

**TOWN OF CONCORD**  
*Office of the Town Manager*

Operational Status Reports & Departmental Updates - Week Ending April 7, 2023.



**General Administration**

Thomas M. Mulcahy, a 23-year Concord Police Department veteran, has been named Police Chief. Chief Mulcahy was sworn in on Monday, April 3, surrounded by family and colleagues. Chief Mulcahy has served as Interim Police Chief since December, following the retirement of Chief Joseph O'Connor.

Good news: Megan Zammuto our new Deputy Town Manager and Mimi Graney our new Economic Vitality Manager started on April 3<sup>rd</sup>!

CMLP Celebrates 125th Anniversary. The Concord Municipal Light Plant was established on April 4, 1898. Under the laws of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Chapter 370 of the Acts of 1891 allowed a Town like Concord to “engage in the manufacture and distribution of gas and electricity.” Passage required two consecutive town meeting votes in the affirmative by two-thirds of the voters using written or printed ballots.

Patriots Day in Concord, April 8-18 Everything you need to know:

<https://theconcordbridge.org/index.php/2023/04/03/everything-you-need-to-know-about-patriots-day-in-concord-april-8-18/>

**Police Department**

Activity Log

Log Items	703
Traffic Enforcement	68
Motor Vehicle Stops	94
MV Crashes/Paper Exchanges	15
Arrests	2

## Community

Sergeant Michael Bordenca graduated from the two-week Command Training: First Line Supervisors program at Roger Williams University's Justice System Training and Research Institute.

Officers assisted the Nashoba Brooks School with their PTG Fundraising Event.

Officers assisted Emerson Umbrella with their 2023 Artrageous Gala & Auction.

## Fire Department

### **Calls for Service:**

The department responded to 79 calls for service during the period. Mutual aid was provided and received on two occasions each.

### **Training:**

For the past couple of weeks, training has included the use of a Southfield Roadhouse slated for demolition. Crews have been able to take advantage of the house to train on roof operations, ventilation, and safe operation of chain saws on roofs.

This type of hands-on training is invaluable, and we appreciate the generosity of the owners and builders that make the properties available to us. In this case thanks to builder Matt Sepe for giving us a couple of weeks to use this property.

Assistant Chief Latta attended a meeting at MassPort with other Hanscom area towns regarding a joint training exercise involving an active threat scenario.

### **Fire Prevention:**

Lt. Nichols attended a conference on Lithium-Ion batteries. Some of the demonstrations showed the off-gassing of the batteries and the dangers of the gases and the destructive power of associated explosions.

### **April Events:**

Concord hosted a meeting last week with representatives from Concord, Bedford, Lexington, and Lincoln Fire and Police agencies along with NPS Chief Ranger Biddle, to finalize planning for the Tough Ruck.

Many thanks to the town's GIS staff who have created detailed maps tailored to our needs for event planning! They are a talented group that really embraces a challenge!



## **Emergency Management:**

Assistant Chief Latta attended the Select Board meeting on Monday night to present the town's most recent Hazard Mitigation plan. Assistant Chief Latta led the effort to update this plan and thanks to the efforts of many other town staff and our contractor, MAPC, the plan was successfully completed. Once complete it was submitted to and approved by FEMA and MEMA, then adopted by the Select Board.

## **Planning and Land Management**

**Assabet River Pedestrian Bridge update:** On April 4<sup>th</sup>, the Town Planner, Natural Resources Director, and Assistant Director, CPW Water/Sewer Engineer and the Town's engineering consultants with GPI, Inc. and La Dallman Architects attended a MassDOT site visit for the Assabet River Bridge and Trail in West Concord. There were over 15 representatives from MassDOT, which included the Project Manager, Right-of-way and Environmental Division, Complete Streets Program, Bridge Unit and District 4. A representative from Concord Park-Volunteers of America and the owners of 300-310 Baker Ave. also attended. The group discussed the various complicated permitting steps through MassDOT as the project moves forward with the Bridge Type Selection and the 25% Design.

## **Department of Public Works**

### **Emerson Park – CCHS Track Shed**

Concord Public Works worked with CCHS to install a new track and field equipment shed that has been installed near the tennis courts, adjacent to the track surface. CPW installed a gravel base and timber framing to accommodate the 16x12ft. structure purchased by the CCRHS athletic department and installed by the vendor. The shed will be a permanent replacement for the old Conex box that was placed seasonally in different areas and had been deemed to be unsightly and out of character with this popular park.



**Spring Solid Waste and Recycling Subscription Renewal:** The Spring Solid Waste and Recycling Subscription period began on April 1st. To ensure there is no interruption in service, customers have been asked to submit payment of either \$161 for Solid Waste and Recycling services or \$81 for Recycling only, for the April 1st, 2023, through September 30th, 2023 subscription period. In addition, if subscribers use barrel stickers, they must purchase the updated barrel sticker for the new subscription period.

