

# Stoughton Town Crier

TOWN OF STOUGHTON UPDATED AUGUST 7, 2023 ROBERTA HARBACK



All information taken from various Town of Stoughton pages

# FAMILY FUN DAY

TUESDAY, AUGUST 8th 2023

11:00 AM - 2:00 PM | Ames Pond Beachfront



- DJ and Magician!
- Face Painter
- Balloon Artist
- Sand Castle Competition  
(Judging begins at 1 pm)
- and more!

Passes required for entry

[WWW.STOUGHTONREC.ORG](http://WWW.STOUGHTONREC.ORG)



**Passes required,  
may be purchased at the gate**



## *New Elementary School Building Project Update*

### **Enrollment Size Determined for New Elementary School Building Project**

Stoughton Public Schools  
AUG 01, 2023

One of the ongoing discussions for the new elementary school building project has been the enrollment size for a new building, and expanding the scope of the project to more than just simply replacing the aging and outdated South Elementary School. A school with a smaller design enrollment would just focus on building a new South School, and a school with a larger design enrollment would allow for the District to have more students attend the new school and consolidate the number of elementary school buildings in town from the current number of five to four. The School Committee voted on July 26 to support the larger enrollment plan.

As part of this vote, the South Elementary School, along with the Wilkins Elementary School were determined to be the schools that would be closed when the new elementary school opens. The Wilkins School is the next elementary school prioritized for replacement, and consolidating the number of elementary schools will allow the District to determine how best to repurpose the Wilkins School. Building a larger school will also present long-term cost savings for the town, as opposed to having to construct two separate new elementary school buildings.

This plan will also involve the eventual redistricting and re-drawing of the current elementary school district boundaries, rebalancing the number of students attending each school and reducing pockets of overcrowding. Therefore, each elementary school - the new school, along with the Dawe, Gibbons, and Hansen - will be able to more effectively educate all of our students.

This project is still years away from completion, so consolidation and redistricting will not take place until fall of 2027. Students will remain at the school they currently attend until then. However, in order to move forward in the planning process, a decision needed to be made for the new building's enrollment at this time.

"After reviewing all the options, the School Committee feels strongly that the new consolidated elementary school is the best choice for the students and town of Stoughton, and we are excited for the opportunities this will allow the District to pursue," School Committee Chair Katherine Weiss said.

For more information about the new elementary school building project, please visit the project website.

# STOUGHTON FIRE DEPARTMENT



1550 Central St. Stoughton, MA 02072



Stoughton Residents,  
August 3, 2023

Stoughton Fire Department is sending this letter to notify you of the Fire Station construction at 400 Prospect St. The project is on schedule and still under budget, although there are two outcroppings of granite that the construction company has been hammering apart for several weeks. The contractor has decided to blast the granite to expedite the process and save money. This is a widespread process in Stoughton, in the last two years we have had approximately 60 days of blasting and each day of blasting encompasses 3-6 blasts. This blasting work will begin on Wednesday, August 9th, 2023 and will continue for approximately three weeks. Stoughton fire department details firefighters at all blasting sites to ensure all laws and regulations are followed.

Commercial explosives and the blasting industry are regulated by many state and federal agencies. In Massachusetts, 527 CMR 1.00 is the primary regulation that applies to explosives licensing, permitting, storage, sales, use, transportation, and manufacture. 527 CMR 1.00 is administered through the Department of Fire Services, Mass Division of Fire Safety, and Stoughton Fire Department

Federal agencies that regulate explosives include:

- Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives (ATF)– sales and storage
- Department of Transportation (DOT)–Transportation
- Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)– construction use and handling
- Mining Safety and Health Administration (MSHA)–mining use and handling

State:

Department of Fire Service

Local:

Stoughton Fire Department- permitting and oversight/witness of work

## Massachusetts, 527 CMR 1.00

**Section 65.9.15 Pre-blast Inspection Surveys** When blasting takes place within 250 feet of a property not owned or controlled by the project, a free survey must be offered to the property owner

**NFPA 495, 2013 Edition** Warnings The blaster must sound warnings when ready to fire a blast.

**NFPA 495, 2013 Edition, Chapter 11** Allowable Limits of Effects of Blasting Limits that are set for vibration and noise that result from a blast.

**527 CMR 1.00 Section 65.9.14.4** contains the requirements for the use of a seismograph.

**Section 65.9.18 Blasting Regulatory Review** If a property owner thinks that damage occurred as a result of blasting, they should file a regulatory review form with the fire department within 30 days of the blasting.

