



BEDFORD BYLINE

Provided by the Town of Bedford describing its services for residents. Responses to Town Manager, 10 Mudge Way, Bedford, MA 01730 are welcome. The Town's website for more information on services is www.bedfordma.gov.

May, 2010

Standard & Poor's AAA Bond Rating

By Finance Director Peter Naum

On March 22, 2010, Town officials received the most recent credit report from the bond rating agency, Standard & Poor's (S&P), which reaffirmed the AAA bond rating of the Town. The Town has had this very desirable rating since July of 2006.

The AAA designation is an endorsement of a successful process and a substantiation that the collective and comprehensive efforts of the Town are functioning extremely well. It reflects S&P's favorable opinion of the Town's administrative and financial management techniques, the continuing strength of its financial reserves and resultant ability to withstand downturns in the economy, a progressive operating budget and capital program, as well as strong community demographics and socio-economic structure.

According to S&P, as of November 2009, there are only 169 other municipalities in the entire United States that have their top rating.



The purpose of a bond rating is to provide investors in Town bonds with an assessment of the Town's credit worthiness. The higher the rating a community receives, the better it is perceived in the marketplace as a well run, financially sound community; a high rating by both firms instills even greater confidence in a community's stability. This has the tendency of ensuring that the ultimate interest rates the Town will pay on the bonds will be as low as possible. The S&P report follows:

Summary:

Bedford Township, Massachusetts; General Obligation

Primary Credit Analyst:
Karl Jacob, New York (1) 212-438-2111;
karl_jacob@standardandpoors.com
March 22, 2010

Secondary Credit Analyst:
Jeffrey Devine, New York; jefrey_devine@standardandpoors.com

Credit Profile

US\$2.755 mil GO rfdg bnds dtd 04/01/2010 due 12/01/2010-2017		
Long Term Rating	AAA/Stable	New
Bedford Twn GO		
Long Term Rating	AAA/Stable	Affirmed

Rationale

Standard & Poor's Ratings Services assigned its 'AAA' long-term rating, and stable outlook, to Bedford, Mass.' general obligation (GO) refunding bonds. At the same time, Standard & Poor's affirmed its 'AAA' rating, with a stable outlook, on the town's parity debt outstanding. In our opinion, the rating reflects:

- A residential community with access to, and participation in, the deep and diverse Greater Boston employment base, providing employment and income stability;
- Very strong income levels with median household effective buying income that is 195% of the national level;
- Extremely strong market value above \$239,000 per capita;
- Sound financial position, good management policies, and very strong reserves; and
- Moderate debt burden, net of state school construction aid.

The bonds are secured by the town's full faith pledge. We understand that proceeds will be used to refund 1998 and 2000 GO bonds for net present value savings.

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Town Meeting Highlights

Annual Town Meeting was held on March 22 and March 23, 2010. Below are some of the highlights from this year's meeting.

- After lengthy discussion, funding was approved for a design study of an asphalt bike path along the Former Reformatory Branch of the Middlesex Central Railroad, which runs from Railroad Avenue to Concord Road.

Continued on page 4

Teen Parties: A Parent's Responsibility

Submitted by Youth & Family Services Prevention Services Coordinator Jessica Santos

One of the main ways that adolescents define themselves and separate from their parents and other adults is to take risks. Our job as parents is to realize the reasons behind this and to help our children take risks safely and responsibly.

While parents need to ensure there are opportunities for healthy and safe risk-taking for their teens, unsupervised teenage parties are not the solution as so many are open invitations for unsafe and unhealthy risky behavior especially in regard to alcohol and drug use, violent behavior, and sexual activity. Yet unsupervised teen parties remain a common occurrence in Bedford.

Parents either knowingly or unwittingly allow such parties at their homes through their absence or non-involvement. Other parents condone such parties by permitting their children to attend unsupervised parties or by not being aware of their children's whereabouts or plans. An unsupervised party can also occur when adults are present in the home, but in a separate part of the house, not actually monitoring the action.

Parents are responsible for activities that occur within their home,

whether or not they are present. Go to www.madd.org/socialhost for more information.

It is illegal to serve drugs, including alcohol, to minors. Parents are legally accountable for anything that may happen to a minor who has been served drugs or alcohol in their home. Civil liability also comes into play; if an adult gives an alcoholic beverage to a minor, including his or her own child, and the minor causes personal injury or property damage, the adult and the minor are both civilly liable for monetary damages.

