

# Ashland

PRSR STD  
ECRWSS  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT NO. 142  
SPRINGFIELD, MA

Postal Customer  
Local

Vol. 11 No. 2

Free to Every Home and Business Every Month

October 2023

## Classic and Antique Cars Roll in to Ashland for 10th Annual Kidde Fenwal American Cancer Society Car Show



Cars started pulling in early to get a prime spot at the Kidde Fenwal Car Show on September 9.

Despite an overcast day and potential rain in the forecast, Ed Rose and Peter Kamitian decided at 5 AM that the car show must go on as planned.

“Luckily the rain held up and although our numbers were impacted by the weather, we still had 225 cars and trucks attend the event,” said Kamitian.

The show raised about \$18,000 for American Cancer

**CAR SHOW**  
continued on page 3



The Valentine Estate at 133 West Union St. in Ashland. The latest proposal for the property calls for a multifunctional space (that could be used as a wedding venue) and an agricultural center.

Photo credit: Theresa Knapp

## Valentine Estate Public Forum Expected in November

BY THERESA KNAPP

A public forum is being planned for early November to discuss renovations to the Valentine Estate property.

At its meeting on Sept. 6, the Ashland Select Board express support for the vision Town Manager Michael Herbert discussed regarding a multifunctional space that could include an agricultural center, community

garden, indoor farmers market, program collaboration with the Council on Aging, walking trails and more.

“It’s got the potential to be a real gem, not just for us but for the region,” Herbert said.

He described the latest proposal as “an amalgamation of the ideas and the programs of

**ESTATE**  
continued on page 4

### JUST LISTED IN ASHLAND



96 Independence Lane  
list price \$1,050,000

Contact us for your free home market analysis



Tracy Beaudoin & Judi Teller



PremierResultsTeam.com  
508.380.9296 | 508.380.1933  
premierresultsteam@gmail.com



### BUYING or SELLING a home?

LET'S WORK TOGETHER!

Buying or selling a home can be a stressful process if you don't have the right real estate agent. With 13 years of experience, you can rely on me to get you the best possible result.

Amy Uliss  
508-341-1422

mdmrealtync@gmail.com



963 Worcester Road  
Framingham, MA



### SHAHOOD & SONS

INC

### PLUMBING - HEATING - COOLING

Residential Commercial Industrial



It's time to service your heating system for the Cold!

Call Us Today for Service!

We offer 0% interest for 7 years under Mass Save.

Service Work • Repairs • Boilers  
Water Heaters • Remodeling • New Construction  
Air Conditioning • Heat Pumps • Mini-Splits

Fully licensed and insured

508-875-3413 • ShahoodPlumbing.com

35 Main St. - Rear, Hopkinton



# CHE'S LIQUORS

300 ELIOT STREET, ASHLAND, MA 01721 • 508-686-2787



Line 39  
All Flavs 750ml  
**\$9.97**



Bogle  
All Flavs 750ml  
**\$9.97**



Menage a Trois  
Red 750ml  
**\$9.97**



Apothic  
Red 750ml  
**\$9.97**



The Stag  
Cabernet 750ml  
**\$14.97**



Meiomi  
Pinot Noir 750ml  
**\$16.97**



Casillero Del Diablo  
All Flavs 750ml  
**\$9.97**



Josh  
Cabernet 750ml  
**\$13.97**



Joel Gott  
Cabernet 750ml  
**\$14.97**



J. Lohr  
Cabernet 750ml  
**\$14.97**



Decoy  
All Flavs 750ml  
**\$16.97**



Sonoma Cutrer  
Chardonnay 750ml  
**\$19.97**



Kendall Jackson  
Chardonnay 750ml  
**\$12.97**



J. Lohr  
Chardonnay 750ml  
**\$11.97**



Bread and Butter  
Chardonnay 750ml  
**\$12.97**



Chateau St Michelle  
Chardonnay 750ml  
**\$9.97**



La Crema  
Chardonnay 750ml  
**\$19.97**



Menage a Trois  
Prosecco 750ml  
**\$9.97**



Lamarca  
Prosecco 750ml  
**\$14.97**



Josh  
Prosecco 750ml  
**\$14.97**



Veuve Clicquot  
Brut 750ml  
**\$59.97**



Moet Chandon  
Brut 750ml  
**\$49.97**



Beefeater  
Gin 1.75L  
**\$30.97**



Tanqueray  
Gin 1.75L  
**\$34.97**



Mezzacorona  
Pinot Grigio 1.5L  
**\$10.97**



Cavit  
Pinot Grigio 1.5L  
**\$10.97**



Oyster Bay  
Sauv Blanc 750ml  
**\$10.97**



Kim Crawford  
Sauv Blanc 750ml  
**\$13.97**



Kono  
Sauv Blanc 750ml  
**\$10.97**



Matua  
Sauv Blanc 750ml  
**\$9.97**



Seaglass  
Sauv Blanc 750ml  
**\$9.97**



Ecco Domani  
Pinot Grigio 750ml  
**\$8.97**



Santa Margherita  
Pinot Grigio 750ml  
**\$19.97**



Kris  
Pinot Grigio 750ml  
**\$10.97**



Captain Morgan  
Rum 1.75L  
**\$24.97**



Jim Beam  
Bourbon 1.75L  
**\$28.97**



Jameson  
Whiskey 1.75L  
**\$47.97**



Crown Royal  
Whiskey 1.75L  
**\$44.97**



Johnnie Walker  
Whiskey 1.75L  
**\$29.97**



Makers Mark  
Whiskey 1.75L  
**\$49.97**



Jack Daniel's  
Whiskey 1.75L  
**\$44.97**



Kahlua  
Original 1.75L  
**\$37.97**



Baileys  
Original 1.75L  
**\$45.97**



Ketel One  
Vodka 1.75L  
**\$29.97**



Absolut  
Vodka 1.75L  
**\$26.97**



Tito's  
Vodka 1.75L  
**\$29.97**



Smirnoff  
Vodka 1.75L  
**\$19.97**

DRINK RESPONSIBLY  
MUST BE 21 YEARS OF AGE OR OLDER WITH VALID ID TO PURCHASE

www.chesliquors.com  
MON-WED 9am-9:30pm • THUR-SAT 9am-10pm • SUN 10am-9pm

**CAR SHOW**

*continued from page 1*

Society, through car entrance fees, donations from spectators and a record 60 sponsors, comprised of mostly local businesses.

“I would like to thank each and every sponsor and especially our top three sponsors; Mike’s Collision, Stanley Black and Decker and Middlesex Savings Bank, without whom we would not have raised \$18,000, our highest total ever” said Kamitian.



Even a 1971 Harley Davidson Golf Cart driven by Richard Hurst son of Skip and June Hurst who donated the cart to the car show, sporting Relay for Life colors thanks to Mike’s Collision of Ashland.



Cars of all types filled the grounds in support of American Cancer Society.

# Greater Ashland Lions Club

## Happy Indigenous People’s & Columbus Day

**Other Celebrations:**

- White Cane Day (10/15)
  - It allows those that are blind more freedom to more around.
- Boss’s Day (10/16)
- Happy Halloween (10/31)

Our Annual Porchetta will be held on Thursday, October 19th at the Ashland VFW, 311 Pleasant Street, Ashland. It’ll start at 6:00pm and be catered by Marconi’s & Co. Tickets are \$25/each and can be purchased by contacting either Lion Debbi at 508.881.2117 or Lion Alexis at 508.881.3022. No tickets will be sold at the door.

Again this year we will be selling Classic and Victorian Wreaths and Swags for \$25 each. Please contact either Lion Cheryl

at 508.881.7056 or Lion Ro at 508.881.4743.

Monies raised through various events benefit local and Lions Charities.

Our annual Coat Drive will run from October 2023 until January 2024. Please donate warm winter coats for children and adults. For Pickup: contact Lion Debbi at 508.728.4912 or visit these sites for drop-off: Town Hall on Main Street, Dunkin’ on Memorial Drive (entrance to MBTA Rail Station) or Shear Perfection on Homer Ave (across from the old train station).

We would like to thank all those that stopped-by to see us at the Ashland Farmers Market, donated to us at our White Cane Day toll road and visited our booth at Ashland Day.

Do you have any used eyeglasses hanging around? We’ll take them! Please bring them to the Police Station (located in the Public Safety Building at 12 Union St), Market Basket (Pond Street / Rte.126), the VFW (at 311 Pleasant Street), or the Town Hall (Main Street).

Wanting to get involved in the community? We’re a low-pressure group of service-oriented folks always looking for new members. If you’d like to learn more about the Lions and our club, please contact Lion Alexis at cvarnie@hotmail.com.

For more club information, please check us out on Facebook: Greater Ashland Lions Club. #weserve #kindnessmatters.

We are the Lions in Purple. We Serve!

SUBMITTED: LION ROSALIE PORTER, 2ND VP

# Achieve Clear Skin



## ACNE CLINIC FOR ALL AGES

Take control. Manage your acne with a customized treatment program designed to clear your unique skin.

Education. Coaching. Support.

90% of my clients clear in 12-16 weeks

LISA MASSIMIANO - LICENSED AESTHETICIAN, ACNE SPECIALIST

CERTIFIED BY THE NATIONAL FACE REALITY ACNE CLINIC

Schedule your acne consultation today!

