

# Town Clerk's Office Town Hall Room 12

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Amy E. Hennessy Neves, Town Clerk

# What's Happening Now at the Town Clerk's Office:

### Annual Street Listing/Census will be mailed in the beginning of the year 2020:

It's important to return your Annual Street Listing each and every year even if there are no changes to the form, because years from now, you may need to prove that you or your children lived in Milford or resided in Massachusetts during a certain time period and the street list for that year is the proof of residency. You can return the Annual Street Listing to our office by using the enclosed envelope, by faxing your form to 508-634-2324 or by email to MilfordAnnualCensus@townofmilford.com.

#### What do I need to do with the form?:

Please look over the names listed on the form. If there are no changes to the pre-printed information, simply sign and date the form and return it to the Town Clerk's Office. Add any new people who reside at your address and indicate with a "M" (Moved) or "D" (Deceased) if someone has moved or passed away. Students living away at school, residents who are in a nursing home or away in the military are still considered residents of Milford and can remain on the census. Check to see that the date of birth is correct for each person and correct it if it is not. Please list a contact phone number for the household and indicate if it is public or unlisted. Please add or correct the "Occupations" column listed on the form and list what grade if a child is in school. The "Voter" column tells you what each person's voter registration status is. "U" stands for "Unenrolled" which means not enrolled in any particular political party. This is what most people mean when they say "Independent". Other designations are: "D" for Democrat or "R" for Republican and if there is no letter in the "Voter" column means the person is not registered to vote in Milford. If you are a voter and wish to make any changes to your voter information on the street list, you would need to sign the bottom of the form in order for the change to be processed. No changes to voter information can be made without the voter's signature. To register to vote you need to complete a Voter Registration Form. Please call the Town Clerk's Office if you need one or you can download one from our website (www.milfordma.gov).

# What happens if I don't return the form?:

Registered voters who do not return the Annual Street List Form and do not respond to a follow up mailing will be designated an "Inactivate" voter on the street/voter list. Such persons will only be eligible to vote after they fill out an "Affirmation of Current and Continuous Residence" the next time they come to vote. Every household that fails to complete the form has to be contacted a second time, which takes additional time, paper and postage.

#### **How is the Census Information Used?**:

The information from the returned street list forms has many different uses. These are some of them:

The Town Clerk uses it to maintain the list of registered voters and to help the town keep an up-to-date list of where residents live.

The School Department can request reports to help them to project future levels of school enrollment.

The Council on Aging uses the information when applying for grants and to estimate the possible demand for services to those over age 60.

The Office of the Jury Commissioner uses each community's street list to compile a list of residents for jury duty. An accurate list provides for a fair and representative jury pool.

The Veterans Agent receives a list of the U.S. Military veterans in Town so he can help veterans with their needs. It will also be used to verify residence for the "Welcome Home" bonus.

The presence of a person's name on the street list may also be used to establish residency for a number of things: to qualify for in-state college tuition; for job applications or special low-cost loan programs; even for adoption applications.

# Last year I indicated that someone moved out, so why are they are still on the form?:

A registered voter who moves and does not register to vote in another community cannot be removed from our street list until they have not voted in two consecutive biennial state elections (which may be why you may have told us someone moved but they still appear on your form). If you have a forwarding or new address for these individuals, please provide their new address to us so we can mail them paperwork to be removed or you can tell them to register in their new MA community. When they do, their name will be removed from our records.

### Who should complete the street list form?:

Any adult residing in the home can complete and sign the form.

# **Dog Licenses:**

Dog licenses are issued at the Town Clerk's Office. Our licensing period runs from April 1<sup>st</sup> - June 30<sup>th</sup> each year. If you return the insert portion in the Annual Street Listing to register your dog, we will hold the form until April 1<sup>st</sup> to do so. Please make sure to send a valid rabies certificate to our office either by mail or email to MLaughlin@townofmilford.com.

If you have a new puppy/dog, please register the puppy/dog after it receives its rabies vaccination (you will need to provide our office a copy of the rabies certificate). Copies of spay/neutering certificates will also be required for all new puppies/dogs if applicable. Those pet owners who are renewing their dog licenses from the previous year will only need to present us a spay/neutering certificate if the surgery for spay/neutering was done after you have registered your dog in 2019. We will also need a new/valid rabies certificate if it has expired. If you are unsure, you can always call our office to verify what documentation may be needed.

#### Federal Census 2020:

Notices of the 2020 Federal Census will be send to all households in Milford in March 2020. Workers have been out and about doing address canvasing around Milford. The Federal Census is a headcount of everyone living in the United States; this includes people of all ages, backgrounds, citizens and non-citizens. The count is done every 10 years. It is very important to answer the census because this information is used to distribute federal funding to cities and towns across the U.S. The questionnaire will not ask you for your social security number, it will not ask you for your bank account or credit card numbers, and they will not ask for money or donations. Your personal information is protected by law and is never released to any other local, state, or federal agencies (Title 13 of the U.S. Code.) Your individual Census responses will not affect your tax status or your insurance premiums. Census data affects your community. Census data determines federal funding to Medicare and Medicaid, MassHealth, Children's Health Insurance Program, and several Health Center programs. The data collected by the U.S. Census will determine your political representation for the next 10 years at the local, state, and federal levels. Responding to the Census is easy. You can respond to the U.S. Census online and over the phone in 13 languages, or wait for the paper form to be mailed to you.

#### **Town Election:**

Nomination papers will be available Monday, January 6, 2020 for all Elected Offices, including Town Meeting Members. The following offices are on the April 7, 2020 ballot and the following people are up for re-election:

William D. Buckley, Selectman (3 year term)

Amy E. Hennessy Neves, Town Clerk (3 year term)

Scott J. Crisafulli, Highway Surveyor (3 year term)

Joseph F. Niro, Board of Assessor (3 year term)

Leonard A. Izzo Sr., Board of Health (3 year term)

Edward Bertorelli, Library Trustee (3 year term)

Joseph P. Arcudi, Park Commissioner (3 year term)

Marble M. Mainini III, Planning Board (5 year term)

Thomas J. Morelli, Sewer Commissioner (3 year term)

Michael J. Noferi, Town Moderator (3 year term)

Jennifer Parson, School Committee (3 year term)

Joseph E. Callery, School Committee (3 year term)

Michael A. Diorio, Housing Authority (5 year term)

Henry M. Shahnamian, Trustee of Vernon Grove Cemetery (3 year term)

Jamie Luchini, Trustee of Vernon Grove Cemetery (3 year term)

Charles E. Reneau, Tree Warden/Gypsy Moth Superintendent (3 year term) Also,

(1) 4 year seat, Housing Authority and (1) 3 year term seat for Library Trustee Town Meeting Members, Precincts 1-8 (Various terms)

Please contact the Town Clerk's Office regarding nomination papers.

Happy holidays to you and yours from the Town Clerk's Office.