What can parents do? First, recognize and believe the possibility that your own child is susceptible to peer pressure and unsafe risk taking. Communicate and network with other parents. Establish rules and expectations for parties and gatherings, such as:



- All parties should be supervised by adults. Invite other adults to help.

- Make frequent appearances bringing food and nonalcoholic beverages during the party. *Continued on page 4*

Bond Refunding Equals Big Savings

By Finance Director Peter Naum and Treasurer/Collector Victor Garofalo

Recently, the Selectmen voted to refund certain municipal bonds previously issued by the Town which will lead to substantial interest savings. The majority of this refunding had to do with debt for the Davis and Lane Elementary Schools. By refunding these bonds, the Town will have a **net savings of \$1,563,222** over the next eleven fiscal years, FY10 - FY21.

The Town was able to refund these bonds for the following reasons:

- Due to the current historically low interest rate environment, the remaining bonds, originally issued in 1998 and 2000, had an average interest rate of 5.284%, which were able to be refunded for an

average interest rate of 2.125%.

- The Town received \$9,931,452 from the Massachusetts School Building Authority (MSBA) as a lump sum payment for its existing annual aid payments for the Davis and Lane Elementary Schools. The lump sum amount of \$9,931,452 will be used to retire the existing debt issued on December 15, 1998 and December 1, 2000.

In addition to the dramatic interest savings for the taxpayers, this has the effect of lowering the Town's overall debt ratio. In the recent credit review (*related article in this Byline*) that the Town underwent, the bond rating agency, Standard & Poor's, strongly endorsed this refunding.

Town of Bedford
Massachusetts 01730

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Town of Bedford 2010 Yardwaste Notice

The Department of Public Works will be opening the Town landfill on Carlisle Road to Bedford residents wishing to dispose of yardwaste materials from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon on the following Saturdays:

May 22nd June 12th & 26th July 10th & 24th



August 7th & 21st

September 18th



October 16th & 30th November 13th December 4th

In accordance with state law, yard waste is strictly prohibited from regular trash. Absolutely no yardwaste of any kind will be collected by Allied Waste Systems in the weekly residential trash pickup. Residents are reminded that they may either compost yardwaste on their own property or bring it to the landfill where it will be composted into loam products for Public Works projects around Bedford.

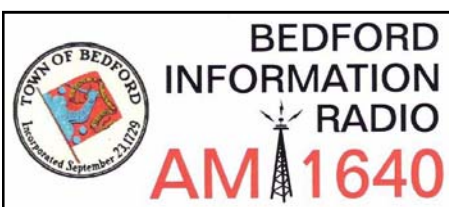
Yardwaste consists of leaves, pine needles, grass clippings, weeds, and tree material up to one inch (1") in diameter. Tree limbs over one inch (1") diameter will not be allowed. Only the approved kraft paper style biodegradable bags are allowed to be dropped off. Residents may empty trash bags or containers of yardwaste provided they remove the bags or containers after they empty them.

Independence Day Celebration!

The Town of Bedford, together with the Veteran's Administration Hospital will be hosting an evening of food, entertainment & fireworks on Friday, July 2nd (rain date Saturday, July 3rd).



Please check our website (www.bedfordma.gov) for further details & updates as they become available.



Town of Bedford
Bedford Byline

Selectmen
Michael Rosenberg, Chair
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William Moonan
Mark Siegenthaler
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Richard T. Reed,
Town Manager

Jessica Porter, Editor

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The *Bedford Byline*, an official publication of the Town of Bedford, Town Hall, 10 Mudge Way, Bedford, MA 01730, is delivered to all residents of Bedford. For information about or response to the *Byline*, please write, or call the Town Manager's Office at (781) 275-1111.

Articles without a byline have been written by staff of the Town Manager.

Volunteer for Local Government



Several local government committees and boards are looking for new members to fill vacancies.

Committees and boards with expected vacancies are:

- Affordable Housing Committee
- Arbor Resource Committee
- Cable TV Advisory Committee
- Conservation Commission
- Cultural Council
- Historic District Commission
- Housing Partnership
- Patriotic Holiday Committee
- Trails Committee
- Youth and Family Services
- Zoning Board of Appeals

For questions, please contact a member of the Volunteer Coordinating Committee:

Dawn Theodore	781-275-9243
Lora Goldenberg	781-275-7354
Ilsa Gottlieb	781-275-0953



Need Space for a Social Function?