508-881-1180



SkinSmartSalon.com

SkinSmartSalon@aol.com

44 FRONT STREET, 2<sup>ND</sup> FLOOR • ASHLAND

**CLEANOUT COUPON**  
ONE COUPON PER CLEANOUT. \*\$100 MINIMUM.

**JUNK it NOW!**  
PRO-JUNK-REMOVAL

“We empty - the Junk Bag”  
(3 cubic yards) Call for Price  
Buy at store - Fill it -  
We empty & Leave it

Homes • Apartments • Businesses • Yard waste  
Pools • Boilers • Hot Tubs • Sheds Removed • Appliances  
toll free \* Fully Insured \*  
Call Tom Cassidy

**\$20 OFF** 1-855-533-JUNK (5865) **\$20 OFF**  
1-508-308-2279 Call-only [www.junkitnow.us](http://www.junkitnow.us)



Childhood is for playing, not pain!



SCAN ME  
Your healthiest self is our goal - Call us today!

**PLATINUM**  
PHYSICAL THERAPY  
*All major insurances accepted*

1 Lumber St., Suite 201, Hopkinton  
196 E. Main St., Milford (in The Gym)  
Additional locations in  
Ashland and Maynard

Visit [platinumpmta.com](http://platinumpmta.com) or call  
508-544-1540 for an evaluation

**Looking to advertise your business?**  
Contact Susanne: 508-954-8148 or [sue@sodellconsult.com](mailto:sue@sodellconsult.com)

**ESTATE**

*continued from page 1*

different properties both in the MetroWest region and also within and outside of the state. By drawing from this diverse set of influences, we can develop our own unique property and our own unique offering here for the town and also the region. It's really important that we do something that complements, and doesn't necessarily compete with, others for a variety of different reasons."

Select Board member Brandi Kinsman asked Herbert if there is a market for such a project; he said there is and hopes to hear from people at the public forum.

Said Kinsman, "We can come up with all these ideas and it doesn't necessarily mean it's going to resonate with people that are actually willing to come to Ashland or to do those things. I think an event space that's multi-purpose is the way to go because I think we do need a place that we can have events, to have it be flexible is key...I don't

know what that kind of market looks like or what the appetite is."

**Barn**

Herbert told the board, "What the property would be an agricultural center, which is actually an idea that Kate Valentine came up with. Essentially, it consists of a barn that is a multifunctional space that could be used for town meetings, musical performances, artist bazaars, town get-togethers [and] it could also be rented out for things like weddings and private parties... It's really going to be around the events at the barn that are really going to generate the enthusiasm and also the revenue."

**House**

Herbert said the house would be set up into two distinct purposes, a community space (including a commercial kitchen and restrooms) on the first floor to help support the functions of the barn, and a series of rooms with different purposes including bridal parties and perhaps a room dedicated to the Valentine family.

Herbert suggested the second-floor space could be used by the Parks & Recreation person(s) who would be responsible for management of the property, events, and marketing.

An on-site caretaker was also discussed.

**Grounds**

Herbert suggested a series of self-contained walking trails could be established on the property, like those at the 'Caddillac Paint' property. The pro-

posal also includes maintaining an all-natural wildlife corridor "for wildlife to continue to use; there's a lot of deer, a lot of turkeys, a lot of other animals."

It was noted there could be no formal fields on this property due to a land restriction, topography, and wetlands on the site.

**Programs**

Herbert envisions the agricultural center would offer "cool things" in the barn such as classes and artist programs that center around metalsmithing, textile fabrics, woodworking, wood turning, and the like - options that are not available in the region.

"I will tell you, we will not compete with HCA [Hopkinton Center for the Arts] doing traditional pottery, painting arts, things of that nature [and] we won't be able to do a real music venue like Amazing Things or TCAN [The Center for Arts in Natick]."

**Parking**

The issue of parking would need to be addressed. Suggestions included parking at the Community Center or Ashland Middle School which are nearby and accessible by sidewalk.

**Finances**

Town officials have received a very rough estimate of \$4 million to complete renovations to the barn and house. In order to get a better idea of cost, an architect would need to be hired to create various design options for the property. That could occur after the public forum.

According to "Valentine Property FAQs" at bit.ly/AshlandValentineFAQ, the town purchased the 7-acre property five years ago for \$3.5 million, "comprising of \$600,000 of CPA funds and the remainder funded through a debt exclusion."

Town Manager Michael Herbert says, "The town purchased the property in 2018 and didn't necessarily have a plan but really, the reason we went ahead to purchase it, is (1) because we wanted to stop the development of 120 units at the location, and (2) we wanted to preserve our right essentially to have a plan and make use of this property... Since that time, we have gone through a long and winding road of what we're going to do with this property. We've received a ton of public input through three [Select Board] public forums, [and] numerous emails from residents."



Herbert said the town has approximately \$2 million in grant funding, including American Rescue Plan Act funds (which must be spent by 2026), but the town would need to cover the "delta of \$2 million dollars" which he said could come from various sources including Community Preservation Act money or the general fund. There could also be a fundraising arm to the property.

The board expressed general support for the multifunctional concept.

"I think this is good forward progress," said Select Board Chair Robert Scherer. "I think you're moving in a good direction."

Visit [www.ashlandmass.com](http://www.ashlandmass.com) for the date of the public forum and for more information.

**localtownpages**

Published Monthly  
Mailed FREE to the  
Community of Ashland  
Circulation: 7,884  
households & businesses

**Publisher**  
Chuck Tashjian

**Editorial**  
Susan Manning

**Send Editorial to:**  
[editor@ashlandtownnews.com](mailto:editor@ashlandtownnews.com)

**Advertising Sales**  
Susanne Odell Farber  
508-954-8148  
[sue@sodellconsult.com](mailto:sue@sodellconsult.com)

**Advertising Sales Manager**  
Jen Schofield  
508-570-6544  
[jenschofield@localtownpages.com](mailto:jenschofield@localtownpages.com)

**Creative Design & Layout**  
Michelle McSherry  
Kim Vasseur  
Wendy Watkins

Ad deadline is the  
15th of each month.

*LocalTownPages assumes  
no financial liability for errors  
or omissions in printed  
advertising and reserves the  
right to reject/edit advertising  
or editorial submissions.*

© Copyright 2023 LocalTownPages

Is it time to **Treat** yourself  
to an eye exam?

**ASHLAND FAMILY EYECARE**

 **Dr. Lauren LaPaglia**  
OPTOMETRIST

**Adult & Pediatric Eye Exams**

**Contact Lens Fittings**

**Medical Eye Conditions**



**Schedule your eye exam today!**  
25 West Union Street, Ashland MA  
(508) 928-7300 [ashlandfamilyeye.com](http://ashlandfamilyeye.com)

**ANYTIME FITNESS**

PERSONAL & GROUP TRAINING • HYDRO MASSAGE BED



**Get Fit for Fall!  
Join Today!**

**OPEN 24 HOURS**

**Shaws Plaza**  
309 Pond St • Ashland, MA  
**508-881-4900**

[Anytimefitnessashland@gmail.com](mailto:Anytimefitnessashland@gmail.com)

# Senior Community Center Activities for October

## NEW PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES:

- Oct 2nd at 12:00** - Lunch featuring String Swing Jazz Trio
- Oct 4th at 11:00** - "Scams" Coffee Hour with Ashland Police Chief Cara Rossi
- Oct 5th at 10:00** - COA Meeting
- Oct 5th at 12:00** - FOCO Meeting
- Oct 9th** - Closed for Columbus Day
- Oct 10th at 4:00-6:00** - Ashland Lions Club Senior Social with Music Bingo and Dinner. Call to reserve your seat at 508-881-0140 x1.
- Oct 11th at 10:30** - Lifelong Learning Series "Native Americans", Part 2 of a 3
- Oct 11th at 11:00** - "Let's Talk About Fuel Assistance" with Cheryl Bell. Call to reserve your seat at 508-881-0140 x1.
- Oct 13th at 10:00** - Legal Consultation by Appointment Call to make an appointment 508-881-0140 x1.
- Oct 18th at 10:00** - Computer Class: Q & A Computer Refresher Course
- Oct. 18th at 10:00** - Town Manager's Coffee Hour
- Oct. 19th at 10:00** - Fall Social on the Veranda with Warm Cider and Donuts
- Oct 23rd at 12:00** - Lunch and Senator Karen Spilka's Office - Listening Hour
- Oct 23rd at 10:30** - Hearing Aid Cleaning with Hopkinton Audiology
- Oct 24th at 2:00** - Halloween Costume Party with Music and Stories by The Elderly Brothers
- Oct. 25th at 12:00** - SHINE: "Take Advantage of the Medicare Open Enrollment" (Bring your own lunch)
- Oct. 26th at 10:00** - Clocktown Memory Café featuring String Swing Jazz Trio
- Oct 30th at 12:00** - Halloween Lunch & Trivia

## WEEKLY PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES:

- Bowling** - Tuesdays at Ryan's Amusement in Millis at 9 am
  - Bingo** - First and Third Tuesdays of the Month at 1 pm
  - Blood Pressure Clinic** - Wednesdays at 10:30 am
  - Chair Yoga** - Tuesdays at 1 pm
  - Craft Day** - Every other Friday, Oct. 13 and 27 at 11 am
  - Cribbage** - Thursdays at 12:30 pm
  - Exercise with Joni** - Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 9:30 am
  - In Stitches "DROP IN" Knitting Group** - Fourth Tuesday of the Month at 11 am
  - Intermediate and Advanced Watercolor Class** - Tuesdays & Wednesdays at 9:30 am
  - Line Dancing with Lisa** - Thursdays at 12 pm
  - Mahjong** - Fridays at 10:30 am
  - Parkinson Boxing** - First and Third Wednesdays of the Month at 1:30 pm
  - Parkinson's Support Group** - Second Wednesday of the Month at 1:30 pm
  - Pitch Card Game** - Mondays at 1:30 pm
  - Stress Reduction Class with Robin** - Thursdays at 1 pm
  - Tai Chi with Robin** - Wednesdays at 11 am
  - Veterans Office Hours** - Every 2nd and 4th Wednesday by appointment-Call (508) 429-0629 to make an appointment
  - Zumba Gold** - Mondays at 10 am
- Schedule is subject to change. Please review Monthly Newsletter.

