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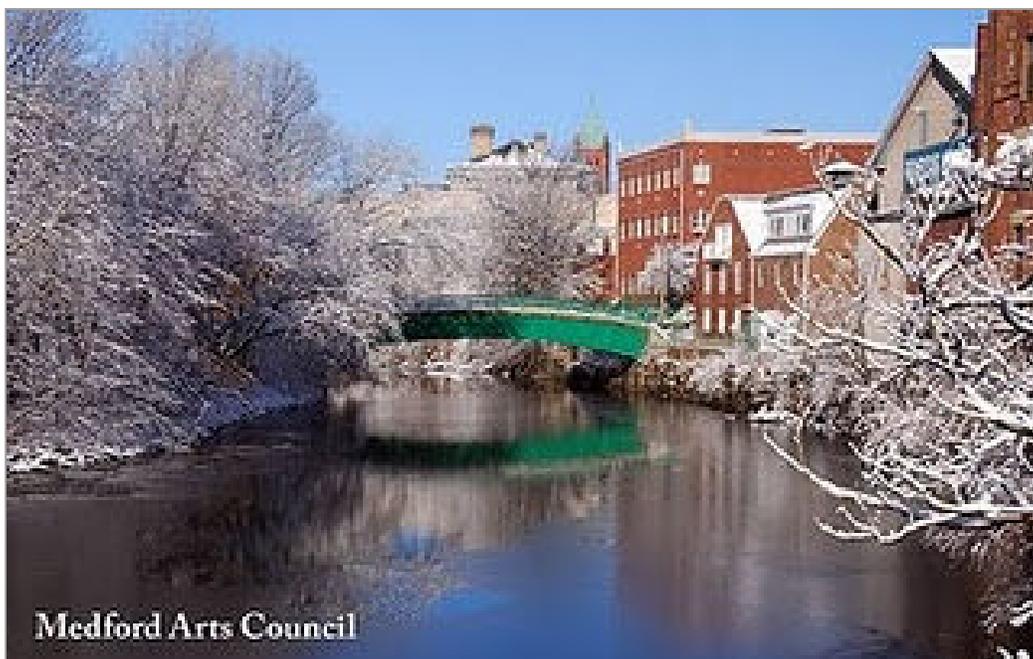
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MEDFORD

Medford Arts Council livens up July water bills

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By **Alix Roy**, Town Correspondent

Medford residents can look forward to a little something extra in their water bills this month, thanks to a project introduced by the Medford Arts Council to bring attention to local artists.

Each water bill sent out in July will be accompanied by a postcard featuring original artwork by one of three local artists, depicting a Medford scene. The winning images were selected from over 60 submissions sent in response to the Council's call for art, and over 200 people voted on their favorite images in an online poll, Council chairwoman Maria Daniels said last week.



The three postcards to be sent this month include an illustration of Medford Square by Laura Dorson, a photograph of the John Hand Footbridge over the Mystic River by Medford

Director of Community Development Lauren DiLorenzo, and a photograph of the McGlynn School playground by Paul Marotta.

Over 14,000 postcards will be sent out to residents in what Daniels hopes will be an annual event to give the public a glimpse into the local art scene.

“People don't really know the artists that live in their midst and the work that they're producing,” she said.

Arts Council member Michael Bernstein, who came up with the idea for the mailing, said the project is also meant to showcase the city as a subject for art.

“People sent in images of the Mystic River and the Fells, landmark architecture around the city, and details around Medford and in their own backyards that caught their eye and their imagination,” he wrote in an e-mail. “I hope that the postcards will inspire more people to pick up a paintbrush or a camera.”

The project has also generated some extra work for Dorson, a local graphic designer and illustrator, who will be working with the Royall House to produce cards for the historic house's gift shop.

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