## **Frequently Asked Questions:**

### **How are blasting noise and vibration measured?**

A seismograph is used to measure blasting noise and vibration. Seismographs are set up next to the closest structure to the blast site. The machines record the ground vibration and noise generated by the blast. The information is used to determine if the blast has exceeded limits set in the regulations.

### **Does the blaster keep records?**

The blaster is required to keep detailed records of each blast. The records contain the size, time, and location of the blast, the amount of explosives used, and the results of the seismograph monitoring.

### **Will you hear or feel the blast?**

You may hear or feel a blast depending on your distance from the blasting site. Humans are sensitive to noise and sound. What you feel does not necessarily mean that damage is occurring. Let the blasting company know if you are being startled or if you have other concerns about what is taking place.

### **What if I am sure that blasting damage has occurred?**

If you feel that damage has occurred to your property, fill out a Blasting Regulatory Review Form. The form (FP-296) is available from the local fire department (and on the DFS website under Fire Prevention Forms) and must be submitted to the local fire department within 30 days of the blasting incident. The blasting company will then be required to submit records to the fire department for the blasts in question. The records will be reviewed by both the fire department and the Division of Fire Safety for any violations of the regulations. The blasting company, or its insurance company, is also required to respond to the claimant and investigate the claim.

### **What precautions can be taken before blasting starts?**

If you are offered a pre-blast survey, accept the offer. The survey is an inventory of the existing conditions of the property. It is also an opportunity for the property owner to ask questions and the blasting company to educate citizens. If you have any concerns or questions, raise them during the pre-blast survey. The blasting company should be ready and willing to answer questions and address concerns.

Here is a link to a video of what a typical blasting looks like. Please note the proximity of the UMass building to the area of work.

<http://baystateblasting.com/home/video-gallery/>

Any questions ?contact the Stoughton Fire Department at 781-344-3170

Respectfully,

Chief Michael Carroll  
Stoughton Fire Department



**STOUGHTON FIRE DEPARTMENT**

1550 Central Street  
Stoughton, Massachusetts, 02072  
Business Phone: (781) 344-3170  
Business Fax: (781) 341-3927



Michael Carroll  
Chief of Department  
[mcarroll@stoughton-ma.gov](mailto:mcarroll@stoughton-ma.gov)

Jackson Macomber  
Assistant Fire Chief  
[jmacomber@stoughton-ma.gov](mailto:jmacomber@stoughton-ma.gov)

# This week at SMAC TV...

Verizon: Public 28 / Education 26 / Government 24  
Comcast: Public 9 / Education 6 / Government 8

Don't Just  
Watch TV  
- MAKE IT! -

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!  
Are you interested in producing  
your own show, volunteering, or  
learning how to edit??

For more information, contact  
Anya Zulawnik, Station Manager

**781-341-1708**

email: [azulawnik@stoughtontv.com](mailto:azulawnik@stoughtontv.com)

**Please be advised that the Comcast  
SMAC Government Channel 98  
has moved to Channel 8.**



**[www.stoughtontv.com](http://www.stoughtontv.com)**



THURSDAY, AUGUST 24, 2023 AT 10:30 AM

# **Lifting Spirits Miniature Therapy Horses with The Stoughton COA and Rec. Department**

Public · Event by **Stoughton MA Coa**

**Halloran Park**

# STOUGHTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS



## HIRING FAIR

JOIN OUR TEAM!



### WE'RE HIRING SUPPORT STAFF POSITIONS:

- Paraprofessionals
- School Security Monitors
- Substitute Teachers
- Custodians
- Food Service

**Tuesday, August 15, 2023  
9am - 1pm  
Jones School (137 Walnut St.)**

- Apply and interview for job openings
- Bring a copy of your resume and ID
- Coffee & refreshments will be provided

Get a head start!  
Visit [Stoughtonschools.org](http://Stoughtonschools.org)  
or SchoolSpring to see  
current job opportunities.

Stoughton Public  
Library  
Presents

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Your  
Voice



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**SOLA**  
SUPPORT OUR LIBRARY  
ASSOCIATION, INC.