## BAA grant cycle now open; applications due Oct. 10

The Boston Athletic Association fall grant cycle is now open, and applications are due Oct. 10 by 5 p.m.

The application has changed this year, and there is now an application for non-profit entities and a separate application for everyone else.

Submissions will be reviewed by the Select Board at its meeting on Oct. 18.

According to the application, "The Boston Athletic Association

provides the Town of Ashland with Invitational Entry Forms on an annual basis. We do a drawing and those lucky individuals commit not only to running 26.2 miles but to doing fundraising too. This annual fundraising is the only funding source of this grant program and these grants

wouldn't be offered with their efforts!"

Grant applications can be found at [bit.ly/Ashland-BAAgrants2023](http://bit.ly/Ashland-BAAgrants2023). For more information, contact Susan Robie 508-532-7921 or email [srobie@ashlandmass.com](mailto:srobie@ashlandmass.com).



# Ashland Celebrates New State-of-the-Art School Building

The Ashland community is celebrating the opening of an impressive new school building.

Town Manager Michael Herbert recently expressed his gratitude and admiration for the collaborative effort that made this achievement possible.

“Incredibly proud of our new school,” Herbert stated. “Years of planning, community input, and hard work culminated in the opening of a state-of-the-art facility for our students, teachers, and administrators this past Tuesday.”

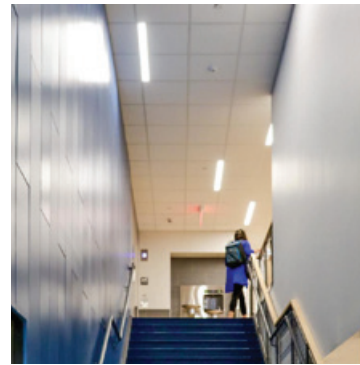
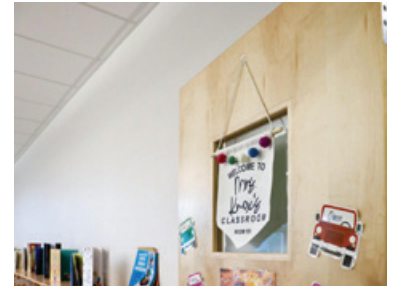
This achievement is a result of dedicated teamwork. Herbert extended his thanks to the Mindess School Building Committee, led by Paul Kendall, for their meticulous oversight. Superintendent Jim Adams and the Ashland School Committee played vital roles, as did the Ashland Select Board for their unwavering support.

Herbert also acknowledged the contributions of the Project and Construction team from Vertex and Shawmut, as well as the Massachusetts School Building Authority. Political leaders, including Senate President Spilka and Representative Jack Lewis, were recognized for their support.

Most notably, Herbert thanked Ashland residents for overwhelmingly voting to fund the new school.

“One of my proudest moments as Town Manager was when we received the results of the vote,” he said. “Both the Public Safety Building and the School passed with strong support.”

This achievement underscores the unity within Ashland, which distinguishes it from many other communities. As the Mindess School opens its doors, Herbert looks forward to the positive impact it will have on the community for decades to come.



**Citywide**  
MA PAVING & MASONRY

Patios • Walkways • Steps • Retaining Walls  
Driveways • Waterproofing • Foundation Work & More!  
LIC# 181663  
**781-366-8776 • john@citywide-ma.com**

**DISCOUNT HEATING OIL**

Same Day Delivery • Senior Discounts  
CALL FOR PRICE or ORDER ONLINE  
150 Gallon Minimum

**508-620-6251 • SameDayOil.com**

## New David E. Mindess Elementary School opened in Sept.

BY THERESA KNAPP

The brand-new David E. Mindess Elementary School at 90 Concord Street was ready for the first day of school, and on Sept. 5, when it opened its doors to hundreds of Ashland 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders.

The new building replaces a previous structure that was 69 years old, beyond capacity, and not ADA compliant. The project was approved in Jan. 2021, cost approximately \$80 million, and was completed at the 11th hour.

According to the Mindess School Building Project webpage at [www.ashland.k12.ma.us/domain/1647](http://www.ashland.k12.ma.us/domain/1647),

“The tight building schedule has been exacerbated due to delays related to some trenches at the base of the foundation, which contained asbestos. Due to the location of the asbestos, the delay impacted the site work and paving for the main entrance,



The new David Mindess School at 90 Concord Street opened on Sept. 5. Photo credit: Theresa Knapp

which is critical for the first day of school scheduled on Sept. 5.”

The webpage said “previous delays and recent poor weather” caused the team to work nights and weekends so the school could open on time.

A grand opening, which included building tours, was held on Sept. 9.



# Discover when and how to install plantings in your yard



Chris Hopkins

## LANDSCAPE INSIGHTS

Summer has come to an end and fall is officially here. When is the best time to install new plantings? In the spring or fall? There is no simple answer, but by evaluating your needs you can make an educated decision based on several factors.

### Where and why-

You're looking through your favorite gardening magazine and you come across a plant you are not familiar with. It seems like it would be the perfect fit for an open space you are looking to fill in. When we are looking at what to install in our garden we often focus on color and texture. While those are key factors, there are other things we need to consider as well. One of the most important factors is the hardiness zone (Natick MA. 6a and 6b) (Ashland 6a) and why selecting a plant from your zone is so important as well as other characteristics to keep an eye out for. Before choosing a plant, you must consider wind, soil condition, sunlight, drainage, soil PH, and nutrient availability. It is also important to factor in what size space you want the plant to fill, maintenance needs, pest resistance and functionality. If you want a perennial, shrub, or tree to survive, it must tolerate year-round conditions in

your area. Plants with no significant pest problems, drought tolerance, and beauty in at least two seasons are top of the list.

### How-

Once you have selected a plant, it is important to install it properly. Improper planting, particularly planted too low, or too high are found to be major causes of tree mortality in managed landscapes. When planting the hole for the new plant it should be 2-3 times the size of the root ball and the root ball itself should be installed on undisturbed ground. While backfilling with native soil, the plant should be watered when halfway through, the water should be allowed to drain and rewater when backfilling is complete. In some situations, you will want to mix in some peat moss or compost. Once the plant is installed it is important to keep a proper watering regimen based on existing weather conditions.

### When-

Planting broadleaf evergreen shrubs in the fall might be better avoided until spring planting is possible. Mostly because they need more time to prepare for winter sun and strong winds. The stress of these elements can be extremely hard on the plants. When planting evergreens, you want to make sure they are installed by mid-October, ideally six weeks before the ground freezes, and you want to be careful not to disturb the root ball to give your new planting the best chance to survive. Deciduous plants on the other hand can be installed if the ground is work-

able. Warm air in the fall and damp soil conditions promote vigorous root growth. Select trees and bushes are considered a fall dig hazard and should only be installed in the spring.

Information provided by Chris Hopkins, Greenleaf Landscaping LLC — experts at fall lawn care. And for more information on any of these topics, contact Greenleaf today. Talk to Greenleaf today: 774-421-9570.

*Sponsored articles are submitted by our advertisers. The advertiser is solely responsible for the content of this article.*

**greenleaf**  
landscaping

Design, Build & Maintenance  
Hardscapes & Irrigation  
Trees, Shrubs & Plants  
Outdoor Living Spaces  
Snow Plowing

**774-421-9570**

GreenleafLandscapingLLC.com

## October 2023 at the Ashland Library

We are closed on Monday, October 9th for the legal holiday

### Announcement:

Romance Swag Bag Auction

October 11th at 8:00pm ET – October 18th at 8:00pm ET on eBay

The Friends of the Ashland Library are having another awesome online auction! It's a Swag Bag Auction with contributions from over 50 of the best romance authors out there! In keeping with our values of literacy and diversity, we have romance authors from many sub-genres including historical, paranormal, romantic suspense, inspirational, young adult, LGBTQ and contemporary. Something for every romance reader.

Swag is any fun stuff that an author might have on hand, signed books or ARCs (advanced reader copies), as well as some creative ideas that their fans will love such as a short personal zoom in which you can ask the author all of your burning questions about the author's books or writing process.

Please check out all of the wonderful authors who have volunteered to participate in this special event. See our FAQ's for this auction.

### Another Announcement:

An Historical Fiction Mini Book Festival @ The Ashland Library!

Saturday, October 28, 2023

We are so excited to host our very first Historical Fiction Mini Fest! We welcome authors Diane Hanks, Jane Healey, Marjan Kamali, William

Martin, and Krystal Marquis to the Ashland Library. The day will include a panel discussion (which will be recorded so, if you can't make it in person, you can watch later!), small group conversations, and a book sale/signing. So, grab your historical fiction lovin' friends and come on down to the Ashland Library!

