



# **TOWN OF TEMPLETON COMMUNITY SERVICES**

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## **FY 23 Third Quarter Reports**

### **Library/Community Services**

This quarter saw both an increase in Story Hour attendance as well as the resumption of the Templeton Elementary School class visits to the library. The FY 24 budget requests for the library, senior services, veteran services, cultural council and historical commission were submitted and reviewed by the Town Administrator, as well as the Select Board and Advisory Committee during the Saturday workshop. The Library and Senior Services FY 22 annual reports were submitted. I completed the cyber-security training. I accompanied the VSO to meet with members of the American Legion post 373. Library Assistant, LouAnn's weekly stitching/craft group has been very successful, with a maximum of 15 participants each week and several names on a 'waiting list'. A NMS student designed and placed a clothing donation box at the library as part of the 'cradles to crayons' effort. I attended the pre-construction meeting regarding the Senior Center roof project. We held a Farmers' Market planning meeting.

### **Senior Services**

The staff attended workshops on fuel assistance applications and SNAP benefit applications. Cindy completed and submitted the EOE annual report. Several 'to go' meals were provided, including 3 which were funded by ARPA monies. One of our wonderful volunteers, and a previous COA board member, stepped up to take the position of Activities Coordinator for the short term, until we can find a permanent candidate. This will be a tremendous help in completing the newsletter, among other tasks that the staff have been struggling to complete. Our SHINE volunteer, Gail Noel was busy this quarter with appointments. Two volunteers, who are trained tax preparers through AARP, held appointments for 4 weeks to assist seniors with preparing and submitting their income tax returns. 'Talk with the Town' was held each month, with different guests from the town government answering questions. East Templeton's Cub Scout Pack 27 spent an afternoon making crafts with seniors and enjoying refreshments. Cindy and I met with the architect regarding the roof replacement and kitchen project. All the regular activities took place, as well as a few new exercise programs.

Social Service Interactions: 369

Attendance at Activities: 1,456

Volunteer Hours: 488

Rides Provided: 484

## **Templeton Cultural Council**

The TCC did not meet at all this quarter. January thru March is a quiet time for our council.

Third quarter the council sent out our FY2023 grant application awards notifications to 2023 recipients. We had 22 approvals and 5 denials.

Some sponsored events this quarter –

Cabin Fever Collectors Show held Sunday February 26th, 11 AM – 4 PM.

St. Patrick's Day celebration with Violinist Cynthia LaBarre was postponed due to inclement weather and will be rescheduled at a later date.

Templeton Cultural Council was active in securing 3 bands for our summer concert series on the Templeton Common at the Bandstand. Thank you to the Selectman's approval of these upcoming events.

As we always stress "Templeton Cultural Council" needs volunteers to join our council.

## **Cable/TCTV**

### **Good News: TCTV Digital Views Are Up Significantly**

YouTube 10.6K views Jan-March, +9% over previous, +33 subscribers

Meeting views are up for all boards, at times doubling

Biggest days March 18 for Budget Saturday, March 23

8.2K views for video programs (not live meetings); 119K impressions; avg. view duration 2:44

2.4K views for live meetings, 44.7K impressions; avg. view duration 15:09

Most Popular: Collector Time Tonka Toys, Lanterns, Ceramics, 3/22 Select Board, Songbirds of NE

Facebook Page: 6,462 page reach Jan-March, up 18% on previous quarter.

Biggest day for storm news/updates

Community Calendar is rocking it

More news-style headlines and summaries: Previews and recaps, weekly report highlights

Templeton News show is on the way

Productions: Cabin Fever/Collector Time shows, Narragansett Craft Fair, Chili & Chowder Taste-Off

## **General Initiatives**

'Civic Information' by Community Media Centers as reliable informational resources is valued for democracy

Streaming Surcharge Bill and legislative actions

Research bills regarding remote public access for meetings

Digital Equity planning with Phillipston & Royalston

MassHire interns to work for TCTV July and August

Toured Scout Hall with CPC

## **Montachusett.TV and Digital Lab Progress**

Gearing up by hiring Program Coordinators

Still seeking marketing go-getter and/or budding journalist

Mapping out next steps for website development

Discussions with Chamber of Commerce, MWCC

Preparing RFP or RFI for partnerships in Montachusett.TV and Digital Lab

Working with Wachusett Business Incubator (WBi) on space, planning and business productions

Considering Digital Equity Partnership application with WBi and MWCC

## **Bad News: Cable Subscriber Counts Are Down Significantly**

~10% decline from 2,153 subscribers in 2021 to 1,951 in 2022

Other clear indicators that people are moving away from cable TV (from national viewing habit stats)

'Pay wall' or paid membership options need to be considered for cable subscriber equity.

### **Veterans Services**

Nothing reported