TAKE ONE!

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Marlborough Mirror

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Marlborough Landmarks: A Century of Marlborough City Hall

By Mike Lawton, Assistant Executive Director, WMCT-TV

For more than a century, the brick building at 140 Main Street has been where Marlborough runs its business. Built between 1904 and 1906 and dedicated in July 1906, City Hall replaced an 1871 hall lost to fire in 1902. That earlier building had held the post office, a bank, the police station and the public library alongside city offices. Its replacement was designed to last.

Architects Francis Allen, Charles Collens and J. Lawrence Berry, working with builder Thomas P. Hurley, delivered a 100-by-95-foot building for $95,000. It has three floors, plus a basement and attic. Its Roman brick exterior, ornamental interior carvings and 117-foot bell tower survive today. Resident Winslow Warren donated the illuminated clock, which is still regularly maintained, though the tower is closed to the public. The building anchors the Marlborough Center Historic District, listed on the National Register of Historic Places in 1998.

The layout reflected how the city governed itself. The mayor's office sat just off the first-floor entrance. The secretary's waiting area was roomy, though the office itself was cramped. The second floor held two chambers, one for the aldermen and one for the common council. When Marlborough adopted a Plan B charter in 1921, those bodies gave way to a single mayor and city council.

Growth brought crowding. A late-1980s renovation created Memorial Hall for meetings, and the council now uses the chamber on the second floor. The mayor's office moved to the attic, raised to clear the beams supporting the chamber ceilings below, and new stairwells met fire code. Until then, the main staircase was the only way out.

City Hall was rededicated on July 16, 1990. Roughly 9,000 people reportedly toured the new building in 1906, and about as many came through to see the renovation. More than 100 years on, the hall is still where Marlborough gathers, argues and decides, and its clock still keeps time over Main Street.

GFWC Marlborough Junior Woman's Club
www.marlboroughjuniors.org
VOLUNTEER. CONNECT. GIVE BACK.
Our organization is dedicated to improving the quality of life in our community through volunteer service, educational programs, and donations to those in need.
We are always welcoming new members!
Contact us for more info at:
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LEARN MORE & GET INVOLVED:
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Whats Happening in Marlborough?
Email information about an upcoming event or activity for your club, school, church, or non-profit to:
news@wmct-tv.com

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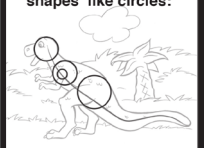
Mark Marderosian
author · illustrator
Host of TV's DRAWING WITH MARK!
Free downloadable activity pages for kids of all ages, upon request!
Initial beta-readers needed for crime fiction novels!
First 25 pages available free upon request.
PennyArcadeCreative@gmail.com

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Drawing with Mark!

LET'S PRACTICE DRAWING TYRANNOSAURUS REX!

Start with "foundation" shapes like circles:



Start creating the form of the T-Rex using connecting lines and stick figure.



Use tubes to start creating the "outside" forms of legs and arms.



Now we can start rounding the lines out so they look like muscles and add detail too!



Color it in too if you wish!

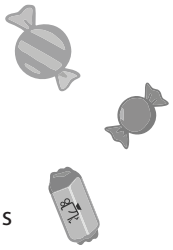
Drawing with Mark Now Showing on WMCT- TV, Marlborough Community Television

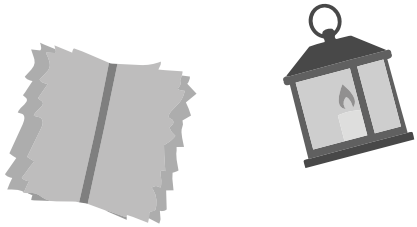


Want to be the coolest house in Marlborough this Halloween? Stock your bowl with these, the 10 best-selling candies in the United States:

1. Reeces Peanut Butter Cups
2. M&Ms
3. Snickers
4. Hershey's
5. Kit Kat
6. Twix
7. Skittles
8. Starburst
9. Sour Patch Kids
10. Nerds

Happy trick-or-treating, Marlborough!





Jokes!



Why did the pumpkin get invited to every party?
Because it was always a gourd time!

What do witches put on their hair?
Scare spray!

Why don't skeletons ever fight each other?
They just don't have the guts.

What's a vampire's favorite type of coffee?
De-coffin-ated.





