step will be installing key treatment systems, with the goal of having the plant ready by early next summer.

Why This Matters

When finished, the project will boost economic growth and protect the environment by reducing dependence on septic systems. The upgraded sewer system will support future development and ensure better waste management for the town.

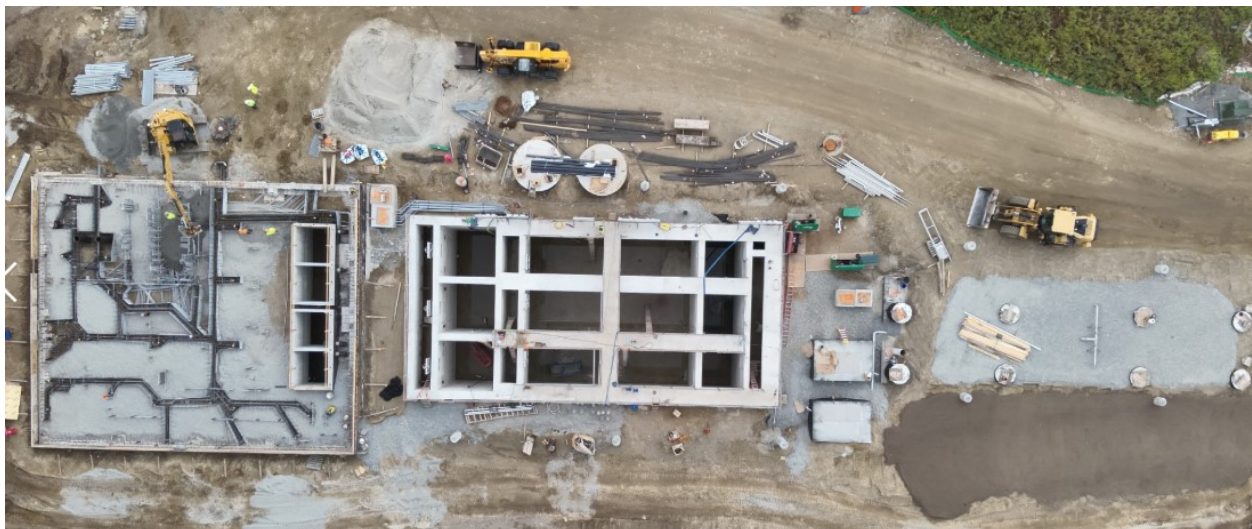
Littleton Common Sewer Project



What's Next

- Finalizing pipe connections.
- Testing and ensuring the system works as planned.
- The full system is expected to be operational by late 2025.

Stay informed about construction updates and traffic changes through the Littleton Electric Light and Water Departments (LELWD). This project highlights Littleton's commitment to sustainable infrastructure that benefits both residents and the environment. For details, visit the [LELWD - Sewer Expansion Project Website](#).



Project Updates



The Center on Shattuck Street — October 2024 Update



During the month of October, Commodore made significant progress on the roof, and continued drywall and MEP installation throughout the building interior. Masonry work was completed around the building exterior, and site work progressed with the installation of binder course asphalt, bollards, and curbing. It is anticipated that

concrete will be poured for sidewalks and pads by mid-November.

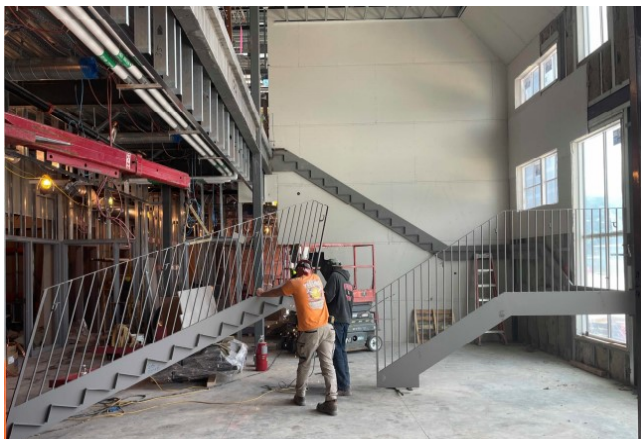
Window installation, completed the previous month, underwent testing within a section of completed assembly on 10/30/24, and passed without issue. Commodore received AHJ review of the roughed-in Mechanical, Electrical, and Plumbing work, which was approved, allowing Commodore/Charles Services to make significant progress installing, taping, and mudding drywall. The interior staircase for the building, fabricated off-site last month, was delivered and installed, and the concrete pan pours were placed within the steel stair pan to make the stairs usable during construction. The HVAC, Plumbing, and Electrical subcontractors continued rough-ins and wiring at both the upper and lower floors. In coordination with LELWD and the plumbing engineer, the Water Meter was delivered to the site, but unfortunately was the incorrect size and new flanged fittings needed to be ordered to accommodate the correct 2" size (which Commodore has on site, awaiting installation in November). The Electrical subcontractor is in-progress with installing secondary electrical feeds to the building.

On the administrative side, FF&E is awaiting final paperwork to present to PMBC at their next meeting on 11/13/24. This is on-budget and although the final number is known, the documentation is needed to back up the Purchase Order that will be issued by the Town. AV and Technology items are in final coordination with the Town / COA and expect to be completed shortly.

