

## Mayor's Update



### Recycling 101

Our waste hauler is fining us because their data shows that 18 percent of the City of Newton's recycling carts contain contamination, a high rate.

Thanks to a grant, inspectors looked in 1,408 recycling carts during our first week of the focused initiative to educate residents and to lower the contamination rate. They found an even higher rate of contamination, 28 percent.

The main culprit? Plastic bags. Of the 391 households that received warnings, 245, or 63 percent, were because plastic bags were found in the carts. And unfortunately, four carts were left on the curbside this morning and not picked up because the same issue was found two weeks in a row.

Newton has already spent \$65,611 so far this year on penalties because our recycling is not as clean as required in our contract.

We need your help to do better. This week I popped up in City Hall staffer Dana Hanson's kitchen in Auburndale and found "mistakes." Watch the video above.

Questions? More information can be found [here](#), or on the mobile [Recycle Right Newton](#) app.



### Newton Police Go Pink

Police Chief David MacDonald has his pink police patches, do you?

Newton Police joined the national Pink Patch Project to raise funds for cancer research and to help people dealing with the disease.

All proceeds from sales of the \$10 Pink Newton Police patches will go directly to the Verma Foundation, a non-profit that creates custom high-quality cap wigs at

no cost for women and children fighting cancer and dealing with the emotional side effect of hair loss.

Purchase your patch at the online store at [Vermafoundation.org/store](http://Vermafoundation.org/store). When you get your patch, take photos with it, and tag the Newton Police, using @NewtonMAPoliceDepartment (Facebook), #PinkPatchProject (Twitter), and #VFPinkPatch (Twitter). Your photo may end up being shared on the Newton Police Department's social media accounts.

Questions? Call Officers Justin Lau or Brett Ferolito at 617-796-2103 or email them at [JLau@Newtonma.gov](mailto:JLau@Newtonma.gov) or [BFerolito@Newtonma.gov](mailto:BFerolito@Newtonma.gov).

Thank you, Officers Lau, and Ferolito for caring and taking action.



### **Solar Panels Net Savings of \$452,000**

The Rumford Landfill Solar Farm saved the City of Newton \$452,000 during its first year of operation and generated more than 2.7 million kilowatt hours of clean electricity.

The solar farm, built with Framingham-based Ameresco, produced the equivalent of about 13 percent of the power used to run Newton's municipal government including all our schools, City Hall, public buildings and street lights.

This has been more successful than we thought, and I'm excited to move forward with the next stage of the solar program in Newton to place more panels around the City to help green our energy.

### **Into Infrastructure and Financial Forecasts?**

I'm presenting the FY2020-FY2024 Capital Improvement Program and Financial Forecast on Monday night, Oct. 15, in the City Council Chambers at 7:45 p.m.

Join us. I'll also send along a summary next week.

### **Harvest Fair Fun**

In Newton Centre, enjoy amusement rides on Saturday. On Sunday, rides again, crafts, music and dancing, food, a Green Expo and free pumpkin decorating. Join me on Newton Centre Green on the corner of Langley Road and Centre Street.

Festivities will run from 10:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. on both Saturday, Oct. 13, and Sunday, Oct. 14.



### **Introducing City Solicitor Alissa Ocasio Giuliani**

I'm pleased to welcome Alissa (Ali) Ocasio Giuliani as City Solicitor for the City of Newton.

Ali has served as the Legal Advisor and General Counsel for the Boston Public Schools since 2008. In this role, she has managed all aspects of the in-house legal office for the Boston Public Schools, an organization with 125 schools, approximately 10,200 employees, and 55,500 students.

Ali is a leader and a listener. She is strong, smart and savvy. She will provide sage counsel to me, the City Council, the School Committee and City and School staff. She will be both a motivator and a capable manager within our Law Department.

She will be officially sworn-in as Newton's attorney on Nov. 19 and has already been in close communication with Acting City Solicitor Ouida Young who will retire on Nov. 16.

I am so grateful to Ouida for serving as an outstanding Acting City Solicitor for the past ten months. She is an exceptional person and lawyer. For so many, including me, she is the one we have turned to for many years as she is wise, trustworthy, knowledgeable, reliable, caring, grounded, and honest.

Warmly,

Ruthanne



P.S. – It's Halloween Window Painting season. Register now to create a spooky window on Saturday, Oct. 27 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Register [here](#) before Oct. 19.

P.P.S. - Forty-five cement mixers will be pouring 1,012.5 tons (that's more than 2 million pounds) of concrete at 123 Austin Street in Newtonville across from Star Market early next week.

You read that correctly – 2,025,000 pounds of concrete is being poured!

Grab coffee, ice-cream, or even lunch and bring the kids to watch. The pour is scheduled for Monday morning, Oct. 15, but watch the weather; rain would delay it until Tuesday.

P.P.P.S. - Come help us as we develop a Climate Action Plan for the City of Newton. Newton's Planning and Development Department is holding a Climate Action Plan Roundtable Discussion on Tuesday, Oct. 23 from 6:00 to 8:30 p.m. at the War Memorial Auditorium here at City Hall.

Please RSVP to [climateplanning@newtonMA.gov](mailto:climateplanning@newtonMA.gov) or 617-796-1152 no later than October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2018.

If you can't attend on the 23<sup>rd</sup>, let us know your ideas online [here](#). Submissions will be accepted until October 31<sup>st</sup>, 2018.

Lots more information about climate planning in Newton is available at [here](#).