Calling All Marlborough Non-Profits: Share Your Story on WMCT-TV This November!

This November, WMCT-TV's Community Connections is celebrating the nonprofits and charities that make Marlborough stronger. As the season of giving begins, we want to put a spotlight on the people serving and involving our community every day, and we'd love for your organization to be part of it.

Join us for a relaxed lunchtime conversation at our studio. No stuffy interviews, just a genuine chat about your mission, your work, and the impact you're making right here at home.

Weekdays at 1 p.m. throughout November 2026
(we'll find a day that works for you)
WMCT-TV Studios, 91 Main Street, Marlborough
Live-streamed, casual, and informative, with up to 3 representatives from your organization.

It's a free, easy way to raise awareness, reach new supporters, and connect with your neighbors. Let's tell your story together!

To book your spot, contact:

Ryan Malyar, Executive Director and host of Community Connections:
Ryan@wmct-tv.com

Mike Lawton, Assistant Executive Director:
MikeLawton@wmct-tv.com





MPS
Marlborough Public Schools

October 7th
Early release; Professional Development

October 12th
No school; Indigenous Peoples' Day

October 13th
Marlborough School Committee Meeting

October 27th
Marlborough School Committee Meeting





The Kid Corner
By Lilian Roque

The Story Nobody Finishes

Everyone sits around the campfire. One person starts a scary story but stops at the scariest part and chooses someone else to continue.

Each person adds a new scary detail until the story reaches the end.

Rule: Nobody can use the word "ghost"!

At the end, everyone votes for the scariest, funniest, or most creative story.

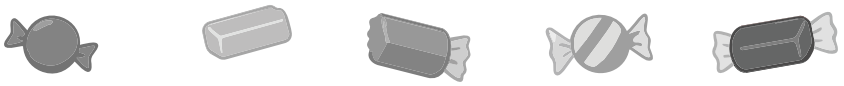
Learning Portuguese:

It's Fall!
É outono!

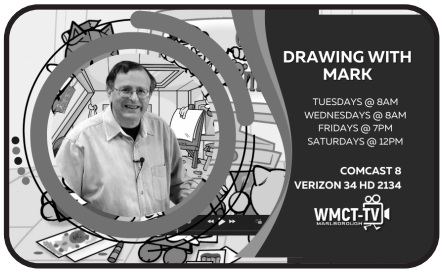
It's the most beautiful season of the year!
É a estação mais bonita do ano!











The Forgotten Pie That Shares Our Name

By Ryan Malyar, Executive Director, WMCT-TV

Before Marlborough made shoes, it grew apples. Colonial farms here produced enough fruit to ship cider and brandy to Boston, and by 1812 the town had two large distilleries. When the temperance movement took hold, many orchards switched to eating apples. For generations, New Englanders knew Marlborough as the place where the apples grow, and the Curtis and Rice orchards were famous for their spring blossoms and fall harvests.

Those orchards have since given way to homes and businesses. This October, though, there's a way to bring some of that history back: a nearly forgotten dessert called Marlborough pie.

Also known as Marlborough pudding, it's a single-crust apple custard pie made with stewed apples, eggs, cream, sugar and butter, and brightened with lemon, sherry and nutmeg. English colonists brought it over as a thrifty way to use up aging apples. Its first American recipe appears in Amelia Simmons's 1796 "American Cookery," widely considered the first American cookbook. The pie was a fixture on New England tables for generations before falling out of favor in the late 1800s.

Is it named after us? Probably not. No one knows where the name came from, and the theories include the English market town of Marlborough in Wiltshire, a village in Devon, a medieval monk and the first Duke of Marlborough. Our city, incorporated in 1660, was also named for Marlborough, Wiltshire. If that theory holds, the pie and the city are cousins.

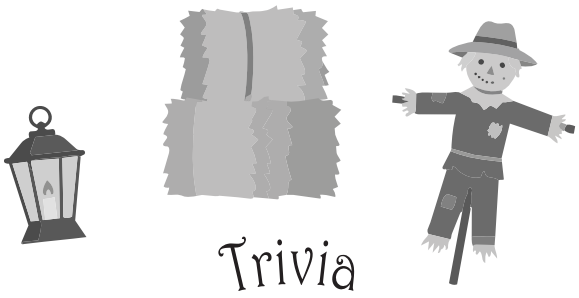
Apple season is the perfect time to try one. Few places have a better excuse.