## SUMMER EVENTS | FOR KIDS

### August Events



#### Little Superheroes Puppet Show In English and Portuguese

Kids can change the world! Ruby Raccoon and Benny Bunny are little superheroes in training. This amazing puppet show will feature portions in both English and Portuguese. This program is generously sponsored by a grant from the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

Thursday, August 3rd  
at 2:00 PM



#### Drop In Crafts for ages 3-12

Join Ms. Stacey and Ms. Amy for drop in crafts! A variety of summer themed crafts will be available to do in the community room.

Thursday, August 10th  
at 2:00 PM



#### Julie Stepanek In Concert

Julie Stepanek will be putting on a program full of fun singalongs and call and responses that are sure to delight the young and young at heart. Located at the South School located at 171 Ash St.

Monday, August 7th  
at 10:00 AM



#### Summer Reading Finale Talewise: Science Heroes

In this action-packed story, two unlikely heroes work together to save their town (and the planet) from a super-polluting mastermind!

Friday, August 11th  
at 2:00 PM



#### End of Summer Celebration At Halloran Park

Let's celebrate the end of summer reading! Join us for outdoor games with Knucklebones, a dance party with Carolina Pokraka, and free snow cones with the Kona Ice Truck! Halloran park is on Pierce St. No registration required.

Thursday, August 10th  
10:30-11:30 AM



#### Art "Storywalk" with Carol Rothenstein

Join local artist Carol Rothenstein for a tour of her current art display at the SPL! Recommended for ages 8-12 and their caregivers. Some images have strong content of the pandemic and current events. Registration required.

Thursday, August 24th  
at 2:00 PM

"Find Your Voice" is sponsored by the Stoughton Public library, the Massachusetts Library System, the Boston Bruins, SOLA, The Stoughton Cultural Council, the Massachusetts Board of Library Commissioners, and the Institute of Museum and Library Services with support from the National Women's Hockey League team Boston Pride.



## Stoughton Public Library

84 Park St. | Stoughton, Massachusetts 02072 | 781-344-2711 | [www.stoughtonlibrary.org](http://www.stoughtonlibrary.org)

# Free Teen Program

Every Wednesday 5-7  
all summer long

Come to one or come to them all and  
enjoy some ice cream, art projects and animals.

Thank you MA Audubon and DCR



JUL 5 – AUG 16

JOIN US EVERY  
WEDNESDAY | 5-7 PM FOR  
ART PROJECTS, ICE CREAM, LIVE  
ANIMALS AND MORE!

STOUGHTON RECREATION  
15 Pleasant St. in Stoughton



For additional information contact  
[recreation@stoughton-ma.gov](mailto:recreation@stoughton-ma.gov) or  
781-341-1300 x9244

# Prospect Street Under Construction



C. Naughton will begin the water main replacement on Prospect St.

This project is expected to last through the early fall.

Please proceed with caution



## at our newest addition to the Sanitation Fleet.

### Truck 26 is finally here

This truck was ordered two years ago as a result of the May 2021 Annual Town Meeting vote and appropriation.

Be on the lookout for our next addition, Truck 27, also approved and ordered after a December 2021 Special Town Meeting Vote.  
Coming Soon!

New curbside trash/solid waste regulation approved at last weeks Selectboard Meeting beginning October 1, 2023  
Details to follow.

The Selectboard also lowered the age from 70 years old to 65 years old to receive the senior discount on your trash bills. You do not have to reapply if you already have the discount.

If you have any questions please call  
781-341-1300 x9414 or x9379

## Youth Prevention Leader - Stoughton MassCALL3 Prevention Grant

**Wanted:** The Town of Stoughton's Substance Abuse Prevention Department is currently looking for high school students **from each of the following communities: Easton (3) and Stoughton (1)** to join our team and to help us support youth in the Region of Stoughton, Easton, Avon and Norwood.

**Job Description:** Youth Prevention Leaders will be responsible for implementing interviews, research and activities that focus on substance prevention in young people. Additionally, they will be responsible for submitting information they collect as well as paperwork (i.e. timesheets). Each student will be required to do a mini presentation at the end of the year on their experience. The successful candidate will be an excellent communicator with strong organizational and leadership skills.

