

Watts & Drops

Newsletter of the Littleton Electric Light and Water Departments

June 2019

LELD Awarded Grant by MassDEP to Buy Electric Vehicle

LELD recently received a grant from the Massachusetts Electric Vehicle Incentive Program toward the purchase of an electric car. The \$7,500 grant will help purchase a new Chevy Bolt for the department's use. Did you know LELD customers can charge their EVs for free at our four charging stations in Littleton when they register their vehicles at lelwd.com?

Unregistered users and non-residents of Littleton and Boxborough may use LELWDs charging stations at a rate of 12 cents per kWh while charging and a \$2 per hour parking fee starting 30 minutes after fully charging.

LWD & LPS Honored for School Water Tests



The Littleton Water Department and the Littleton Public Schools were honored for their partnership in testing school drinking water by the Mass. Department of Environmental Protection on May 7 at the Devens Common Center. Shown left to right are MassDEP Commissioner Marty Suuberg, Steve Mark, Business Manager of the LPS, Kevin Hunt, LWD's Water Systems Manager, and Robert Bostwick, Drinking Water Section Chief, MassDEP Central Regional Office.

LHS Grad Awarded Pagacik Memorial Scholarship to Study Engineering

The first Denise M. Pagacik Memorial Scholarship was awarded to Littleton High School graduating senior Sreenidhi Chalimadugu, who plans to study at Olin College of Engineering this fall.

The scholarship was created in the memory of Denise M. Pagacik, a loving mother and wife who was an integral part of the Littleton community for more than 25 years. The \$2,000 merit-based scholarship is open to students interested in studying engineering or environmental sciences, two areas of study relevant to pursuing a career in electric and water utilities.



The scholarship honors the memory of Denise M. Pagacik, shown here with her husband, Ivan Pagacik, a LELWD commissioner.

In awarding the scholarship, LELWD General Manager Nick Lawler highlighted Sreenidhi's achievements in the classroom – she earned a 4.84 grade point

average – and outside of school where she was a founding member of 6328 Mechanical Advantage, a robotics competition team for students.

In January, LELWD partnered with Littleton High School to start the scholarship and a dual enrollment program that enables eligible students to take college-level courses at no cost. More information on dual enrollment and the scholarship is online at lelwd.com.



The Pagacik family joined LELWD in congratulating Sreenidhi Chalimadugu for winning the first Denise M. Pagacik Memorial Scholarship. (Photo courtesy of 6328 Mechanical Advantage.)

Conserving Water Can Save Money

New Rates Incentivize Reduced Use

As summer approaches, Littleton Water Department customers are reminded to conserve water when possible to reduce the strain on the aquifer and lower water bills. In a continuing effort to incentivize conservation, the water rates per gallon were recently increased, effective July 1st, on the largest water consumers.

The rate for homeowners and small businesses consuming less than 10,000 gallons per month remains unchanged at

about half-a-cent per gallon. The new rate structure has five tiers with increases seen in the top three tiers – 10,000 gallons per month or above – which are typically commercial and industrial users.

The increased rates at those tiers will help LWD recoup the cost of delivering the water and invest in upgrading the system's aging infrastructure. The full rate sheet is available online at lelwd.com.



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Summer Interns Inspecting Electric, Water Systems

Three college interns are exploring careers in electric and water utilities this summer at LELWD. The interns will work both in the office and in the field, inspecting and monitoring systems.



Jill Gruskowski of Littleton, an environmental sciences major at Stonehill College, is the water resources intern. Jill's duties will include assisting with groundwater monitoring, lake and stream water quality sampling, and GIS mapping of LWD's water infrastructure.

Jill Gruskowski, water resources intern

Tyler Hunt of Lancaster and Joe LeDuc of Marlborough are electrical interns. Hunt is an aerospace major at Worcester Polytechnic Institute, and LeDuc is an electrical engineering major at Merrimack College. Both will be involved in all aspects of the engineering department, including inspections of the transformers, system hot-spot inspections using the infrared cameras, and pole testing. Their findings will aid system maintenance planning and outage prevention.

The electrical internships are funded through a grant from

the American Public Power Association to LELWD. The purpose of the grant is to encourage young adults to pursue careers at municipal electric utilities.



Electrical interns Tyler Hunt (left) and Joe LeDuc (right) inspect a padmount transformer as part of their work this summer to identify parts of the system in need of maintenance which helps to prevent outages.

www.LELWD.com

Office Hours:
Mon. - Thurs. 6:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Closed Fridays

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