

# THE WORD ON COMMON STREET

January 10, 2024/VOL 023

## DEVELOPMENTS SHAPING OUR TOWN

### Select Budget Board Summit

The Select Board will be holding a joint Budget Summit with the Advisory Committee on Saturday, January 25, in the Public Safety Training Room. This important meeting provides an opportunity for the Board and Advisory Committee to review and discuss the proposed departmental budgets for the upcoming fiscal year, focusing on their practicality and impact on the town's tax rate.

The departments below will present its proposed budgets, allowing the Board and Advisory Committee to ask questions, share feedback, and ensure that resources are allocated efficiently. Following these presentations, the Board will also engage in discussions on the FY26 budget, helping to set the town's financial priorities for the coming year. The schedule of department presentations is as follows:

1. School Department
2. Fire Department
3. Department of Public Works
4. Police Department

This summit is an excellent opportunity for residents to learn more about how the town allocates its resources, the financial needs of each department, and how the proposed budgets might affect the local tax rate.

### Community Needs Assessment

In 2025, Southborough Youth and Family Services will be conducting a Community Needs Assessment and are looking for Southborough residents from different sectors of the community to participate.

If you are a resident of Southborough, please consider giving an hour of your time to this great opportunity to make a difference in your own community. Express your interest using this link

<https://forms.gle/etfgf5TQ9IDpw4lb9> or by contacting their office at (508) 481-5676.



### Congrats to our Eagle Scout!

We would like to extend a huge congratulations to Ryan Boy of Troop 92 for achieving his Eagle Scout Court of Honor! Ryan organized a group of volunteers which ultimately found, exposed, cleaned, and documented over 700 grave markers at the rural cemetery. These stones were in various stages of being swallowed up by the ground, some completely hidden from view. The cleaned stones were photographed, geolocated, and uploaded into a national database. Select Board member Andrew Dennington was in attendance at his ceremony on January 4th at St. Matthew's Church to award him a proclamation to acknowledge his important work and impressive achievement. Congratulations, Ryan and thank you!



Ryan Boy & Fr. Flynn

### Tricentennial Bricks!

July 8, 2027 marks the 300th anniversary of Southborough's incorporation as a town!

The Southborough Tricentennial Committee is planning a year of celebration to honor our town's past, present, and future.

As part of the fundraising for the celebration of Southborough's Tricentennial, Friends of Southborough 300 Inc. is selling engraved bricks. They will be installed in Southborough's new Heritage Park, beginning at the walkway between St Mark's Street and the Park's main plaza, adjacent to the Library parking lot. Each brick is \$300 & may include the name of your chosen dedication. All bricks will become a part of Southborough's Heritage Park as a lasting tribute. Space is limited, so place your order ASAP: <https://shorturl.at/zmOIIh>



Brick Order Form

Scan the QR Code to Order  
Your Bricks



## **NECC Turns 50!**

2024 was a year of exceptional achievements for The New England Center for Children (NECC) as it celebrated its 50th anniversary! This milestone year was filled with groundbreaking accomplishments that reflect NECC's unwavering dedication to improving the lives of children with autism. Among the highlights, NECC was honored as a 2024-2025 NASET School of Excellence, recognizing the center's commitment to providing high-quality education to children with autism. Additionally, Jessica Sassi, President and CEO of NECC, was appointed to the Massachusetts Commission on Autism.

NECC also saw record-breaking success with the 18th Annual NECC 5K which takes place in Southborough. The Children of Promise gala raised an impressive \$1.27 million, continuing to support NECC's mission. Additionally, NECC's largest summer internship program yet welcomed 60 interns from 36 colleges. Our own Sarah Cassell, Director of Youth & Family Services, started her career as a NECC intern.

We are excited and thankful to see the incredible work the NECC continues to do while being an exemplary member of the community!

### **January Inspiration**

**“With the new day comes new strength and new thoughts.” – Eleanor Roosevelt**

We hope your new year has started with health and happiness and continues to through 2025!



**Mark Purple 2024**



The New England Center  
for Children®  
Autism Education and Research

NECC Logo

## **CICP Member Wanted**

Are you interested in shaping the future of our community and ensuring strategic investments in public infrastructure? The Capital Improvement Planning Committee (CIPC) is seeking volunteers to help guide the town's long-term capital planning efforts. As a member of the CIPC, you will play a key role in:

- Creating and maintaining a comprehensive ten-year Capital Plan
- Collaborating with various departments to propose, review, and prioritize capital expenditures
- Reporting on the Capital Plan to Town Meeting and advising on proposed capital expenditures.
- Ensuring consistent interpretation and execution of the plan to support the town's growth and infrastructure needs.

The committee is composed of [resident] volunteers with a passion for civic engagement and collaboration. The term is 3 years; this committee generally meets remotely. If you are ready to contribute your expertise and make a meaningful impact, we want to hear from you! Apply today to be part of this important initiative!

**Scan the QR Code to  
to apply today!**



### **Mobile Blood Drive**

The Library will once again be hosting a mobile blood drive in the library parking lot. You can register here: <https://shorturl.at/blfYi> and walk-ins are welcome. For more information about scheduling an appointment, eligibility, or the donation process, please call the Kraft Family Blood Donor Center at 617-632-3206 or email [BloodDonor@partners.org](mailto:BloodDonor@partners.org). Thank you for making a life-saving difference for patients in need. And a big thank you to Karen Anglim for coordinating this drive every month! Her diligent works helps bring donors together to save lives throughout the state!

### **Contact Info:**

**Select Board: [selectboard@southboroughma.com](mailto:selectboard@southboroughma.com)**

**Town Administrator's Office:  
[selectmenoffice@southboroughma.com](mailto:selectmenoffice@southboroughma.com)**

**Twitter: @17Common**

**Website: <https://www.southboroughma.gov/>**