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April 2024

## Ashland issues support for proposed Habitat for Humanity house at 487 Main Street

*Town's portion would be covered by current Affordable Housing Trust funds*

BY THERESA KNAPP

At its meeting on Feb. 21, the Ashland Select Board voted unanimously to support a Habitat for Humanity home to be built at 487 Main Street. The agency will now gather the remaining documentation to file the 40B affordable housing application with the state.

Debbie Maruca Hoak, Executive Director for Habitat for Humanity, shared a slide presentation with the board which gave an overview of Habitat for Humanity, and discussed the proposed home at 487 Main Street. Maruca Hoak said the house would be a three-bedroom, 1.5 bathroom, single family 1,500 square foot house, with a septic and a well.

"We have built that same house type a number of times," said Maruca Hoak. "But we do try to match styles in the neighborhood so that the home



The Habitat for Humanity home proposed at 487 Main Street in Ashland would be similar to this home recently built in Sturbridge. Source: Ashland Select Board meeting, Feb. 21, 2024

blends well."

She said there was an abutters' meeting in January but no abutters attended.

Habitat for Humanity has a signed purchase and sale agreement with the current owner.

That offer is contingent on the agency securing a building permit from the town. Construction would begin within

**HUMANITY**  
*continued on page 3*

## Dog determined "dangerous," Select Board places conditions on dog's future

*Dog now in training, owners say he will not return to Ashland*

BY THERESA KNAPP

During a 'dangerous dog hearing' on March 6, the Ashland Select Board declared Cooper, a four-year-old American Bulldog belonging to Claire Roskam and living on West Union Street at the time of a vicious attack on another dog on Jan. 13, to be a "dangerous" dog.

The board had previously opened the hearing on Feb. 7, but it was continued pending further information after the town learned the dog was no longer living in Ashland. Cooper now lives in Framingham.

At the March meeting, the board heard from Ashland Animal Control Officer Donna Walsh; Claire Roskam (and her boyfriend Richard) who owns the dangerous dog; Kelly and Peter Lacasse whose dog Lincoln was attacked;

and others who witnessed the incident.

ACO Walsh said she had been called to the home of Kelly and Peter Lacasse on Woodland Street address after two Roskam dogs, Cooper and Quinn (who has since been euthanized), attacked the Lacasse dog, a silver labrador retriever named Lincoln.

During the emotional hearing that lasted more than an hour, the board heard details of the harrowing attack.

Kelly Lacasse, whose dog was attacked and she says is almost fully healed, said, "I saw his [Cooper's] face. The attack was completely unprovoked. The dog [Lincoln] was walking through the yard. The other three [Roskam] dogs

**DOG**  
*continued on page 3*

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**HUMANITY**

*continued from page 1*

60 days of receiving the permit, and would likely take 15 months to complete.

“We’ve met with Habitat many times over the years,” said Steven Greenberg, Chair of Ashland’s Affordable Housing Trust Fund, after the presentation. “We’ve met with the owners and it seems like a very good project...I think this type of development would be an asset to the town.”

Greenberg said the Affordable Housing Trust has the

funds to cover the town’s portion, which is expected to be \$120,000 to \$170,000.

Maruca Hoak said, “We back into the price of the home, we don’t set the house price up front and then require applicants to meet that price.” In addition to the town’s portion, the project would be built with corporate grants, in-kind fundraising, donations, and volunteer labor. She said, through its funding design, the home will stay affordable “in perpetuity.”

As of the presentation date, the maximum selling price for the home was \$280,000 but Maruca Hoak said, “In March

or April, the new numbers will come out from HUD” which could change the price.

The new homeowner would be chosen via Fair Housing Market Plan lottery, which will be open to anyone who meets the qualifications which include:

- Buyer income 30% to 60% of area median
- First time home buyer
- Financial qualifications
- 3% to 5% down payment

The awardee must be willing to invest “sweat equity” into the project which will include 300 hours of education and physical



Funding Model	
Construction Cost	\$475 – 550,000
Mortgage Sale Net	\$200 – 250,000
Corporate/Grant/in-kind	\$150 – 175,000
Municipal Subsidy	\$120 – 170,000

Funding model image - Source: Ashland Select Board meeting, Feb. 21, 2024

work on the property.

“I’m excited to see a Habitat house come to Ashland,” said

Select Board member Brandi Kinsman.

**DOG**

*continued from page 1*

came like shoom-shoom-shoom out from under their fence. It was so fast and they circled once around, and Cooper just latched onto his [Lincoln] back, and Quinn followed.”

“I will say, if my dog did this to another dog, he would not be here today,” she said. “If you saw what happened that day, you would feel the same. His [Cooper’s] face was cruel, mean...It was traumatizing.”

Kelly’s sister Marybeth witnessed the event and testified that she too was traumatized. She recalled Kelly’s screaming, the dog crying, and other people doing everything they could to pull the dogs apart. Marybeth said if that happened to her dogs, which are smaller, they would not have survived. “Lincoln’s a big dog and that’s how Lincoln survived that.”

Claire Roskam, Cooper’s owner, said, “I still feel really awful for everything that’s happened...My dog has never done something like this before, and it kind of confused us all.”

She said Cooper jumped on the fence, broke it, and their three dogs (a third was not involved in the incident) attacked Lincoln. She said she is doing everything she can to get Cooper retrained,

and said the dog is currently in an eight-week residential training program in Southborough that specializes in aggressive dogs.

Claire said, “It was traumatic but I do believe my dog deserves a chance at life.” She did say her dog had been attacked himself about 1 1/2 years ago.

In preparation for the hearing, ACO Walsh had worked with the Framingham Animal Control Officer to create a list of suggestions should the board decide not to order the dog euthanized. The Select Board voted 4-1 (Joseph Magnani opposed) to let the dog live with the following restrictions:

- Dog may not be chained, tethered, or otherwise tied to an inanimate object (tree, post, building, etc.)
- Dog must be securely confined indoors, or securely confined/enclosed outside area pen/dog run area (which should also have a roof, and a shelter)
- Dog shall be securely and humanely restrained with a chain or tethering device, not exceeding 3 feet in length while walking outside
- Dog must be muzzled when outdoors
- Owner must have insurance on the dog of at least \$100,000

- Dog must be microchipped for permanent identification and provide info to town where the dog resides

Another restriction proposed by ACO Walsh, but not adopted by the board, was to not allow the dog to be in the possession, care or custody of a child under the age of 17. Claire Roskam said her young daughter has grown up with Cooper and they coexist without incident.

