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OCT 2026

THE BERKLEY BUZZ



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It's Cozy Season!!

Fall is a beautiful season filled with colorful leaves, cool breezes, and cozy moments.
It's the perfect time to wear warm sweaters, sip hot apple cider, enjoy pumpkin treats, and spend time with family and friends.
Whether you're taking a walk through the colorful autumn leaves or spending time relaxing with a good book fall brings a special kind of magic

So cozy up with your favorite warm beverage and enjoy this edition of the Berkley Buzz!



Grants at the Berkley Public Library



Thanks to the hard work of the Friends of the Berkley Library, the Library recently secured two grants to benefit our community!

An AARP grant provided internet hotspots for seniors, which are now available to borrow through the Berkley Council on Aging, helping older residents stay connected and supporting the Council's ongoing efforts to provide valuable services and resources to our senior community.

Additionally, a grant from Taunton Federal Credit Union will help support the Library's book budget and expand reading opportunities for residents.

The Friends of the Berkley Library continue to play an essential role in supporting library services, programs, and resources. Thank you to the Friends and our generous grant partners for their continued investment in our community!

FRIENDS OF THE BERKLEY LIBRARY
HELP WITH GRANTS



Berkley Police Outreach Unit: Connecting Residents with Care, Support, and Recovery (LEAD)

The Berkley Police Department's Problem-Oriented-Policing (POP) Outreach Unit was created in January of 2025 with the primary purpose of addressing Substance-Use Disorder (SUD) in the community. The Unit is comprised of retired Mansfield Police Officer Dave Sennott, acting as Outreach Coordinator, and Berkley Police Officer Samantha Maguire. The Unit follows up on all overdoses and incidents involving SUD, including alcohol, as well as reports involving high-risk potential subjects of SUD/AUD, including people suffering with mental health issues; domestic violence survivors & perpetrators; juveniles; and elders. The Unit strives to make all follow-up visits in person, during which resources are offered to those in need and support is offered to their loved ones. To date, the Unit has serviced about 150 subjects/families from Berkley and surrounding communities.

