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Register of Deeds

# Worcester Registry of Deeds

## Newsletter

April 2024 ~ Issue #31 ~ Town of Rutland

### What's Inside?

- ★ **Spotlight:** Arbor Day (p. 2-3)
- ★ **Upcoming Events & Word Search**(p. 3)
- ★ **Remember these Hit Songs?** (p. 4)



The Township of Rutland was confirmed on February 23, 1713. Rutland became incorporated in 1722. The Worcester District Registry of Deeds was opened on April 2, 1731, this is the office for 55 of the towns of Worcester County to record and hold land and title documents. The Town of Rutland (current population 9,300) is located 13 miles northwest of Worcester and 52 miles west of Boston. At 1,200 feet above sea level, Rutland has the highest elevation of any community between the Berkshires and the Atlantic Ocean. Known for its clean air, the town grew as a health resort center in the 1880's. During the onslaught of tuberculosis, Rutland became famous for its health care industry and fresh air living environment. This industry continued until December 23, 1991 when the last of the health care facilities closed its doors. Did you know that Rutland is geographical center of

Massachusetts? The marker for the center of the commonwealth is a maple tree. Rutland Massachusetts has adopted the Right to Farm By-Law. This General Law encourages the pursuit of agriculture, promotes agricultural based economic opportunities, and protects

farmlands within the Town of Rutland by allowing agricultural uses and related activities to function with minimal conflict with abutters and local agencies. This By- Law is applied to all jurisdictional areas within the Town.

### Community Statistics

Worcester South District

125

Number of Recordings in February 2024

\$430k

Median Home Value

85%

Homes Owned vs. Rented

3,344

Total Housing Units

68

Density (Houses per Square Mile)



J. Sterling Morton

# Town Spotlight

## Rutland

# Arbor Day

As a lover of trees I have decided to share what I know about Arbor Day. This year it is observed on April 26, 2024. What the heck is Arbor Day? Arbor Day, is the holiday observed by planting trees. It was first proposed in the 19th century by J. Sterling Morton, an American journalist and politician, who famously wrote, "Other holidays repose upon the past; Arbor Day proposes for the future." Morton knew he loved newspapers and nature. He pursued these passions throughout his life and today is known for both. After finishing school at the University of Michigan, he left for the Nebraska Territory. Morton and his wife settled in Nebraska City where he became the editor of the Nebraska News. J. Sterling Morton jumped into the political scene soon after arriv-

ing in the Nebraska Territory. Morton was appointed Nebraska's territorial Secretary of State from 1858-1861 and was also the acting territorial governor from 1858-1859. In addition to being a pioneer statesman in the Nebraska Territory, Morton also pioneered in agriculture. Living in Nebraska City, Morton carefully watched the growth of the Nebraska Territory through all its ups and downs. He did not believe Nebraska was the "Great American Desert", but quite the opposite. He believed in the state's agriculture and the honorable work of farmers. During the years of 1867-1882, Morton dropped out of politics in order to spend more time promoting agriculture. He served on the Nebraska State Board of Agriculture and was a member of the state's Horticultural

*Arbor Day continues on page 3*



Central Tree, Rutland, MA

*Arbor Day* continued from page 2

Society. He supported better farming methods, conservation programs, and tree planting. In 1872 the Nebraska State Board of Agriculture adopted Morton's resolution to create Arbor Day, a day set aside to plant trees. Prizes were offered to counties and individuals for planting properly the largest number of trees on that day. It was estimated that more than one million trees were planted in Nebraska on the first Arbor Day.



### The Power of Trees

Trees support our health and the health of our planet. They clean our air and water. They provide shade, which cools our urban areas. Even on a personal level, trees have been proven to calm us and reduce our stress levels. Trees also support wildlife and our entire ecosystem. One oak tree attracts thousands of pollinators and beneficial insects. Trees provide birds and aquatic animals with habitats. In addition, they provide humans with powerful medicine, materials for living, and agriculture. Finally, trees are our biggest allies as the world climate warms; they are a cost-effective way to pull carbon dioxide out of the atmosphere today. Planting even one tree makes a difference.



Arbor Day Celebration

## Arbor Day Word Search



## Upcoming Events

**Thursday, April 4,  
2024 11:30am**

Douglas Senior Center  
331 Main St., Douglas,  
Ma 01516

**Thursday, April 11,  
2024 11:30am**

Spencer Senior Center  
68 Maple Street,  
Spencer, Ma 01562

**Tuesday, April 9, 2024  
1:00pm**

Boylston Council on  
Aging 599 Main Street,  
Boylston, Ma 01505

**Wednesday, May 8,  
2024**

Clinton Senior Center  
271 Church Street,  
Clinton, Ma 01510

**BIRCH**

**ALMOND**

**ASPEN**

**CEDAR**

**APPLE**

**ELM**

**ACORN**

**MAPLE**

**OAK**

**PALM**

**HICKORY**

**WILLOW**

**BEECH**

**WALNUT**

**HEMLOCK**

# Remember any of these favorite hit songs?

## 50's

1. Bill Haley & His Comets, "Rock Around the Clock," 1955.
2. Bobby Darin, "Mack the Knife," 1959.
3. Elvis Presley, "Jailhouse Rock," 1957.
4. Nat King Cole, "Mona Lisa," 1950.
5. Doris Day, "Que sera sera (Whatever Will Be Will Be)," 1956
6. The Kingston Trio, "Tom Dooley," 1958
7. Anton Karas, "Third Man Theme," 1950
8. Elvis Presley, "Heartbreak Hotel," 1956
9. Doris Day, "Secret Love," 1954
10. Les Paul & Mary Ford, "Vaya Con Dios (May God Be With You)," 1953



Bill Haley & His Comets



Bee Gees

## 60's

1. The Beatles, "Hey Jude," 1968
2. The Rolling Stones, "(I Can't Get No) Satisfaction," 1965
3. The Beatles, "I Want to Hold Your Hand," 1964
4. Procol Harum, "A Whiter Shade of Pale," 1967
5. Roy Orbison, "Oh, Pretty Woman," 1964
6. Elvis Presley, "Are You Lonesome Tonight," 1960
7. Elvis Presley, "It's Now or Never," 1960
8. Archies, "Sugar, Sugar," 1969
9. The Beatles, "Get Back," 1969
10. The Beatles, "She Loves You," 1964

## 70's

1. Bee Gees, "Stayin' Alive," 1978
2. George Harrison, "My Sweet Lord," 1971
3. The Beatles, "Let It Be," 1970
4. Abba, "Dancing Queen," 1976
5. John Travolta & Olivia Newton-John, "You're The One That I want," 1978
6. John Lennon, "Imagine," 1971
7. Queen, "Bohemian Rhapsody," 1976
8. The Village People, "YMCA," 1978
9. Mungo Jerry, "In the Summertime," 1970
10. Blondie, "Heart of Glass," 1979



The Beatles