The decision is valid and enforceable throughout the Commonwealth, regardless of where the dog lives. .

Board Chairman Robert Scherer said, “This is a difficult decision...I do agree that we can take these measures rather than euthanizing the dog. I’m certainly cognizant of the trauma that this has involved, and I’m sorry that it all happened; these are not easy decisions.”

Board members told Cooper’s owners that their commitment to rehabilitating their dog is “massive” and they will need to be diligent about training when Cooper comes home. They encouraged the family to seek additional remedies should they decide they cannot give the dog the care he needs.

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# Bingo Night Benefits AHS Earth Day April 20



The Ashland High School Student Council is hosting our 14th annual Bingo Night on Thursday, April 4, at 6:30PM. This family friendly event, open to all ages, will take place in the Ashland High School cafeteria (65 E. Union St)! Please come to the back of the school when you arrive (doors will open at 5:30PM!).

A pack of 6 cards good for the whole night is a \$10 suggested donation and daubers are \$1 each.

There will be pizza for sale as well as free baked goods, coffee, and water! Our prizes this year include gift cards from local places like Townhouse Pizza, Marathon Deli, and Weston Nurseries, as well as national chains including Chick-fil-A, Dunkin Donuts, and Dairy Queen! For our full list of prizes and additional information, please visit our website below! We hope to see you there!

<https://sites.google.com/ashland.k12.ma.us/stucoashland/events/bingo-night?authuser=0>

The 2nd Annual Ashland Earth Day Celebration is on April 20th (rain date April 21st). The event will be held at The Corner Spot from 12:00pm to 3:00pm. Last year was a great event for our inaugural kick-off, with terrarium making, take-home herb kits, and enjoyable music, and this year there will be so much more! At this year's event you will find more local vendors as well as some state agencies in addition to our local committees and boards. Come enjoy great music from The Cardinal, sip on a beverage of choice from Decanted Wine and enjoy a bite to eat with friends! Here is a sample of some of the vendors you will find when you attend this great event:

- Christian Hill Farm
- Weston Nurseries
- Basil n Spice
- MassAudubon
- NEECO- MassSaves Partner
- Massachusetts Department of Agriculture Resources

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- Ashland High School Environmental Action Club
- Ashland Community Garden
- Energize Ashland
- Stormwater Advisory Committee
- Ashland Sustainability Committee
- Conservation Commission
- Green-up Ashland

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## Anyone Seen \$500 Million In Art Lying Around Boston? Writer Bob Ainsworth On The Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum Art Heist.

An hour or so after the 1990 St. Patrick's Day ended, two men dressed as Boston cops entered the Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum, stayed for about 90 minutes, and left with 13 pieces of art.

None of the priceless items have been found. Numerous suspects have been named over the years but none have been arrested. Many are now dead.

Bob Ainsworth, the author of DUPED, a fictional account of

the robbery, will review the actual details of the theft, the suspects, and the motives behind the world's most valued art theft. He will also tell of his own brush with the infamous crime.

This stock will happen at the Ashland Historical Society, 2 Myrtle St., on April 21, at 2 PM. It is free and open to the public.

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# Ashland Garden Club Welcomes Spring!

Spring is always an exciting time for everyone who welcomes the warmer weather and longer days.

Who doesn't love watching to see what perennials made it through the freezing days and nights of Winter in New England and the excitement of planting new flowers once the days and nights warm the soil.

Spring is a particularly exciting time for members of the Ashland Garden Club. Mid-to-Late April is when we change the planters we plant and maintain around the downtown area from the sedate greens of Winter to colorful Spring plants (Fountain at Montenegro Square, Post Office, Community Center, Town Hall). We also add plants to the in-ground sites that the Ashland Garden Club plants and maintains (Library grounds, Post Office grounds, Clock Tower Garden, Community Center Garden). Enjoy these before and after photos of the fountain planter in Montenegro Square across the street



from the Library and watch for this April's plantings.

The Ashland Garden Club usually meets the second Saturday of September through June. Each May we hold our annual sale of plants that we dig

out of our own gardens. This year's plant sale is Saturday May 18, 9:00-12:00 at Montenegro Square.

We use the months of July and August rewarding ourselves by visiting each other's gardens



during what we call Wine in the Garden.

If you would like to know more about the Ashland Garden Club, check out our website at [ashlandgardenclub.com](http://ashlandgardenclub.com), visit

our Facebook page, or contact Gretchen Bravacos at [gbravacos@gmail.com](mailto:gbravacos@gmail.com).

Article and Photos Submitted by Gretchen Bravacos, President

## Scholarship Available

The Harold B. Walker Scholarship is available for qualified candidates for the 2024-2025 academic year. Applicants must be a graduate of Ashland High School and have successfully completed four full semesters or the equivalent of 50 percent of the post-secondary program in which the applicant is enrolled. Applicants must be currently in their junior year of college and the scholarship, if received, would be applied to their senior year or graduate school.

A completed application will include the completed application page, a letter of interest from the applicant, detailing reasons for applying for the scholarship, and an official college/university transcript; an electronic copy of the transcript is acceptable. A resume is not required, but preferred.

The deadline for application submission is Wednesday, May 1st at 3:00pm. All completed applications must be mailed directly to the Ashland High School Counseling Department. The address is Ashland High School, Counseling

Department, 65 East Union Street, Ashland, MA 01721. The application is available on

the Ashland High School website: <https://www.ashland.k12.ma.us/AHS>

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# Ready Homebuyers? Things Are About To Change.

It's been a perfect storm the last 3+ years against first and second-time homebuyers.

But a change is coming, starting with anticipation of mortgage rates falling from 7%.

Morningstar, echoing other analysts, in March shared current Fed Funds rate of 5.25-5.50% will be 4.00 to 4.25% at end of 2024. Furthermore, expect the Fed to continue to "cut through end of 2025, ultimately bringing the federal funds rate down by over 300 points".

Talk to realtors and lenders, they're seeing activity pick up.

Why?

Wait until mortgage rates fall to 5%, then homes in certain price points will have inversely increased in value. Whereas, if one can purchase now with expectation to lower ongoing expenses via refinancing later, you've capped initial appreciation and participated in appreciation.