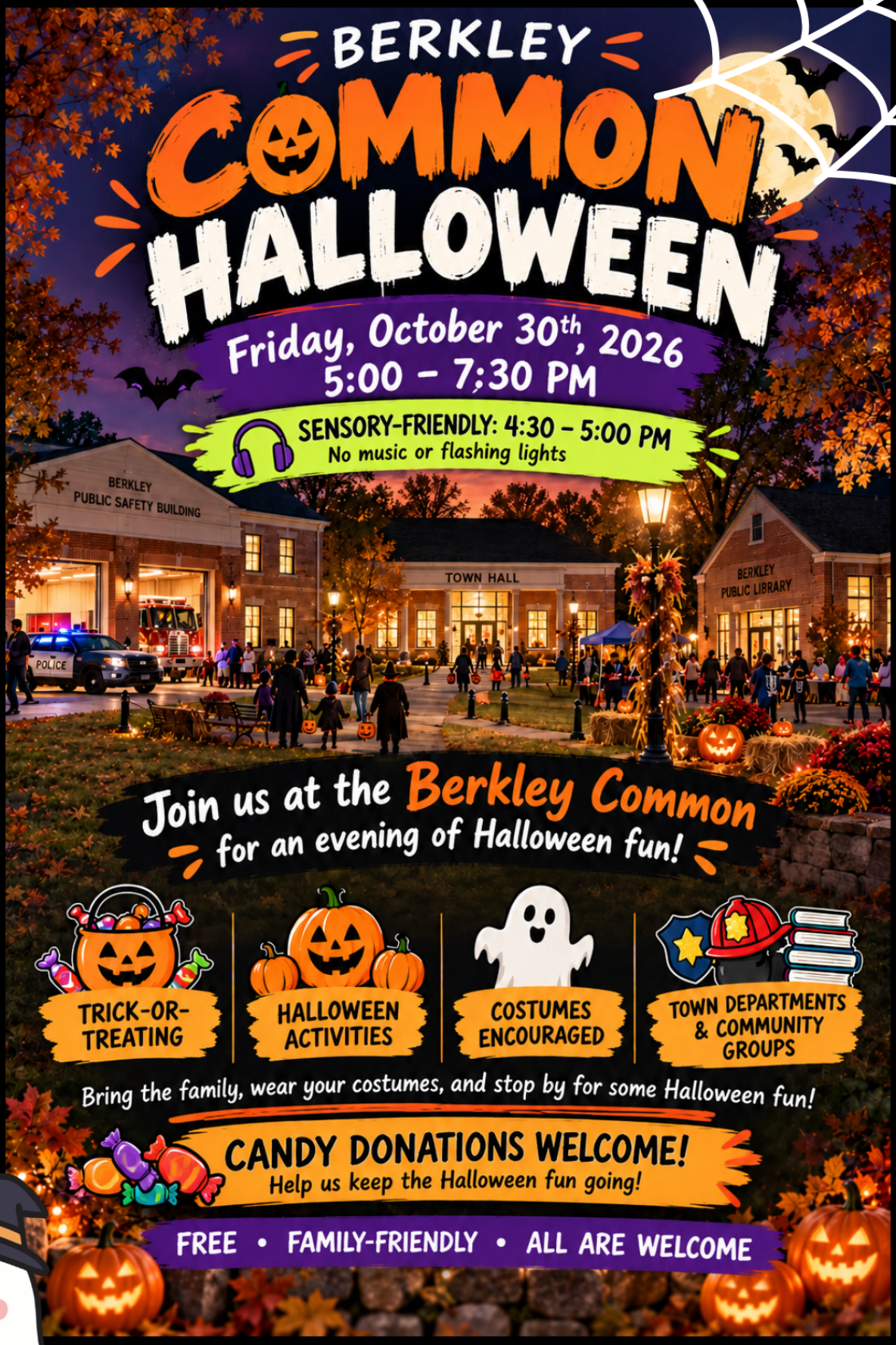


The Berkley PD's Outreach Unit works in conjunction with many varied resource partners, including the Berkley Fire Department; our very own Council on Aging; the Dighton-Berkley Regional Veteran's Services Officer; a regional Domestic Violence Advocate representing the Women's Center; Community Counseling of Bristol County; DCF; Bristol Aging & Wellness; and the Taunton Family Resource Center, just to name a few.

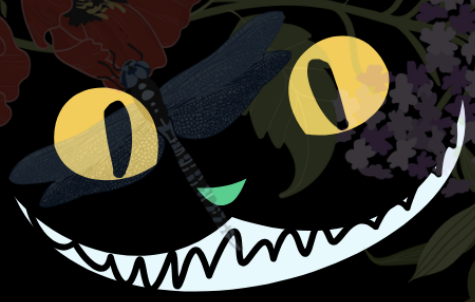
The Unit also regularly plans & facilitates recovery-based community projects. So far in 2026, the Unit has hosted two Narcan Training & Distribution events (with another planned for this November); sponsored the anti-drug/alcohol "Sullivan's Message" presentation at Somerset-Berkley Regional High School; participated in Taunton's "Overdose Awareness Day" and "Rock the Block" recovery-based events; and begun a new partnership with Fall River's (outreach) FAST Team, which will surely strengthen Berkley's abilities to provide quality care to those in need. Most importantly, Berkley's Outreach Unit has collaborated with "Luke's Light Wellness Center", located at Berkley's Full EnVision Farm, to bring several recovery-based services right here to Berkley. They include a "Wellness Pathway to Recovery" group run by a reputable Recovery Coach; a "Parents in Recovery" group facilitated by New Bedford's FIRST Steps Together organization; and a "Grandparents Raising Grandchildren" support group hosted by a representative of the Taunton Family Resource Center. All programs are free of charge and limited free transportation is also provided. With more recovery-based groups planned for the near future, the police department's partnership with the farm promises to bring hope to all those suffering from SUD/AUD right to their doorstep.

The continued success of the Berkley Police Department's Outreach Unit is also made possible through the tireless efforts of Town Accountant Ashleigh Haslam, whose dedication to grant administration and financial oversight helps secure and sustain the funding necessary to provide these important services to our community.