Function room spaces are available for rental in the Town Center Building, located at 12 Mudge Way, and in Old Town Hall on 16 South Road. The Shawsheen Room in Town Center on the first floor and the Great Room at Old Town Hall on the third floor can accommodate 100 people (with table and chair setup). Both have adjacent kitchens.

Town Center also has conference room space for meetings and programs with speakers and a room with wooden floor used primarily for exercise and dance classes.



All aboard the ex-Boston and Maine Railroad Car #6211 that is available for rental for small parties and meetings. The railroad car is on static display at the end of the Minuteman Bikeway at 120 South Road.



All sites have been renovated during the past five years. For availability and the opportunity to view the spaces in advance of booking, call 781-275-4880 or email: fay_russo@bedfordma.gov.

Bedford Wins e-Government Award with Distinction

Taken from Common Cause Press Release, March 10, 2010



Town Manager Richard Reed and Technical Support Specialist Anna Collins pose for a picture with Massachusetts Representative Charles Murphy at the State House awards ceremony.

BOSTON – Common Cause Massachusetts released the findings of its annual survey of municipal websites and presented its 2010 e-Government Award to 180 cities and towns at the State House on March 16th. The survey and ceremony coincided with the national initiative known as "Sunshine Week" in which media outlets and others address issues of governmental transparency.



Municipalities who post their governing body's minutes and an agenda, their budget, their bylaws, and their town meeting warrant and results received the 2010 e-Government Award.

Those who additionally post a year's archive of minutes, agendas, their calendar, their zoning bylaws, their school committee's minutes and agenda, and the minutes and agenda for another board or committee received the award with distinction. Bedford was proudly among those towns that were granted an award with distinction.

We are pleased to be able to honor over half of Massachusetts cities and towns this year," said Common Cause Massachusetts' Executive Director Pam Wilmot.

"Many communities rose to the challenge and significantly improved their websites over the past year. By making it easier to obtain important information online, citizens will be empowered to actively participate in their local governments."

In addition to the awards presented, Common Cause released a full survey of the Internet presence of all 351 cities and towns. 25 communities, many of them small towns, had no website at all. 23 municipalities have websites but none of the documents posted. 20 communities came very close to earning an award and only had one document missing.

"Communities that make this information available on the web are providing an important service to their citizens and we are ecstatic that we are able to acknowledge them," said Wilmot.

About Common Cause

Common Cause Massachusetts is a nonpartisan, nonprofit, government watchdog, dedicated to citizen participation in an open, honest, and accountable government. An independent, member-supported organization, Common Cause has more than 200,000 members nationwide and 10,000 in Massachusetts.

Bedford's award-winning website may be viewed at:

www.bedfordma.gov

Springs Brook Park

Springs Brook Park is the Town's summer waterfront including sandy beach, pond, water slide, spray park, picnic grove, tetherball, playground, and concession stand. Red Cross Swim lessons are offered as well.

Registration for membership and swim lessons begin in early May. Please watch for information!

Fox 25 Zip Trip is Coming to Bedford!



The morning team from Fox 25 News has selected the Town of Bedford for its "Zip Trip Friday" program!

Fox 25 will be broadcasting live from the Town Common on the morning of May 14, 2010, beginning at 5:45 a.m. and ending at 9:00 a.m. All residents are encouraged to come out and support Bedford!

Protecting Your Home from Future Flood Damage

Taken from FEMA Press Release, April 19, 2010

As cleanup continues in the aftermath of the heavy rains and flooding that struck Massachusetts during late March, state and federal officials urge disaster victims to take measures to prevent the damage from happening again.

Recovery officials point out that it is safer, cheaper, and ultimately much easier to limit future destruction than to repair it afterward. The rebuilding phase of a disaster is the ideal time to consider ways to limit future damage. Several suggestions to keep damages from happening are:

- **Relocate or elevate water heaters, furnaces, and major appliances.** Water heaters, furnaces and appliances, such as washers and dryers in the basement, can be elevated. Place them on a masonry or pressure-treated wood base at least 12 inches above the previous high-water mark or your home's projected flood elevation. Some heating systems can be suspended from the basement ceiling.

- **Elevate or relocate electrical systems.** Electrical panel boxes, circuit breakers, wall switches, and wall outlets should be relocated at least 12 inches above your home's projected flood elevation. In some cases, they can even be moved to a higher floor. A licensed electrician

familiar with local codes should be hired to do this work. An uninterrupted electrical supply will allow the homeowner to move back to the home more quickly after a flood.

