

# HARDWICK NEWS



## Town Meetings & Elections

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This is the year for the Federal Census. Want to help our fire fighters, police officers, senior center, highway department with streets and roads, water & sewer Infrastructure upgrades respond to the needs of Hardwick through grants that are available from the federal government? Did you know that \$1.5 TRILLION was distributed to state and local governments in 2018 based upon census data? Hardwick's share depends on you filling out the Federal Census. If you haven't filled out your 2020 Federal Census yet and you are sitting at home with nothing to do, fill it out and let's look forward to greater days ahead.

These meetings and Town Elections will all take place at the **Hardwick Elementary School.**

**We will follow the guidelines set for social distancing as well as requiring masks and gloves being worn by town officials and voters.**

**Special Town Meeting** on June 2, 2020 at 6 pm, Some of the items to be addressed on the Warrant include: **1.** an article to authorize the Selectmen to acquire by purchase, gift or eminent domain any easements necessary for public way purposes for the reconstruction of Rt. 32 and Rt. 32A, **2.** an article will address overdrawn accounts from FY2019, **3.** an article for un-provided for accounts in FY2020, **4.** an article to raise and appropriate, borrow or transfer from available funds a sum of money to pay for the costs to plan, design, permit and construct improvements and upgrades to the Gilbertville Water Pollution Control Facility, the Wheelwright Water Pollution Control Facility and the Route 32A Sewer Line Extension Upgrade from Eagle Hill School to the Gilbertville Water Pollution Collection System, and **5.** an article will address an easement from the Town to the Hardwick Historical Society, Inc.

### **Annual Town Elections** on June 16, 2020

Register to Vote by June 5. Early Vote-Absentee Ballot applications are available online at [www.townofhardwick.com](http://www.townofhardwick.com) and on the bulletin board at each of the three Post Offices in Hardwick. Please allow for ample time for the mailing of the absentee ballot application/ballot and for the ballot to be returned to the Town Clerk no later than the close of the polls on June 16, 2020 in order for the ballot to be counted.

### **Special and Annual Town Meetings** on June 24, 2020 at 6 pm

Register to Vote by June 4

To register persons who are not yet registered voters here in Hardwick a voter registration session will take place at the Municipal Building, 307 Main St. from 2pm to 4pm and 7pm to 8pm on Friday, June 5, 2020 . The Town Clerk will be working during those hours and will be available by phone at 413-477-6700 X 104, to assist anyone needing assistance registering to vote or with questions pertaining to their voter registration status or the election. To check to see if you are registered to vote in Hardwick go online to: [www.sec.state.ma.us/VoterRegistrationSearch/MyVoterRegStatus.aspx](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/VoterRegistrationSearch/MyVoterRegStatus.aspx) To register to vote online, go to: [www.sec.state.ma.us/OVR/](http://www.sec.state.ma.us/OVR/)

A late fee will not be charged for dog licenses until July 1. If we are still in quarantine at that time, the payment of the late fee will be extended for another month. Dogs still need to be registered at this time with no late fee.

# Civil Defense in the 21st Century

I prefer 'Civil Defense' to 'Emergency Management'. There's really no managing this emergency. There are all sorts of agencies at the federal and state and local levels trying to contain / cure/ treat/ fix this virus. It is everywhere; all states and U.S. territories. All nations on Earth are dealing with this beast. And the best we can do is to defend ourselves. While we wait for a cure, a vaccine, an effective treatment, all we can do is protect ourselves by not sharing it with ourselves. We have to stop rubbing up against each other.

It's April 27 today and there is a good chance that the rate of the numbers of us getting sick is starting to level off. Plenty more of us will get sick. They say that many of us have had this bug since early winter. It strikes people different ways. Lots of us are infected and might never know it. That's really hopeful. But it also means that we might be spreading it and not know it. So not getting too close to people who aren't in your family, and wearing some kind of mask so that you aren't breathing on other people, is our civil defense against this enemy. We're protecting each other.

This will likely go on for a while. Who knows what our economy will look like after we come out of this? Our society will have to do some things differently, perhaps for years to come. And we might have to cooperate and support each other like never before. So plant a bigger garden. Check in with your neighbors. Stay apart but stay in touch. Keep track of all the hugs and kisses we're missing. And when this is over, we'll dance. Eric

## **FOOD PANTRY & MART TRANSPORTATION**

**MART will deliver food packages to the patrons of the Food Pantry and assist in any other transportation** required to meet the essential needs.

For Food Pantry Delivery contact: Liz Reilly, Food Pantry Coordinator at 413-477- 6635 or Sharon Hardaker, MART Dispatcher at 413-477-6197 x122 or 774-200-5184.

For other transportation needs, simply contact Sharon Hardaker.

### Hardwick, Ware, and Warren Seniors, Do you need help with running errands, grocery shopping or prescription pick-up?...*We can Help!*

If you or someone you know needs help with running errands, grocery shopping, prescription pick-up call the QVCDC at **413-967-3001** for more information.

These services are provided at no cost to those who meet income eligibility requirements.

*All services provided must take place outside the home.*



Free **Meals for Students** continue through the summer at Hardwick Elementary School and Quabbin Regional. There may be a short intermission as a tank is repaired. <http://www.qrsd.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/03/Free-meals-flyer.pdf.jpg>

## **Farmer's Market Starts June 21 on the Hardwick Common Vegetables, Meat, Eggs, Booths are free, Plant Exchanges plus**

Some of the events announced here are not sponsored or approved by the Town of Hardwick or the Quabbin Regional School District. They are offered by other town organizations and are listed here in an attempt to show the range of opportunities occurring in town.