Project Updates



The Center on Shattuck Street —October 2024 Update



Project Updates



36 King Street—October 2024 Update



During the month of October, Classic Construction completed exterior work on the building, including sheathing repairs, prep work, skylights, and Painting. Classic's goal was to complete all exterior work before Winter, which has been achieved. Following the successful installation of the skylights/SolaTubes, roofing work was completed by their subcontractor, Cape Cod Builders. Classic's carpenters continued framing new interior walls and Lower Level cubbies/shelves in

accordance with the architectural plans and ASI revisions, including framing and concrete leveling work at the Game Room. The structural columns at the lower level were installed by Brideau Sheet metal in coordination with Classic, who completed the installation by grouting the bases in place. Plumbing, HVAC, and Electrical work are ongoing throughout the building. Electrical is performing rough-in work throughout the building, while awaiting clarifications related to CPR-014R1 revisions by the design team and sketches describing the power requirements for the new HVAC units. HVAC is preparing to install the new replacement Magic Pak units at the attic, with a crane pick targeting mid-November. The Plumber performed modifications to support the first floor restroom and future second-floor kitchenette. Finally, Xcel Fire Protection performed diagnostic and repair work on the sprinkler system to correct leaks that had been leading to frequent compressor cycling. At the end of October, this intervention appears to have addressed the issue.

Classic's administrative efforts are ongoing through the Submittal, RFI, and PCO processes to document their intended material purchases/installation as well as questions for the design team based on in-field conditions. Classic and their subcontractors are current with Certified Payroll documentation as of the conclusion of this reporting period.

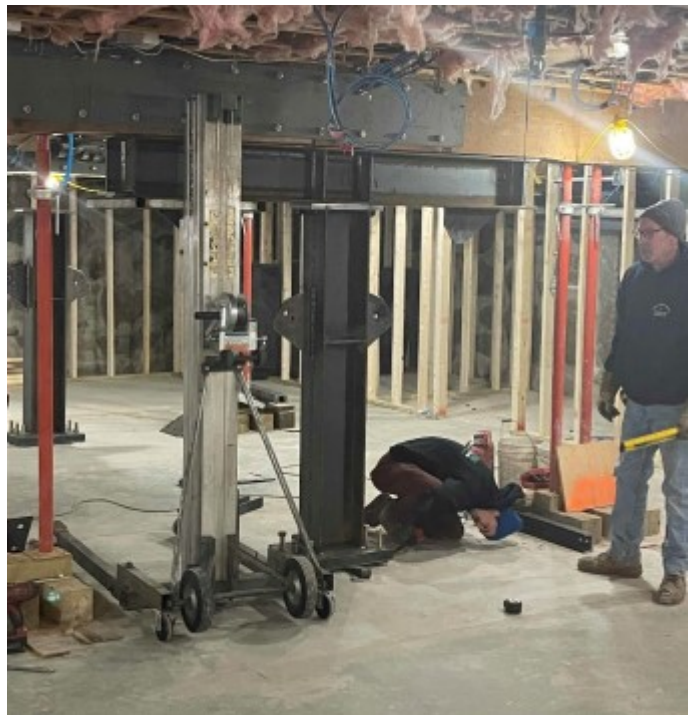
LLB continues to work with both Vertex and Classic to formally document any changes based on what is/has been uncovered, and is reviewing Submittals and RFI's that are generated in this process. Town Facilities was able to work with the School Department to replace the exterior/parking lot lighting after diagnosing the issue, and has confirmed that the lights are now operational. The Town also authorized additional investigative work to uncover and diagnose the Septic System where the pipe disappears underground when exiting the building; Classic plans to perform this work in early to mid-November. The building's elevator passed reinspection on 10/2/24, following completion of code upgrades and service last month.

As of the close of this October reporting period, the project is reporting schedule slippage, as Change Order work that is being coordinated between the design team and Classic is beginning to impact the Critical Path (these are primarily Owner-directed scope changes). With allowances for time associated with Change Order work, the project is tracking approximately 2 months behind the original Substantial Completion date. Vertex will continue to monitor schedule status as updates become available.

Project Updates



36 King Street—October 2024 Update



Parks, Recreation & Community Education



Alicia Day and the PRCE Team
LittletonRec@littletonma.org
 978-540-2490

*Click on Brochure for
Registration Details
and Information!*



The intent of this program is to help Littleton families experiencing financial difficulties during the holiday season.

Through community donations we will supply clothing needs and 3 wanted items per child to help lighten the financial burden of the winter holidays.



Holiday Helpers Gift Donations

In December 2023 we were able to assist 48 kids in Littleton through the Holiday Helpers program. As a community we were able to fulfill 522 requested needs and wants this year, giving away an approximate total of \$19,300! Every year we are blown away by the generosity shown by our community year after year to support this Program. From our department and all of our enrolled families Thank You for all of your continued help with this amazing program!

How you can help our 2024 Holiday Helpers Families that need a bit of financial support this Holiday season:

- ◆ [Click Here to donate money to the Holiday Helpers fund](#)
- ◆ [Use THIS LINK 2024 Holiday Helpers Amazon Registry Link to choose items which will get delivered right to the PRCE Office.](#)

OR

- ◆ Once applications have been processed you will be able to pick gifts that have been specifically chosen by the kids enrolled in the program. This typically gets posted at the beginning of November.
- ◆ Choose the requested item(s) by picking out a gift ID card posted on a holiday display in our office. The gift ID card will give you all of the information that you need to purchase the item. Once you purchase the item return it with gift ID card attached.
- ◆ Once you have the gift(s), ship directly or bring them to the Littleton Parks, Recreation, and Community Education department located at 41 Shattuck Street, Littleton, MA 01460
- ◆ All gifts must be returned or shipped to the PRCE office before December 13, 2024.
- ◆ If you do not think you will make this deadline, please call the office at 978-540-2490 or [email Littleton Recreation](mailto:Littleton Recreation).

