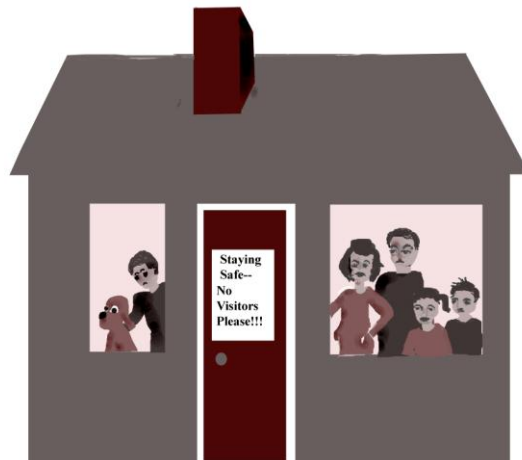


Congregational Church of Phillipston, U.C.C.  
60 The Common  
Phillipston, MA 01331

Phillipston  
Community  
Newsletter

April 2020



**STAY SAFE. DISTANCE YOURSELF  
FROM OTHERS OUTSIDE YOUR FAMILY.**

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The Phillipston Congregational Church, U.C.C.  
Our Community Church

Dear Friends,

As I write this we just heard from Governor Baker that public school students will not be returning to school until May 4, and who knows if that date will be changed or not. I have been writing devotions that Timothy Haley has been posting to the Phillipston.com website. Tonight I want to write in a different direction.

We read in 1 Thessalonians 4:13 "so that you may not grieve, as others do who have no hope." We have hope in the resurrection, we have hope that God's promises are for us, and we have hope that this pandemic will be over.

But, in the meantime, we do grieve, the loss of our freedom, the activities that we love that have been postponed or cancelled. My niece Leslie and her fiancé Brian postponed their April wedding until September. In my son Dan's office at Bottom Line, a coworker was expecting her first child, a baby shower was planned, and now it is all cancelled. I feel for the cast of *Mary Poppins* and wonder if that show will ever happen at Narragansett. A cousin's daughter who paid her way through the University of Connecticut, will not have a graduation. All of these young people, need to grieve and acknowledge the pain of all these cancelations.

On a related note, I have been reading Julie Andrew's biography, Home Work. She writes about being nominated for a Golden Globe Award for her role in Mary Poppins. She jokes that if Jack Warner had cast her for the lead in My Fair Lady, she would not have been able to be Mary Poppins. After thanking Walt Disney and the Foreign Press for the honor, she said, my thanks to a wonderful man who made all this possible in the first place, Jack Warner."

I hope this gives some encouragement to all the people who have lost some piece of their dreams this March and April.

Your sister in Christ, Rev. Stephanie C. Flynn

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THE NEWSLETTER IS ON [www.phillipston.com](http://www.phillipston.com)  
**MAY 2020 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS APRIL 23<sup>rd</sup>**

For more info go to : [www.phillipston.com/priceinfo.pdf](http://www.phillipston.com/priceinfo.pdf)



ROOFING \* ROOFING \* ROOFING

NOW'S THE TIME FOR ROOFING!  
ANDREW NOVAK  
603-554-4491



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## IMPORTANT

**All Town Offices are Closed to the public**

During the COVID-19 State of Emergency

(Town employees are completing work in their offices to keep the town running)

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**Don't forget your 2020 Census**

Any questions contact the Town Clerk

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License your dog with the Town Clerk

*All dogs licensed after April 1<sup>st</sup> will have a \$5.00 late fee added to their license cost*

*Dogs licensed after May 1<sup>st</sup> will pay a \$25.00 late fee*

**\*\*All dogs not licensed will receive a \$50.00 fine\*\***

Town Clerk, 50 The Common, Phillipston, MA 01331

[townclerk@phillipston-ma.gov](mailto:townclerk@phillipston-ma.gov)

LEAVE A MESSAGE AT 978-249-1733

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The Templeton Food Pantry is OPEN

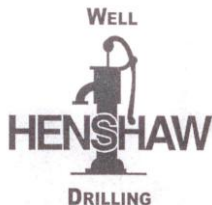
Tuesdays 9-12 & Thursdays 12-3

Located at: 16 Senior Dr. (rear of building), Baldwinville

To make other arrangements (delivery) call: (978) 894-2780

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More newsletter can be found at [www.phillipston.com](http://www.phillipston.com)



