



# A Message from your Town Administrator

November 2019

## 4<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL STUFF A CRUISER: DECEMBER 7

Join members of the Dighton Police Local 306 and Dighton Firefighters Local 4332 for their annual stuff-a-cruiser clothing and toy drive. Drop off new coats, hats, gloves/mittens, clothing and toys on December 7 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. at 1111 Somerset Avenue.



November is a time for being thankful. It's a hectic time of year as we get ready for the holidays, but I always like to take a minute to reflect. This year I reflect on the previous two years, and I am thankful for all of the support and work of the Town of Dighton officials, employees, and residents. We have come so far in just a short time, in the way of professionalizing services and working off of established rules and procedures to enhance efficiency. I thank my colleagues in the Town, specifically the Board of Selectmen, the Finance Committee, and Executive Assistant Karin Brady, for bearing the brunt of massive overhaul and change from everything to how we set agendas, to processing the budget, to new faces holding key positions.

This month the Board of Selectmen and I were able to extend our thanks to Dighton's scouting groups. It is amazing what our younger generations can accomplish. They make a significant contribution to the betterment of our Town and it is refreshing to celebrate their accomplishments and successes. The Daisies and the Girl Scouts visited Selectmen's meetings this month to discuss their various service projects, including Sockvember sock drive, food pantry drive, school supply collections, and crayon recycling project. Great job to our students – here's to a lifetime of giving back to the community.

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## TOWN UPDATES

Selectmen appointed a new full time Patrolman, who will begin Academy Training in early 2020. Tyler Hazel was appointed unanimously this month. He brings a wide variety of experience to Town as he has previously served in the military and as a police officer in New Hampshire. We look forward to working with him in Dighton. The department is also building up its reserve ranks for both patrolman and communications dispatchers to ensure quality services and continuity of those services.

Over the summer, the Police Station property suffered a bit of damage. I am happy to report that that damage is finally being fixed by G. Lopes Corp. Additionally, Muni-Tech was awarded work to install guardrails along the southern portion of the building. That work is expected to be completed in December. The changes will enhance safety around the property and provide further protection to the administrative offices in the department.

The Board of Selectmen accepted the resignation of Ms. Nicole Skyleson as Office Manager to the Zoning Board of Appeals. We thank Nicole for her service and her contributions to the Town. A posting and job description will be posted in early December for this part time position. Mr. Jason Quinn also resigned from the ZBA, and we extend our thanks and appreciation to his service as well. If you are interested in serving the town, the following Boards and Committees are seeking members: Conservation Commission (ad hoc), Open Space

Committee, Land Use Committee, Soil Conservation Board, Finance Committee, Dighton Trails Committee, Community Preservation Committee (at-large member), By Law Review Committee, Cultural Council, and Development and Industrial Commission. Please visit the Town's website at [www.dighton-ma.gov](http://www.dighton-ma.gov) for the Volunteer Information Form and more information about these important Committees.

## LIGHTS ON!

On November 30, the Town came together once again to welcome Santa Claus and officially kick off the holiday season with our Lights On celebration! Santa and Mrs. Claus arrived in style, led by the Dighton Express train and 8 reindeer. The special guests were heralded by Girl Scouts, Cub Scouts, and the ever-talented Dighton-Rehoboth Marching Band. Thank you to the Lions Club and the Lights On Committee for putting on such a great event, year after year. Happy Holidays!

## WHAT'S NEXT?

We have quite a bit coming up to wrap up our end of 2019! December 9 will be a Special Town Meeting, focused specifically on funding the Firefighters' Union contract. We will also hold our Community Resilience Building Workshop as part of our MVP/HMP grant planning process. I'll be reporting out the details of the day next month. The Town is also awaiting notice of awards for two major grants: Complete Streets and ADA Planning Grant. Stay tuned!

## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

We are gearing up for our Community Resilience Building Workshop! Please take a minute to take this quick survey regarding the impacts of severe storms and other climate related changes to our community. Thanks for your help! Access the survey here: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/dightonmitigation>.

As of November 1, the town-wide parking ban is in effect. No overnight street parking is permitted. Any basketball hoops, hockey nets, or similar items should also be removed from the street.

PrimeTime is seeking clients. If you or someone you know would benefit from meeting new friends, trying new experiences, and staying active, call Sheila at 508-669-6272.

Do you have Dighton news to share? Tell us about it! Visit <https://dightonportal.com/submit-a-story/> to provide details on our story!

## THE BIG CHEESE



Veteran's Agent Donald Hirschy is the November recipient this month! He has certainly been busy coordinating the Veterans Day Breakfast, which was a very fun time! Mr. Hirschy also regularly goes above and beyond, considering what is best for the town's veterans. He weighs his decisions based upon how the *town* benefits in nearly all he does. However, what truly tipped the scales in Don's favor was his complete hospitality at Town Hall directing visitors where to do on a particularly chaotic morning. Further, Don's kind heartedness showed upon his receipt of the award, when he publicly recognized his assistant, Nancy Pinto, for assisting him in all of his endeavors. Thank you Don, and Nancy, for taking the extra steps to keep

Dighton the special community it is! We appreciate it!

## IMPORTANT DATES

*December 7 – Stuff a Cruiser, 9 - 2*

*December 9 – Special Town Meeting*

*December 11, 18 – Selectmen's Meetings*

*December 24 – Town Hall closes at 11:30 a.m.*

*December 25 – Town Hall Closed*