Staff Engagement Committee



Thank you to everyone who participated in the 2024 Turkey Door Contest and thank you to our amazing judges!!



Most Creative: Littleton Light & Water Department



Funniest Door: Information Technology



Honorable Mention: Town Administrator's Office



Accounting Office



Assessor's Office



Fire Department

Staff Engagement Committee



Library Children's Room



Library Circulation Desk



Littleton Community TV



School Department



Town Clerk's Office



Treasurer's Office



Parks, Recreation & Community Ed

Library



Children's Room

Toddler Storytime

-Tuesdays and Fridays at 10:30am in the Sturtz Meeting Room

Story Time with Santa



-Thursday, December 19th at 4pm in the Sturtz Room

Even though Santa is **EXTREMELY** busy, he loves Littleton and said he could be very **HAPPY** to visit with us here at the RHL! He has some favorite books to read and will pose for pictures if you would like.

Please register [HERE](#) for this fun time!



Littles and Letters Alphabet Story Time...

-Wednesdays at 11am in the Sturtz Meeting Room

PJ Story Time with Miss. Jennifer

-Wednesday, December 11th at 6:30pm in the Children's Room



Busy Bees Play Time

-Monday, December 16th at 10am in the Sturtz Meeting Room

Lego Club for ages 6 and up

-Wednesday, December 11th at 2pm in the Sturtz Room

Littleton Country Gardeners Craft for Children in Grades 3-5

-Monday, December 9th at 3:30 pm in the Sturtz Room

Library**RHL** Reuben Hoar Library
Serving Littleton since 1887

Food Drive

December 2nd to December 13th



Drop off locations:

- Reuben Hoar Library
- 25 Manchester Dr, Littleton

Urgent Needs:

- Baby Formula
- Baby food, jars and pouches
- Baby cereals/oatmeal
- Baby Snacks



Recommended Items for Donation:

- Spaghetti sauce
- Jelly
- Individual fruit cups
- Canned fruit
- Individually packaged kids snacks, nut-free
- Walnuts, almonds, trail mix
- Salad dressing
- Canned vegetables
- Canned pasta (ravioli, lasagna etc)
- Vegetable oil
- Gluten-free snacks
- Corned beef hash
- Olives and pickles
- Pancake mix
- Broth (chicken or beef)
- canned or boxed beans
- boxed mac & cheese, regular or gluten-free

Elder & Human Services



Littleton Council on Aging was awarded "Outstanding Community Partner" at the Loaves and Fishes Annual Meeting last night. We are so thankful for our partnership with Loaves and Fishes, and for their commitment to ending food insecurity in our community!

Many thanks to our dedicated staff and volunteers who ensure our residents get nutritious food delivered along with a smile and friendly conversation!



Elder & Human Services



Recognition of the Friends of the Littleton COA for their two generous donations to the New Building Gift Fund and for the new EHS/COA Van.

Recognition of David Plauger for his generous donation to the Senior Center New Building Gift Fund.



MART Connects

Littleton, MA

Try Our MART Connects Ride Service

MART Connects offers affordable and convenient rides for various purposes within Littleton, covering up to 20 miles one-way. Whether it's shopping, commuting, or social activities, we've got your ride needs covered!

This ride service operates 7 days a week from 5:30AM to 10PM. It picks you up and drops you off wherever you need. To book, call MART's Call Center at 1-978-345-7711, Option 4, between 8:30AM and 4:30PM, Monday - Friday.

Book your ride by 2PM at least 1 day in advance.

You only pay:

1-10 miles -	\$3
11-15 miles -	\$4
16-20 miles -	\$5

If you want a way to get affordable rides that pick you up when and where you want, try MART Connects. You will soon learn what a great way MART Connects will be to get you where you need to go to lead your life.

Elder & Human Services



Team Jim Arciero Solar Panel Municipal Building Project continues!

Today, we presented a Big Check for a \$100,000 earmark from the FY25 state budget that Representative Jim Arciero secured, to install 65 Kw of solar panels on the new Littleton Senior Center!

We were so happy to see the impressive progress on The Center on Shattuck Street, Home of Elder Services, Council on Aging and Veterans Services building, and present the state funding to Littleton Select Board member (and clean energy champion!) Mark Rambacher, Elder and Human Services Director Liz Tretiak, Town Administrator Jim Duggan, and Assistant Town Administrator Ryan Ferrara! Just imagine this beautiful new center running on clean energy, saving the town and people of Littleton \$! As always a tremendous thank you to Littleton Electric Light and Water Departments for working with Littleton to expand solar to municipal buildings, and combating climate change!





Police Dept

October 2024

Calls	1751
911	250
Arrests	9
Incidents	95
Citations	51
Crashes	29

As part of the Municipal Road Safety Grant, the Littleton Police Department has ramped up crosswalk enforcement to ensure pedestrian safety throughout our community. Our goal is to keep everyone—whether on foot, bike, or in a vehicle—safe and aware.

