



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.

June, 2010

The Bedford Farmers' Market Is Now Open!

The Bedford Farmers' Market is a non-profit, producer-only farmers' market located at Depot Park next to the Minuteman Bikeway. The market began in the summer of 2008 by a group of volunteers and is now open for this year's summer season.

The Bedford Farmers' Market provides a family-friendly, community gathering place for consumers to

- Educate our community about eating healthfully.
- Educate residents about maintaining a healthy environment and the importance of sustainable agriculture.
- Provide a self-sustaining, social experience that helps build community and enhances the quality of life in Bedford.



purchase the freshest local foods available. It also provides alternative educational and marketing opportunities for farmers and others to help create local and sustainable food systems that are environmentally sound, economically viable, and socially responsible, and which improve the variety, freshness, nutritional value, and distribution of fresh farmland foods to the community.

Market Mission

- Provide members of the community a place to purchase fresh, local produce and goods directly from farmers and producers in a congenial atmosphere.
- Provide farmers and producers a direct market for their produce and goods.
- Support local agriculture and producers.

Stop by the Bedford Farmers' Market, open on Mondays from 2:00 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. (or dusk) from June 14, 2010 through October 18, 2010. The market is located at Bedford Depot Park, at the intersection of Railroad Avenue and South Road. Parking is available adjacent to the market.

For more information about the Bedford Farmers' Market, participating vendors, and local/organic farming, as well as a schedule of upcoming events, please visit their website at www.bedfordmarket.org.



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Independence Day Celebration!

The Town of Bedford, together with the Veterans Administration Hospital, will be hosting an evening of food, entertainment, and fireworks on Friday, July 2nd (rain date Saturday, July 3rd). The fun and festivity will be held at the Veterans Administration Hospital grounds on Springs Road. Please visit our website at www.bedfordma.gov for further details and updates as they become available.

Important Home Safety Alert

Submitted by Lt. James Graham, Crime Prevention Officer, Bedford Police Department

The Bedford Police Department would like to inform you of a series of crimes involving breaking and entering into homes in Bedford and the surrounding communities. In these communities there have been at least three instances of individuals knocking on doors with a story about cutting trees for a municipal DPW or state project and they need you to show them where your property lines are located. While your attention is diverted outside with one accomplice, a partner will enter your home and remove expensive items.

The Department would like to alert you to this situation so you can work together with the Police to stop these thieves. The scams seem to occur during daytime working hours, often in the afternoon.

If someone knocks on your door and you do not know them, please never let them into your house or leave your house without first verifying their identification and purpose. Write down their name and call the company first if there are any questions; you may even call the Police if you feel uncomfortable. All Town of Bedford employees will have identification cards with them. Ask for it if you are unsure.

If anyone sees any suspicious person or a car "cruising" the area, please notify the Police immediately. A description of the vehicle including make, model, color, and any identi-

fying marks would be of great assistance. A vehicle registration number would be the best information for the Police Department's purposes.

Do not at any time get involved with these people personally; call the Police Station and a Patrol Officer will be there quickly to question the suspicious person or persons to determine if they are the culprits. If possible, have one person call us with the information while the other watches the suspicious person or vehicle and lets us know their direction of travel if they leave the area before the Police arrive.

Tips to Avoid Scams at Home

Keep all doors securely locked at all times – even if outside gardening.

Carry a cordless phone or cell phone with you, even while outside.

If someone comes to your house or approaches you asking for help, don't let them inside. Tell them you will call the Police for them – if someone really needs help they will appreciate the call.

Don't keep a large amount of cash, jewelry, or important personal documents in the house. A bank or safety deposit box is much safer.

Please keep your eyes open and be ready to call the Police Department at (781) 275-1212, or if an emergency exists please call 911.

Moody's AAA Bond Rating


By Finance Director Peter P. Naum

The May 2010 edition of the Bedford Byline included an article regarding the bond rating agency Standard & Poor's (S&P) decision to reaffirm the Town's AAA bond rating. As was indicated in that article, that S&P rating was first given to the Town in 2006 and, as of November 2009, there were only 169 other municipalities in the United States that have the AAA ranking.