Schedule of events (subject to change):

12:30-1:30pm - Panel with Diane, Jane, Marjan, William, and Krystal (topic TBD)

1:30-2:00pm - Dedicated book sale/signing

2:00-2:30 - Small discussion group with Diane and Jane

2:30-3pm - Small discussion group with Marjan, William, & Krystal

3-3:30pm - Dedicated book sale/signing

### Haunted Happenings Series:

Virtual - Haunted Experiences with Jeff DePaoli: Spooky World with creator David Bertolino

Saturday, October 7 @ 1pm

In 1991, Spooky World opened in Berlin, Massachusetts as the first Halloween scream park. The attraction became so popular that it expanded well beyond its original haunted hayride and shaped a generation of New England Halloween lovers. Join David Bertolino, the man who started it all, and Jeff DePaoli, Host of "That Halloween Podcast", to hear how an idea became a Halloween institution in Massachusetts.

Virtual - Haunted Experiences with Jeff DePaoli: Barrett's Haunted Mansion with

owner Mary Costello

Saturday, October 14 @ 9am

During most of the year Mary Costello is busy running her restaurant, the Abington Ale House, in Abington, Massachusetts. But every Halloween season, things get considerably more scary behind the beloved restaurant. Barrett's Haunted Mansion is a labor of love for all involved. Along with their two haunted houses that are changed each year, they also offer special nights like Bite & Fright, a Lights on Tour, and extreme nights for guests who don't mind being touched in total darkness for an extra scary experience. Join owner, Mary Costello, and Jeff DePaoli, Host of "That Halloween Podcast", as they talk all about the history and creation of this local haunt. Virtual - Haunted Experiences with Jeff DePaoli: Delusion with creator Jon Braver

Saturday, October 21 @ 12pm

Since 2011, Jon Braver has been creating this new and unique, location-based theatrical production where guests step inside a horror movie and become part of the story. Part theater, part haunted house, part interactive experience, "Delusion" is unlike any other experience. Join us as Jon Braver and Jeff DePaoli, Host of "That Halloween Podcast", discuss the making of this chilling experience, and how the New England Halloween season has been a big inspiration.

Virtual - Haunted Experiences with Jeff

NOVEMBER 4 & 5 • 11AM - 4PM  
ART • LIVE MUSIC • BEER/WINE TASTING

**HOLLISTON MILL  
OPEN STUDIOS**

24 WATER ST., HOLLISTON, MA 01746  
WWW.HOLLISTONMILL.COM

Providing the **Finest**  
**Quality Dentistry**

**ASHLAND FAMILY  
& IMPLANT DENTISTRY**

200+ ★★★★★  
REVIEWS

Scan to visit our website  
**FamilyDentistryInc.com**

Schedule now! 508-881-7700  
37 Main St., Ashland MA 01721

LIBRARY

continued on page 11

# The b.LUXE *beauty beat*

## Get To Know The b.LUXE Experience

BY GINA WOELFEL

As the team that brings you The Beauty Beat each month, we love writing engaging and informative content for our readers and connecting with you to share the latest trends and hot topics in our industry.

But what many of you may not know is that we often find ourselves inspired by our client conversations at our salon. When you're in our chair, we love chatting about your beauty routines, challenges, and goals and use those insights for our monthly topics.

That's why, this month, we'd love for you to get to know the studio behind The Beauty Beat!

We're your one-stop beauty destination and take pride in being Massachusetts' most highly-rated beauty salon. Check us out on Google.

### Our Specialties:

- Precision Haircutting
- Curly Haircuts
- Coloring, Highlighting & Balayage
- Hair Smoothing Treatments
- Hair Extensions
- Superior Skincare
- Special-Occasion Makeup
- Lash Extensions & Tinting
- Organic Spray Tanning
- On-Site & In-Studio Wedding Beauty

Our studio has a bright, vibrant feel, with passionate stylists who genuinely enjoy their cli-

ents. Your appointment should be more than just a task to check off your to-do list. We want every visit to our studio to be a luxury experience.

The "b.LUXE Experience" is our unique approach to beauty and wellness and guarantees your visit will be exceptional. We understand your time is valuable and we respect that. The b.LUXE Experience helps you reset, revive, and leave our studio feeling better than when you walked through our door.

Upon arrival, our friendly front desk staff will check you in and invite you to relax in our comfy waiting area. You can also grab a refreshment from our deluxe coffee bar, where we have a wide variety of refreshments including coffee, teas, seltzers, and snacks.

Your stylist or esthetician will then accompany you to their station or private skin care room for a thorough consultation where you can discuss your beauty goals and budget. They'll evaluate the whole picture to create an individual plan that delivers your desired look and feel.

We offer complimentary "LUXE For Everyone" add-ons to surprise and delight our guests because who doesn't love surprise luxury? We work these mini pop-up services right into your appointment for an extra touch of relaxation.

### LUXE FOR EVERYONE

- Our signature BEFORE Oil Treatment is rich in essential nutrients that promote

**b.LUXE**  
hair · makeup · skincare · tanning



healthier hair and scalp. It's a client favorite and offered to all haircut and blowout clients. We apply this right at the sink with a zen-like massage.

- For our color and smoothing clients, we offer our NUTRIR OIL Hand Treatment during your processing time. This therapeutic hand scrub and massage leave your hands feeling soft and supple.
- Our clients who receive luxury facials enjoy a Hot Stone Foot Treatment to alleviate stress and tension.

b.LUXE is a team-based salon. We don't use the words "my client" or "your client," only "our clients." We want you to feel relaxed and at ease with every appointment, and we'll never make you feel uncomfortable if, for any reason, you need to book with another stylist. Because of this shared client base, we can



typically accommodate you with a different hairdresser if your preferred stylist is unavailable or if your beauty budget changes.

We carry many popular hair care products, including Oribé, Kerasilk, DualSenses, and Ouidad. Additionally, our award-winning skincare line from G.M. Collin is an undisputed industry favorite. Our knowledgeable team members are always here to provide product education and helpful recommendations.

For extra convenience, b.LUXE offers complimentary consultations, a private service room for clients requiring social distance, online booking, as well as Monday and evening hours.

Thanks for taking the time to get to know us a little better!

We warmly welcome you to visit our studio located in the historic Medway Mills. It's not just a space. It's a vibrant community of artists where you can connect with like-minded individuals, exchange ideas, unwind, and learn from our seasoned experts. Our main goal is to help you achieve your beauty aspirations because beauty is our business...

We can't wait to meet you!

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

*Sponsored articles are submitted by our advertisers. The advertiser is solely responsible for the content of this article.*

**Keep cozy this Fall Season!**



**MITSUBISHI ELECTRIC**  
HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

**COAN**  
HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING  
Specialists in Home Comfort & Energy Conservation

Interested in a new heating system?  
Ask about our preseason discounts!

HEATING • AIR CONDITIONING • HOT WATER • INDOOR AIR QUALITY  
Heating Service Plans, Heating Install and Repairs & More!  
Coan Bioheat® Fuel Delivery

With significantly reduced greenhouse gas emissions & lower carbon footprint, it's the most environmentally friendly heat fuel, and the safest.

196 West Central St., Natick • 508-653-5050 • 800-262-6462 • coanoil.com



**GROW YOUR BUSINESS**  
with Local Town Pages!  
Call Today! Susanne 508-954-8148



# Own a business? Consider these retirement plans



Mark Freeman

## FINANCIAL FOCUS

If you own a small business or are self-employed, you've always got plenty to do, but you can't forget about the days when you'll be less busy — that is, when you're retired. How can you prepare for that time of your life?

One key step is establishing a retirement plan for your business or yourself. And thanks to

the 2022 SECURE 2.0 Act, you can now receive tax credits for opening and administering a 401(k), SEP-IRA or SIMPLE IRA. These aren't the only plans available for small businesses or sole proprietors, but they are among the most popular.

Let's look at each of them:

• **401(k)** – A 401(k) offers several key benefits: First, any earnings growth is tax deferred, and your contributions can be tax deductible. (Taxes are due upon withdrawal, and withdrawals prior to age 59½ may be subject to a 10% penalty.)

If you choose a Roth 401(k), your contributions aren't deductible, but your earnings and withdrawals will be tax free, provided you meet certain conditions. And a 401(k) offers a variety of investment options. If you have workers, you'll need to consider whether to offer matching contributions,

which are tax deductible to you, up to the limit of 25% of compensation paid to eligible employees.

But even if you're self-employed, with no employees other than your spouse, you can establish what's known as a "solo" or "owner-only" 401(k). In 2023, you can put in up to \$22,500 as an employee, plus a catch-up contribution of \$7,500 if you're 50 or older, for a total of \$30,000. Plus, you can contribute an additional 25% of earned income as an employer, up to an overall employee and employer maximum of \$66,000 (or \$73,500 if you're 50 or older).

• **SEP-IRA** – An SEP-IRA may be attractive to you if you're self-employed or if you own a business but have few or no employees. That's because you must contribute an equal percentage of your

own compensation to every eligible employee. In 2023, you can contribute up to \$66,000 or 25% of your income, whichever is less.

• **SIMPLE IRA** – A SIMPLE IRA is easy to establish and administer. As with an SEP-IRA, earnings in a SIMPLE IRA can grow on a tax-deferred basis. If you have employees, they aren't required to contribute to this plan — but you are. You must match up to 3% of employees' contributions or provide 2% of their annual salaries, although you do have some flexibility. If your business goes through a rough patch, you can temporarily decrease SIMPLE IRA contributions to 1% for up to two years out of the previous five. Your contributions to your employees' accounts are tax deductible, but in terms of building resources for your own retirement, a SIMPLE IRA

may be less appealing because of its contribution limits, which are relatively low compared to a 401(k) or SEP IRA. In 2023, you can put in up to \$15,500, or \$19,000 if you're 50 or older.

