

Weekly Video Update, April 25, 2022

Superintendent of Schools, Bill Burkhead

Mr. Burkhead welcomed everyone back from school vacation. Due to vacation, no Covid numbers are available for last week but he will provide an update on Friday.

The Gates Middle School Juried Art Show is this weekend at the Scituate Maritime Center, Friday 4-7:30 and Saturday 11 – 3:00 PM. Thank you to all the artists and to Ms. Glover, Ms. Mihaley, and Ms. Rotty.

Also, this week and next, our 6th grade Middle school kids head back to Camp Bournedale. It's been a 30- year commitment to this wonderful experience. He thanked Mr. Fitzgerald, Mr. O'Sullivan, Ms. DeMatteo and Ms. Gaziano.

Tomorrow evening at 6 PM is the National Honor Society induction ceremony for High School Juniors and Seniors (roughly 100 of them). Mr. Burkhead thanked advisors Ms. Emerson and Mr. Roberts for their efforts.

The School Committee meets tonight, and will be in person in the Scituate High School Library. It will also be a hybrid approach if people want to attend virtually (link is on the agenda on school website). Highlights include:

- Celebration of Student Learning featuring Cushing Elementary
- State of the schools, featuring Hatherly School
- Superintendent Self- Assessment and Goals Summary
- Update on Capital Projects by Dr. Dutch

Jim Boudreau, Town Administrator

1. The total number of Covid cases for this past week according to our MAVEN data was 18, down from 25 of last week. With school vacation last week, we do not have a report from the schools so we do not have a total report for the week. We had a positivity rating over the last 14 days of 3.96% up from 3.07% of last week. Plymouth County is at 3.53%, up from last week's 2.65%. State wide the positivity rate yesterday for the past 7 days was 4.56% up from the previous week of 3.89%. Statewide there are 25 individuals in ICU down from 37 of last week and 12 intubated, down from 15 last week. In addition, according to news reports this morning, COVID detected in the waste stream at Deer Island has dropped slightly this past week. We will continue to monitor numbers, but the hope is that even if the number of people with COVID rises, the hospitalization numbers will remain manageable due to the high vaccination in Massachusetts.

At this point, being vaccinated is a much better defense than not being vaccinated, so please, if you have not yet gotten vaccinated and can receive the vaccine, we urge you to do so. Vaccinations and booster are widely available. Go to mass.gov for details.

2. We are now getting into spring and the water usage season is upon us so we will now resume our weekly water updates for residents. The reservoir remained at +3.25” yesterday and tack factory pond was still at +2.5”. Average daily demand was at 1.084 mgpd, down from 1.110 mgpd last week. This again was mostly delivered from our groundwater sources (wells). The treatment plant only ran one day producing 296,000 gallons, mostly for sampling. Manganese measured at the WTP went from .075 to .090 which is high enough to cause discolored water but should not be much of an issue as the plant is not producing large volumes of water. Rainfall over the last 7 days was .88” measured at the Plant.

Celco our water line contractor is back at work. They are working on Woodworth and Lantern Lanes and will be starting work on Bradford Ave today. They are also doing a tapping sleeve and gate on Lantern Lane today.

3. The Scituate Sister City Committee will be celebrating the 10th Anniversary of our friendship pact with Sucy-en-Brie, France, this Saturday, April 30 at 10:00 am at the Scituate Performing Arts Center at Scituate High School. Members of the Official Delegation from Sucy-en-Brie will be on hand to help us celebrate, as well as host families from Sucy who hosted Scituate travelers to Sucy in 2019. French and American Pastries will be served following the ceremony.
4. This Saturday is also “Ship Shape” Day in Scituate. Volunteers will be at Town Hall from 8:00 am – 1:00 pm handing out trash and recycling bags to residents who wish to take part in the Town wide clean-up. Humarock residents can pick up their supplies at the Humarock post office from 8:00 am – 12:30 pm. This is a great annual event and plays a huge role in getting the town cleaned up from the winter. I think last year we collected over 9 tons of trash and debris on Ship Shape day.
5. Many of you have received a notice that Hollywood is returning to Scituate! The Paramount Pictures film the Finest Kind, starring Tommy Lee Jones, Ben Foster, Toby Wallace and Jenna Ortega (sorry Tommy Lee will not be here) will be filming scenes at a home on Edward Foster Road May 2 - May 4. The crew will be using a portion of the Peggotty Beach parking lot for crew parking and catering. If you ever watch a movie getting filmed it is BORING!
 - a. We will also have a series called “Houses with History” in Town starting on 4/27. They will be filming work of two historic houses, one on First Parish and one on Tilden. That filming will be in the homes and will be on and off through October. You may see crews around town shooting b-roll film.
 - b. Marriot Bonvoy will be filming a commercial at the Lighthouse on May 18th from 6pm-Sunset.

6. Widows Walk golf course is OPEN for the season. The Hibernian Restaurant on Front Street in the Harbor has been awarded the concession for the new facility at the club and they come before the Board for the liquor license transfer tomorrow night. We are looking forward to the start of concessions as soon as possible.
7. The dedication of the Easter rising monument took place yesterday in Cole Parkway. The moving and memorable ceremony was well attended, as was the reception following. If you wish to see the ceremony, it is available on the SCTV web site.

Tony Vegnani, Select Board Member

Mr. Vegnani reminded everyone that the Select Board meeting is tomorrow night.

Ship Shape day is April 30th and he encourages everyone to pitch in as it makes a huge impact.

He thanked John Sullivan for all his hard work in the installation of the Easter Rising Monument and the formal Dedication ceremony held yesterday. It was a great event yesterday.

Sucy-en-Brie guests arrive today and will be here for the next 10 days.

Mr. Vegnani thanked everyone for coming to Annual Town Meeting as it was well attended. It was a long two days but it was government at its best. Moderator Jim Toomey did a great job as did all Boards.

The Town Election is May 21st from 8 AM – 6 PM. One really important topic is a 50 Million override to build a new Water Treatment Plant and there will be information available.