Thus, first time buyers and those looking to move up, it's time to plan.



Glenn Brown, CFP

This means prioritizing your needs, wants, locations and budget for after you've moved into your new home. This last one is critical as lenders base your pre-approval on this moment in time, not the fact you plan to do X a year from now which requires more money in your budget.

Due diligence should also include:

**Zillow, RedFin, Realtor** - Scroll beyond pictures and into details

of when built, sqft, interior features, acreage, adjacent home values and price/tax history. With price history, see when last sold, amount, then account for pictures or better yet when you visit, to see what's been done since to determine value.

**Tax Assessments and Property Taxes** - Regardless of Realtor views on tax assessments relative to asking price, know a \$890K listing with town tax assessment of \$620K for \$9,300 property taxes, will get reassessed the following year. If bought for \$900K, town likely comes in at \$820K (or higher) for \$12,300 property taxes or \$250 extra a month on your budget.

**Financing Options** - Explore beyond 30-year fixed rates. Understand directional interest rate landscape and how long you expect to stay in your home. Does a 7-year adjustable rate mortgage (ARM) make sense if the plan is to move in 5-7 years or refinance as rates come down 50-75bps?

**Mortgage and Cash Flow Calculations** - The more variables, the better. Same with ability compare refinancing scenarios and contrast amortization tables. With clients, I'll share calculator. net, use links to save scenarios and then run these inside eMoney cash flow analysis. Together, we see impact on their future budget, cash flow 1-3 years out as well as long-term impact.

For example, say one refinanced \$600K in Sept 2020 at 2.75% on 30-year for \$2,449 a month.

In April 2024, decides to move with current mortgage balance ~\$550K, using equity and additional savings, to add \$150K to a new \$700K mortgage at 7%. New monthly payment is \$4,657, or \$2,208 more. In 5 years (April 2029), outstanding balance is ~\$658K without refinancing.

Conversely, if able to pay \$4,657 a month, decide to stay put with Sept 2020 mortgage and make \$2,208 additional payments starting April 2024, the balance is \$322K by 2029. Beyond the \$336K spread after 5 years to move and borrow \$150K, the Sept 2020 is now paid off in August 2035 and not 2050.

But wait, there's more to consider.

What if the 7% mortgage is refinanced down to 5% by April 2026? New monthly is \$3,634, or \$1,023 less. Add this as extra payment starting 2026, what do you have?

Understand money is a tool, not the only consideration.

There is great value in doing what's best for your family, education or work opportunities and/or your personal choice of belonging to a community.

You should know this value going into a decision, not after it.

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.

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## Clock Tower PickleBall

Pickleball has made its way to the MetroWest and not only that it is right here in Ashland! Clock Tower Pickleball (CTP) officially opened its doors on March 12th! CTP features 4 indoor courts in a fun atmosphere on the 2nd floor of 200 Homer Ave, Ashland MA. CTP will be open from 10AM - 10PM Tuesday - Saturday and 10AM - 8PM on Sunday. They will have "How to play pickleball" clinics along with various leagues, tournaments, drop-in play, and lessons.

Memberships are now available but act quickly as they will be capping the numbers. Benefits

to members include reduced costs for court time, early booking and members can rent courts hourly all-day Monday and between 5AM - 10AM Tuesday - Sunday. First-year membership will run from April 2024 to August 2025.

CTP is currently waiting for its liquor license and will have snacks, drinks and soon beer and seltzer. Come join the fun and experience the fastest growing sport that anyone can play in the United States. Check out the website at www.CTPBall.com or clocktowerpickleball (Instagram) clock tower pickleball (facebook)

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# Ashland Sustainability Community Forum

The Ashland Sustainability Committee will be discussing the Stretch Code, green infrastructure, electrification, and all things Net Zero.

April 6, from 2-4 at Town Hall and April 11, at 7pm virtually.”



# Dog Licenses

Dog License Registration is open!

Please register your dog before April 15, 2024. A \$50 fine will be added to each dog license after this date. The fee for intact dogs is \$20 per dog. The fee for spayed or neutered dogs is \$15 per dog but if you (the owner) are seventy (70) years of age or older then the tag is no charge. Don't forget to bring an updated rabies certificate with you. Please note that the free license does not apply to kennels. You may license your dog using the Town of Ashland's online system, or by dropping off the form and payment to Town Hall. If you no longer reside in



Ashland, or your dog is deceased, please contact the Town Clerk's Office by email, townclerkoffice@ashlandmass.com, or call 508-881-0100 ext. 7127 so records are updated.

# Take Action on Climate Change with Energize Ashland

The "Energize Ashland" initiative started in the fall when a small group of Ashland residents who are very concerned about climate change met to explore what we could do about it. In early meetings we started to learn from each other how easy it was to make small changes in our daily lives that, over time, make a positive impact.

Sensing that there were many others in town who shared our concerns and from whom we could learn, we still had the question, "How do we all connect with each other?" With everyone's busy lives, how could we all easily, efficiently collaborate to share, learn, discuss and celebrate all the small wins which add up to significant positive differences?

We discovered that other towns were addressing these same issues in collaboration with the statewide organization MassEnergize. We wanted to motivate and inspire fellow Ashland residents to take positive climate change actions like those we saw in those towns.

Starting with a template developed by Mass Energize, we modified it to be Ashland-specific and created **EnergizeAshland.org**. The website is a powerful tool that encourages residents (and businesses) to take climate actions in their home and business. For each action, it provides important background information, detailed steps, and testimonials by Ashland neighbors. In addition to a website, we recognized the need for fun, engaging educational programs and special events that inspire action to reduce climate change. Twenty-three other Massachusetts towns have created similar programs.

The official launch of our new website is on April 6. Check it out for yourselves at [EnergizeAshland.org](http://EnergizeAshland.org). Sign up, check off climate actions you have already taken, and choose some new actions you would like to take. Join us at Ashland's Earth Day celebration at The Corner Spot on Saturday, April 20, (rain date April 21) to see a demonstration of how the website works.

If you are interested in volunteering to help this new initiative, please contact us at [EnergizeAshland@gmail.com](mailto:EnergizeAshland@gmail.com). If you are interested in contributing a small donation, please check out our Donate Page on the website.