You should consult with your tax advisor to determine which retirement plan is right for you. Your financial advisor can also help you explore your options. And the sooner you put a plan to work, the better.

If you would like to discuss your personal situation with a financial advisor contact:

Mark Freeman  
Edward Jones Financial Advisor  
77 West Main Street,  
Hopkinton, MA  
508-293-4017  
Mark.Freeman@edwardjones.com

*Sponsored articles are submitted by our advertisers. The advertiser is solely responsible for the content of this article.*

## FINANCING AVAILABLE

- 12 Months
- No Interest
- No Payments
- Free Estimates
- Get Instant Estimate Online @ <https://robertevansjrinc.com/>

Or Call

**508-877-3500**

Millis, MA 02054

Fully Licensed & Insured

CSL 056746

HIC 108807

**\$500 OFF Full Roof Replacement**

On 28 Square Feet or More

Exp. October 31, 2023 • Offers May Not be Combined

**ROOFING • SIDING • WINDOWS**



## Lifetime Roof Guarantee

Get a FREE Upgrade to a



## Lifetime Guarantee

Exp. October 31, 2023

Offers May Not be Combined



ROOFING, SIDING, WINDOWS & MORE

EST. 1992



# Community Ties and a Commitment to Customer Service: Affordable Junk Removal

There are plenty of reasons to call a junk removal service. Maybe you're planning to move and need to clear out the basement and attic before your open house. Maybe you've spent way too much time at home lately and are feeling the need to declutter.

But figuring out who to call can be a pain. If you contact one of the big haulers, they route you to a phone center where they've never even heard of your town, plus their pricing seems vague and full of extra fees. No wonder you've let the stuff pile up—it's too much of a hassle to get rid of it!

Or you can call Affordable Junk Removal and let a local small business with deep community roots take care of everything.

Jay Schadler started his business in 2003. Back then, it was just him and a beat-up pickup truck taking small jobs and working nights and weekends when he could. As the years rolled on, his business grew, but his commitment to customer service never wavered. Now he's got a staff of

## Business spotlight

ten, along with ten trucks, servicing eastern and central Massachusetts and northern Rhode Island.

Affordable Junk Removal specializes in house and estate cleanouts. If your garage, attic, or office is overflowing with stuff, take back your space and let the pros do the heavy lifting.

Jay and his team have handled it all. They've dismantled above-ground pools, hauled away ancient hot tubs, taken down old fencing, and stripped away worn carpeting. They'll come for a single item, or they'll clean out an entire house. And they can take almost anything. They can't accept hazardous materials, brush, dirt, or concrete, but everything else is fair game for them to take away.



Not everything ends up in a landfill—not if Jay can help it. He first tries to either recycle or donate items. Only after he tries to repurpose items do they end up at the transfer station.

Working with Affordable Junk Removal is simple. First, you can load stuff yourself if you want by renting a 15-cubic-yard dumpster for a week and chucking up to a ton of your unwanted stuff. If you need to get rid of more weight, then Jay prorates that tonnage—you never pay for what you don't use.

If you don't want to be bothered with the dumpster, they've also got a driveway special where they'll take away a truckload of your unwanted things if you pile it up. Or if you don't want to lift a finger, then you can point at the items, and the team will fill up

their truck and haul away your unwanted things. However you do it, you're left with more space and more peace of mind.

Jay and his team beat the big waste haulers on both price and customer service. When you call Affordable Junk Removal, you aren't connected to an anonymous call center. Your phone call goes right to Jay.

And speaking of pricing, Jay is upfront about it. His website shows the truck sizes and prices, so you can save time knowing your costs before you call for an appointment. There aren't any hidden costs or surprise fees with Affordable Junk Removal.

Affordable Junk Removal is fully licensed and fully insured, and they'll treat your property with care and respect.

They also have a thriving commercial business, working with contractors and roofers to clear away debris and keep the job site clean. They can even handle commercial and residential emergencies with same-day service.

Jay and his family are deeply involved in the community. He and his wife, Christine, run the Corner Market restaurant in Holliston as well as Resellables, a thrift store in Bellingham. It's not uncommon for someone to reach Jay at the restaurant, order a sandwich, and then schedule a junk removal appointment. Yes, the local small business really can handle everything!

For more information, contact Jay Schadler at (774) 287-1133 or visit Affordable Junk Removal online at [www.takeawayjunk.com](http://www.takeawayjunk.com).

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

## Hey Ladies ... looking for wide shoes?

Sizes 6.5ww - 11ww, also 12m

**HANDS FREE**

**Step in Sneakers from Ortho**

**No Bending, No Tying**

**Great support!**



## The Forgotten Foot

*"It's Worth the Trip!"*

**1255 Worcester Road, Framingham**  
Hours: Mon. - Sat. 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. • Sun. 12 - 4 p.m.

**508-879-3290**

## Special Town Meeting warrant open until Nov. 1

*STM will be held on Nov. 29*

BY THERESA KNAPP

At its meeting on Aug. 16, the Ashland Select Board voted to open the warrant for the Special Town Meeting to be held on Wed., Nov. 29.

Assistant Town Manager Jenn Ball said people will have until Oct. 6 to submit a Notice of Intent to her so they can start building the warrant, and will then have until Nov. 1 to submit their final documentation. The plan is to have a finalized Special Town Meeting packet available for the public by Nov. 14.

Ball said a articles could include:

- Sustainability Committee's enhanced stretch code
- High Street easement for access
- Possible road acceptance
- Community Preservation Committee funding for dog park
- Senior tax exemptions

Town Manager Michael Herbert said, as a proactive measure, there could be a request to bor-

row funds to do work related to "a potential issue with our water treatment plant; nothing that can impact the safety of it or safety of our water source, but it could impact the color and taste. Again, nothing to do with safety, but those are important qualities."

He said "This isn't an emergency situation, we're trying to take care of it before it becomes an issue," but noted that, if the town does not do the work, the water's color and taste would eventually be impacted.

# Downtown streetscape work could be done in October

BY THERESA KNAPP

The downtown streets of Ashland have been freshly paved and new sidewalks, plus the crosswalk at Town Hall, have been installed.

At the Sept. 6 meeting of the Select Board, Town Manager Michael Herbert explained the sidewalks are actually stamped asphalt.

“The way they do it is incredible,” he said. “They’ll be finish-

ing up the crosswalks and then moving on to doing the medians, that will be done as cobblestones.”

After that, guardrails will be installed and landscaping will be done. Herbert says the streetscape work could be done by Oct. 31. The next phase, he said, is connecting the buildings to utilities underground and moving the poles.

Additional projects will include the sluiceway project where

the observation platform will be rebuilt and the former sluiceway will become a walkway with exposed granite edging on either side.

“It’s coming together nicely,” reported Herbert. “So you see that, and you see what we did recently with the Mill Pond Park renovation and everything, and you’re just like ‘Oh, it’s all coming together’ and it gets you excited.”



Ashland streetscape work is expected to be completed in Oct. as part of the downtown revitalization project. Improvements included sidewalks and crosswalks that are actually stamped asphalt.

Photo credit: Theresa Knapp

## Trick-or-Treating at Ashland Town Hall

Get ready for a spooktacular time at Ashland Town Hall! On Oct. 25, from 4-6 PM.

All kids and families from our community to come together for some Halloween fun. Dress up in your favorite costumes and explore all three floors of Ashland Town Hall while collecting sweet treats along the way. We’ve got candy galore waiting for you!

Plus, there will be a variety of Halloween-themed activities suitable for kids of all ages.

Don’t miss out on this fantastic community event. We can’t wait to see your costumes and celebrate Halloween together at Ashland Town Hall

### LIBRARY

*continued from page 7*

**DePaoli: The Old Joliet Haunted Prison with Chris Stafford**

Sunday, October 29 @ 12pm  
Thirteenth Floor Entertainment Group produces haunted attractions all over the U.S.A. One of their newest haunts is The Old Joliet Haunted Prison. But this prison isn’t all fiction. The Old Joliet Haunted Prison is a real haunted location with a history of its own. Join Thirteenth Floor Entertainment Group CEO and Founding Partner Chris Stafford and Jeff DePaoli, Host of “That Halloween Podcast”, as they talk all about the history and creation of this mega-haunt.

#### Adult:

**Virtual - Q&A with Gail Sahar, Author of “Blame and Political Attitudes: The Psychology of America’s Culture War”**

Monday, October 2 @ 7pm  
We just didn’t have enough time with Gail last time so she’s agreed to an encore discussion! This time, we’ll be focusing on the culture wars and how they have contributed to the current divide in America. Also, how can we bring our family and friends back to the dinner table for meaningful discussions? Please join us for another conversation with Professor Gail Sahar, author of “Blame and Political Attitudes: The Psychology of America’s Culture War”.

**Artist Reception: Michael Frazzinelli**

Tuesday, October 3 @ 5:30pm  
We’re excited to meet artist Michael Frazzinelli to discuss his art, so wonderfully displayed both in our gallery and display case! We hope you can join us to enjoy the art, ask your questions, and chat with other art enthusiasts.

**Essential Oils with Hannah Stein: Cinnamon and Clove**

Tuesday, October 3 @ 6:30pm  
Join fellow Ashlanders and Hannah Stein, Owner of Ashland REIKI & Wellness Center, in this new series as we explore the benefits of using essential oils in your daily life. In this session we discuss cinnamon and clove oil.

**Front Street Readers Book Club**

Tuesday, October 3 @ 6:30pm  
Read “Run” by Ann Patchett.