Find a recipe:

Old Sturbridge Village's Marlborough Pudding:
foodnetwork.com/recipes/marlborough-pudding-recipe-1910944

New England Historical Society, "What Killed the Marlborough Pie?":
newenglandhistoricalsociety.com/what-killed-the-marlborough-pie

Atlas Obscura, "What Is Marlborough Pie?":
atlasobscura.com/articles/what-is-marlborough-pie



Trivia

1. What company did Craig Newmark found?
2. Which character is famously thrown off a bridge by the Green Goblin in the comics?
3. What is the state flower of New York?
4. What place was rumored to house aliens in the U.S.?
5. Before it was Marlborough, the land was settled by families from which neighboring town?

(Flip to the other side for Trivia answers)



Marlborough Garden Club's Fall Programs

By the Marlborough Garden Club

The Marlborough Garden Club invites the community to join us for two upcoming programs this fall. Meetings are free, open to the public, and held at 7:00 p.m. at the Marlborough Public Library.

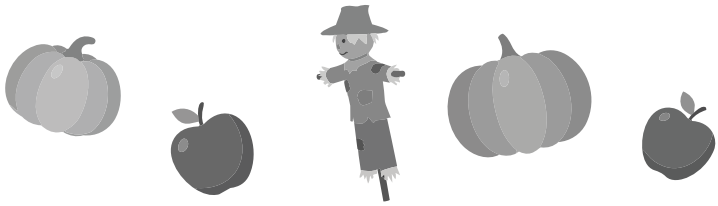
October 14 - Like This? Plant That Instead!

Discover how thoughtful plant choices can help support songbirds, butterflies, pollinators, and other native wildlife. Presenter Lisey Good, founder of Wild Cohasset, will share practical plant substitutions, design ideas, and resources for creating beautiful gardens while protecting New England's ecosystems. Good is a former Editor-in-Chief of The Real Dirt magazine for the Garden Club of America and previously worked as a designer for the Emmy Award-winning television program This Old House.

November 11 - Winter Blooms: Amaryllis & Paperwhites

Bring gardening indoors for the winter! Michele Fronk Schuckel of Natural Selections Gardens will explore the history of amaryllis and paperwhites, share tips for successfully forcing bulbs into bloom, and demonstrate creative arrangements to brighten your home throughout the winter season. Schuckel is a Certified Master Gardener, home compost instructor, and horticultural educator.

Both programs begin at **7:00 p.m. at the Marlborough Public Library**. Garden Club meetings are free and open to the public, and everyone is welcome. We hope you'll join us!



Autumn in New England

C W L O E T A L O C O H C C S M K R N
I F E E I V O H A R V E S T R M A N R
D M A A G S J C Y X C W J F B X A F E
R U V N W A C G F U R O X A P B R L D
A V E R U A I A H N I K P M U P N Q I
H B S U P K Q L R O L L A B T O O F C
C P Z O M B I E O Y S A P P L E S I H
R S S L C A N D Y F P T T D K L Z C U
O I C R E E P Y C O S T U M E R T H O
L R U R H O R R I B L E S O U I U C D
S C T R U N K O R T R E A T W Y P S X

1. Pumpkin **2.** Apples **3.** Candy **4.** Horribles **5.** Ghost **6.** Witch **7.** Zombie
8. Creepy **9.** Crisp **10.** Foliage **11.** Costume **12.** TrunkOrTreat **13.** Football
14. Orchard **15.** Scary **16.** Chocolate **17.** Leaves **18.** Harvest **19.** Cider

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Jr. Reporter at Maplewood Farm

By Zachary Benton, Youth Coordinator/Late Night Producer, WMCT-TV

Marlborough Junior Reporter Amelia recently did a solo visit to the Maplewood Farm in Berlin, MA, to interview owner Tamara Johnston and tour the property. Maplewood Farm is an equestrian facility. But, what does equestrian mean?

Equestrian means pertaining to horses or horseback riding; an equestrian is also a noun for the folks that ride horseback.