For more information or to join a group, access the Luke's Light website through the Berkley Police Department's website at: berkleymapolice.gov


BERKLEY
COMMON
HALLOWEEN
Friday, October 30th, 2026
5:00 – 7:30 PM
SENSORY-FRIENDLY: 4:30 – 5:00 PM
No music or flashing lights
BERKLEY PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING
POLICE
TOWN HALL
BERKLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY
Join us at the Berkley Common
for an evening of Halloween fun!
TRICK-OR-TREATING
HALLOWEEN ACTIVITIES
COSTUMES ENCOURAGED
TOWN DEPARTMENTS & COMMUNITY GROUPS
Bring the family, wear your costumes, and stop by for some Halloween fun!
CANDY DONATIONS WELCOME!
Help us keep the Halloween fun going!
FREE • FAMILY-FRIENDLY • ALL ARE WELCOME

Halloween Is Coming to the Berkley Common!



Halloween is one of our favorite times of year in Berkley, and preparations are underway for another wonderful community celebration!

Halloween on the Common is scheduled for Friday, October 30, 2026, bringing together Town departments, local organizations, businesses, and volunteers for an evening of costumes, candy, and family fun.

This year's festivities will feature the PTO's Trunk-or-Treat, hayrides, music, food vendors, and activities stretching from the ballfield through Town Hall and the Public Safety complex to the Library.

Town Hall is getting a particularly whimsical makeover this year, with an Alice in Wonderland theme! Staff are preparing to transform the building into a little piece of Wonderland, adding some imagination and fun to the evening's festivities. We hope it will be a memorable stop for families making their way through the celebration.

Behind the scenes, an enormous amount of planning goes into making Halloween on the Common possible. From coordinating traffic and lighting to collecting thousands of pieces of candy, preparing activities, and organizing volunteers, the event is truly a community-wide effort.

We're especially grateful to the residents and businesses who donate candy, the volunteers who give their time, and the Town employees and public safety personnel who help bring everything together.

Whether you're reading this before Halloween or looking back on the festivities afterward, we hope this year's celebration provides another wonderful memory for Berkley families.

Berkley Buzz

July 2026

BERKLEY COMMUNITY SCHOOL CONSTRUCTION PROGRESSES

Opening September 2027



Interior Construction



On Monday, September 28, 2026, School and Town officials toured the construction site of the new Berkley Community School to see firsthand the remarkable progress being made on the largest capital project in the Town of Berkley's history.

Construction continues to move forward rapidly, with the new school on track for its anticipated opening to students in September 2027.

During the site walk, officials observed the beginnings of interior drywall installation and the placement of heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) systems throughout the building. . While much of the interior remains in the early stages of construction, the steel framing is beginning to reveal the shape and layout of future classrooms. It was an exciting opportunity to envision the spaces where Berkley's youngest students will soon learn and grow.

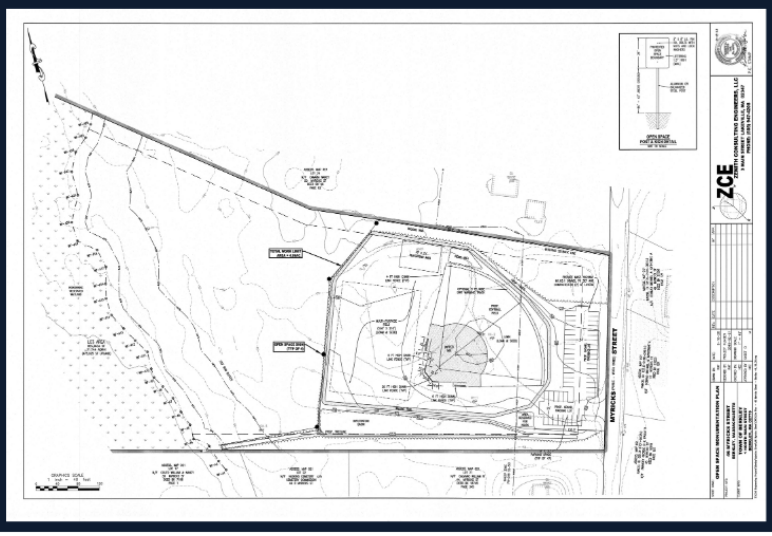
As construction advances, the vision of a modern educational facility for Berkley's students is steadily becoming a reality.

