



FEBRUARY 8, 2022

UPDATES FROM THE TOWN MANAGER'S OFFICE

WINCHESTER, MA

NOTIFICATIONS FROM THE TOWN

The Town uses two systems to send out notifications.

- **Winchester Aware** - This is the Town's Reverse 911 System. You can sign up for emergency notifications such as severe weather alerts including parking bans, major roadway projects and closures, crime patterns and more. You can sign up for these alerts from the Services section on our homepage.
- **Notify Me** - These are non-emergency alerts from the Town's website. You can sign up for notifications on alerts, meeting notifications and news items. You can sign up for these alerts from the Notify Me news posting on the front page of the website.

These alerts are also posted on the Town's Facebook and Twitter accounts.

WINCHESTER LIBRARY - CHILDREN'S ROOM CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Black Lives Matter: Booklist for Kids - Martin Luther King Jr. Day is behind us, and February's Black History Month is ahead of us. We want to recognize civil rights movements that are happening in the present day, including voting rights and Black Lives Matter. The activists of the present day are continuing the work of the civil rights leaders of the past. We've compiled a list of books about Black Lives Matter for you and your children, and we also have a month-long display of civil rights heroes in the Children's Room.

ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION - MARCH 19, 2022

PLEASE NOTE THE DATE AND LOCATION CHANGE!

The Annual Town Election will be held on Saturday, March 19, 2022. All precincts will be voting at Winchester High School. Polls will be open from 7:00am to 8:00pm. Do you want to see who's running for public office? Go to the Town's Annual Election page (link on the front page of the website) to see the candidates.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

- **Fredrick Douglas in Winchester, February 16 at 7:00pm, virtual.**
In 1862, a group of Winchester residents invited acclaimed abolitionist Frederick Douglass to speak at Lyceum Hall in Winchester. Join us on Wednesday January 16 to hear an account of the speech and learn with us as we explore its implications for today. This program is a joint presentation with the Network of Social Justice, Winchester Historical Society, and Winchester Anti-Racism Solidarity Collective and in partnership with the Winchester Public Library and the Griffin Museum of Photography.
- **Peggy Orenstein, author of "Girls and Sex: Navigating the Complicated New Landscape", February 16, 7:00pm, virtual.**
Inspired by her New York Times best seller, Orenstein will focus on her work with high school and college girls to reveal how they understand and negotiate the new rules of physical and emotional intimacy.

*More events can be found on the Town's
Community Calendar*

LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS CANDIDATE FORUM (DATE - TBD)

The League of Women Voters of Winchester will again sponsor candidate forums for those townwide offices for which there are more candidates than open seats. These include - Select Board, Planning Board, Board of Health and School Committee. We ask all concerned residents, including adults and students, to submit possible debate questions to - candidatequestions@lwvwinchester.org. No question is too big, too small, or too controversial. We will review all submissions, and compose our questions with an eye to relevance, absence of bias, civility, and likelihood that they will elicit statements of positions on the issues from the candidates.

CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Reed Pugh, from the Commission, presented to the Select Board the work they have removing invasive plants along the banks of the Aberjona to create a healthy habitat. The Commission are planning on a one time project, over two seasons, to complete the invasive management, create a river bank design & plant list and install the plantings. You can find more information in a video posted on the Commission's page. Click on Aberjona Initiative in the left column.

CONSTRUCTION/CAPITAL PROJECT UPDATES

- Church at Waterfield – Construction is expected to start at the intersection on Church Street and Waterfield Road around May 1st, and will last 6 to 8 weeks. We are setting up a site meeting for mid-March with the abutting restaurants and businesses and contractor to discuss impacts and logistics.
- Winchester Center Station (MBTA) – The MBTA has indicated that their construction start is weather dependent, and they do not expect the contractor to be on-site before mid-March.
- Eversource 115kV Project – Eversource has notified the Town that they expect to begin jack and bore operations under the railroad tracks at Wedgemere Station on Monday, February 14th. The MBTA requires the jack and bore to be a 24/7 operation, so Eversource expects to be working 24-hours a day Monday through Friday that week. Eversource will be notifying residents in the area.



FIRE DEPARTMENT

The Town graduated four firefighters from the State Fire Academy last week. FF Erica Poitras finished number one in the class was awarded the Richard M. Bangs Outstanding Student award!

From left to right: FF Ryan McManus, FF Erica Poitras, FF Dan Ierardi, FF John Campbell

Welcome to Winchester!



Massachusetts Firefighting Academy

Career Recruit Class #298 Graduation • January 28, 2022