

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

AUGUST 13, 2024

1. TOWN CLERK ELECTION UPDATES



The sample ballots are on our webpage showing the Democratic, Republican and Libertarian Ballots: <https://www.town.dennis.ma.us/377/Election-Information>

Below are the bullet points to know:

- 3 ways to Vote: Vote-by-Mail, Early Voting In Person or Election Day.
- This past week: the Secretary of State's office mailed out the "Vote-by-Mail" postcards. Please note that this is an application and not the ballot. If you are using this postcard to receive a Vote-by-Mail ballot, you must sign the postcard. Also, if you are an "Unenrolled" Voter (Independent), since this is a Primary, you will need to check off whether you would like a Democratic, Republican or Libertarian Ballot. This will not change your Political Party Designation. If you are Unenrolled, you will remain Unenrolled.
- August 24, 2024: Last day to Register to vote and/or change your Political Party for the State Primary.
- August 24, 2024 – August 30, 2024: Early Voting In-Person at the Dennis Town Hall, Prue Room, hours: Sat, August 24, 2024 10 am – 4 pm, August 26-August 30, 2024 Mon-Fri 8:30 am – 4:30 pm.
- August 26, 2024: Vote-by-Mail application Deadline for the State Primary, 5:00 pm.
- August 30, 2024: Deadline to vote by Absentee at the Town Clerk's Office for the State Primary, 5:00 pm.
- Once the Town Clerk's Office receives your ballot, whether it be Vote-by-Mail or Early Voting In-Person or Absentee, it is considered a "cast ballot".
- Vote-by-Mail ballots can be either Mailed, dropped off at the Town Clerk's office or dropped off in our "Official Ballot Drop Box" in front of the Town Hall. Ballots cannot be hand delivered by the Voter to a Voting Precinct. They must be returned to the Town Clerk's office by 8:00 pm on Election night, September 3, 2024.

Precinct Locations are as follows for the State Primary:

- Precinct 1: Carleton Hall, 1006 Old Bass River Road, Dennis
- Precinct 2: Dennis Senior Center, 1045 Route 134, East Dennis
- Precinct 3: Dennis Public Library, 5 Hall St., Dennis Port
- Precinct 4: 1867 West Dennis Graded School House, 67 School Street, West Dennis
- Precinct 5: Dennis Police Station, 90 Bob Crowell Road, South Dennis

Track my Ballot:

The Secretary of State's Office has set up a Track-my-ballot system for all Elections. The website is: www.trackmyballotMA.com

This website will show:

1. That the application has been received.
2. When the Ballot has been mailed from the Town Clerk's Office.
3. When the Ballot has been received by the Town Clerk's office.

Should you have any questions, please contact the Town Clerk's office at (508) 760-6112.

2. PROGRAMS AT THE DENNIS PUBLIC LIBRARY

August Art Show

August 2024

During the month of August our meeting room will feature artwork by artist Maureen MacAdams. Maureen resides in the seaside town of Winthrop with her husband, Gary, and their pets, Gus (a rescue dog) and Dr. Seuss (a big black cat). A graduate of Winthrop High School; she was awarded a scholarship to Chamberlayne College, Boston, and earned a degree in Interior Design. She has practiced her design skills for over 40 years.

Maureen is not fixed on one craft or media and has dabbled with yarn, fabric, quilting, wallpaper, paint, pastels, oils, and colored pencils, as well as driftwood, and sea glass. Her current projects have included broken jewelry being shaped into objects of nature. Maureen has a knack for taking ordinary and embellishing items, recreating their use, and transforming their functions and appearances, and producing pleasing spaces or art features, and revising a piece of furniture with great satisfaction. Two pieces were featured in a juried exhibit at the Hull Lifesaving Museum in Hull, Massachusetts in April 2023. In spring of 2024, she was honored with a third-place ribbon for driftwood art using acrylics and second-place for mixed media at the Winthrop Art Festival.

"The ocean and mountains of New England bring me such peace and tranquility. I love spending a day by the sea breathing in salt air, or a walk in the woods enjoying the overpowering scent of spruce and balsam. In both situations, I seek out elements I can use creatively."