After that edition had gone to press, the Town was informed that another bond rating agency, Moody's Inves-


tor's Service, had also elevated the Town from a rating of Aa1 to a rating of AAA, by its decision to move to a global rating scale for its municipal bond issue ratings. This new rating scale responds to the need to compare municipalities to corporations in a more equitable manner, and considering that Moody's has had a separate rating scale for municipalities since the early 1900's, this recent change certainly is both welcome and long overdue. *Continued on page 3*



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Arbor Day Foundation Names Bedford Tree City USA® Community

Taken from Arbor Day Foundation Press Release, May 19, 2010

 Bedford, MA was recognized by the nonprofit Arbor Day Foundation as a Tree City USA community for its commitment to urban forestry.

It is the tenth year Bedford has earned this national designation.

The Tree City USA program is sponsored by the Arbor Day Foundation in cooperation with the National Association of State Foresters and the USDA Forest Service.

Bedford has met the four standards to become a Tree City USA community. Tree City USA communities must have a tree board or department, a tree-care ordinance, a comprehensive community forestry program, and an Arbor Day observance and proclamation.

“We commend Bedford’s elected officials, volunteers and its citizens for providing vital care for its urban forest,” said John Rosenow, chief executive and founder of the Arbor Day Foundation. “Trees provide numerous environmental, economical and health benefits to millions of people each day, and we applaud communities that make planting and caring for trees a top priority.”

Communities that earn Tree City USA recognition not only have taken the time to meet the four stan-

dards, they know that trees:

- Promote healthier communities by filtering the air we breathe by removing dust and other particles.
- Moderate climate, conserve water and provide vital habitat for wildlife.
- Reduce the heat island effect in urban areas caused by pavement and buildings.
- Increase property values and reduce energy use and add beauty to our homes and neighborhoods.



More information about Tree City USA can be found at www.arborday.org/TreeCityUSA.

About the Arbor Day Foundation

The Arbor Day Foundation is a nonprofit, environmental and education organization of nearly one million members, with a mission to inspire people to plant, nurture, and celebrate trees. More information on the Foundation and its programs can be found at www.arborday.org.

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
- Fair Housing Committee
- Housing Partnership
- Patriotic Holiday Committee
- Youth and Family Services
- Zoning Board of Appeals

To fill out a Questionnaire for Volunteers form, visit our website at www.bedfordma.gov and click on Committees. Questionnaires should be printed, completed, and mailed to the Town Manager's Office, Town Hall at 10 Mudge Way, Bedford, MA 01730.

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

Planning a Social Function?



An ex-Boston and Maine Railroad diesel rail car is available for rental. Located at 120 South Road, the car is adjacent to the Minuteman Bikeway. It has an historic railroading section, and the former baggage car has been cleared for table/chair setups for small meetings and parties and is also air conditioned. Support facilities, including refrigerator, coffee brewer, and sink, are located in the adjacent Freight House. Rest rooms are available at the rear of the Freight

House.

Weddings/receptions, showers, birthday parties, meetings: all space needs are available in Old Town Hall's Great Room and at Town Center. The beautifully decorated Great Room in Old Town Hall has an adjacent catering kitchen. Alcohol is allowed with authorization by the Selectmen once permitting procedures are met.

Town Center offers first floor space for seating of 100 and has a fully operating kitchen. This space is ideal for children's birthday parties as Town Center is adjacent to the Bedford Community Playground and often parties break for outside activity on the playground equipment.



The second floor of Town Center offers the Union School Room with its wooden floor, and it is used primarily for dance and exercise classes. The Flint Room, also on the second floor, is set up principally in theatre style for meetings, often those with speakers. Two smaller conference rooms are located on the second floor.

To view the various spaces for your activity contact Fay Russo at 781-275-4880 or email: frusso@bedfordma.gov.

Book Discussion at the Council on Aging

Please join us for this library-sponsored book discussion held at the Council on Aging. This month's selection is *Mrs. Astor Regrets: The Hidden Betrayals of a Family Beyond Reproach* by Meryl Gordon.

Tuesday, June 29, 2010
1:00 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.
Council on Aging, Town Center Building



Visit our website at www.bedfordma.gov/coa for a full calendar of upcoming events and activities.

