

Bedford Minuteman Newspaper Photograph Collection
Finding Aid
Bedford Historical Society

Repository Identifier

mbdhi

Local Identifier

2004.032

Name and Location of Repository

Bedford Historical Society
2 Mudge Way
Bedford, MA 01730

Title

Bedford Minuteman Newspaper Photograph Collection

Date

circa 1958-1994

Extent

1 box, .5 linear feet

Name of Creator

The Bedford Minuteman Newspaper

Historical Note

The Bedford Minuteman began as a weekly newspaper on Thursday, October 31, 1957 and is still in print today. Before its publication, news of Bedford was covered by other newspapers in the area including the Lexington Minuteman newspaper, from which the Bedford Minuteman began as an offshoot. The impetus for this decision included the establishment of Bedford's first high school in 1955. Referring to the combined coverage of the two towns, an editorial in the first issue of the Bedford Minuteman states, "[t]his type of coverage started at a time when Lexington and Bedford were much smaller, and the children of Bedford citizens were spending four years in the Lexington High Schools. With both towns' activities thus combined, a combined news coverage proved satisfactory." As populations of both Bedford and Lexington experienced exceptional growth in the 1950s, the Lexington Minuteman made the decision to start a new newspaper devoted to Bedford in order to give the town of Bedford more adequate news coverage of its own. Regarding the growth of the two communities the editorial states, "[o]f necessity the school systems were separated and many former close ties have loosened. Due to the growth and other recent factors it has been increasingly evident to us that our news coverage of Bedford has been inadequate." This led to the decision to begin publishing a

separate Bedford Minuteman newspaper. Alan G. Adams, of the Lexington Minuteman newspaper, was the Editor and Publisher when the newspaper was first published, with Mrs. Elmer G. Smith as Associate Editor and Leon A. Burke Jr. as Advertising Manager.

Scope and Content

This photograph collection includes approximately 250 primarily black and white photographs which represent the variety of people and activities reported on by the Bedford Minuteman Newspaper during the mid-to-late-20th century. The photographs in the collection date from circa 1958-1994 and feature images of Bedford events, celebrations, organizations, schools, sports, businesses, government, and residents, along with notable people affiliated with the town. The photos often have identifying information on the back such as date, subject, photographer, and notes related to the context of the photos.

System of Arrangement

Each photo has been given a unique identifying number. All photos are housed in plastic archival enclosures and are arranged in folders by subject.

Conditions Governing Access

The photograph collection is open for research purposes by appointment. Please contact the Bedford Historical Society for more information at info@bedfordmahistory.org or 781-275-7276

Physical Access

No restrictions.

Conditions Governing Reproduction and Use

Copyright restrictions may apply.

Languages and Scripts of the Material

English

Immediate Source of Acquisition

2004.32

Accruals

The Historical Society may add materials to the Bedford Minuteman Newspaper Photograph Collection in the future.

Existence and Location of Originals

Bedford Historical Society

Related Materials

The Bedford Free Public Library keeps hard bound copies of the newspaper from the years 1957-1980 in its Special Collections, as well as microfilm copies from 1957 to the present day.

Description

DACS-compliant Finding Aid created in April 2019 by Catherine Miller.

Bibliography

"To Our Friends in Bedford." *Bedford Minuteman* (Bedford, MA), Oct. 31, 1957, page 1 & 24.

Container List

Box 1

- Businesses: A-Z
- Carleton-Willard Village
- Clubs and Organizations: American Legion
- Clubs and Organizations: Chamber of Commerce
- Clubs and Organizations: General
- Clubs and Organizations: League of Women Voters
- Clubs and Organizations: Scouts
- Events and Activities: Bedford Day
- Events and Activities: General
- Events and Activities: Memorial Day and Patriot's Day
- Events and Activities: Pole Capping
- Events and Activities: Spring Hill Marketplace
- Hanscom Airport (Laurence G. Hanscom Airport)
- Job Lane House
- Library
- Outdoor Maintenance
- People: A-M
- People: N-Z
- Recreation
- Schools: High School
- Schools: Lane and Davis
- Schools: Middle School/Junior High
- Sports
- Town Departments: Council on Aging, Senior Activities
- Town Departments: Fire Department
- Town Departments: General
- Town Departments: Police
- Town Departments: Recreation Department
- Town Departments: Town Government
- VA Hospital (Veterans Administration Hospital)