- **Install a septic backflow valve.** Flooded septic systems can force sewage back into the home. Not only is this an unpleasant experience, it also presents a health risk. Backflow valves can be installed inside or outside the structure but must conform to local building codes.

- **Build interior and exterior floodwalls.** A watertight masonry floodwall can be constructed to enclose furnaces, utilities and appliances on the lowest floor of the building. On the outside, a similar wall could be constructed around the perimeter of the basement opening to keep water from entering.

- **Anchor your fuel tank.** Fuel tanks, either inside or outside the home, should be anchored to prevent them from overturning or breaking loose in a flood. Metal straps and bolts should be non-corrosive, and wood structural supports should be pressure treated.

For more information please visit the FEMA website at: www.fema.gov

Youth & Family Services Honored

Submitted by Youth & Family Services Director Sue Baldauf



Youth and Family Services Director Sue Baldauf poses with Fox25 News anchor Maria Stephanos at the Peer Provider Awards last October.

Last fall, the Massachusetts Council of Human Service Providers announced the recipients of their Peer Provider Awards and named Bedford Youth and Family Services (BYFS) as one of the five selected to receive this award.

Recipients were honored at their 34th Annual Convention and Expo, which took place October 29th in Boston. Bedford Youth and Family Services was nominated for the Peer Provider award by Deborah Garfield, LICSW, Director of Clinical Services at Eliot Community Human Services in

Concord, a fellow council member.

In highlighting a peer agency, the council looks to organizations that have gone that extra mile to serve clients and consumers and are worthy of recognition by their peers.

Agency accomplishment might include initiating new services or models of service, legislative victories, consumer accomplishments, successes in the community, or other exciting events within an agency.

The Massachusetts Council of Human Service Providers, Inc. is a statewide association of health and human service agencies. Founded in 1975, the Providers' Council is the state's largest human service trade association and is widely recognized as the official voice of the predominantly private provider industry.

With more than 2000 human service providers serving different populations in the state of Massachusetts, the council is the primary voice for human services, strengthening the social fabric and improving the quality of our lives.

Standard & Poor's Report, Continued from page 1

Bedford, with a 2008 population estimate of 13,092, is an affluent suburb 15 miles northwest of Boston along Interstate 95 and State Route 3. Standard & Poor's views the town's property tax base as diverse, with a good mix of residential (77.0%), industrial (10.7%), and commercial (9.8%). Total assessed value (AV) rose 3.6% between fiscals 2006 and 2010 and now stands at \$2.75 billion. Due to the recession, AV declined 2.6% in fiscal 2010, but the decline in valuation has been much less than in many Massachusetts communities. The town's affluence is reflected by both high income levels and high per capita property wealth. Bedford's market value is what we consider an extremely strong \$239,000 per capita; and median household effective buying income is a very strong 195% of national levels. Unemployment has historically been below commonwealth and national rates, and while rising amid the recession, the jobless rate remains favorable at 6.9%, as of January 2010.

The town's financial position remains sound in our opinion, with a strong general fund balance bolstered by a sizable stabilization fund reserve. The audited fiscal year-end 2009 closed with a strong unreserved general fund balance of \$6.8 million or 9.4% of operating expenditures. The stabilization fund, which is available for any purpose with a two-thirds town meeting vote, also closed the year with what we consider a strong balance of \$3.0 million. Overall, the unreserved general fund balance and stabilization fund balance was a combined \$9.9 million, or, in our opinion, a very strong 13.5% of operating expenditures.

Bedford also maintains a separate pension and other postemployment benefits (OPEB) trust funds that are used intermittently to offset annual required contributions. Although the pension and OPEB trust funds are restricted for those uses, they boost the town's overall revenue flexibility and demonstrate management's willingness and ability to appropriate funds to mitigate long-term liabilities. Other designated reserve funds, such as the community preservation fund, also provide indirect long-term operating flexibility.

Real estate taxes, which we view as a very stable and predictable revenue source, account for two-thirds of general fund revenue; current property tax collections remain strong with a near 100% collection rate. Bedford is not overly susceptible to local aid, which accounted for 17.5% of general fund revenues in fiscal 2009. Although we expect reserves to narrow slightly somewhat as certain revenues (particularly those sensitive to economic conditions) continue to moderate, we believe that the town will maintain its financial position at very strong levels as management continues to make the necessary expenditure adjustments needed to offset revenue declines, as it has historically demonstrated. Bedford's 2010 operating budget is up by 5.9% over the previous year, and totals \$67.6 million. Management indicates that revenues and expenditures are tracking budget for the current year.