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:

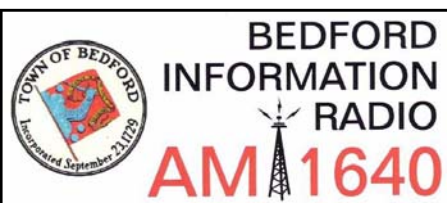


June 26th
July 10th & 24th
August 7th & 21st
September 18th

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

In accordance with state law, yardwaste 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.



Town of Bedford
Bedford Byline

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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.

Concerts on the Common 2010

Concerts are held on the Town Common at 7:00 p.m. If the weather does not cooperate, concerts will be cancelled or rescheduled (depending upon the band's availability).



July 2: Porch Rockers

Please note that this concert will precede the Town of Bedford fireworks. The location will be the Veterans Administration Hospital grounds on Springs Road. The inclement weather date for the fireworks and the Porch Rockers concert will be July 3.

The Porch Rockers sing blues, country, and roots music in the tradition of Muddy Waters, Hank Williams, B.B. King, Elvis Presley, Bob Dylan, and Eric Clapton.

July 8: Bedford Big Band

The Bedford Big Band is a 21-piece big band performing swing and big band music including jazz, Latin rhythms, waltzes, R&B, and contemporary arrangements.



July 15: Eye 2 Eye

Eye 2 Eye is an eight-member ensemble that performs fresh mixes of R&B, Motown, Top 40, jazz, calypso, reggae, and classic hits to keep people dancing all night long.

July 22: Soul of Boston

Soul of Boston - Hot R&B for your soul!

July 29: BeatleTracks

BeatleTracks is a Beatles tribute band committed to recreating and performing authentic-sounding music of the Beatles live in concert.

Sign Up For Bedford's SAFE HOMES

Submitted by Youth & Family Services Prevention Services Coordinator Jessica Santos

The Safe Homes program is a support network for Bedford parents with children in grades 6-12 who are concerned about alcohol and drug use at pre-teen and teen parties and gatherings.

directory, with an update to your children's grade levels, unless you request that it be removed.



Through Safe Homes, we are encouraging parents of Bedford middle school and high school students to make a pledge that they will provide a safe environment for youth when they have parties or gatherings in their homes - safe from alcohol, drugs, firearms, and other hazardous items.

If you have not already done so, you are encouraged to join the Safe Homes program and make it clear that you are committed to providing a safe environment for teen parties and gatherings.

This year we are trying to get the word out earlier. You can sign up online for Safe Homes by going to our website: www.bedfordma.gov/youth; go to the Prevention Services link and click on the box that says Sign Up Online. You can also download the Safe Homes flyer and pledge form and mail it to Bedford Youth & Family Services, Town Center, 12 Mudge Way, Bedford, MA 01730.

Let's join together to keep all our youth healthy and safe. For more information or questions about the Safe Homes program please call Jessica Santos, Prevention Services Coordinator at 781-275-7727 ext. 262.

The names of those who make the pledge will be included in the Safe Homes Directory - including the grade level of their children, address, and telephone number. The directory is mailed only to those who have made the pledge.



Last year, 260 families of students in grades 6-12 signed the pledge, and we hope to double that number this year. If you made the pledge last year, your name will remain in the

Moody's AAA Bond Rating

(Continued from page 1)

While there have been, and continue to be, several other Massachusetts communities that have an AAA rating, the Town's Financial Advisor, First Southwest Company, informed us that, as of this date, Bedford was the only Massachusetts community that was elevated to an AAA rating for reasons attributable to the global rating scale.

As was stated in the May Byline article, the purpose of a bond rating is to provide investors in Town

bonds with an assessment of the Town's credit worthiness. Much like a person's personal credit score, the higher the rating a community receives, the better it is perceived in the marketplace as a well run, financially sound community.

Certainly the AAA rating by two of the nation's most prestigious bond rating agencies serves us well and instills even greater confidence in our stability. This has a definite and very positive effect on the ultimate interest rates that we will pay on the bonds that we issue and this, of course, benefits our taxpayers.

New Resources Available at the Bedford Public Library

NEW! Laptops to Borrow in the Library!

Thanks to the generosity of our Friends of the Library, we now have two laptops available for use in the library.

Details:

Checkout loan period: Four hours.