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**ENERGIZE ASHLAND**

**CONCERNED ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE?**

Check out [EnergizeAshland.org](http://EnergizeAshland.org) to take climate actions

Visit us at Ashland's Earth Day for a website demonstration  
April 20th Noon - 3:00pm at the Corner Spot

*Join The Adventure!*

## REGATTA POINT SUMMER CAMP

at Hopkinton State Park

*Sailing Camp*  
AGES 7 - 12

*Junior Teen Sailing Camp*  
AGES 13 - 17

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**Register Online TODAY!**  
508.757.2140

**ADDITIONAL LOCATION**  
at Quinsigamond State Park, Worcester

*Offering Rowing Camp, Spring & Fall Crew Teams*



# The b.LUXE *beauty beat*

## b.LUXE Gives Back

BY GINA WOELFEL

It's officially spring, a busy time for many businesses, particularly those deeply connected to their communities and who believe in giving back. As a responsible local business, we focus on our own goals while also considering the needs and aspirations of our neighbors.

b.LUXE is fortunate to be surrounded by like-minded businesses that believe in their community and actively promote and sustain each other.

Though neighbors are typically thought of as the people who live next door or down the street, at b.LUXE, our bonds extend beyond physical proximity. Since 2016, our studio has maintained a special connection with our "neighbors" from The Martello Instituto de Belleza, our sister school in Cancun, Mexico.

The Martello Institute, led by Cinthia Martello, is a hub of creativity and talent where students who share our love and dedication to beauty come to learn and grow. Our team travels to Cancun yearly to award scholarships to two deserving and hardworking students. We also provide educational resources and the necessary supplies to support the students' studies.

This year, we gave a handheld microscope to the school. The microscope provides a magnified view of the scalp. It's an essential device for beauty professionals that helps detect scalp and hair follicle problems. Additionally, each student received all the tools and products required to offer a

scalp spa treatment. Many of you have already enjoyed this service at b.LUXE. The treatment is incredibly relaxing and includes a scalp health diagnosis, an exfoliating scrub, a scalp massage, and a complete wash, condition, and blowout.

Our trips to Cancun are inspiring, and we owe those positive vibes to Cinthia. Following our class, she hosts a luncheon where we mingle with the students and catch up with how their year has been going. On our last trip, our wedding manager, Eva Mongie, expressed her love for tamales, and this year, Cinthia's students surprised us with a huge plate of homemade tamales, which we promptly devoured. This thoughtful and delicious gesture perfectly embodies who they are and why we're so close. At b.LUXE, we always try to act without expectation. In return, we've received a gift from the Martello family that feels like sisterhood.

April is an important month at b.LUXE, where we focus on giving back.

We look forward to working each year supporting The Franklin Food Pantry, Paws New England, The Medway House, The Franklin Senior Center, The Hummingbird Walk, The Special Olympics, and The Medway Food Pantry.

This month, our salon is partnering with The Mahan Circle Medway Food Pantry, a division of The Medway Housing Authority, on a tampon drive.

**b.LUXE**  
hair • makeup • skincare • editorial



SCAN TO VISIT OUR WEBSITE

Why specifically a tampon drive?

Millions of people across the United States are suffering the consequences of not being able to afford period products. SNAP & WIC programs that help provide healthy food to women and children do NOT cover access to hygiene items like period products, with many states still taxing menstrual hygiene products as luxury items. Access to these products should not be a privilege. The lack of access to menstrual health products, specifically tampons, for people in need can be devastating and a complex problem that many have to face each month.

But we can do something to help!

We're accepting tampon donations at b.LUXE for the month of April. Please bring a regular-sized, sealed package of tampons to b.LUXE Hair and Makeup Studio (variety packs are perfect.) Our team is also making a large donation and hopes we can support this cause together.



Meet Our Sister School  
The Martello Institute of Beauty  
Cancun, Mexico



St. Josephs Parish Website



Medway Mahan Circle Food Pantry Venmo

PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING TO THE MEDWAY FOOD PANTRY AT MAHAN CIRCLE

(Note: regular-sized boxes are preferred as the food pantry can not open or break up large, bulk packaging) You can also drop off donations directly at The Mahan Circle Medway Food Pantry at the address below.

If you can't stop by the studio, please consider donating to the Medway Food Pantry. Any amount is appreciated. Donations can be made through the St. Joseph Parish website, The Mahan Food Pantry Venmo, or by mailing a check to the address below.

The Medway Food Pantry  
600 Mahan Circle,  
Medway, MA 02053  
(617) 763-5655

Thank you for joining us in supporting The Medway Food Pantry. As always, we're so proud of our community's ability to help those in need.

The b.LUXE Beauty Team

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BIOHEAT



# Time for financial spring cleaning?



Mark Freeman

## FINANCIAL FOCUS®

Provided by Edward Jones

Spring is almost here, which means it's time for some spring cleaning. This year, in addition to tidying your home and surroundings, you might want to consider sprucing up your financial environment, as well.

Here are some suggestions for doing just that:

- **Improve your vision.** Once the days are warmer and longer, you may want to get outside and clean all the winter grime and smudges from your win-

dows, allowing you to see the world more clearly. And you may want to bring more focus to your financial vision by asking some key questions: Is my investment strategy still appropriate for my needs, goals and family situation? If not, what changes should I make? And am I prepared for changes in my life, such as health challenges or a need to retire earlier than planned? The answers to these and other questions can help you clarify where you are, in terms of your financial picture, and where you want to go.

- **De-clutter.** As you look around your home, you may find things such as expired health care products, old prescriptions, ancient cleaning solutions, and so on, in addition to duplicate household items (how many blenders do you really need?) and non-working equipment — printers, laptops, etc. Most people find that eliminating this clutter gives them a good feeling —

and more livable space. As an investor, you can also find clutter in the form of redundant investments — for example, you might own several nearly identical mutual funds. You might be better off selling some of these funds and using the proceeds to find new investments that can help you further diversify your portfolio. As you may know, diversification is a key to investment success, but keep in mind that it can't prevent all losses.

- **Plant seeds of opportunity.** Whether they're planting camellias and crocuses or carrots and cilantro, gardeners are busy in the spring, hoping their efforts result in lovely flowers and tasty foods. And when you invest, you, too, need to plant seeds of opportunity in the form of investments that you hope will grow enough to enable you to make progress toward your goals. So, you may want to review your portfolio to ensure it's providing this growth

potential, given your individual risk tolerance.