Based on a review of several key financial practices, Standard & Poor's considers Bedford's management practices "good" under its Financial Management Assessment (FMA) methodology. In our framework, an FMA of good indicates financial practices exist in most areas but that governance officials might not formalize or regularly monitor all of them.

Bedford's overall debt burden is moderate in our opinion, but as a percent of market value we consider the debt burden low. The town has issued the majority of its long-term debt for school building purposes with reimbursements from the Massachusetts School Building Authority offsetting the debt. Net of estimated state school construction support, we view the town's overall net debt per capita as a moderate \$4,484 but a low 1.9% of market value. Debt service carrying charges are also a moderate, at 10.3% of operating expenditures in fiscal 2009, but this is due, in part, to a front-loaded amortization schedule that retires 80% of principal by 2027.

Outlook

The stable outlook reflects Standard & Poor's expectation that the town's financial position will remain stable, supported by strong reserves and continued prudent financial management. The outlook also reflects Bedford's location and access to more-diverse employment bases, which aids in property tax base growth and provides employment and income stability.

Related Criteria And Research

Ratings Detail (As Of March 22, 2010)

Bedford Twn GO		
Unenhanced Rating	AAA(SPUR)/Stable	Affirmed

USPF Criteria: GO Debt, Oct. 12, 2006

Many issues are enhanced by bond insurance.

Complete ratings information is available to RatingsDirect on the Global Credit Portal subscribers at www.globalcreditportal.com and RatingsDirect subscribers at www.ratingsdirect.com. All ratings affected by this rating action can be found on Standard & Poor's public Web site at www.standardandpoors.com. Use the Ratings search box located in the left column.

(The foregoing report was authorized by Standard & Poor's and reprinted with their permission.)

Local Grants Awarded to Bedford

Submitted by Doris Smith

Representative Charles A. Murphy and Doris Smith, Chair of the Bedford Cultural Council, have announced the award of 11 grants totaling \$5,040 for cultural programs in Bedford.

Grant recipients include the Bedford 4H Club, the CASE Collaborative, and local artist Halsey Burgund. The complete list of recipients and grant amounts follows.

The Bedford Cultural Council is part of a network of 329 Local Cultural Councils serving all 351 cities and towns in the Commonwealth. The LCC Program is the largest grass-roots cultural funding network in the nation, supporting thousands of community-based projects in the arts, sciences, and humanities every year.

The state legislature provides an annual appropriation to the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency, which then allocates funds to each community.



Decisions about which activities to support are made at the community level by a board of municipally appointed volunteers. The members of the Bedford Cultural Council are: Kathleen Byrnes, Jane Franklin, Kenneth Gordon, Mary Johannssen, Sue McCombs, Ginny Packer, Doris Smith, and Nancy Willett.

This year's grants include:

- Bedford Photographers Showcase – BCAT: \$500
- 4-H, Farm to Community – Bedford 4-H Club: \$600
- "In the Eyes of Another" film – Matthew Nearney: \$1000
- Music Enrichment for Special Needs Children – CASE Collaborative: \$500
- Scapes – Halsey Burgund: \$600
- Third Friday Crafternoons – Bedford Center for the Arts: \$500
- "Thirteen Things About Ed Carpolotti" – Bedford Council on Aging: \$325
- Wild Apples: Spring Issue 2010 – Wild Apples, Inc.: \$150

PASS Grants awarded were:

- Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum – Shawsheen Valley Technical High School: \$265
- Lowell National Historical Park – Lt. Job Lane Elementary School 4th grade: \$400
- Minuteman National Historical Park – Lt. Job Lane Elementary School 5th grade: \$200

The Bedford Cultural Council will seek applications again in the fall. Information and forms are available online at www.massculturalcouncil.org. Applications are due October 15th.

You Can Borrow That From the Library?

Submitted by Library Director Richard Callaghan

The Library has added some great new electronic devices to borrow as well as some new museum passes, so stop by the library circulation desk and check them out!