Loan restrictions: Must be 18 years or older.

System: Windows 7 Professional Edition.

Programs: Microsoft Office 2007 Suite.

Internet Access: Available through the library's wireless service, using our guest login.

Printing capability: Not available at this time.

Please ask at the Circulation Desk for availability.



New Database in the Library: New England Ancestors!

This online resource includes dozens of genealogical databases from the New England Historic Genealogical Society, including full text of the New England Historical and Genealogical Record, The Search for Missing Friends, and Massachusetts Vital Records 1841-1910. It fills gaps not supplied by our other genealogical databases.

This database can only be accessed in the library.

Also available for genealogical researchers:

Ancestry.com (in-library use only)

HeritageQuest Online (available from home)

Teens: Make Your Summer Sizzle with SUMMERAMA at the Library!



SUMMERAMA!!

Beginning Wednesday, June 23

Ages: Middle school and older

Time: Wednesdays this summer, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

Location: Bedford Library Meeting Room, First Floor

Food & Beverage provided

First Two Events:

Wednesday, June 23:

"LOL" Movie (Title to be determined) - Be sure to **"Bring Your Own Laughs!"**

Wednesday, June 30:

"Combat Boredom with Board Games" - one-on-one; team games; lots of fun!

Co-sponsored by the Friends of the Bedford Library and Bedford Youth & Family Services. For more information please visit the library's website at www.bedfordlibrary.net or contact Dee Clarke, Teen Reference Librarian at 781-275-9440 or Jessica Santos, Bedford YFS Prevention Services Coordinator at 781-275-7727.

Save the Date for Bedford Day 2010

This year's annual Bedford Day celebration will be held on Saturday, September 25, 2010. In the event of severe, inclement weather, Bedford Day will be held on Saturday, October 2, 2010.

The Bedford Day fair will run from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. Applications for the fair and parade are due **on or before August 13, 2010**. Applications are available online at www.bedfordrecreation.org or can be picked up in person at the Recreation Department offices located at 12 Mudge Way.

Please join us this fall for our annual Town tradition!



Bedford's Safe Routes to School Program

Submitted by Safe Routes to School Coordinator Carla Baer

Do you know Bedford has a Safe Routes to School (SRTS) program? The Bedford Youth Task Force (TF) first partnered with the Massachusetts Safe Routes to School program in the spring of 2009 when Lane School signed on as a partner school. Then in June, when the TF was awarded a grant from the Northwest Suburban Health Alliance/Community Health Network Area 15 to increase SRTS efforts, they hired a coordinator to facilitate outreach to the Town and residents in order to promote active living and expand the program to the other eligible schools. To date, all three eligible schools - Job Lane Elementary, Davis Elementary, and John Glenn Middle School - have signed on to the program. Lane School has been the leadership school in the endeavor, holding several walk/bike events, as well as bicycle safety training for all fourth graders.

Bedford's SRTS initiative is striving to encourage a naturally more healthy and active lifestyle from an early age by supporting children walking and bicycling to school. The program offers education, resources, support, and encouragement, while making bicycling and walking to school safer and more appealing. In addition, SRTS strives to facilitate the planning, development, and implementation of projects and activities that improve safety and reduce traffic, fuel consumption, and air pollution in the vicinity of our schools.



SRTS Coordinator Carla Baer with YFS Director Sue Baldauf presenting the Bedford Youth Task Force SRTS program display at the Community Health Network Area (CHNA) 15 Annual Meeting and Grant Showcase in Concord May 20th.

The Bedford SRTS program is overseen by an SRTS Task Force that includes representatives from Schools, Police, Health, Planning, Public Works, Bicycle Advisory Committee, Transportation Committee, Youth and Family Services, and the Massachusetts Department of Transportation (DOT) SRTS program. Looking forward, the program hopes to engage more students and residents in the initiative and impact lifestyle changes that will benefit all Bedford residents. They have applied for several grants to continue to support the program, including a DOT grant for an infrastructure assessment for the Hayden Lane approach to Lane School and a grant for bicycles to support the bike safety training at Lane.

For more information about SRTS, please contact SRTS Coordinator Carla Baer at 781-275-7727 on Thursdays, via email at saf-routes@bedfordma.gov, or online at www.bedfordma.gov/youth.