**Commitment:** September 1, 2023 - June 30, 2024 (10 Hrs. per month)

**Rate:** \$15.00/Hour

### **Qualifications:**

- High School Student in Stoughton (1) / Easton (3)
- Ability to commit to at least 2 in-person hours per month at their community Prevention Office
- Self-starter
- Organized
- Good Communication Skills
- Motivated to serve the community

### **Benefits:**

- Gain awareness of substance misuse prevention
- Build public speaking and leadership skills
- Opportunity to meet community members
- Represent your high school
- Develop and maintain relationships with local businesses and community organizations
- Work with municipal government employees
- Leadership opportunities

**Training & Experience:** Youth leaders will receive training from their supervisor or other leaders in the organization. Training may include: learning about the organization's mission, programs, and activities; roles and responsibilities as an advocate for substance prevention in their community; leadership skills and techniques.

**Job Environment:** Youth leaders will be expected to participate in 1 one hour regional group meeting per month (may be either virtual or in person), as well as one in person meeting with the Town prevention coordinator per month. Other work will be completed independently.

Resumes will be accepted until position filled at: Human Resources Department, Town of Stoughton, 10 Pearl Street, Stoughton, MA 02072 AA/EOE, [tpereira@stoughton-ma.gov](mailto:tpereira@stoughton-ma.gov) .

*The Town of Stoughton is committed to the ongoing pursuit of strategic diversity initiatives that help to position diversity, equity, and inclusion as central to municipal and community-wide excellence in the town. In doing so, Stoughton strives for a town culture and environment that fosters a true sense of belonging for all and provides opportunity for everyone to participate equally and fully in the town, communities, and neighborhoods.*

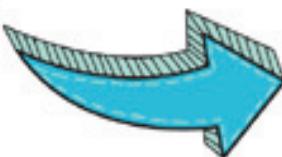
*"The Town of Stoughton is an **Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer** and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, gender or gender identity, familial status, disability, ancestry, age, marital status, public assistance status, sexual orientation, veteran history/military status or genetic information."*

# SEEKING OPINIONS

Stoughton Opioid Settlement \$\$  
Survey

Can you spare 5 minutes to give anonymous input into how Stoughton makes the best use of the settlement funds?

Scan this code

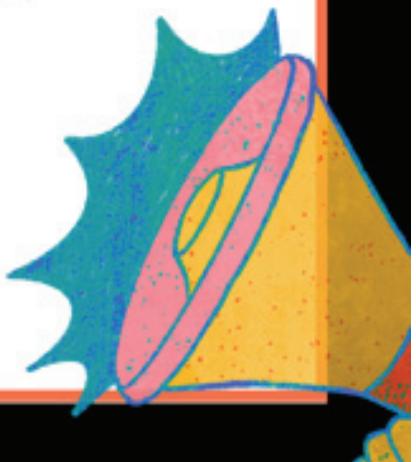


or visit:

<https://tinyurl.com/msxech7e>

Questions?

[spatton@stoughton-ma.gov](mailto:spatton@stoughton-ma.gov)



# Stoughton Lion's Club Summer Concert Series

**Sundays 5-7 pm - FREE!**

Gibbons Elementary School Soccer Fields  
235 Morton St

~~7/16 The Joe Kidd Band~~

~~7/23 Jack Raeke & the Supermags~~

~~7/30 The Jessie Liam Band~~

~~8/6 The Corvairs~~

~~8/13 Puddlefish~~

~~8/20 It Is What It Is~~

**Donations to the Lion's Club are welcome!**

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Stoughton Cultural Council,  
a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency



# Have you ever wondered, how do I become a Stoughton Firefighter?

The Stoughton Fire Department hires Paramedics from the Massachusetts firefighter civil service list. Below you will find two links. One to sign up for the Civil Service test and the other is for accredited paramedic programs in the state of Massachusetts.

Civil Service Exam: <https://www.mass.gov/info-details/2023-municipal-firefighter-examination>

Accredited paramedic programs: <https://www.mass.gov/service-details/find-an-accredited-emt-training-institution> look for approval levels to include paramedic.

## 2023 MUNICIPAL FIREFIGHTER EXAMINATION

The Human Resources Division (HRD) Civil Service Unit is administering this examination to establish an eligible list from which to fill Firefighter vacancies in Civil Service Fire Departments. This examination consists of two components which make up your total score; a written examination 50% and an entry level physical ability test (ELPAT) 50%.

- Written Examination Period: October 14, 2023 through October 21, 2023
- Application Open Date: July 1, 2023
- Application Deadline: August 29, 2023\*
- Examination Processing Fee: \$75.00 \*

\*There is an additional \$50 late fee for applications received after this date. Applications will not be accepted after September 12, 2023.