Through the generosity of a patron, the library purchased a Kindle wireless reading device and stocked it with nearly 40 bestsellers. The Kindle is an electronic book that can hold nearly 1,500 titles. It is easy to navigate and has a lot of convenient features such as bookmarking, glare-free screen, word search, and a long battery life. The Kindle goes out for a week so patrons can try it out for themselves. It is very popular, so you may want to reserve it before coming down to the library.

The Friends of the Library have purchased three portable DVD players for public use. Two of the players can be checked out for a week at a time. The third portable DVD player is for use in the library. Patrons can borrow it for 4 hours and use it with headphones to view DVDs. If your family is going on a long car ride come down to the library and borrow the portable DVD player - it will make the trip a lot quicker and quieter!

Soon to be available are two new Dell laptops for use in the library. The computers are checked out for 4 hours and have wireless internet access and Microsoft Office software. Thanks to the Friends for purchasing these state of the art laptops!



The Friends have also purchased five kilowatt energy monitors to check the power usage in your home. Just plug the energy monitor into a wall socket and then attach an appliance, lamp, TV, etc. to see what energy hogs you have in your house. The energy monitors can be checked out for a week.



A reminder that the library lends Playaway portable audiobooks. Playaways are single-title, preloaded audiobook mp3 players. They are great for walking and running because there are no moving parts that skip like cds. Just plug in earphones and you are ready to go. Look for the Playaways in the audiobook section on the first floor.

The Friends have added the JFK Presidential Library and Museum in Boston as well as the Sports Museum at the TD Garden to our museum passes. Check the library website at www.bedfordlibrary.net to reserve the passes or call the library at 781-275-9440.

Annual Town Meeting, continued from page 1

• Various amendments to the Town of Bedford Bylaws were made. The most significant changes were in the areas of Affordable Housing (Article 41) and Streets, Sidewalks and Public Property (Article 47). Article 41 changed the qualification requirements for affordable housing from 150% of area median income to 120% of area median income. This change lowers the income requirements necessary to qualify for affordable housing in Bedford, thus making it more advantageous for lower income persons and families to reside in Bedford.

Article 47 now restricts the use of marijuana in public places throughout Bedford, establishes a method for enforcement, and imposes a fine for violation.

• Various capital expenditures were passed, including the purchase of a new ambulance, water main improvements, and improvements to sewer pump stations.

• Funding for various Community Preservation projects was approved, including funds for the Reformatory Branch bike path, the Town Center North Wing project, Conservation Trails, and sidewalks. Among other items that were approved, funds will also be placed into affordable housing reserves and set aside for future creation of recreation fields.

• A unanimous vote of Town Meeting also appropriated the sum of \$5,000,000 of Community Preservation funds for the purchase of the parcel of land; the Selectmen plan to utilize the funds for the purchase of at 350A Concord Road.

• The FY11 Operating Budget and Salary Bylaw were both passed.

Employment Help

Senior Employment Program: Bedford residents 65 and older who meet income qualifications may apply to work for a Town department for 100 hours at \$8/hour. Employment positions last a duration of one year (from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011), but the Council on Aging encourages those that are interested to speak with them at any time. For more information, call the Bedford Council on Aging at 781-275-6825.



Job Match Program: Bedford Youth and Family Services offers a program matching Bedford youth with a variety of jobs. For more information, call Bedford Youth and Family Services at 781-275-7727.

Teen Parties, continued from page 1

• Limit the number of guests invited and let the party be "by invitation only." A word of mouth general invitation brings party crashers. Know the guest list.

• Be aware of your own liquor supply and make it inaccessible.

• Don't admit guests who are drunk or high, and do not allow guests who

bring alcohol or drugs. Call their parents.

• Don't readmit guests who leave. Call their parents if they leave early.

• Don't allow anyone under the influence to drive. Call his or her parents, or the police if they are uncooperative.

• Call ahead if your child is going to a party to determine if these rules

will be enforced at the party and to be sure the parents are aware of the party, will be home, and will be actively chaperoning.

• Assure your children that they can telephone you without reprisals to be picked up whenever necessary.

• Make sure your teen knows that you have notified the police and neighbors when you will be away on a weekend or during a vacation.

Socializing is an important part of our teens' lives. Our goal as parents should be to help our son or daughter and the other young people of Bedford to socialize in safe and constructive ways.

For more information check out our website at: www.bedfordma.gov/youth or contact Jessica Santos at (781) 275-7727 X 262 or jessicas@bedfordma.gov.