125 Barre Road Templeton, Ma.

01468

978-939-8363

“Your WELL Being Our Concern”

# Annual Town Election

Monday, May 18, 2020

LAST DAY FOR REGISTRARS TO FILE WITH  
THE TOWN CLERK – April 9<sup>th</sup>

LAST DAY TO WITHDRAW NOMINATION PAPERS – April 17<sup>th</sup>

LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE – April 28<sup>th</sup>

Warrant for election will be posted by the 11<sup>th</sup> of May

CONTACT THE TOWN CLERK IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS

LEAVE A MESSAGE AT 978-249-1733

or e-mail townclerk@phillipston-ma.gov

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## ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

**Wednesday May 6, 2020**

7:00pm at the Phillipston Memorial School Gym

**Last day to register to vote is April 16<sup>th</sup>**

Phillipston Lions Club

Saturday Morning Breakfast for April has been canceled.

Hope to see you in May.

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## **The Phillipston Congregational Church Is Located On the Common, Phillipston, Ma**

**EVERY ONE IS WELCOME! COME VISIT!**

**Unfortunately we have to cancel services for now but we will let you when  
we open back up.**



**THINKING OF SELLING?**

Call before April 15th

to receive

**50% OFF Broker Price Opinion**

**Find out what your property is  
worth!**



Gordon & Karissa Moore  
(978) 822-8791

## An Important Message from Phillipston Town Officials About COVID-19

We want to take this opportunity to tell you about what the town has done about the COVID-19 situation, and what we are planning to do in the future.

On March 15, the Board of Selectmen, meeting with the Board of Health, declared a local state of emergency. This allows us to access additional resources now and as they become available from the state and federal governments. As part of this action we directed the Chief Administrative Officer to take appropriate measures to ensure the continuity of municipal operations and safety of residents and employees during the state of emergency, subject to our review and approval.

Specific steps include:

- Closing town offices and facilities to the public until March 31.
- Postponing all board and committee meetings until further notice.
- Suspending library and council on aging services until further notice.
- Closing the playgrounds behind the school. The parks remain open for walking and exercise.

Employees continue to report to work and can assist you by phone or email; their numbers and email addresses are on the town website under “Contacts.” We encourage you to make payments online or by mail, or by dropping them through the slot in the door at Town Hall – no cash please!

The transfer station is still open Wednesdays and Saturdays, but we ask that you form a single file line and take turns emptying your trash and cardboard and plastic recyclables.

Up to date information is posted on the website [www.philliston-ma.gov](http://www.philliston-ma.gov) and we have created a Facebook page “TownOfPhillipstonMass” where you can find information as well.

This is a challenging time for all of us. Our town employees and officials – your neighbors – are trying to maintain service under difficult conditions. Please be patient. And please be observant of your neighbors. Check on one another - a phone call, a knock on the door – to make sure all is well. If you have spare toiletries, paper products, hand sanitizer, or similar other items that you can donate to the emergency management team, contact Don Smith our Emergency Management Director at 978-895-3405 and he will collect it and distribute to your neighbors in need.

Be Safe.

Phillipston Selectboard  
March 27, 2020

## **Safety Information**

With so many people staying home from work and school we have added some safety flyers to our webpages. Here are some important tips to keeping safe:

- You may be using more electronics than usual – home computers, tablets, cellphones all competing for available outlets. BE CAREFUL not to run extension cords under rugs and not to overuse power strips. See this guidance on the town website [www.phillipston-ma.gov](http://www.phillipston-ma.gov).
- Microwaves are convenient but be sure that you supervise children and use only microwave safe dishes. If you have a fire in the microwave, leave the door closed, turn the oven off and unplug it. If the fire does not go out, leave the building and call the fire department.
- Remember even though you're home, it's still important to wash your hands after coming back from the market, going to the bathroom, coughing or blowing your nose, changing a diaper, and before and after preparing food. Lather, hum Happy Birthday (twice!), and then rinse and dry.
- Paper towels, latex gloves and disinfectant wipes are not flushable and they will destroy your septic system! Throw them in the trash, not the toilet. Only human waste and toilet paper should go in the toilet.
- Leave the porch light on and lock your house and car doors. It helps to keep unwanted people from poking around and the light is cheery to come home to! Some people even put Christmas lights out to brighten things up.

## **Town Offices**

Town Hall and Town Hall Annex offices are closed to the public, but employees are still working. Here is information about specific offices.