**Virtual - A Conversation with Romance Author Kit Rocha, aka the Writing Duo Donna Herren and Bree Bridges**

Tuesday, October 3 @ 7pm  
We’re so excited to virtually welcome Donna Herren and Bree Bridges, the writing duo behind mega fantasy romance author Kit Rocha to the Ashland Library! It’s always interesting to learn about a writer’s history, process, and books. We think it will be doubly interesting to learn what it takes to write fantastic books as a team. Questions like “how do you keep from killing each other as deadlines come around?” may come up.

**Virtual - Environmental Book Club**  
Wednesday, October 4, 2023 @ 6:30 pm

Read “A Wing and a Prayer” by Anders & Beverly Gyllenhaal.

**Virtual - An Evening with Author Marie Benedict**

Wednesday, October 4, 2023  
Join New York Times bestselling author Marie Benedict as she talks about her book “The Mitford Affair”, an explosive novel of history’s most notorious sisters, one of whom will have to choose: her country or her family?

**HYBRID - Romance Book Club**

Thursday, October 5 @ 6:30pm  
Read Physical/Mental Health Challenge Romances

**The Garden of Words: A Writing Workshop**

Friday, October 6 @ 10:30am  
Join us for a morning of writing and creativity.

**Virtual - The History of Scollay Square with Author David Kruh**

Friday, October 6, 2023 at 1 pm  
Sneak backstage and settle into the cushioned seats of Scollay Square’s famous—and infamous—theater, The Old Howard. Author and historian David Kruh will regale attendees with tales of Boston’s legendary Square and reveal largely unknown stories of famous inventors, Civil Rights activists, and future presidents who had a role in the Old Howard’s history.

**Virtual: Asian Art Series: Art Across Asia - Hidden Meanings in Chinese Art with Linda Lei**

Sunday, October 8 @ 2:30pm  
Bats, gourds, peaches, ribbons, and monkeys on horses. These images, and many others, are frequently – and artistically – depicted in Chinese art, but what do they mean? Using selected objects from the fabulous collections at the Asian Art Museum discover some of the fascinating and fun meanings and messages hidden in Chinese art.

**Virtual - Q&A with Historical Fiction Author Denny S. Bryce**

Tuesday, October 10 @ 7pm  
We are celebrating a book birthday! Denny’s new book, “The Other Princess: A Novel of Queen Victoria’s Goddaughter” is coming out on October 3rd and we cannot wait to chat about it! Bring your own cake and ice cream (candles optional :) for what is going to be a fascinating Q&A with one of our very favorite

## WE ARE YOUR RELIABLE INSURANCE NEIGHBORS



Work with people you can trust: Christine, Brian, Sandra

Our family-owned and operated independent agency offers only competitively priced and time-tested insurance products designed to fit your individual needs. Specializing in home, auto, business, condo and renters insurance since our establishment in 1987, our agency is deeply rooted in the communities we serve and committed to providing the very best of value for your hard earned dollars. Whether new to the area or a lifelong resident you will benefit from the sound advice provided by our professional service advisers.



MAPFRE | INSURANCE®

Contact us today!

508-881-7800

25 West Union St., Ashland  
MyAshlandIns.com

HOME • CONDO • RENTER • AUTO • BUSINESS

### LIBRARY

*continued on page 12*

**LIBRARY**

*continued from page 11*

authors!

**Mystery Book Club**

**Wednesday, October 11 @ 6:30pm**

Read "The Thursday Murder Club" by Richard Osman.

**Art for Adults with Nancy Atkinson**

**Thursday, October 12 @ 6:30pm**

Nancy will teach us drawing techniques with different mediums, papers, and ideas.

**Virtual - Q&A with Mystery Writer Andrea Penrose, Author of "Murder at Merton Library"**

**Thursday, October 12 @ 7pm**

We are so excited to be in conversation with Andrea Penrose! Her newest book, "Murder at Merton Library" is right up our alley. A Regency-era mystery set in a library - Yes, Please! Join us for what is going to be a fun and fascinating discussion.

**Virtual - Friday Night Film Discussion**

•Watch "American Friends"

**A Meditative Outdoors Fall Walk with Hannah Stein**

**Saturday, October 14 @ 10am**

Join fellow Ashlanders and Hannah Stein, Owner of Ashland REIKI & Wellness Center, on this walk designed to increase your awareness of the relaxing and healing benefits of nature that you can discover right here in Ashlands. It's a FALL walk which will be very different from our most recent summer walk - what will you see? Virtual - More Haunted Lighthouses of New England with Author Jeremy D'Entremont

**Monday, October 16 @ 7pm**

We had such a blast with Jeremy last year that we just had to do it again. He's working on a 2.0 program just for us! More stories, more ghosts, more sightings - just more!

**Bio/Memoir Book Club**

**Wednesday, October 18 @ 11am**

Read 'We Were Dreamers' by Simu Liu

**Half-Past Crafts: Spooky Potion Bottles**

**Wednesday, October 18 @ 6:30pm**

This month we are getting witchy and brewing up some dazzling potions!

**Virtual: Meet the first First Ladies with Author Jeanne Abrams**

**Thursday, October 19 @ 2pm**

We so often hear about George, John, and James but we really want more about Martha, Abigail, and Dolley! Join author and historian Jeanne Abrams as we delve into the lives of our Founding Mothers. What were their lives like? How did they (or did they) influence their husbands and, if they did, how did they help shape America as we know it. These and many more questions will be answered!

**Great Decisions**

**Thursday, October 19 @ 6:30pm**

Discuss Iran at a Crossroads

**Virtual: Q&A with Environmental Journalist and Author Ben Goldfarb**

**Thursday, October 19 @ 7pm**

What do roads have to do with ecology - a question for the ages! Join us as we discuss "Crossings: How Road Ecology Is Shaping the Future of Our Planet" with Ben Goldfarb. Written with passion and curiosity, "Crossings" is a sweeping, spirited, and timely investigation into how humans have altered the natural world and how we can create a better future for all living beings.

**The Garden of Words: A Writing Workshop**

**Friday, October 20 @ 10:30am**

Join us for a morning of writing and creativity.

**Virtual - Mediumship: Reconnect With Your Loved Ones!**

**Saturday, October 21 @ 10 am**

Back by popular demand! Join Leslie and Kim for another session where you may (or may not) hear from a loved one but you will definitely leave feeling inspired and entertained.

**Cookbook Club**

**Saturday, October 21 @ 12pm**

Cook from "Modern Jewish Cooking : Recipes & Customs for Today's Kitchen" by Leah Koenig.

**Nature Photography Special Field Session with Steve McGrath**

**Saturday, October 21 @ 2pm**

Rain Date: Sunday, Oct 22 @ 10am

Join photographer Steve McGrath out in the "field" for this nature photography program. Learn how to use your various devices to take the best nature photographs that you can! Steve will assist you in how to get the best light, best angles, and how to pay attention to your surroundings to find magic all around.

**Saturday Knit and Crochet Club and Workshop- Knit Stuffed Pumpkins**

**Saturday, October 21, 2023 @ 2 pm**

Bring your knitting or crocheting project to our casual gathering where you can work, talk, and share ideas together. Join us this week for a special Saturday Workshop and learn to knit a Stuffed Pumpkin!

**Virtual - LGBTQ+ Book Club**

\*For 15-100

**Monday, October 23 @ 7pm**

Read "Cemetery Boys" by Aiden Thomas.

**Virtual - The Race to Save our Vanishing Birds**

- Q&A with Anders & Beverly Gyllenhaal, authors of A Wing and a Prayer

**FALLFEST**

FallFest is a signature event to wrap up the season at the #bestspotintown. All are welcome to enjoy the fall festivities!! Games, food, beverages and music! Enjoy the beauty of Autumn in New England. Join us this year on Saturday, October 14th from 3 - 6 pm for FallFest!

**THE CORNER SPOT  
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 14TH  
3PM-6PM**



www.thecornerpotashland.com

**2023 Town Forest Conference**

Ashland Community Center & Town Forest

**The Now and Future Forest**

- Climate Change and the Future Forest
- Forest health, Forest care, Forest protection
- Forest As Community
- Three interesting family-friendly hikes

Free lunch and refreshments included with your registration at bit.ly/3Kf27wZ



**Save the date**



**Saturday  
October 21, 2023  
8:30 am to 3:00 pm**



**Timothy Daniels House**



**Exceptional Short-Term Rehab & Skilled Nursing Care**

- ◆ Physician on Site
- ◆ Short Term Rehab
- ◆ Physical Therapists On Site
- ◆ 24 Hr Nursing Coverage
- ◆ Respite Stays Welcome
- ◆ Hospice Services

**(508)429-4566**

**84 Elm Street, Holliston, MA**

**www.rehabassociates.com/timothydaniels**



**Tuesday, October 24 @ 6:30pm**

We are thrilled to be joined this evening by authors Anders and Beverly Gyllenhaal who will lead us in a Q&A about their book "A Wing and a Prayer". We hope you will join us for what is going to be a fascinating and important conversation. And, bring your questions as it will be in a Q&A format!

**Virtual - Brushed Aside The Untold Story of Women in Art with author Noah Charney**

**Wednesday, October 25 @ 1pm**

How many female artists can you name? Frida Kahlo, Georgia O'Keeffe, Marina Abramovic? How about female artists who lived prior to the Modern era? Maybe Artemisia Gentileschi and then... even a regular museum-goer might run out of steam. What about female curators, critics, patrons, collectors, muses, models and art influencers? Find the answers to these and many more questions as we sit down for a virtual conversation with author and historian, Noah Charney.

