

# Representative Mark Falzone

Representing the People of Lynn, Lynnfield, Saugus, and Wakefield

## The Beacon: Issue 3, December 15, 2009

Dear Neighbor,

I hope you will enjoy reading this, the third edition of my new email newsletter, *The Beacon*, and that you will find it informative. It will continue to run every other month, and I always welcome your feedback. This month, I would like to share with you some information about the importance of the 2010 Census for all of us in Massachusetts and the opportunities that accompany it.

I was pleased to hear comments from so many of you in answer to my previous newsletters. I have worked to address all of these responses, and hope that you will continue to give me feedback about these issues and any others which concern you. It is through this feedback from my constituents that I am able to best represent the needs and interests of our community.

### The 2010 Census:

Every ten years, as mandated by the United States Constitution, the census counts everyone living in the United States. Each citizen, by law, is required to participate in the census, and non-citizen residents are also included. The data collected through the census is very important because it is used to distribute Congressional seats to states, help make decisions about what community services to provide, and also allocate \$300 billion dollars in federal funds to local, state, and tribal governments each year. On the Federal level, eight major programs allocate a large share of the funding using census data, and these programs include such major government expenditures as Medicaid and Social Services Block Grants.

I encourage you to cooperate in every way to be sure you and everyone in your household are counted, for not only does the census provide us with employment opportunities and valuable information while protecting our privacy, but it also is the basis for a major source of federal dollars coming into Massachusetts and into our community. This is money that we especially need in our current economic climate.

The census data is also used for other important functions, making it critical for Massachusetts to get an accurate population count. Population numbers provide crucial data for emergency planners, especially in coastal



### The Beacon:

The Beacon is a bi-monthly newsletter written by Representative Mark Falzone. It will focus on current events and issues relevant to the 9th Essex District.

If you would like to suggest a topic for a future newsletter, please reply to this email with the word SUGGEST in the title.

### Contact Me:

Office Phone:  
(617)-722-2020

Office Fax:  
(617)-722-2186

Email:  
Rep.MarkFalzone  
@state.ma.us

Mailing Address:  
Rep. Mark Falzone  
The State House  
Room 527A  
Boston, MA 02133

areas where population growth and increased risk of natural disasters make sensible and studied plans essential. The census will also impact the strength of our voice in Washington by determining how seats in Congress are apportioned. In addition, population data throughout Massachusetts is used to determine the districts of State Representatives and Senators, with large implications for how each community and individual is represented in the State Government.

The census is a huge organizational undertaking, with the United State population exceeding 304 million last year, with over 6 million in Massachusetts alone. Opportunities exist for employment to perform a variety of tasks, from walking through census tracts, administrative support, and statistical work, and are available on a temporary basis throughout the country to work in the U.S. Census Bureau. If you or someone you know is in need of a job, a range of positions is still available at the Bureau. To check which of these are still accepting applications, go to [USAJOBS](#) and search for positions open in Massachusetts.

If you would like more information on this and other topics relevant to the North Shore, you can view my Cable Television show, *The Beacon*. You can find this on your local access station on the listing below. Shortly, the current and previous episodes will be made available to watch online on [my website](#).

- Lynn: Thursdays at 5:30 PM, Comcast Channels 3 and 16 and Verizon Channels 36 and 38
- Lynnfield: Thursdays at 7 PM, Verizon Channel 29 and Comcast Channel 8
- Saugus: Thursdays at 11 AM, Channel 8
- Wakefield: Fridays at 7 PM and Sundays at 6:30 PM, Comcast Channel 16, Verizon Channel 42, and RCN Channel 13.

### **Veterans Services:**

With Veterans Day just this past month, we all spent a little time this month thinking about the great service that men and women in our armed forces perform for us all. Unfortunately, what is not thought of enough are the services that the State and Federal Governments provide for these Veterans once they have returned from their assignments. We must ensure that they receive support that is not only adequate, but that reflects the great sacrifice that they and their families have made for our nation, and the gratitude that we feel toward them.

Last month, the House and Senate passed legislation, signed by the Governor on Veterans Day, to expand much needed services to Veterans

#### In District Office Hours:

Saugus Senior Center  
66 Central Street  
Fridays  
8:30am-10am

Wakefield Senior Center  
30 Converse Street  
Fridays  
10:15am-11:15am

Lynnfield Senior Center  
525 Salem Street  
Fridays  
11:30am-12:30pm

Just drop in: No  
appointment needed!

in our Commonwealth. This legislation comes at an important time, as many are returning from wars in Afghanistan and Iraq, and are struggling in the current economic crisis. New provisions include expanded access to affordable housing, through an innovative partnership with the non-profit organization Home of the Brave, Inc., taking advantage of federal funding for Veterans housing. The legislation also expands the “Welcome Home Bonus” program, allows applicable military training to be applied to state permitting, and allows disabled veteran-owned businesses to qualify for state contracts with rights similar to those of women and minority-owned businesses.

**Contact Me:**

Please also feel free contact my office with any questions or concerns. I can be reached by calling 617-722-2020, or by sending a letter to:

Representative Mark Falzone  
The State House, Room 527A  
Boston, MA 02133

Additionally, every Friday morning I hold weekly office hours in the district where anyone can come, without an appointment, to meet with either myself, my Chief of Staff Bob Smith, or another of my aides. These are:

8:30 – 10 AM: Saugus Senior Center at 466 Central Street  
10:15 – 11:15 AM: Wakefield Senior Center at 30 Converse Street  
11:30 AM – 12:30 PM: Lynnfield Senior Center at 525 Salem Street

If you would like to discuss any issue, or if you are having a problem that you would like assistance with, I encourage you to stop by.

Sincerely,

Mark Falzone  
State Representative  
Representing the people of Lynn, Lynnfield, Saugus, and Wakefield

*If you would like to be removed from this list, please reply to this email with the word REMOVE in the title. If you would like to suggest a future topic for the newsletter, or ask a specific question, please reply to this email with the word SUGGEST in the title.*

The Beacon | Representative Mark Falzone | (617)-722-2020 | Rep.MarkFalzone@state.ma.us