- **Reduce dangers.** You may not think about it that much, but your home and surroundings can contain potential hazards. You might have ill-fitting caps on cleaning products with toxic chemicals, or sharp cutting instruments protruding from shelves in your garage, or heavy, cracked tree branches hovering close to your roof. Spending some time on a spring-cleaning sweep can get rid of these dangers — and devoting time to consider the possible threats to your financial security, and those of your family, can pay off, too. For starters, review your life insurance to determine if you've got enough. Your employer may offer some coverage as an employee benefit, but it might not be sufficient, so you may need private coverage. And the same is true for disability insurance, because if something were to happen to you,

and you couldn't work for a while, you'd still want to protect your family's lifestyle.

Spring is a great time for brightening your physical space — and your financial one, too.

This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor.

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

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## HOPKINTON VISION CENTER

Dr. Steven Perryman

10 Cedar St., Hopkinton, MA 01748 | 508-435-4711

www.hopkintonvision.com



# Defying Physical Challenges and Uniting for Cancer Prevention

This June, three extraordinary girls will swim to raise money for breast cancer prevention at Against the Tide, an annual event hosted by Massachusetts Breast Cancer Coalition (MBCC). Despite facing physical challenges, Jordan, Jasmine, and Chloe participate in Against the Tide not only with the hope that others will join their passionate support of cancer prevention, but to honor their loved ones who have been affected by breast cancer.

Every year participants from all over New England and beyond are drawn to Against the Tide and to MBCC's unique mission. These swimmers, runners, and walkers share the belief that there are environmental links to cancer and other ill-health. Against the Tide not only raises funds for MBCC's work to prevent exposures to environmental toxins, the event also raises spirits and empowers people to unite under a common cause.

Among the participants at this year's Against the Tide are three courageous girls whose determination and unwavering spirit embody the true essence of this event.

Jordan Marquis, a thirteen-year-old from Bedford with a below-knee amputation, is challenging herself to compete in the one-mile swim. Jordan shares, "I hate being underestimated. People with disabilities can do anything! Goal setting – the full mile is the next step for me." Jordan took on the half-mile swim last year and, in an effort to honor her grandmother who is a breast cancer survivor, she wants to swim even further this year.

Jasmine "Jazzy" Gillespie, an eleven-year-old girl from Bedford with minor spastic diplegia, is participating in solidarity of the daily challenges that are faced by those with health conditions like cancer. Jazzy says: "Sometimes I feel like people who don't have conditions that

affect their daily lives don't understand what it's like. So instead of having empathy for these people, they make fun of them or make them think that they can't do anything. Doing this breaks the person down and they start to believe that they can't do anything. I could imagine that this happens to people with breast cancer, too." Jazzy is swimming in Against the Tide to honor her two grandmothers as well as her aunt, all of whom were touched by breast cancer.

Like Jordan and Jazzy, Chloe Smagula, a fourteen-year-old girl from Westford with hemiplegia, is swimming in Against the Tide to pay tribute to her aunt and to help those touched by cancer through supporting MBCC's mission. Chloe, who participated in Against the Tide last year, said, "I did the open water swim because I've never done it before and I wanted to try something new."



2023 Hopkinton Against the Tide Event on June 17, 2023. From Left to Right: Jasmine Gillespie, Laura Diamond, Chloe Smagula, Megan Cohen, and Jordan Marquis

Against the Tide is a truly inviting event where all are welcome and everyone can get together in support of cancer prevention. It offers participants of any age or ability the chance to take part in one or more of the event's athletic components.

The special 25th Anniversary Cape Cod Against the Tide event will take place on June 8th at DCR's Nickerson State Park in Brewster, MA. The 32nd

Annual Hopkinton Against the Tide event will take place on June 15th at DCR's Hopkinton State Park in Hopkinton, MA. Against the Tide will also be held virtually from June 8th to June 15th.

To learn more about Against the Tide and all of the registration options, to join or create a team and to donate or fundraise, please visit the event website at [mbcc.org/swim](http://mbcc.org/swim).

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45 East Street, Hopkinton

Games, picnic, vendors, camp tours, and a Family Trail Run!

LEARN MORE:

## 2024 SPMF Piano Competition

Playing piano is the collective work of our brain, mind, and body. Learning how to play notes takes a lot of time and effort but learning how to create music demands even more time, patience, and effort both physically and mentally. Through the Stone Park Music Festival (SPMF) Piano Competition we would like to celebrate the competitors' hard work and encourage them to move forward with their piano studies. The purpose of the competition is to inspire music students to reach higher levels in their piano studies, to provide a stage for talented amateur musicians, and to provide more performance opportunities for professional musicians. The SPMF Piano Competition doesn't have an age limit; it is open to everyone who loves music and loves playing piano. The preliminary round is a recording submission, but the final round is

2024 Boston MetroWest Stone Park Music Festival Piano Competition

Applications due: July 28, 2024  
Final Round: September 7, 2024  
(Rain Date: September 14, 2024)  
Open to all ages and levels

For more information, visit: [www.stonemusicfestival.com/competition](http://www.stonemusicfestival.com/competition)

Director: Grace Soonyoo Moon

open to the public and therefore everybody is welcome to come and listen to the final round of the piano competition at Stone Park. You can find more details on our website. We hope many talented musicians will participate in the competition. ([www.stonemusicfestival.com](http://www.stonemusicfestival.com))





# Participate in Greenup Ashland's 22nd Annual Town-Wide Cleanup

Local citizens are banding together to tackle litter in our beautiful town of Ashland during the annual GreenUp Ashland cleanup day. This event occurs the first Saturday of May annually from 9am to noon.

With this year's event falling on Saturday, May 4, residents of all ages, businesses, and organizations will join together, with help from the GreenUp Ashland organization, to keep Ashland beautiful by cleaning up trash in their selected areas and streets.

Signing up is easy and can be done online prior to the event April 22, via the [www.greenupashland.org](http://www.greenupashland.org) website or in person at Stone Park Pavilion. GreenUp Ashland provides a great t-shirt and the bags you will need, which are then left at the area of cleanup for DPW to pick up.