A project of this magnitude is only possible through the collective efforts of countless individuals. The Town extends its sincere appreciation to the construction crews, contractors, architects, project managers, School Building Committee, School Administration, and Town officials whose dedication and hard work continue to move this project forward.

Most importantly, we recognize the people of Berkley, whose support and commitment to investing in our children's education have made this historic undertaking possible. This new school represents far more than a building; it is a lasting investment in our community and the generations of students who will learn, grow, and thrive within its walls.

Pictured (left to right): PMA Consultants Associate Mark Gauger; PMA Consultants Senior Associate Mark Adrean; Robert Taylor, Principal of Taylor & Burns Architects; Town Administrator Matthew Chabot; and School Building Committee member Peter Mis.

MYRICKS STREET BALLFIELDS PROJECT MOVES FORWARD



PROGRESS

The Town of Berkley continues to make progress on the proposed improvements to the Myricks Street Ballfields, located at 46 Myricks Street.

A recent public forum provided an opportunity for residents to review the proposed improvements, ask questions, and offer feedback on the future of the recreational space. The Town appreciates everyone who participated and shared their thoughts as we continue working toward a project that will benefit residents and families for years to come.

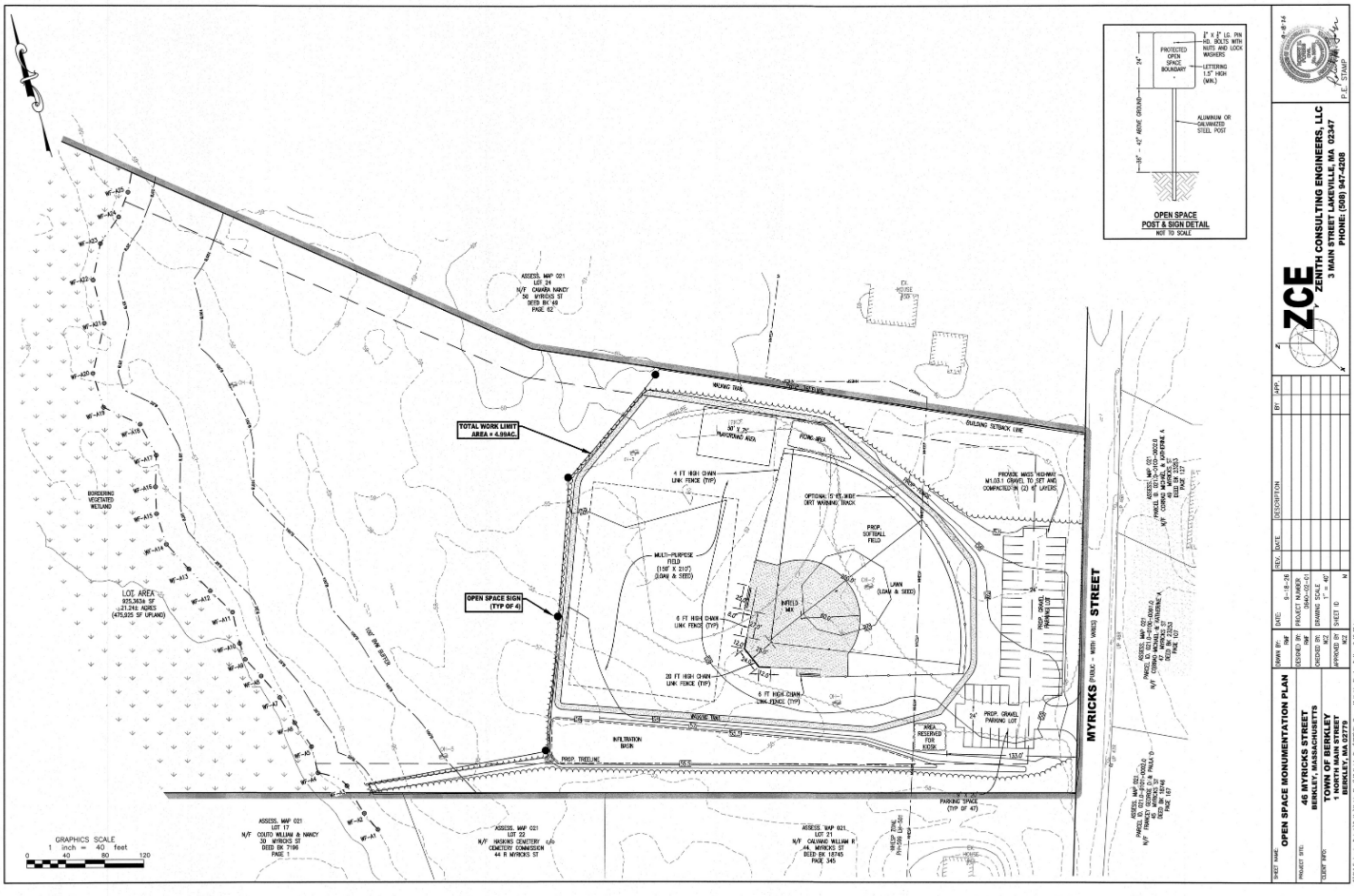
The proposed improvements include a softball field, soccer field, walking path, playground, gravel parking area, and additional amenities intended to make the property a welcoming recreational destination for the community.