Remember to:

- * Stop for pedestrians in crosswalks
- * Be cautious and alert in busy areas
- * Obey speed limits, especially near schools and town centers



Littleton Police Awarded \$19,863 in State Municipal Road Safety Grant Program

LITTLETON — Chief Matthew Pinard is pleased to share that the Littleton Police Department was awarded a \$19,863.50 grant through the state's Municipal Road Safety Grant Program.

Littleton Police will be using the funding to conduct directed traffic enforcement over the next few months. This will include several campaigns of enforcement, such as pedestrian and crosswalk safety, distracted driving, speeding, and other non-enforcement components including community education.

The grant is part of \$12.4 million in federal grant funding awarded by the Healey-Driscoll Administration to 191 municipal and state agencies for road safety improvement programs. The grants are administered through the Executive Office of Public Safety and Security's Office of Grants & Research.

"I would like to thank the Healey-Driscoll Administration for awarding us this funding which will help us continue to make Littleton roads safe for all," said Chief Pinard. "This funding will allow us to expand our traffic safety programs and mitigate unsafe driving practices by all."

For more information about the Municipal Road Safety Grant Program, click [HERE](#).

The Littleton Police Department, in partnership with Representative Jim Arciero, will once again participate in the Annual Toys for Tots collection on **Saturday, December 14th, from 10 AM to 12 PM.**

In addition to this event, unwrapped toys can be dropped off at any time leading up to the collection date.





Fire Dept



As the winter months approach, the comfort of warm fireplaces, space heaters, and holiday decorations becomes a cherished part of our lives. However, these seasonal joys also bring an increased risk of fire hazards in our homes and workplaces. To keep you and your loved ones safe this winter, we would like to share some essential fire safety tips:

Heating Equipment

- Ensure all heating devices, such as space heaters, fireplaces, and wood stoves, are in good working condition.

- Keep a safe distance of at least three feet between heating equipment and flammable materials like curtains, furniture, or bedding.
- Never leave portable heaters unattended, and always turn them off when leaving a room or going to bed.

Fireplaces and Chimneys

- Have chimneys inspected and cleaned annually to prevent creosote buildup, a leading cause of chimney fires.
- Use a fireplace screen to contain sparks and embers.
- Dispose of cooled ashes in a metal container, stored far from your home.



Holiday Decorations

- If you use candles, place them in sturdy holders and away from flammable objects. Extinguish them before leaving the room.
- Use only lights labeled for indoor or outdoor use and check for frayed wires or broken bulbs before decorating.
- Water live Christmas trees daily to prevent them from drying out and becoming a fire hazard.



Fire Dept



Smoke Alarms and Fire Extinguishers

- Test smoke alarms monthly and replace batteries as needed. Ensure alarms are installed on every level of your home.
- Keep a fire extinguisher accessible and know how to use it.

Emergency Planning

- Create and practice a fire escape plan with your family, including two ways out of every room.
- Ensure exits and escape routes remain clear of snow or ice.



By taking these precautions, we can all enjoy a safe and cozy winter season. If you have any questions about fire safety or need assistance with fire prevention resources, please don't hesitate to reach out to the Littleton Fire Department at 978-540-2302.

Stay safe and warm!



October 2024 Calendar of Meetings & Events

Check website for updates, additions & cancellations

www.littletonma.org/calendar or scan barcode for live calendar



December 2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Holiday Tree Lighting	2 Select Board Meeting December 2nd 6:30pm Library Sturtz Room	3	4	5 Sustainability Committee Meeting	6 Drop In Meeting with a Select Board Member Littleton Lyceum Presents Singer/ Songwriter Amy Speace	7
8	9 Council on Aging Board Meeting	10 Nashoba Valley Mineralogical Society (NVMS) Park and Recreation Commission Meeting	11 Board of Health Meeting	12 Library Trustees Meeting Planning Board Meeting - December 12th, 2024 @ 6:30 PM - Room 103 (Town Hall) Littleton School Committee Meeting - LCTV Room	13	14 Toys for Tots Drive
15	16 Select Board Meeting December 16th 6:30pm Library Sturtz Room	17 Affordable Housing Trust Meeting - December 17th, 2024 @ 6:30 PM - Virtual via Zoom	18 Shaker Lane Building Committee Meeting	19	20 Drop In Meeting with a Select Board Member	21
22	23	24	25 	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Current Board Vacancies (Appointed by the Select Board)

Click [HERE](#) for a list of all Boards/Committees



Applications are invited from residents of the Town of Littleton for the following Town board positions appointed by the Select Board. Application forms are available online at <https://littletonmaboard.vt-s.net/newcaf.php> or at the Office of the Select Board/ Town Administrator - Town of Littleton, 37 Shattuck Street, Littleton, MA 01460. Application submissions will be accepted and interviews/appointments will be made by the Select Board on a rolling basis until the positions are filled.