"GreenUp cleanup volunteers are dedicated to protecting Ashland spaces because a healthy community starts with healthy, litter-free roads and community areas. These neighborhoods, roads, and gathering places give us so much, and now it is our turn to give back," said

Karyn Dann-Barboza, founding member of GreenUp Ashland. Committee member Brett

Jackson adds, "This popular annual event raises public awareness about benefits of litter removal, and is a great opportunity for civic engagement."

In addition to the annual cleanup on the first Saturday in May, GreenUp Ashland supports a growing list of cleanup adopt-a-street participants. These "Adopters" select an area or street to keep clean year-round. This popular program boasts participants that have been adopting their spaces for almost 10 years! The GreenUp Ashland team provides trash bags for these adopted spaces on demand, and arranges for pickup when the bags are full. Adopting a space allows an organization, business or resident in town to pick up litter when it's most convenient for them, and ensures their adopted areas stay litter free.

Be part of this large and rewarding event with over 100 other Ashland residents while thousands of others are taking part in cleanups across the state and the country to remove trash in their communities. Learn more about State cleanup efforts at

<https://keepmassbeautiful.org/> and Ashland cleanup efforts at <https://www.greenupashland.org/>.



## Annual Cleanup Event Details

**When:** Saturday, May 4 check-in or sign up from 9am-noon

**Where:** Stone Park Pavilion

Ashland's ONLY annual town-wide clean up event sponsored by the GreenUp Ashland Committee that occurs annually on the first Saturday of May.

Participation can be done individually, as a family or group (businesses, scouts, sports teams, civic or religious groups etc.) and is a great opportunity to enjoy the community outdoors while contributing to the look and value of your community.

For more information on the event, adopting a space, volunteering, or to join this amazing committee, email [info@greenupashland.org](mailto:info@greenupashland.org).



Visit [greenupashland.org](http://greenupashland.org) for all the latest information, or follow them on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/GreenUpAshland>, or Instagram: [https://www.instagram.com/greenup\\_ashland](https://www.instagram.com/greenup_ashland).

## Ashland Food Pantry seeking donations

The Ashland Food Pantry is seeking donations of both food and monetary. A list of current needs is in the accompanying text box.

Food donations can be made during these times at the back of the Ashland Community Center, 162 West Union St.:

- Mondays from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.
- Wednesdays from 11:30 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Thursdays from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

The food pantry also accepts monetary donations in these ways:

- Check payable to "Town of Ashland" with "Food Pantry Donation" in the memo line, and mailed to Ashland Human Services, c/o Courtney Loughlin, 162 West Union St., Ashland MA 01721; or
- Check payable to "Ashland Emergency Fund" with "Food Pantry Donation" in the memo line, and mailed to Ashland Emergency Fund, PO Box 112, Ashland, MA 01721.

To shop at the food pantry, visit [www.ashland-mass.com/440/Ashland-Food-Pantry](http://www.ashland-mass.com/440/Ashland-Food-Pantry) for contact information and relevant forms.

Sources: Ashland Town Manager newsletter, available at [www.ashlandmass.com/1146/Sign-Up-for-Our-Newsletters](http://www.ashlandmass.com/1146/Sign-Up-for-Our-Newsletters), and [www.ashlandmass.com/440/Ashland-Food-Pantry](http://www.ashlandmass.com/440/Ashland-Food-Pantry)

### Ashland Food Pantry current needs:

- Snacks
- Granola bars
- Sugar
- Condiments (especially ketchup, mustard, mayo, mustard, relish, salt, pepper)
- Coffee and tea
- Pasta
- Pasta sauce
- Ramen Noodles
- Canned Ravioli
- Cake and muffin mixes
- Jelly
- Dish soap
- Laundry detergent
- Toothpaste
- Shampoo
- Plain lotion
- Baby wipes
- Diapers (especially sizes 5, 6, pullups)
- Adult incontinence underwear, size Large
- Toilet paper
- Paper towels
- Ashland trash bags
- Dog and cat food

Source: Ashland Town Manager newsletter, available at [www.ashlandmass.com/1146/Sign-Up-for-Our-Newsletters](http://www.ashlandmass.com/1146/Sign-Up-for-Our-Newsletters)

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# Senior Community Center Activities for APRIL 2024:

## PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES:

- Apr 1st at 12:00**      **Lunch & Karen Spilka's Office Listening Hour**  
Reservations for Lunch: Please use the payment box outside of the Main Office to reserve your seat. The cost is \$5 per person.
- Apr 2nd at 10:30**      **Downton Abbey Tea Party and Showing of 5th Episode**  
Call to reserve your seat at 508-881-0140 x1
- Apr 4th at 9:00**        **FREE Breakfast sponsored by Ashland Lions Club**  
Call to reserve your seat at 508-881-0140 x1
- Apr 4th at 10:00**      **COA Meeting**
- Apr 4th & 18th**      **Phone or Zoom SHINE Appointment with Pegg Rowe**  
Call to make an appointment 508-881-0140 x1.
- Apr 8th at 12:00**      **NEW! Celebrating Red Sox Opening Day Lunch with Howie Newman's Musical Baseball Show**  
Reservations for Lunch: Please use the payment box outside of the Main Office to reserve your seat. The cost is \$5 per person.
- Apr 9th at 12-1:30 pm and 6 - 7:30 pm**      **Cooking Class with Chef Lee - Chicken Curry**  
Call to reserve your seat at 508-881-0140 x1
- Apr 10th/Time TBD**      **NEW! Intergenerational Fairy House Craft hosted by the Ashland Recreation Department**  
Call to make an appointment 508-881-0140 x1.
- Apr 10th at 10:00**      **Computer Class - "Computer Basics: Desktop, Task Bar File Storage, Saving Files on USBs"**  
Call to reserve your seat at 508-881-0140 x1
- Apr 10th & 24th**      **Veterans Office Hours with Richard Sabounjian.**  
Appointments recommend. Call 508-429-0629 to schedule.
- Apr 11th at 11:00**      **NEW!!! "Home Safety Tips for Falls Prevention" With Deborah Froehlich of Complete VNA**  
Call to reserve your seat at 508-881-0140 x1
- Apr 11th at 12:00**      **FOACOA Meeting**
- Apr 11th & 25th**      **SHINE In Person Appointment with Fran Backstran**  
Call to make an appointment 508-881-0140 x1
- Apr 12th at 10:00-11:30**      **Legal Phone Consultation with Arthur P. Bergeron**  
Call to make an appointment 508-881-0140 x1
- Apr 15th CLOSED for PATRIOTS' DAY**