Bedford Receives Government Finance Officers Association Award

By Finance Director Peter P. Naum

Town officials were recently notified, by way of a GFOA news release, of the following:

"That for the sixth consecutive year, the Town has been awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) of the United States and Canada for its Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) for Fiscal Year 2009. The Certificate of Achievement is the highest form of recognition in the area of governmental accounting and financial reporting and its attainment represents

a significant accomplishment by a government and its management.

The CAFR has been judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the program including a constructive spirit of full disclosure to clearly communicate its financial story and motivate potential users and user groups to read the CAFR.

The GFOA is a nonprofit professional association serving approximately 17,500 government finance professionals with offices in Chicago, IL and Washington, D. C."

Affordable Unit for Sale in Bedford

The Bedford Affordable Housing Committee announces the availability of one unit of affordable housing at Shawsheen Ridge, 45 Shawsheen Road, Bedford. This condominium unit is a 1,548 square foot, two bedroom, 1 & 1/2 bath townhouse, priced to sell for \$139,378.



Applications are available at the Town Hall, Public Library, and on the Town's website, www.bedfordma.gov. Completed applications will be received in the office of the Town Manager, 10 Mudge Way, until the firm deadline of 12:00 noon, July 2. Applicants may request that an application be mailed or ask for further information

by calling 781-275-1111.

Eligibility for the unit will include strict criteria for applicants:

- Buyers must not have owned a home in the past three years.
- There may be no more than four members in the household.
- A maximum gross family income of no more than 80% of Boston area median income (\$51,550 for 2 people, \$58,000 for 3 people, \$64,400 for 4 people).
- A maximum asset limitation of \$75,000.

A lottery will be held to select an eligible buyer, and preference in the lottery will be given to applicants with a Bedford connection.

Make a Splash at Springs Brook Park This Summer!

Springs Brook Park is located at 181 Springs Road just before the Veterans Hospital. It is a man-made filtered swimming facility set back in a beautiful wooded setting and features beaches, swim lanes, charcoal grills, shaded picnic areas, volleyball and basketball courts, and much more. Springs Brook Park is fully staffed by lifeguards/swim instructors who are certified in water safety, lifeguard training, first aid, and professional rescuer CPR.

Hours of Operation - 2010

June 10 - August 15:
10:00 a.m. - 7:30 p.m.
August 16 - August 29:
11:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Season Membership 2010

Purchase at the Recreation Office or at the park (until 4:00 p.m.) & fill out membership forms. Membership guarantees admission during periods of restricted admittance due to overcrowding or lifeguard shortages.



Prices:	Resident	Non-Resident
Individual	\$85	\$110
Family*	\$240	\$305

*Family memberships consist of parents and their children living at the same address. Extended family members/daycare children add'l fee.

Two Week Pass Option

Valid only during a 2-week period of swim lesson session (Mon—Fri); \$40 per person/\$120 per family.

Senior Citizen (age 65+)

No charge, but must be registered at the Recreation Office. Seniors may register by phone, mail, or in person.

Daily Admission

Mon - Fri: \$7/person ages 1 and up
Sat & Sun: \$9/person ages 1 & up
Max. \$25/family weekdays only (not on weekends or holidays)

Due to crowding issues the weekend family rate has been eliminated.

After 4:30 p.m.: \$3/person

*No charge for children under age 1

*No fee after 5:30 p.m.

Weekend family passes available for Bedford Residents only at the Recreation Office (\$25 per pass).

Private/Semi-Private Swim Lessons

For children and adults ages 3 & up. During non-swim lesson hours, and instructors' off-duty time. Sign up at the park only, with a Director. High demand - first come, first served; availability not guaranteed. Please make checks payable to the Town of Bedford.

Private: 1 student - \$25/hour; \$20/half hour / Semi-Private: Additional \$5 per student at above prices.

Swim Lesson Fees (full lesson schedule available on the Recreation website at www.bedfordrecreation.org)

	SBP Member	Non-Member
Resident Fees:	\$30	\$50
Non-Resident Fees:	\$40	\$60

Please visit the Recreation Department's website for more information, including a full brochure and list of special events and programs: www.bedfordrecreation.org.