* **AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION**

One (1) member (engaged in farming, employed in agricultural field and/or with knowledge/experience in agricultural practices / business) - term expiring June 30, 2027

One (1) citizen-at-large - term expiring June 30, 2027

* **CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Two (2) associates - term expiring June 30, 2026

* **CULTURAL COUNCIL**

One (1) member - term expiring June 30, 2027

* **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

Two (2) members – No expiration date

* **HISTORICAL COMMISSION**

One (1) member - term expiring June 30, 2027

* **MASTER PLAN IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE**

Two (2) members - term expiring June 30, 2027

One (1) member - term expiring June 30, 2025

* **PERMANENT MUNICIPAL BUILDING COMMITTEE**

One (1) member— term expiring June 30, 2029

* **NAGOG HILL ORCHARD AD HOC WORKING GROUP**

Two (2) members—term expiring June 30, 2027

* **TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COUNCIL**

Three (3) alternate citizen-at-large members - terms expiring June 30, 2027

* **ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS**

One (1) member - term expiring June 30, 2025

One (1) alternate—term expiring June 30, 2026

Two (2) alternate - term expiring June 30, 2027

APPOINTED BY SCHOOL COMMITTEE

* **FINANCE COMMITTEE**

One (1) member—term expiring June 30, 2027



Planning Board



Planning Board Project Update

Northern Bank - Great Road / Robinson Road

The Planning Board is excited to recognize the construction for Northern Bank's comprehensive redevelopment of 5 parcels on Great Road and Robinson Road which began in November. This project was the first accepted application under Littleton's "New" (2020) Village Common Form-Based Code. For more information on Form-Based Code, please visit: <https://ma-littleton.civicplus.com/747/Village-Common-Form-Based-Code>

This new development will serve as a new "gateway" into Littleton and the Planning Board is happy to see the Littleton Common Revitalization Road Map come to life. This location will be evolving from several previously underutilized properties into a comprehensive "placemaking" destination. This project will bring unique and vibrant local businesses that offer a variety of services while preserving Littleton's New England community character.

The Rezoning of 25 Robinson Road from Residential to Village Common District at the October 25, 2021, Fall Town Meeting allowed this project to become viable. The Planning Board appreciates the Littleton residents and Select Board for supporting this effort. A special thank-you to the Robinson Road residents and to Northern Bank for responding to the concerns of the residents in the final design of the development.

The implementation of Littleton's new Town sewer allows significant redevelopment to take place and achieve Littleton's Planning goals. Previously, the lack of a municipal sewer system prevented such development from coming to fruition. The Construction team for Northern Bank expects this project to be on time to tie in with Littleton's new sewer system.

Northern Bank has submitted a permit application for the new foundation for the construction of Northern Bank & Trust Branch and is under review by Littleton's Building Commissioner. The Construction Supervisor has informed the Town that the full building permit application will be coming in shortly for the first building, which will be for the Bank on the corner of the site.

For additional information and materials, please visit Northern Bank's project page: <https://ma-littleton.civicplus.com/736/Northern-Bank---265-277-287-289-Great-Ro>

Planning Board



Planning Board Project Update

Northern Bank - Great Road / Robinson Road

Past Conditions:



Current Conditions:



Planning Board



Planning Board Project Update

Northern Bank - Great Road / Robinson Road

Future Renderings:



Northern Bank /

RENDERINGS

/ January 3, 2023

Shaping the Exceptional / 800 Apple Road / Suite 200 / Hamden, ME 04843 / Tel: 409-405-2500



Boards



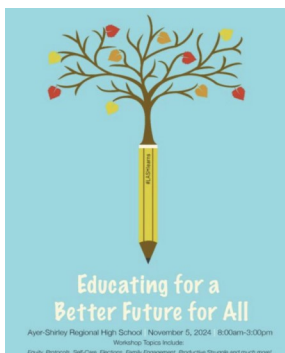
&

School Committee

Greetings from the Littleton School Committee! We have lots of news to share through the month of November.

We are continuing our outreach to the community to become part of the discussion about a new Shaker Lane School, designed to accommodate our current and future programming needs. There were two site visits in November, where community members had the opportunity to tour the school and witness the heroic efforts of leaders and teachers to meet the needs of current students in a very confined space. These educators have shown their commitment to Littleton children, despite very challenging constraints posed by the current building. The town has a unique opportunity through the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) to have a significant portion of future building costs reimbursed by the state. As plans move forward, we welcome community input. Our next virtual meeting with the community will be held on December 18 at 7:00. Any town residents seeking information and updates on the project are encouraged to visit the Shaker Lane School Building Project website at <http://bit.ly/47cAP4B>.

Littleton Public Schools is excited to introduce SchoolStatus, a new platform designed to streamline communication across our district. With SchoolStatus, parents can easily access important school information, updates, and connect with the school community. They can choose if they want to receive messages via text, email, voice call, or the SchoolNow mobile app. The goal is to ensure that families never miss a school event, deadline, or important announcement. Families will receive an email with instructions on how to enroll.



On November 5, Littleton Public Schools collaborated with Ayer-Shirley and Harvard Public Schools on a Cross-District Professional Development Day for teachers. Teachers shared their expertise on a wide variety of topics in a workshop format. Altogether there were more than 50 workshops offered, so that all teachers had opportunities for professional growth on topics most relevant to their work. It was a fantastic community builder as well! Many thanks to Director of Teaching and Learning Beth Steele for her commitment and dedication in organizing this event for our teachers.

Cultural events are happening all across the district! On November 6 the Shaker Lane and Russell Street Schools collaborated on the second annual Cultural Fair that was enthusiastically received by families. Fourteen families shared their culture with attendees, ranging from visual representations, games and activities, foods, and other creative artifacts. We're grateful to school committee member Binal Patel and the Eloquence Dance Studio for their dance performance, and to Masala Bay for donating samosas for all to enjoy during the evening. Littleton High School would like to extend an invitation to the community to come to their Winter Concert on December 4 at 7:00 pm.