- Apr 16th at 11:00**      **NEW!!! "Aging in Place: Making your Home Safe" w/ Kelly Thompson, Mr. Handyman of Central MetroWest Conversation and Coffee with pastries.**  
Call to reserve your seat at 508-881-0140 x1
- Apr 17th & 24th at 9 am**      **NEW!!! Bird Watching with Lorraine**  
Meet at the Ashland Senior Center at 9 am. Walk local trails and learn about different types of birds! To Sign Up call 508-881-0140 x 1
- Apr 17th at 10:00**      **Town Manager's Coffee Hour**
- Apr 22nd at 10:30**      **Hearing Aid Cleaning with Hopkinton Audiology**  
Please call to make an appointment 508-881-0140 x1.
- April 23rd 10:00-11:00**      **NEW!!! "Clash of the Titans: Edison, Tesla and Westinghouse"**  
Presented by retired Engineer Stanley Forman. Call to reserve your seat at 508-881-0140 x1
- Apr 25th 10:00-11:30**      **Clocktown Memory Cafe with a performance by Rick Ferreira**  
Clocktown Cafe provides a welcoming place for individuals with Alzheimer's disease, dementia or a cognitive impairment accompanied by the care partner.
- Apr 26th 10:00**        **Cooking Class with Chef Lee - California Egg Rolls**  
Call to reserve your seat at 508-881-0140 x1
- Apr 29th at 12:00**      **Lunch and Trivia Contest**  
Reservations for Lunch: Please use the payment box outside of the Main Office to reserve your seat. The cost is \$5 per person.

### Weather Cancellation Policy:

The Senior Center will be closed on all holidays observed by Town Hall employees. Activities and transportation may be cancelled due to inclement weather. The bus/van will not operate when weather causes school closings. The Senior Center follows school closing and delays. Watch your local TV station for listings of school closings.

### WEEKLY PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES

\* Note: All classes are a suggested donation of \$4 per person \* Unless otherwise noted.  
Monday Lunches at 12:00 pm weekly, except holidays. Reservations must be made by Thursday before the scheduled lunch. Please use the payment slip and locked box located outside of the main office to reserve your seat. Cost pp is \$5.

- Bingo** - First and Third Tuesdays of the month at 1 pm
- Bowling** - Tuesdays at Ryan's Amusement in Millis at 9 am
- Blood Pressure Clinic** - Wednesdays at 10:30 am
- Chair Yoga** - Wednesdays at 1 pm
- Chair Volleyball** - Tuesdays at 1 pm
- Chess Class** - Mondays at 1:30 pm
- Craft Class Free** - First and Third Friday of the Month at 11 am
- Cribbage** - Thursdays at 12:30 pm
- Exercise with Joni** - Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 9:30 am
- Hearts** - Wednesdays at 1 pm
- In Stitches "DROP IN" Knitting Group** - Second and 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 9:30 am for beginners by appointment. Call to make an appointment 508-881-0140 x1. Regular play at 10:30 am for all levels
- Mindful Meditation** - Thursdays at 11 am with Mary Green
- Parkinson's Boxing** - First Wednesday at 1:30 pm and Third Wednesday at 11:30 am
- Parkinson's Support Group** - Second Wednesday of the Month at 1:30 pm
- Pins and Needles (Free Sewing Class)** - Every 2nd & 4th Friday of the Month at 9:30 am
- Poker** - Tuesdays at 12:00 pm - Volunteer will instruct beginners. All level of players welcome
- NEW! Spring Walking Group** - Tuesdays & Thursdays at 9:00 am. Meet at Ashland Senior Center an walk in State Park with Candi Wilson
- Tai Chi for Balance** - Wednesdays at 11:00 - 11:45 am with Jon Woodward
- Veterans Office Hours** - Every other Wednesday of the Month from 9 -11:30 am

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## WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Have an upcoming event?

Do you have a concern about things happening around town?

Email us at editor@ashlandtownnews.com and let us know!



# Community Tees up for Putts4Pages in Support of Library

The second annual Putts4Pages Mini-Golf in the Library is on course to raise thousands in support of the Ashland Public Library. Ashland businesses have generously stepped up to sponsor all 18 holes and then some. And, thanks to a \$2000 grant from the Boston Athletic Association and the Ashland Select Board, the cost of putting on the event is fully covered allowing all proceeds raised through hole sponsorships and ticket sales to go directly to support the programs the library puts on for all ages at no charge for participants.



The event, sponsored by the Friends of the APL, will take place after hours at the library April 27 and 28. Saturday evening, April 27, is for adults only and features "Mocktails, Munchies, and Mini Golf" on the 19th hole from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Mocktails will be provided by Erica's and The Ashland Ale House with a sweet and savory selection of munchies prepared by Dulce D Leche. Ticket price for this night of fun is \$20 per person.

The excitement continues on Sunday, April 28, from 11 am to

4 pm when the whole family can play through 18 holes of mini-golf set up throughout the stacks and inner spaces of the library. Tickets are \$5 per person, with a cap of \$25 per family.

New this year is a take-your-own-pic golf themed photo booth, fun activities in between holes, music throughout the library, and a big screen tour of the best golf courses in the world.

Tickets are available on-line beginning April 6. Use the QR code below to order tickets and tee times or use the link at [www.friendsoftheapl.org](http://www.friendsoftheapl.org).

Ashland businesses making the event possible include Needham Bank (Flagship Sponsor), Middlesex Savings Bank, Ashland Family & Implant Dentistry, AT&R Insurance, Ashland Animal Hospital, Mike's Collision, Ashland Lumber, Ashland Mini-Storage, Minucci Auto Body, Residence at Valley Farm, 126 Self Storage, Platinum PT, United Home Experts, Tom's Auto Body, Annemarie's Dance Centre, Worcester Air Conditioning, Marra Flooring & Design, Jeff Troutman Photog-

raphy, Sub Zero Nitrogen Ice Cream, and ellengspeechtherapy.com.

"Friends of the Green" include Richard Francis Salon and Spa, Oak Realty, Lunkers, Modelville Hobby, Ashland Lumber, Main Street Wine & Spirits, The Family Pet Hospital, and Cleaners Choice. In addition, Dr. Greens, Blush, and Shaw's have all contributed gift cards which will be prizes in a drawing held during the event.

