

# THE WORD ON COMMON STREET

May 16, 2025/VOL 028  
**DEVELOPMENTS SHAPING OUR TOWN**

## Youth & Family Services

### MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

Togetherness:

The Importance of Connection in Today's World

Mental Health  
Awareness  
Month Banner

May is Mental Health Awareness Month! Join Southborough Youth and Family Services for a month of inspiring events focused on wellness, connection, and community. This year's theme is Togetherness: The Importance of Connection in Today's World. Let's come together for meaningful conversations and uplifting activities for all ages!

Gold Star Emoji

★ **Celebrate Wellness & Award Night**  
Help us honor Julianne Topliffe, beloved Mary E. Finn School teacher, with the Laurie Sugarman-Whittier Wellness Award. A heartwarming evening celebrating mental health and community spirit!

Wednesday, May 28 | 6:30–7:30 PM |  
Southborough Community House

## **The Value of Validation**

Discover the power of validation in this interactive workshop led by SYFS Director Sarah Cassell. Build stronger, more supportive relationships at home, school, and beyond.

Tuesday, May 20 | 6:30–7:30 PM |  
Southborough Library - [Register here](#)

## **Digital Wellness Webinar**

Explore how tech and social media impact mental health—and get tips for creating balance in a digital world.

Wednesday, May 21 | 6:30–8:00 PM | Online  
[Register here](#)

See the full calendar here: [tiny.cc/SYFS-MHAM-2025](https://tiny.cc/SYFS-MHAM-2025)

Let's make May a month of connection and care—together! 🍀

Green Heart Emoji

## Welcome, Tim Fling!

We have a new face on the Select Board! Please welcome Tim Fling in his first term. He moved to Southborough in 2018 and quickly became involved in town government. Taking time to watch Select Board, Planning Board and many other meetings, Tim was inspired to get involved. He was the Vice-Chair of the Noise By-Law Committee which brought forth the current language in our bylaws. He also served on the Community Center Exploratory Committee. We are excited for his perspectives and ideas as he juggles the responsibilities of parenthood, work and volunteerism. Welcome aboard, Tim!



Jim Hegarty and Tim Fling

## Woo Sox Town Takeover!

For the second straight year, the Woo Sox will host a number of towns and cities from across the State at Polar Park for "Town Takeover" nights. The "Battle of the Boroughs" takes place on Wednesday, May 21st at the 6:05 PM game. We will be battling it out with Marlborough and Westborough for highest attendance! Purchase your tickets through the QR Code below. A percentage of each ticket sold will be donated to the Southborough Town Scholarship Fund supporting our High School Seniors. Show your Southborough pride at the Woo Sox and let's hit this out of the park!



Woo Sox Night Flyer



QR Code for Tix



Pic of Smiely - WooSox



## **Thank you, Sam!**

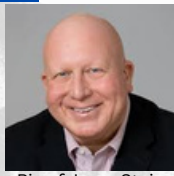
We would like to thank Sam Stivers, who served with unwavering commitment, for his six years on the Select Board. Through countless hours of thoughtful service, Sam's dedication to the well-being of our community and willingness to serve are deeply appreciated. Lucky for us, he won't be a stranger as his volunteerism continues on the Wastewater Study Committee and Cable TV Committee.



Pic of Sam Stivers

## **Thank you, Jesse!**

Jesse Stein is stepping away from the Planning Board after over a decade of work and contemplative decision making. His leadership on the Board inspired others to join and he was a mentor to many. His knowledge and experience in subdivision and developments and site plan review are unmatched. He will be greatly missed and we wish him well with the additional time he will gain and hope he enjoys a well deserved rest!



Pic of Jesse Stein

## **ARPA Project List**

As the Town of Southborough completes some big projects thanks to ARPA (American Rescue Plan Act) funding, we'd love to start highlighting the opportunities we took to make enhancements and upgrades to the Town. Below find some highlights of how we took advantage of this economic stimulus package:

- We contributed \$27,000 to Taxation Aid. Since 2002 the Town has been backing funds to help offset tax burdens for elderly and disabled residents. Taxation Aid is an important commitment the Town has made to ensure that those experiencing hardships feel less alone and supported by the Town they love. The addition of these monies was a beneficial use of ARPA funds.
- The Town invested ARPA monies into ADA upgrades to town buildings and the Recreation facilities including upgraded doorhandles and handrails. These updates will make the facilities taxpayers frequent more accessible and safe.



**Mark Purple 2024**

## **A Job Well Done!**

A huge congratulations and thank you to Detective Owen O'Brien for his work keeping Southborough's Streets safe! He has been very proactive in identifying and arresting motorists operating under the influence. Last year he made over 45 OUI arrests. His impressive work inspired Lt. Mike Whelan to nominate him as a candidate for the Massachusetts Annual MADD (Mothers Against Drunk Driving) Award, in recognition of his hard work and dedication. We are very happy and proud to report that Detective O'Brien has been selected to receive the Massachusetts's Chapter of MADD's highest Annual Law Enforcement Award- "Officer of the Year." We sincerely appreciate all you do to support the Town of Southborough! Congrats, Owen and continue your great work!



Det. Owen O'Brien

## **Welcome, Stephanie!**

We are pleased to welcome Stephanie Secino as the new Deputy Town Clerk! Stephanie brings with her over 19 years of professional administrative support and leadership experience, and we are excited to have her talents and dedication contributing to our team. Stephanie's first days were nothing short of a "trial by fire"—starting just two weeks before both a Special Town Meeting and the Annual Election. Despite the pressure and complexity of these major events, she jumped in with enthusiasm and confidence. Her positive outlook, strong organizational skills, and ability to maintain a sense of humor under pressure helped ensure both events were executed smoothly and successfully. Please join us in welcoming her to the Town Clerk's Office!

## **Want to Make a Difference?**

Join a Committee! If you're inspired to take action and have a meaningful part of progress in Southborough, we ask that you volunteer. There are plenty of vacancies on numerous committees that make a huge impact. Please see the list of openings here: <https://tinyurl.com/mpnv5fy9> and volunteer here: <https://tinyurl.com/3ddrby9n>

## **Contact Info:**

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