To apply, please go to  
<https://www.mass.gov/info-details/2023-municipal-firefighter-examination>



# AMES POND BEACHFRONT

June 23rd, 2023- August 18th, 2023

10:00 am - 5:00 pm

1000 Highland St. Stoughton MA

## DAY PASSES

Child (2-17) - Resident \$3 | Non-res \$5

Adult (18-55) - Resident \$5 | Non-res \$8

Senior (55+) - \$3

Available for purchase at the gate. Children under 2 are free

## SEASON PASSES

Family (up to 5 members) - Res \$75 | Non-res \$95

Child (2-17) - Resident \$20 | Non-res \$30

Adult (18-55) - Resident \$30 | Non-res \$40

Senior (55+) - \$5

Available for purchase in the office or at the gate

Passes can be purchased online or  
in person at our office located at  
15 Pleasant St.

Our hours are:  
Monday-Wednesday 8:30-4:30pm  
Thursday 8:30-7pm  
Friday 8:30-12 pm



[WWW.STOUGHTONREC.ORG](http://WWW.STOUGHTONREC.ORG)

Day passes are only available at the gate. Season passes can be purchased at the gate or the office. Passes purchased require proof of residency for resident rate. The Recreation Department reserves the right to void any season pass used inappropriately or if the pass holder's behavior deems it necessary.

# Welcome to the Town Manager's Office!

On December 12, 2022 I was honored to begin my career in Stoughton. After enjoying a successful career in business, as a State Legislator and as a Town Administrator, I've taken on this challenge with eyes wide open. From a career of professional experiences, successes and mistakes, I join the Town well prepared to meet the challenges, and leverage the opportunities before us. It's hard to believe that almost 3 months have already passed. I apologize for not reaching out sooner. I want you to know that I am true and committed to several core values.

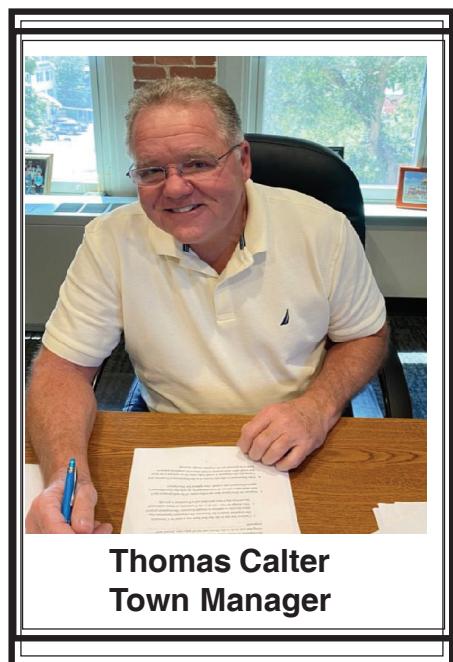
First, you can always expect transactional honesty from me. I will respectfully say what I mean and mean what I say. Second, I am committed to openness and full transparency. Secrets, hidden agendas and old grievances will not play any part in my decision making process nor, will they eat up the valuable time needed to do this job properly. Third, you can always expect me to use prudent fiscal judgement. We have real financial challenges and clear solutions which will require your understanding and support. I am not promising a "Rose Garden". I am promising however, that within three years, the Town of Stoughton will stand on a strong financial footing.

We have some challenges that are among my top priorities. As Stoughton looks forward to its 300th Anniversary, it's important to understand that our infrastructure is old and has been neglected for decades. We seldom appreciate the value of clean running water and efficient waste management until those services are interrupted or lost. We all share 112 miles of Stoughton roads. Only 24.1 miles require minimal or no maintenance. As we develop a long-term infrastructure plan, we need to coordinate the replacement of 100 year old water and waste water distribution lines with the pavement of those roads. We need to replace water meters that are not properly recording water consumption. This may appear to be getting into the weeds. However, the condition of our water and sewer lines, town buildings, and town roads is beneath the standard you deserve. Meeting those challenges is among my top priorities. Meeting you and hearing your views will be among my greatest joys!

In closing, I want you to know that openness, transparency and constituent service are among my core values. Those values served me well as a business executive, business owner, legislator and municipal leader. Your confidence in Stoughton town government is needed in order for us to move our common agenda forward. I ask that you stay in touch, stay involved, share your thoughts and make your voice heard.

Respectfully,

Thomas J. Calter



Thomas Calter  
Town Manager