- **Selectmen**. 978-249-6828, [selectman@phillipston-ma.gov](mailto:selectman@phillipston-ma.gov)  
The Selectmen's Office staff are available Monday through Thursday from 8 am to 4 pm.
- **Tax Collector**. 978-249-1731 [collector@phillipston-ma.gov](mailto:collector@phillipston-ma.gov) Please mail your payments, deposit them through the slot in the front door of town hall or make them online. Wednesdays 12 to 4 and 5 to 7 pm.
- **Town Clerk**. 978-249-1733 [townclerk@phillipston-ma.gov](mailto:townclerk@phillipston-ma.gov)  
The Clerk is working from home. Please call for information

**Assessors.** 978-249-1732 [assessors@phillipston-ma.gov](mailto:assessors@phillipston-ma.gov) Mondays from 9 to 1 and Wednesdays from 12 to 7 pm.

- **Board of Health.** 978-249-1735 [health@phillipston-ma.gov](mailto:health@phillipston-ma.gov) Wednesday from 3 to 5 pm, other times call her home number 978-939-8946
- **Transfer Station.** 978-249-9747. The Transfer station is operating its regular hours Wednesday from 4 to 6 pm and Saturdays from 7:45 am to 1:45 pm See elsewhere in this newsletter for special instruction about bringing trash and recyclables to the station.
- **Building Department.** 978-249-1736 [building@phillipston-ma.gov](mailto:building@phillipston-ma.gov) Wednesday evenings from 5 to 7 pm. We share Bob Legare, our Building Commissioner with Athol. Inspectors will not enter homes where persons are quarantined or exhibit COVID19 symptoms. They may make other arrangement for inspections.
- **Town Accountant and Town Treasurer.** 978-249-1733 [accountant@phillipston-ma.gov](mailto:accountant@phillipston-ma.gov) and [treasurer@phillipston-ma.gov](mailto:treasurer@phillipston-ma.gov) both of whom are working from home.
- **Police Department.** 978-249-3560. [police@phillipston-ma.gov](mailto:police@phillipston-ma.gov). Our officers are working their regular shifts. They will exercise new protocols before entering homes where persons are quarantined or exhibit COVID 19 symptoms.
- **Fire Department.** 978-249 6302. [fire@phillipston-ma.gov](mailto:fire@phillipston-ma.gov) Our firefighters and EMTS are working their regular shifts. They will exercise new protocols before entering homes where persons who are quarantined or exhibit COVID19 symptoms
- **Highway Department.** 978-249-6851 [highway@phillipston-ma.gov](mailto:highway@phillipston-ma.gov). Employees are working their regular shifts. They will exercise new protocols before entering homes where persons re quarantined of exhibit COVID19 symptoms.
- **Phillipston Emergency Management.** 978-895-3405 [pema@phillipston-ma.gov](mailto:pema@phillipston-ma.gov) Don Smith and Isaac Gallant are coordinating efforts and especially to assist those persons who may be homebound or in need of food or supplies. They are working with the local food pantry, Market Basket contacts, the Salvation Army, the Council on Aging and the Congregational Church to provide necessities to Phillipston residents.

## **TRANSFER STATION ANNOUNCEMENT**

To help prevent the spread of COVID 19 the following changes take effect March 21 and remain in effect until further notice:

- The Transfer Station is only accepting trash, cardboard/paper and plastics.
- They will not be selling trash bags. Use your own bags, no charge.
- Vehicles will be lining up single file and depositing their trash one by one in the appropriate dumpsters. Attendants will not be doing this for you.
- Keep a safe social distance - 6 feet – from each other and from attendants.
- Don't linger on the premises to visit.
- Wash your hands after leaving the transfer station.

These steps will help minimize contact and keep you and our workers safe.

## **SYMPTOMS OF COVID 19<sup>1</sup>**

These symptoms develop 2 to 14 days after exposure to COVID 19. If you or a member of your household exhibit these symptoms you should **call your primary care physician – DO NOT JUST SHOW UP** at their office because they are likely overwhelmed with patients.

- High fever over 100.4 °
- Dry cough
- Shortness of breath

If you or a member of your household exhibit any of the following signs get help immediately:

- Trouble breathing
- Persistent pain or pressure in the chest
- New confusion or inability to arouse
- Bluish lips or face

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<sup>1</sup> From the CDC webpage Symptoms of Coronavirus, <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/symptoms-testing/symptoms.html>