**Virtual: Author Talk with Abby Chandler: "Seized with the Temper of the Times"**

**Wednesday, October 25 @ 7pm**

Join us for a virtual author talk with Abby Chandler who will share with us about her new book, Seized with the Temper of the Times: Identity and Rebellion in Pre-Revolutionary America.

Your Money, Your Independence

# Update: Changes to 2024 Catch Up 401(k) Contributions

Since 2019, Congress continues to place a growing number of changes as well as restrictions on Americans' retirement planning.

Passed in December 2022, Secure Act 2.0, which stands for "Setting Every Community Up for Retirement Enhancement," was designed to further improve retirement-saving opportunities.

One would believe expanding personal choices would be an enhancement.

Think again.

### Planned changes for 2024.

For Secure Act 2.0, when lawmakers drafted changes to 401k catch-up provisions (currently \$7,500 additional to 401k plans by those over age 50) they "mistakenly" left out specific language. As a result, under their original Section 603, no participant could make catch-up contributions whether on a pre-tax or Roth basis starting in 2024.

This was a big problem.

Congressional leaders said this was not the intended outcome, but instead to broaden the amount of employers offering a Roth option in their 401k



Glenn Brown, CFP

plans. Interesting, cause simply mandating a Roth option in 401k plans does this and provides more choice for everyone.

Instead, Congress determined it was best to require individuals who earned more than \$145,000 in FICA wages the previous tax year to make all catch-up contributions on a Roth basis only. Meaning, it eliminated the choice of taking upfront tax break on catch-up contributions for "higher earners" by only allowing these deposits in after-tax Roth accounts.

With this as the only catch-up option available, lawmakers know this pressures employers to update both retirement plans to allow the Roth option AND align payroll service capabilities with retirement plans to identify those who earned more than \$145,000 in FICA wages the previous year.

The cynic in me asks:

- Why is this link being established?
- What's in future laws given these new aligned capabilities?
- When did \$145,000 become the new \$400,000 for "high earners"?

### It gets complicated.

Beyond employers, plan administrators and plan/payroll service providers having to update capabilities at additional costs, there are several unanswered questions on how to execute.

For example, what's in place to allow an employer to verify a new employee's FICA wages made the previous year at a former employer? Or what of those

who don't have FICA wages and are omitted from the new law, like state and local government employees or partners at a law firm? Ironic or mistakenly omitted?

This led to over 200 entities made up of Fortune 500 companies, firms, and public employers, plus the American Retirement Association and plan administrators including Schwab, Vanguard, and Fidelity to ask Congress for a two-year delay to the Roth catch-up rule to 2026.

### IRS delays changes until 2026.

On August 25, 2023, the IRS released Notice 2023-62 which pushed enactment of Section 603 out to January 1, 2026.

Thus, it is business as usual for 2024 and 2025, while stakeholders work behind the scenes to get compliant. It also gives time for revised Congressional legislation.

### Your next steps.

If over age 50, you can continue making catch-up contributions to 401k plans based upon your personal choice of what's best for you now and later in retirement, regardless of income.

Now, don't get me wrong, the Roth 401k selection can have tremendous benefits.

Furthermore, I've actively illustrated to clients the potential benefits and drawbacks to switching to the Roth 401k option. But in the end, it should be about choice for the individual to do what is best for them in planning for their retirement.

If you don't know which choice is right for you, talk to your Certified Financial Planner.

The opinions voiced in this material are for general information only and are not intended to provide specific advice or recommendations for any individual.

Glenn Brown is a Holliston resident and owner of PlanDynamic, LLC, www.PlanDynamic.com. Glenn is a fee-only Certified Financial Planner™ helping motivated people take control of their planning and investing, so they can balance kids, aging parents and financial independence.

*Sponsored articles are submitted by our advertisers. The advertiser is solely responsible for the content of this article.*

# Marathon Bib Applications Due Oct. 15

BY THERESA KNAPP

The Town of Ashland is now accepting applications for bibs for the 2024 Boston Marathon, and the applications are now just limited to Ashland residents.

Every year we receive 22 Invitational Entry Forms from the Boston Athletic Association as a courtesy since the Marathon runs through Ashland. The town typically distributes those entry forms to runners by giving 10 to the non-profit "NORD" (National Organization of Rare Diseases) and the remaining 12 through Town Hall.

Applications are due by Oct. 15 and are open to anyone, not just Ashland residents.

"Anybody can apply," explained Ashland Executive Assistant Susan Robie at the Sept. 6 meeting of the Select Board. "What we do is we give preference to employees and Ashland residents. Everybody's name gets drawn; they either get awarded a BAA invitational bib or they get waitlisted."

Everyone who receives one of these bibs must raise \$3,000, according to the application.

The application form can be found at [bit.ly/AshlandMarathonLottery2024](http://bit.ly/AshlandMarathonLottery2024) and is due on Oct. 15. For more information,

contact [srobie@ashlandmass.com](mailto:srobie@ashlandmass.com). Robie will place the entries into the lottery, draw names randomly and place them on a waitlist, and distribute the bibs accordingly.



Image source: [www.ashlandmass.com](http://www.ashlandmass.com)

**PREMIER IMAGE GALLERY**

- ◆ Specializing in Museum Quality Framing
- ◆ Finest Selection of Original Artwork by Local Artists

*34 Years in Business!*

290 Eliot Street, (Ledgemere Plaza) • Ashland • (508) 881-4730  
Open Monday thru Friday • 9 am - Noon

[premier-image.com](http://premier-image.com)

**PLEASE RECYCLE**

**PHARMACY OUTREACH**

Helping MA Residents Lower Drug Costs  
Providing Free Medication Information  
**CALL Today 1-866-633-1617**

MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE of PHARMACY and HEALTH SCIENCES

Pharmacy Outreach Program  
19 Foster Street, Worcester, MA 01608 | M-F 8:30 am to 5 pm

# Sports

## Ashland 2023 Hall of Fame

BY CHRISTOPHER TREMBLAY  
STAFF SPORTS WRITER

Ashland High School has announced the Hall of Fame Class of 2023.

Entering the halls will be Richard Martin (Class of 1964), Tim Walsh (2005), Russ Baker (1953) and Jerry Hanna (1966).

In addition to the four individual Clocker athletes, two amazing teams, the 1998 softball team, and the 1967 baseball team, will also be honored.

The banquet will take place at 2pm on Nov. 19, at La Cantina Italiana in Framingham. Tickets for the event will be \$40 and should be ordered as soon as possible as there is a cap for 150 participants; if the cap is not hit the ticket sales will close on Oct. 19.

Richard Martin was an athlete who excelled in three sports for the Clockers. He was a four-year varsity starter on the diamond and was captain of the 1964 squad that captured the Dual County League Championship. As a first baseman and star pitcher, the southpaw finished his career with 16 wins including a no-hitter against Wayland during his junior campaign. On the gridiron, Martin was a two-year varsity starter for Ashland at quarterback and safety, where he was a captain during the 1963 season in which the team finished 7-1-1 and capped off the season with a 21-6 Thanksgiving Day win over previously undefeated Hopkinton. Martin was named MVP of the game. On the basketball court Martin was a varsity starter all four years and was the first Ashland's first player to record 1,000 career points. He captained the 1962-63 and 1963-64 teams and was named a two-time DCL All-Star.

Tim Walsh, another three-sport athlete, captained the soccer team in both his junior and senior season. During his four-year varsity run with the soccer team he played both forward as well as center midfielder. The Clockers captured three Tri Valley League Championships and two Division 3 South Sectional Championships during his tenure. As a senior, Walsh was the league MVP and garnered first team honors on the TVL All-State team. On



the court, the point guard continued his success of being named a captain for both his junior and senior seasons and was an important part of the 2005 Clocker squad that finished the season as Division 3 South Sectional Finalist; he was also named a TVL All-Star that campaign. On the diamond Walsh found himself patrolling left fielder for the Clockers and once again earned TVL All-Star recognition as a senior. Throughout his three sports during his time at Ashland Walsh amassed a 49-19-2 record across as a senior, playing in 12 state tournament games and winning 9 of them.

Russ Baker starred for legendary coach "Grump" Walker in basketball and baseball and as a senior was a member of the 1952 undefeated football team. On the diamond, he starred defensively at shortstop and was a consistent hitter at the plate batting an even .300. His greatest achievements, though, came on the basketball court where Baker completed his senior season knocking down a record 187 points in only 8 games. He averaged an astounding 23.4 points per game in a time when the



3-point era had not yet been established. His best performance came at Hopkinton when he drained 21 baskets and 4 free throws for 46 points, which not only set a court record at Hopkinton, but also a school record for the Clockers that stood for over 40 years. Baker continued his contributions to the town as a youth hockey coach and he played an integral part of establishing the Demons Hockey program in the mid-1980s.

Jerry Hanna was another three-sport athlete for the Clockers, lettering in football, basketball, and track and field. He captained the track and field team, placing 4th in the low hurdles in the Class E State Meet. On the gridiron Hanna made his mark as the only player to be named to both the First Team Offense and the First Team Defense as a Framingham Area All-Star. As team captain, he was considered a "small, mighty, and shifty" halfback, while defensively he anchored a Clockers secondary that recorded three shutouts. Hanna was able to score points in just about every phase of his



game during his senior campaign, while finding the endzone five different ways. He crossed the goal line on rushes, receptions, an interception, a fumble recovery, and a kick return. His best effort came in a 24-20 win over DCL rival Wayland in which he recorded a touchdown run, a touchdown catch, and a fumble recovery for a touchdown. Hanna finished the season with 44 points, good for top 5 overall in the Framingham Area.