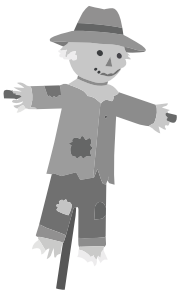
As Tamara showed Amelia around, Amelia learned about the types of people that learn equestrian sports at Maplewood: ALL KINDS! The youngest rider is age 3, and the eldest riders are in their 70s. Maplewood also has middle-school and high-school teams, as well as hosting Bentley University and Worcester Polytechnic competition teams. All use the Maplewood indoor and outdoor facilities.

The indoor facility is a year-round structure with a course to take the horses and their riders through the paces! The outdoor riding ring features similar show-jumping obstacles, like fences. Equestrian Bella, who began riding as a small child and is now in her 20s, gave us a demonstration of jumping the fences in the outdoor riding ring.

Maplewood houses 19-and-a-half horses: 19 horses and one mini-horse. It's also home to seven adorable cats, who patrol for vermin, but are also affectionate and cuddly to visitors. And it's all in our "own backyard."

Until next time,
Zach

Quotes



"I see dead people."
Cole Sear
The Sixth Sense

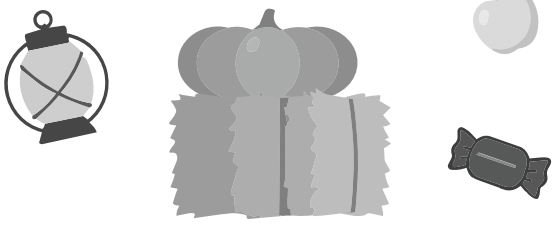
"It's Halloween, everyone's entitled to a good scare."
Brackett
Halloween



"Oh look, another glorious morning. Makes me sick!"
Winifred Sanderson
Hocus Pocus



"When the spooks have a midnight jamboree/ They break it up with fiendish glee..."
From "The Headless Horseman"
The Legend of Sleepy Hollow



October City Events

GFWC Marlborough Junior Woman's Club Trunk or Treat 2026
Sunday, October 18th | 12PM - 3PM | 100 Campus Drive
A free, family-friendly fundraiser where children can safely trick-or-treat from community-sponsored cars with themed & decorated trunks. Rain or shine, all are welcome!

Haunts & Hoots Owl Prowl
Friday, October 23rd | 5:15PM | Ghiloni Park Pavilion
Join the Marlborough Recreational Department and Giaquinto Wildlife Center for a fun, Halloween-themed night listening and seeing our local owls on a full moon night. Meet is at 5:15PM, program begins at 5:30PM. Costumes are welcomed, but not required. Bring a flashlight if you have one. Light refreshments will follow the walk on the trail. Free and open to the public, registration is required.
Registration link: **mrd.recdesk.com/Community/Home**

Drag Bingo at Lost Shoe Brewing and Roasting Co.
Sunday, October 25th | 5PM - 7PM | 19 Weed Street
Enjoy some bingo and drag! Hosted by Nubivia, Anitta Redbull, and Freddie Xowie, with special guest Complete Destruction. $10 per ticket, must be 18+ to attend.

City of Marlborough Annual Horribles Parade 2026
Thursday, October 29th | 4:30PM - 7PM | Main Street
The annual city tradition returns, with more candy than you can count! Walk Main Street with your young ones, and enjoy candy from local businesses and clubs. Costumes are highly recommended.

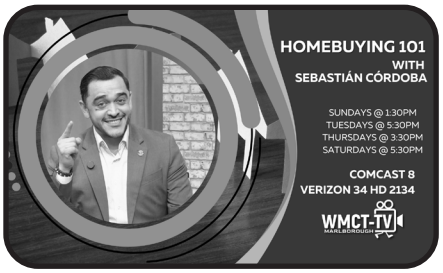
Marlborough Recreation Department Fall Programming & Events
Various sports programs, after school activities, and lessons for kids and adults of all ages. Visit **mrd.recdesk.com** for registration and more information.

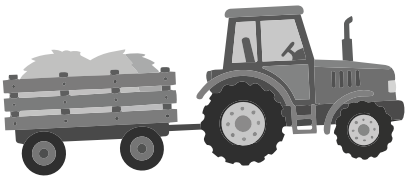
October Events & Book Clubs at the Marlborough Public Library
Programs for children, teens, and adults throughout October. Check **marlborough.librarycalendar.com** for specific dates and registration.











Trivia Answers:
1. Craigslist 2. Gwen Stacy
3. Rose 4. Area 51 5. Sudbury