## **Engineering:**

- ✚ Right-of-Way Permits – Issuance of permits began on Monday, April 3<sup>rd</sup> after being closed for winter since November 15, 2022. Eighteen new applications have been received, with the majority of them from National Grid and related to gas leaks.
- ✚ Roadway Pavement Markings – Restriping of the streets within the Patriots Day parade route began on the night of Tuesday, April 4<sup>th</sup> and will continue for a couple of other nights as weather allows. K5 is the contractor performing the work which includes the painting of crosswalks, stop bars, center lines, edge lines, etc. Concord Police will provide traffic control.
- ✚ Crack Sealing of Roads – The 2023 contract for town-wide crack sealing is out to bid with bids due Friday, April 7<sup>th</sup>. This contract covers approximately 10 ½ miles of streets and the work will be performed this spring/summer.
- ✚ Monument Square Road Improvements – In preparation for the Town’s 250<sup>th</sup> celebration, this program is planning to improve the pavement condition in the Monument Square area and possibly incorporate some improvements for pedestrians. CPW staff and engineering consultant, Stantec reviewed the area on Friday, March 31<sup>st</sup> with staff from other departments and members of the 250<sup>th</sup> committee members to conceptually discuss the proposed phased plan to rehabilitate Monument Square and nearby sections of Main St, Lexington Road and Walden St.

## **Recreation**

- ✚ The next recreation commission meeting will be 5/4/23 at 9A at the Hunt Recreation Center.
- ✚ Upcoming Recreation Events:
  - 4/7/23 [Egg Hunt](#) @ Emerson Park
  - 5/6/23 [Mermaid Swim](#) @ Beede
  - 5/6/23 [Kite Fest](#) @ Rideout Park
- ✚ The Department hosted two great events in March:
  - Symphony Swim: The Beede Center welcomed two professional Opera singers to the Center for a night of relaxing, adult only swim.
  - Shamrock Ball: Concord Recreation hosted our annual parent-child dance for over 400 couples who enjoyed a night of dancing, raffles, and photos. The event’s raffle money is used to support Concord Recreation scholarships.

We ask all users of Town of Concord Recreation facilities to participate in the Recreation Facilities Strategic Plan by taking our brief, online survey which can be found [here](#). The survey will remain open through April 14, 2023

The Department is in conversation with MOC about how the Department can provide support to the residents living at the new emergency shelter in Town. We are exploring opportunities for children to attend summer camp, afterschool and special events.

## **Trainings and DEIB/ Inclusion Initiatives:**

The Concord Carousel Preschool team is participating in a 5-part program covering DEIB topics relating to working with preschool-aged children.

The Concord Recreation team is exploring *Brain Health Bootcamp*, a training program offered by the Chase Bjork Foundation, for our camp and school year staff.

The Beede General Manager met with CCHS about DEIB involvement in future Beede Special Events. The Center is reaching out to the CCHS Spectrum club to help host the Center's June Pride event.

Aquatic staff participated in an in-service training in March that focused on CPR & AED, the green wristband swim test, and deep-water spinal rescues. In-service training will take place monthly and will be required of all aquatic staff.

### **Employee of the Month:**

Recreation Clerk Susan Ellerkamp



Sue just retired after serving as a committed member of the Recreation team for the last 7 years. Over her time with us, Sue established herself not only as a competent professional, but as an essential team member. We were incredibly proud to have Sue working at our front desk and knew that we were putting our best foot forward, having her as our first point of contact for our customers. She had the ability to connect with every customer whether it be about their dog, kids, work, or hobbies and she remembered those details every time she worked with that customer. Sue made our office environment welcoming. The Department's social planner Sue, never let us miss a team member's birthday and led the charge on getting everyone to pause from daily tasks to enjoy a slice of birthday cake. Sue will be sorely missed but we wish her the best of luck in her retirement. May she have slow restful mornings, lots of midday walks with her new puppy, and endless happiness in the days ahead.

### **Maureen Taggart Award:**

Since 1985, the Maureen Taggart Community Service Award has been presented annually by the Recreation Commission to a high school student, public or private, who is a resident of Concord or Carlisle that has demonstrated a loving and giving spirit through voluntary service in the community. Maureen Taggart was a dedicated Concord Recreation Department employee for many years. She was passionate about giving back to the local community and volunteered frequently. This year's 2023 award is being presented to Christina Crowley.

Christina has been volunteering her time on Sundays to support the Beede Center's adaptive swim program for 7 years. In this capacity, Christina has served as a lead instructor for not only the swimmers, but for the volunteers. What has impressed us most about Christina is her unwavering commitment to seeing her students succeed. In her own words she, "is inspired by these kids and it brings her so much joy to be able to teach them." Teaching children with disabilities is not for everyone; it takes a special, patient soul to do this work. There are challenging behaviors, communication barriers, sensory sensitivities, and mobility challenges but all the while, Christina has stayed with the program. She has dedicated her time and energy to getting to know these swimmers and, in some cases, has grown up beside them. Christina meets each child where they're at and spends hours working to build the skills and trust necessary for them to be safe, confident swimmers. As she prepares to leave for college in the fall, she has worked hard to train the team of volunteers to take over the program, assuring it is a seamless transition for the children and families involved. While Christina says that she is inspired by the swimmers, we, as an organization, are inspired by her.

A feature of this award is that the recipient has the privilege of designating a deserving organization to receive a financial grant in Maureen's name. Christina has chosen [Open Table](#), an organization that is committed to ending hunger in our local community by providing healthy food in ways that respect the dignity and diversity of those served. Congratulations to Christina for this well-deserved honor. We wish her the best of luck at Northeastern University this fall and are so proud to have had her as part of our Beede Center family.