School Committee



On a blustery day on November 12, all second graders at the Shaker Lane School shared their cardboard models of the “Little Town Community” with other students and guests. Each group of students was able to explain how the building they created represented an important part of a community. The underlying message was how people work together to benefit all members of a community. Because the Shaker Lane School has programming in place to support the needs of all students, the full second grade cohort was able to participate in this exciting event. See their smiling faces in the photo taken from the roof of the school!



Left to right: Nicholas Aharonian, Elliana Martinez, Victoria Eracleo, Maxwell Woodacre



Left to right: Isla O'Connell, Lucy Jdira, Parker Seaburg,



Boards & Committees—Click [HERE](#) for a list of all Boards/



Littleton Affordable Housing Trust

Littleton's 55+ Co-housing facility, Hager Homestead still has one Affordable Housing unit available to qualified seniors. Any income-eligible elder is welcome to apply.

Applications are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Persons needing help to apply may contact Amy DeMichele, Littleton Elder and Human Services/COA, ademichele@littletonma.org, 978-540-2472. The application can be found here: <https://sebhousing.com/property/hager-homestead-littleton/>

Also, The Littleton Affordable Housing Trust was recently awarded a \$120K One Stop Grant by the Haley/Driscoll administration. This grant will be used to provide home improvements or repairs to income qualified homeowners in The Town of Littleton. There will be more information to come on this initiative in the new year.



Boards & Committees—Click [HERE](#) for a list of all Boards/



Affordable Housing in Littleton

What is **Affordable Housing** in Littleton?

Defining Private Affordable Housing

Housing is considered “affordable” when the household spends **no more than 30% of their gross income on housing costs**, which include rent or mortgage, insurance, and utilities.



Some housing units are created specifically for households with low to moderate incomes and rent or sell for less than market-rate housing. These units are referred to as “affordable,” “subsidized,” or “income-restricted” housing.

Definitions of Income Limits

A low- to moderate-income (LMI) household is one with a gross annual income at or below 80% of the area median income (AMI).

Common definitions of income levels are:



- Extremely Low-Income: households with incomes at or below 30% AMI
- Very Low-Income: households with incomes between 30% and 50% AMI
- Low Income: households with incomes between 50% and 80% AMI
- Moderate/Middle Income: households with incomes between 80% and 120% AMI

Income Eligibility

Income eligibility for affordable housing is set at a percentage of the area median income (i.e. 30%, 50%, 60%, 80% AMI). Income limits are dependent on the number of persons in a household and may vary depending on the specific affordable housing program administering the project or subsidy.

As of April 1, 2024, **the Area Median Income (100% AMI) in Littleton for a family of 4 is \$148,900.**

Boards & Committees—Click [HERE](#) for a list of all Boards/



Affordable Housing in Littleton

The table below details different income limits for Littleton based on the Area Median Income (AMI), as determined by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

HUD Income Limits for Littleton				
# in Household	30% AMI	50% AMI	60% AMI	80% AMI
	Income	Income	Income	Income
1 Person	\$34,300	\$57,100	\$68,520	\$91,200
2 Person	\$39,200	\$65,300	\$78,360	\$104,200
3 Person	\$44,100	\$73,450	\$88,140	\$117,250
4 Person	\$48,950	\$81,600	\$97,920	\$130,250
5 Person	\$52,900	\$88,150	\$105,780	\$140,700
6 Person	\$56,800	\$94,700	\$113,640	\$151,100

Example of how to read this table:



- A new affordable housing development has just been built. A number of the units will be set aside for those households whose incomes are at or below 60% of the Area Median Income. Therefore, the gross annual income for a family of three must not exceed \$88,140 for the family to be eligible to live in the 60% AMI units.

Maximum Rent

Rents are not based on individual resident's income. The advertised rent is the rent a tenant will be expected to pay.

The table below details the maximum rents for units set at different income levels for affordable, rental housing projects.

Maximum Affordable Rents for Littleton				
Unit Type	Max Monthly Rent (including utilities)			
# Bedrooms	30% AMI Unit	50% AMI Unit	60% AMI Unit	80% AMI Unit
1 BR	\$980	\$1,633	\$1,836	\$2,605
2 BR	\$1,103	\$1,836	\$2,203	\$2,931
3 BR	\$1,224	\$2,040	\$2,546	\$3,256

Boards & Committees—Click [HERE](#) for a list of all Boards/



Affordable Housing in Littleton

Example of how to read this table:



- The affordable housing development will include 50% AMI units. The monthly rent for a 3-bedroom 50% AMI unit (including the cost of utilities) must not exceed \$2,040.

Examples of Sales Prices

Affordable ownership units are subject to income restrictions at the time of purchase and have deed restrictions that limit the maximum sale price.

Prices for recent affordable homeownership units are:



- 1 bedroom: \$253,900
- 2 bedroom: \$272,600
- 3 bedroom: \$335,600

Defining Public Affordable Housing

Public housing differs from the affordable housing created by private entities in that rents are based on each individual resident's income.

Public housing is a type of affordable housing that is owned by the federal or state government. Public housing units are owned and managed by Local Housing Authorities (LHA's). The Littleton Housing Authority owns and manages 48 elderly/disabled housing units and 12 units of family housing.

In Massachusetts, waitlist times for state-funded public housing units average around two to four years, particularly for residents with incomes between 30% and 60% of the area median income.¹

Are you in need of affordable housing or have questions about affordable housing? Visit <https://metrowestcd.org/> or call 617-923-3505 ext. 102 for Rentals and ext. 109 for Homeownership.