3. PROGRAMS AT THE DCAL

BEAT THE HEAT

Let's talk about how to stay cool and healthy this summer. These simple tips, from a Harvard Health Publishing article, will help you stay safe and enjoy the summer:

Dr. Kalpana Shankar, director of Geriatric Emergency Medicine at Brigham and Women's hospital, recommends the following steps to ward off heat-related health problems:

Stay hydrated. Drink lots of water before going outside and then during outdoor activities. Avoid caffeinated beverages and alcohol, which can make you more dehydrated. Remember that you can also get fluids from eating foods high in water content, such as cucumbers, watermelon, lettuce, and strawberries.

Go outside before or after the daily high temperatures. Whether it's your daily walk, yard work, or another outdoor activity, try to do it before or after the sun is high in the sky and temperatures are the hottest.

Dress the part. Wear lightweight and light-colored clothing when you go outside, so your clothes do not absorb the heat. Wear sunblock and sunglasses, too.

Look for the shade. If possible, head for the shade when outdoors or use an umbrella labeled as providing UV protection.

Cool down. Seek air-conditioned environments, take a cool bath or shower, and limit strenuous activity.

Stay alert. “Watch for signs of heat intolerance,” Dr. Shankar warns, “and don’t be fooled just because you’re not sweating. If you have any symptoms, get a cool drink and call for help .”¹

Check weather sources regularly and have a cooling plan. Dennis Center for Active Living is a Town of Dennis cooling station and is a great option during business hours M-F. We can provide transportation to and from the center . After hours and on weekends, the Dennis Police Department is the cooling station.

DCAL Human Services Outreach Coordinator 774-352-3042

¹ Godman, H . (2022, June 1) . *Warning: Older age makes you vulnerable to the summer heat.* Harvard Health Publishing . Retrieved May 21, 2024, from <https://www.health.harvard.edu/diseases-and-conditions/warning-older-age-makes-you-vulnerable-to-the-summer-heat>

- Destination Respite – for caregivers who need a break.
 - Friendly Visitor and Reassurance Call programs.
 - Fuel Assistance – help paying heating bills.
 - Golden Age Program (GAP) is our Social Day program for persons living with cognitive impairment (ie: Alzheimers/Dementias) .
 - PEARLS is our short-term mental health program.
 - Food Programs- opportunities for access to food if this is a need.

 - Grief Support – please call for info re: the next group opportunity.
- For more information on the Dennis Center for Active living and programming check out the latest Cranberry Scoop here. <https://www.town.dennis.ma.us/DocumentCenter/View/2555/Cranberry-Scoop-July-Aug-2024-Edition-PDF>

DCAL Human Services Assistant Outreach Coordinator 774-352-3048

Call Julie at 774-352-3047 for more info on our on-going programs and resources

4. REMINDER SPECIAL TOWN MEETING

Special Town Meeting will be held on Tuesday, October 1st, at 7:00PM at the Dennis-Yarmouth Intermediate School located at 286 Station Ave. S. Yarmouth, MA. 02664

The Select Board will commence review of Town meeting articles during the month of July and continue through August and once complete the Warrant will be published in September.

August 13, 2024 is the Citizen Petition deadline for the October 1st Special Town Meeting, due by 4PM to the Town Clerk’s Office.

September 20, 2024 is the last day to register to vote in the Special Town Meeting.

5. NEXT MEETING DATES OF THE DENNIS SELECT BOARD

The Dennis Select Board will meet on August 27, 2024 for regularly scheduled business. Upcoming meeting dates of the Select Board can be found on the [Town of Dennis website here](#).

All are welcome to attend and participate in our open and public meetings. The agenda for each meeting is posted 48 business hours prior to the scheduled meeting time and can be accessed through the Select Board’s webpage or the Town calendar webpage.

Attend in-person at the Town Hall, Stone Meeting Room. Or for alternative public access join the meeting online via zoom <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/7660036712> or participate by phone by dialing 1-646-558-8656 and entering Conference ID 766 003 6712 #.

6. JOIN THE TEAM – THE TOWN OF DENNIS IS HIRING

Are you or someone you know looking for work? The Town of Dennis is hiring! Several full and part-time positions available. Apply and view current job openings [here](#).

Respectfully,

Elizabeth C. Sullivan, Town Administrator