The 1998 Softball Team amassed a 20-4 record (14-2 in the Tri Valley League). Coached by Ginny Walsh and Charlene Carabello. The girls finished the season as TVL Champions, Division 3 South Sectional Champions, and Division 3 State Champions. Going into the tournament the squad was seeded #5 in the South bracket. Once there they capped off a 6-0 playoff run with a 3-1 State Title victory over Frontier. Co-captains Amy Curlett and Leah Kamataris led the way for the Clockers. Kamataris anchored the defense at SS and batted .322, while Curlett finished the season with a 13-3 record, a 0.68 ERA, and went a perfect 6-0 in the playoffs. Keri Giangrande performed sensationally in the circle as well, posting an 8-1 record with a 0.34 ERA. Upperclassmen Brooke Perry, Michele

Leporati, and Becky Karb all contributed to the successful season. Lauren Vendetti and Becca Marks performed above their freshman status.

The 1967 Baseball Team amassed a 16-2 overall record under the leadership of Massachusetts' Hall of Fame Coach Clem Spillane, Assistant Coach Joe Apicella, and co-captains Bob Mucha and Pat Fitzgerald. The Ashland nine finished the season as Dual County League Champions on their way to capturing the Class C State Championship. Joe Markarian was the MVP of the title game, pitching a 2-hitter and hitting a grand slam in the 7th inning to lead the Clockers to an 8-0 victory over Dartmouth. Markarian (8-1) and Mike Trychon (7-1) starred on a Clockers pitching staff that finished with a 2.27 team ERA. During that season Ashland recorded an incredible 21 double plays in the field. Veteran catcher Steve Willard led the team in numerous offensive categories posting a .418 batting average, recorded 26 hits and knocked in 23 RBI. Other major contributors to the 1967 season included Earl McLaughlin, Mark Iarussi, Larry Piccioli, Dennis Fairweather, Tom Pandolfi, Billy Ellsworth, Ernie Sannicandro, Lonnie Hart, and Jim Calhoun.

# Real Estate Corner

## Ashland Recent Home Sales

Date	Ashland	Amount
09/14/2023	188 Prospect Street	\$550,000
09/13/2023	9 Boulder Hill Lane	\$840,000
09/12/2023	1 Ivy Lane	\$900,000
09/12/2023	34 Tilton Avenue	\$370,000
08/30/2023	153 Myrtle Street	\$535,000
08/30/2023	32 Algonquin Trail	\$577,601
08/28/2023	223 Leland Farm Road	\$518,000
08/24/2023	125 America Blvd	\$656,500
08/23/2023	17 Old Country Path	\$607,000
08/22/2023	28 Brogden Road	\$1.10 mil
08/22/2023	15 America Blvd	\$680,000



The 3-bed, 3-bath, 1,970 sq ft home at 9 Boulder Hill Lane in Ashland recently sold for \$840,000. Image credit: [www.zillow.com](http://www.zillow.com)

Image credit: [www.zillow.com](http://www.zillow.com)

Source: [www.zillow.com](http://www.zillow.com) / Compiled by Local Town Pages

## Wanted: Mural Artists!

The Ashland Cultural Council, along with the Town of Ashland, is proud to present an exciting opportunity for experienced local mural artists in the Ashland and Boston Metrowest area. An artist will be selected to create a public work on the wall of our town's very first Starbucks, which is undergoing construction at 399 Union Ave.

This piece of art will live on for years to come and embody Ashland's diversely vibrant community, our dreams of the future, and our honoring of the past.

**Artist proposals will be accepted until Nov. 15.**

Proposals should include the following, emailed to

[AshlandCulturalCouncil@ashlandmass.com](mailto:AshlandCulturalCouncil@ashlandmass.com)

Subject Line: Mural

1. Artist's name, resume, artist statement
2. A written description of the proposed mural, including approximate height, width, and materials used
3. Up to five images of artist's previous work
4. Installation budget

Prospective artists will be invited to present their proposals in mid-December, with a final decision expected by February 2024.



**Looking to advertise in our Real Estate Corner?**

**Contact**

**Susanne Odell Farber at 508-954-8148 or by email at [sue@sodellconsult.com](mailto:sue@sodellconsult.com)**





**CORDAVILLE REALTY**  
Ashland's Home for Real Estate




**Jen Paratore, Realtor**  
Broker and Founder  
[Jen@cordaville.com](mailto:Jen@cordaville.com)  
617-974-7079



**Alison Fiorenzi, Realtor**  
Senior Sales Associate  
[Alison@cordaville.com](mailto:Alison@cordaville.com)  
508.254.1516

[www.Cordaville.com](http://www.Cordaville.com)






**Bill Gath**  
Sales & Rentals

Direct: 508.989.0181  
Fax: 508.744.6991

10 West Central Street  
Natick, MA 01760

Email: [BillGath@gmail.com](mailto:BillGath@gmail.com)  
Web: [www.BillGath.com](http://www.BillGath.com)



**WANT YOUR PERFECT PROPERTY To COME To You?**  
Visit [www.BillGath.com](http://www.BillGath.com)  
On the top right click "New Listing Email Alerts"

- ✓ Receive daily emails of new listings in your criteria.
- ✓ Select up to 5 towns per email address
- ✓ Change your search criteria at anytime.
- ✓ Property information and pictures right to your inbox.

Call: 508.989.0181 Email: [BillGath@gmail.com](mailto:BillGath@gmail.com)

# Ashland Lions Club October 2023 Update

## Senior Social

The Ashland Lions will sponsor a "Senior Social" at the Senior Center on West Union St on Tuesday, October 10 4-6 pm. The social will feature "musical bingo" as well as a free buffet supper complete with a full meal, coffee, tea and dessert. Seniors will need to sign up for the event at the Senior Center by Thursday, October 5. This event is open to all Ashland seniors.

## Drug Take Back Day

The Ashland Lions again will assist the Ashland Police in collecting unused/unwanted prescription drugs at the Drug Take Back Day which will be held at the new public safety building on Rt. 135 on Saturday, October 28th 10am - 2 pm.

## Christmas trees are coming!

It's hard to believe that Thanksgiving is only a month away. But do you know what opens right after Thanksgiving? The Lions Christmas Tree lot

– and we've moved again! This year we plan to be selling trees at the Ashland Farmers Market on Front Street! We'll have lots more surprises in store this year as well. Please consider buying your fresh Christmas tree from the Ashland Lions this year and donate to a great cause. Remember, Lions give back 100% of fundraising to eye research and the local community. Hope to see you soon!

## Lions at the Car Show

Ashland Lions food trailer was at the Carrier Kidde-Fenwal Car Show on Saturday, September 9th. The Lions also sponsored a trophy this year. Thanks for everyone who came out to support this great cause!

## Ashland Lions Meat Raffles

Ashland Lions is kicking off another great year of meat raffles! Our first one will be held on Saturday, October 7 at 12pm, at TJs Food and Spirits in Ashland, and continue on the first Saturday of each month throughout



Patrons enjoy food and drinks from the Ashland Lions Food Trailer at the Kidde Fenwal car show

the winter. As always there will be great food, fun people and great meat to choose from. See you there!

## Eyeglasses and Cellphone Collection

Eyeglasses and cellphone collection is a year-round project with collection of used prescription and nonprescription eyeglasses, sunglasses, hearing aids and cell phones.

Collection boxes are located at:  
Ashland Post Office  
Ashland Senior Center  
Old train station - Ashland

Moody Optical - Ashland  
Middlesex Bank – Ashland  
Fayville, MA Post Office  
Studio Optics – Framingham  
Southborough Senior Center  
Southboro Post Office on Rt.85  
TJ's Food and Spirits  
The Residence at Valley Farm

## Lions Club Red looks good on you!

Why not make Lions Club Red your color this Fall and participate in service to the community while meeting some great people and having some fun? We will be holding 3 informational events this Fall where you can



learn what Lionism is all about. If you're interested in becoming a member of the Ashland Lions, please reach out to us via email at membership@ashlandlions.org for details.

## Stay up-to-date on Lions happenings

To see the latest status of our events, please visit our Ashland Lions Facebook page. Click the Like button and you will be automatically notified of changes or cancellations. While you're at it, be sure to follow Ashland Town News too!

KING LION DAN MITCHELL  
ASHLAND LIONS CLUB  
PRESIDENT

## The Fall Market is NOW!

**SOLD ... \$60,000 OVER ASKING!**



**22 Kimball Road • SOLD \$1,150,000**

[22KimballRoad.com](http://22KimballRoad.com)

Located in Springwood Estates on a cul-de-sac road. Beloved & charming residence, 4 bedroom, 2.5 bath, 3788 sq.ft.



**SOLD**



**36 Greenwood Road • SOLD \$1,750,000**

[36GreenwoodRoad.com](http://36GreenwoodRoad.com)

Hopkinton Highland's model home nestled on approximately 3 bucolic acres. 4 bedroom, 3.5 bath, 5,408 sq.ft.



Proudly Serving Boston  
Metrowest for 12 Years!

**Kim Foemmel**  
BROKER/OWNER  
508.808.1149

*Call Kim to Sell Your Home Today!*

**FOEMMEL**  
Fine Homes  
FoemmelFineHomes.com



SCAN TO GET THE  
VALUE OF YOUR HOME