1. "A nightmare of epic proportions: Thousands of Mass. Residents languish on subsidized housing wait lists," by Diti Kohli, The Boston Globe, July 7, 2023, <https://www.bostonglobe.com/2023/07/07/business/wait-lists-subsidized-housing-are-getting-longer-leaving-thousands-struggling/>

The Friends of the Reuben Hoar Library



The Friends of the Reuben Hoar Library have a direct connection to You-Know-Who at the North Pole!

For a \$5 donation, the Friends will relay a letter from the North Pole to your child! (or grandchild, or neighbor....). Letters will be delivered via USPS before December 25.

Visit the Friends website to learn more at:

<https://sites.google.com/view/rhlfriends/santa-letter>



Kimball-Morrison Scholarship Committee



The Littleton Trust Fund Commissioners are planning to fill an open seat on the K-M Scholarship Committee. If you are interested in applying please review the information below, click on the Application link and submit your application by December 15, 2024. We will be in touch with you to set up an interview with the Trust Fund Committee. The K-M Scholarship committee members truly find this a rewarding experience to interact with so many bright young students !

Thank you,
Littleton Trust Fund Committee

About

The Scholarship Selection Committee was created by the Trust Fund Commissioners shortly after the 1996 addition of the FM Kimball II Scholarship Fund to the Trust Fund. The Committee was created per the FM Kimball II Trust as “an appropriate group within Littleton with the responsibility of selecting those who are to receive scholarships from the Fund.” With the addition of the John & Eunice Morrison Fund in 2008, the Scholarship Selection Committee is also responsible for nominating scholarship recipients for The Morrison Fund.

The Scholarship Selection Committee consists of (4) Volunteers and (1) member of the Trust Fund Commission. The Volunteers are appointed by the Trust Fund Commissioners. The Scholarship Selection Committee follows the same town policies as any other board or committee within the Town of Littleton.

Committee Member Roles and Responsibilities

Committee Members individually review and prioritize the Scholarship Applications using the following criteria;

- Academic Achievement
- Communication Skills
- Community Service
- Financial Need

Over multiple committee meetings, the Selection Committee comes to consensus on the list of finalists to be interviewed. After conducting the interviews, the Committee Members generate a recommended list of Annual Scholarship Award recipients, including the distribution of funds. This list is presented to and approved by the Littleton Trust Fund Commission.

Members need to be available for weeknight meetings from mid-March to mid-May. Approximately six meetings lasting about two hours each are used to complete the Scholarship Award process. Members also participate in a Scholarship Award ceremony held in June.

Members must have computer and internet access as the Scholarship Application review is performed using an online format.

Committee Application

[New Member Application Form](#)

Boards & Committees—Click [HERE](#) for a list of all Boards/Committees



Littleton Lyceum



The Littleton Lyceum will present Nashville-based singer-songwriter Amy Speace on Friday, December 6, 2024 at 7:30 pm in Littleton High School's Performing Arts Center on 56 King Street.

A former Shakespearean actress, Amy has received critical acclaim from the New York Times and NPR, who described her voice as “velvety and achy” and compared her to Lucinda

Williams. She has toured widely and has shared the stage with Guy Clark, Judy Collins, and many others.

Season tickets to the Lyceum are available for families or individuals for \$40.00, and single admissions may be purchased at the door for \$12.00, \$5.00 for seniors and students.

For more information, check out our website at littletonlyceum.org or follow us on [Facebook](#).

Music Boosters of Littleton



The Littleton High Music Program will be presenting a winter performance featuring the Concert Band, Jazz Band, Chorus, and Guitar Ensemble.

This event is on Thursday, December 4th at 7 pm in the Littleton High School auditorium.

The concert is free and open to the public.

Come listen to our talented musicians.



Historical Commission Patriots Day 250th Celebration



The Littleton Historical Commission is excited to announce an expansion of its traditional Patriots Day celebration. The upcoming 250th anniversary of this significant event in American history is Saturday April 19, 2025.

Currently, the Patriots Day celebration takes place annually at 7 p.m. on April 19 at Liberty Square, featuring wreath-laying ceremonies, Taps, a rifle salute by the Boxborough Minutemen, and speeches from the Littleton Historical Commission Chairperson and a Selectboard

member. In recognition of the milestone 250th anniversary, we are enhancing this event by moving it earlier in the day, starting mid-morning. The plan includes a procession—potentially featuring police and fire vehicles—to a larger venue, specifically Fay Park, for a town-wide community celebration.

Collaborating with the Littleton Historical Society, and other town organizations, we envision a vibrant town event at Fay Park, complete with activities, entertainment, and food and drink. We would love to see participation from different organizations, students groups, clubs, and societies from in and around Littleton on this day.

Given the anticipated surge of visitors in neighboring towns celebrating the 250th Patriots Day, we believe it is crucial for Littleton residents to have their own event honoring those from our town who fought on that historic day. Fay Park, with its central location, ample parking, and pedestrian-friendly sidewalks, is identified as the ideal venue. Closure of Foster Street from the Historical Society to King Street is proposed to enhance pedestrian movement, particularly near the Historical Society's exhibit on Littleton's involvement in the activities of 1775.