What's Next?

The Town anticipates entering into a contract for the remaining environmental permitting and design work, an important step toward preparing the project for construction.

Once that work has progressed sufficiently, the Town hopes to put the project out to bid in the coming months. While there is still work to be done before construction can begin, the project continues to move forward, bringing Berkley another step closer to expanding its recreational opportunities.

We look forward to sharing additional updates as the project progresses!



OPEN SPACE
POST & SIGN DETAIL
NOT TO SCALE
PROTECTED OPEN SPACE BOUNDARY
LETTERING 1.5" HIGH (MIN.)
ALUMINUM OR GALVANIZED STEEL POST
ZCE
ZENITH CONSULTING ENGINEERS, LLC
3 MAIN STREET LAKEVILLE, MA 02347
PHONE: (508) 947-4208
P.E. STAMP
ASSESS. MAP 021
LOT 24
N/F CAMARA NANCY
50 MYRICKS ST
DEED BK 49
PAGE 62
TOTAL WORK LIMIT
AREA = 4.99AC.
OPEN SPACE SIGN
(TYP OF 4)
BORDERING VEGETATED WETLAND
LOT AREA
925,363± SF
21.24± ACRES
(475,925 SF UPLAND)
MULTI-PURPOSE FIELD
PROP. SOFTBALL FIELD
LAWN (LOAM & SEED)
4 FT HIGH CHAIN LINK FENCE (TYP)
6 FT HIGH CHAIN LINK FENCE (TYP)
20 FT HIGH CHAIN LINK FENCE (TYP)
OPTIONAL 15 FT WIDE DIRT WARNING TRACK
INFILTRATION BASIN
PROP. GRAVEL PARKING LOT
PROP. TREELINE
WALKING TRAIL
BUILDING SETBACK LINE
AREA RESERVED FOR KIOSK
PARKING SPACE (TYP OF 47)
MYRICKS (PUBLIC - WIDTH VARIES) STREET
ASSESS. MAP 021
LOT 17
N/F COUTO WILLIAM & NANCY
30 MYRICKS ST
DEED BK 7196
PAGE 1
ASSESS. MAP 021
LOT 22
N/F HASKINS CEMETERY COMMISSION
44 R MYRICKS ST
ASSESS. MAP 021
LOT 21
N/F CALVANO WILLIAM R
44 MYRICKS ST
DEED BK 18745
PAGE 345
GRAPHICS SCALE
1 inch = 40 feet
0 40 80 120
OPEN SPACE MONUMENTATION PLAN
46 MYRICKS STREET
BERKLEY, MASSACHUSETTS
TOWN OF BERKLEY
1 NORTH MAIN STREET
BERKLEY, MA 02779

Berkley Honors Revolutionary War Patriot Elijah Briggs

On September 11, the Berkley community gathered at Fox Cemetery for a special grave marking ceremony honoring Elijah Briggs, a Berkley resident and Revolutionary War Patriot.

Born in 1730, Briggs served as a Private during the Revolutionary War, including service in Rhode Island and at North River. He passed away in 1795 and was laid to rest in Berkley.