The Littleton Historical Commission has secured \$10,000 in funding from the town to plan and promote this event. Funds can be shared with participating groups to cover expenses associated with participating. A total amount allotted will be determined based on how many groups participate. If your organization/group would like to participate there is a Google document to register and to specify your groups activity. This is to ensure diversity in activities. Groups are welcome, encouraged even, to brainstorm their own fun activity with their personal touch. However, there are some 'template' ideas available for easier decision making. Google Document [here](#)

Visit our website (in progress) www.littleton250th.com! If you have any questions or comments please do not hesitate to reach out. Please also share this email with any group or organization you are affiliated with. The more participation we have the more chance of success for this event.

We hope you join us!

Rachael Robinson, Clerk
Littleton Historical Commission

Carolyn Mueller, Curator
Littleton Historical Society

Littleton Rotary Club



The Holiday Tree Lighting on the Common will be held on Sunday, December 1st from 4:15 to 5:30.

The Littleton High School Band will open the evening, followed by the Nashoba Valley Chorale singing traditional holiday favorites. Cheryl Hollinger and I will then provide holiday trivia questions for the kids and give every child a stuffed toy. The Nashoba Valley Chorale will then lead the crowd in holiday songs to welcome Santa Claus, who will arrive on Littleton Fire Department Tower 1, crewed by Littleton Fire Department firefighters/Santa's helpers.



Santa will then lead the crowd in the countdown and throw the giant switch that turns on the thousands of lights on the Littleton Common's Trees. Santa will then meet every child and pose for photos.

The Littleton Rotary Club, Littleton Electric Company, Littleton Fire Department and Littleton Highway Department provide the Tree Lighting on the Common as a holiday gift to the people of Littleton and surrounding towns. The Rotary Club provides free donuts and hot cider, as well as ornaments that can be personalized and hung on the giant spruce tree, a gift of the Littleton Rotary Club that grows taller every year. The Littleton Rotary Club has been hosting the Tree Lighting on the Common for over 30 years. Last year saw the largest attendance with over 500 young and old on hand. The Rotary Club provided over 288 donuts and over 300 gifts for the children in attendance.

Regarding the Littleton Rotary Club: We are a service organization and part of Rotary International, a global network of more than 1.2 million neighbors, friends, leaders, and problem-solvers who see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves. Our club president, Denise Moniz, can be reached at the above email address or by phone: 978-501-1464.

Things you can recycle “beyond the bin”



We all have a pretty good idea by now of what can be recycled in the “blue bins”: bottles and cans, cardboard and paper. But did you know that there are also places like TerraCycle that can recycle non-standard items like hairbrushes and manual toothbrushes, empty toothpaste tubes, and empty non-aerosol deodorant containers? The Acton C.R.A.F.T. 4-H club is collecting those items, plus empty toner/ink cartridges, squeezable snack food pouches like GoGoSqueez, and more “beyond the bin” items listed on <https://tinyurl.com/littletonmarecycles>.

We have four collection points in the area: the Acton or Littleton Donelan’s grocery store, the Reuben Hoar Library in Littleton, and if you have a Littleton transfer sticker, look for the yellow bin there. Details and pictures on website. If the bin is getting full, please contact us to let us know.

Terracycle gives points for these recyclables which translate into cash for non-profits such as 4-H, schools, and libraries. This recycling stream helps fund the Acton C.R.A.F.T. 4-H club’s community service activities. Still have questions? Email littletonma.recycles@gmail.com

4-H is a community of young people across America learning leadership, citizenship, and life skills. For more information about the Action C.R.A.F.T. 4-H Club, please contact Elaine Shirron, 4-H Leader, at 978-635-0122. 4-H is the outreach education program of UMass Extension in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture and local government. Contact the 4-H Northeast Regional Extension Office at 413-545-2646 for more information.



TOWN OF LITTLETON

37 Shattuck Street
Littleton, MA 01450
978-540-2400
Email: WebQuestions@littletonma.org

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Additional Town Resources



[Littleton Public
School District](#)



[Littleton Electric Light
& Water Department
\(LELWD\)](#)



- * [What is the Current Population in Littleton per Census?](#)
- * [How to apply for an Abatement?](#)
- * [How to Register to Vote?](#)
- * [How do I find Minutes & Agendas?](#)
- * [What are the current Electric Rates?](#)
- * [What are the current Water Rates?](#)
- * [What are the current Tax Rates?](#)
- * [How to apply for a Building Permit?](#)
- * [How to contact Parks, Recreation & Comm Ed?](#)
- * [How do I report a broken link on the town website?](#)

The 10 Best Holiday Songs of All Time by Billboard

Click the song title to **LISTEN** to the song!



- 10) [Bing Crosby, "White Christmas" \(1947\)](#)
- 9) [Dean Martin, "Let It Snow, Let It Snow, Let It Snow"](#)
- 8) [Wham!, "Last Christmas" \(1984\)](#)
- 7) [Andy Williams, "It's The Most Wonderful Time Of The Year"](#)
- 6) [Jose Feliciano, "Feliz Navidad" \(1970\)](#)
- 5) [Burl Ives, "A Holly Jolly Christmas"](#)
- 4) [Nat King Cole, "The Christmas Song \(Merry Christmas to You\)" \(1961\)](#)
- 3) [Bobby Helms, "Jingle Bell Rock"](#)
- 2) [Brenda Lee, "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree" \(1958\)](#)
- 1) [Mariah Carey, "All I Want For Christmas Is You" \(1994\)](#)