Organized in partnership with the Sons of the American Revolution, the ceremony featured a formal grave dedication, wreath laying, and historical color guards. Members of the Briggs family joined representatives of American Legion Post 121, the Berkley Historical Society, public safety departments, Town officials, local organizations, residents, and students in honoring his service.

The participation of local students was especially meaningful, providing an opportunity for younger generations to experience firsthand the importance of history, citizenship, and remembrance.

The Town extends its sincere appreciation to the Sons of the American Revolution, our Veterans Agent, the American Legion, Berkley Historical Society, participating schools, public safety personnel, the Briggs family, and everyone who helped make this tribute possible.

Nearly 250 years after his service, Elijah Briggs remains an important part of Berkley's history, and his legacy will continue to be remembered.







When it rains in Berkley, stormwater flows across roads, driveways, and lawns before entering drainage systems, wetlands, and local waterways. Along the way, it can collect pollutants such as oil, fertilizers, road salt, and pet waste. Unlike household wastewater, stormwater generally isn't treated before entering the environment.

The Town conducts stormwater testing, inspections, and reporting to comply with state and federal environmental regulations, identify pollution sources, and protect our local waterways and natural resources.

How Can You Help?

- **Keep storm drains clear: Never dump leaves, grass clippings, trash, or chemicals into roadside drains.**
- **Pick up after pets: Pet waste can introduce harmful bacteria into waterways.**
- **Use fertilizers responsibly: Avoid applying them before heavy rainfall.**
- **Maintain your septic system: Regular maintenance helps protect groundwater.**
- **Report unusual discharges: Strange odors, discoloration, or flowing water from drainage pipes during dry weather may indicate a problem.**

Protecting Berkley's waterways is a shared responsibility. Small actions by residents can make a big difference in keeping our community and environment healthy.

Town Finance

Note from Town Administrator

Reach Out

We hope you enjoyed the 2nd edition of the Town of Berkley Newsletter. Our goal is to keep residents informed about the projects, people, and accomplishments that shape our community. Whether it's major infrastructure improvements, community events, or the day-to-day work of Town departments, we hope this newsletter provides a better look at the work happening on behalf of Berkley residents.

The Town welcomes suggestions for future newsletter topics, community events, volunteer recognition, and other items of public interest. Please send your ideas to the Town Administrator's Office at mchabot@berkleyma.gov.

What's Happening:

Finance Team Update: A Busy Fall Season

Fall is an especially busy time for Berkley's Finance Team, which includes the Assessor's Office, Treasurer/Collector's Office, and Town Accountant.

The Town's FY2025 financial audit is nearing completion, with an ambitious goal of finishing by the end of October. Work will then transition immediately into the FY2026 audit, with a target completion date of March 31, 2027. Meeting these milestones would bring the Town's annual audit schedule back on track.

October also marks an important period for financial reporting, as the team works to submit figures for the Town's Balance Sheet, Schedule A, and supporting documentation to the Massachusetts Division of Local Services. These submissions are essential to the annual tax rate certification process, which typically takes place in November is preparation for third-quarter tax bills.

All of this work takes place alongside the team's everyday responsibilities, including property assessments, processing payments, collecting taxes, and maintaining the financial operations that keep the Town running.

We appreciate the hard work and dedication of our Finance Team, particularly during this demanding season, as they balance critical annual reporting requirements with the daily needs of our community.

Upcoming Events & Dates

- Wednesday, October 28 | 6:00 PM — Sidewalk Project Public Forum: Join us at Town Hall to learn about the proposed sidewalk improvements and share your feedback.
- Friday, October 30 | 5:00–7:30 PM — Halloween on the Common: Costumes, candy, activities, and family fun!
- Monday, November 2 — Second-Quarter Taxes Due: Real estate and personal property tax payments are due.
- Wednesday, November 11 | 10:30 AM — Veterans Day Ceremony: Join us at the Berkley Common flagpole as we honor those who have served.
- Sunday, December 6 | Time TBD — Lights On!: Celebrate the holiday season with our community!
- Monday, December 14 | 7:00 PM — Special Town Meeting: Berkley Middle School Gymnasium. All registered voters are encouraged to attend and participate.