Proceeds from this fundraising event will go to pay for all of the in-person and virtual library programs for all ages, as well as over a dozen different Museum

Passes, stocking Little Libraries all over town, supplementing classroom shelves in Ashland Public Schools, and much, much more.

Order tickets here or go to [www.friendsoftheapl.org](http://www.friendsoftheapl.org)



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# April 2024 at the Ashland Library

The Library will be closed on Monday, April 15th for Patriot's Day

## Special Events:

### Eclipse Viewing Party

\*For All Ages

Monday, April 8, 2024

It's a once in a century opportunity to see a potentially 95% totality eclipse! Join us on this special day as we celebrate this special occasion. We will have eclipse watching glasses (while supplies last) for the day so come by, set yourself up, and watch this once (twice) in a lifetime event with friends, family, and community. Please remember to NOT watch the eclipse without some sort of NASA approved glasses.

This program will have to be cancelled if it rains or is super cloudy. Check out social media outlets and website for on the day updates.

No registration but please remember that we have a limited number of eclipse glasses and may ask families to share - we will be giving them out starting at 2:30pm on April 8th and it will be first come first serve.

We will NOT be giving glasses out at the library prior to the event.

Please feel free to bring your own eclipse glasses, a blanket, lawn chairs, snacks, etc. It's an Eclipse

Viewing Party! (no alcohol, though, as this is a library program).

This event is in collaboration with the Town of Ashland's Department of Economic Development.

### Adult:

#### In Person - Front Street Readers Book Club

Tuesday, April 2 @ 6:30pm

Read "Love in the Time of Cholera" by Gabriel García Márquez

#### Virtual - Celebrating a Book Birthday with Author Megumi Inouye: "The Soul of Gift Wrapping"

Tuesday, April 2 @ 7pm

As we approach holidays such as Mother's and Father's Day, learn how to both wrap beautifully and show gratitude for those you are gifting to - who knew that the act of giving a thoughtfully wrapped gift can be a creative, caring act for both the giver and the receiver?

#### Essential Oils with Hannah Stein: Jasmine and Ylang Ylang

Wednesday, April 3 @ 6:30pm

Both have many utilitarian and other uses - you will be surprised at all the benefits potentially available from the use of these oils.

#### Virtual - Environmental Book Club

Wednesday, April 3 @ 6:30pm

Read "The Insect Crisis: The Fall of the Tiny Empires That Run the World" by Oliver Milman.

#### HYBRID - Romance Book Club

Thursday, April 4 @ 6:30pm

Read Portugal Romances

#### Card Making with Jan Poppendieck

Monday, April 8 @ 6:30pm

Jan will teach embossing, die cutting, proper stamping, and use of equipment individually and group techniques of creating unique cards.

#### Virtual - Celebrating a Book Birthday with Romance Author Dana Hawkins: "In Walked Trouble"

Monday, April 8 @ 7pm

Today, we're celebrating with romance author, Dana Hawkins, on her recent release "In Walked Trouble", the follow up to her sapphic and funny, "Not in the Plan". If you love RomComs, coffee, Seattle, HEAs, and/or fantastic queer enemies-to-lovers romance

#### Virtual - Book Recs with Bookstagrammer Jody Blanchette aka @redreadreviews

Tuesday, April 9 @ 7pm

Not sure what to read next? Join Jody for 30 minutes of pure book recommendations - with a bent towards horror and thrillers and a few other genres thrown in! We're sure you'll find something to like from Jody's many enthusiastic reviews.

#### VIRTUAL: Ashland Adult Book Club

Wednesday, April 10 @ 6:30pm

Read "The Return: Fathers, Sons and the Land in Between" by Hisham Matar.

#### Virtual - The Ponzi Scheme with Author and Historian David Kruh

Thursday, April 11 @ 1pm

Long before Bernie Madoff made off with about \$64.8 billion in other people's money, there was a guy named Ponzi. Charles Ponzi. Carlo Pietro Giovanni Guglielmo Tebaldo Ponzi (1882-1949) was born and raised in Italy. He arrived in Boston aboard the S.S. Vancouver in 1903 with a few dollars and change in his pocket. Years later, he told the New York Times, "I landed in this country with \$2.50 in cash and \$1 million in hopes, and those hopes never left me."

#### Virtual - Minimizing (or Eliminating!) Food Waste For Families with Sarah Robertson-Barnes

Thursday, April 11 @ 7pm

We'll be discussing how to minimize or eliminate food waste in your family, especially with kids. Sarah will have all kinds of ideas to take baby steps to save, use, or compost food scraps so none (or little) goes into landfills!

#### Mystery Book Club

Friday, April 12 @ 12pm

Read "The Lost Man" by Jane Harper.

#### Virtual - Friday Night Film Discussion

Friday, April 12 @ 7pm

Watch "Cairo Conspiracy" (Kanopy)

#### Cookbook Club

Saturday, April 13 @ 12pm

A Taste of Pakistan

#### Virtual: Asian Art Series: Art Across Asia - Persia: Crossroads for Art and Culture

Sunday, April 14 @ 2:30pm

Uncover the unique artistic elements of ancient Middle Eastern art, and its influence on art across Asia and Europe.

#### Virtual: A Brief History of the Coast Guard with Captain Greg Ketchen (Retired)

Tuesday, April 16 @ 1pm

Massachusetts is the birthplace of the Coast Guard. America's oldest seagoing service has an exceptionally rich history and those who have served in the Coast Guard here in Massachusetts have made significant contributions to that history.

#### Bio/Memoir Book Club

Wednesday, April 17 @ 11am

Read 'Vanderbilt' by Anderson Cooper and Katherine Howe

#### Half-Past Crafts: Felted Piglets

Wednesday, April 17 @ 6:30pm

This month we are making adorable needle-felted piglets!

#### Virtual - "Cooking with Scraps" Baking Demonstration and Discussion

Wednesday, April 17 @ 7pm

Do you feel bad about throwing away (or even composting) food scraps that could be used? Well, feel guilty no more! Lindsay-Jean Hard, cookbook author and sustainability warrior, and Amy Emberling, Managing Partner of Zingerman's Bakehouse, are here to help us learn how we can make use of those scraps, keep them out of landfills, and still have enough left-over for our compost pile!

#### Virtual - AI Unleashed: Elevating Creativity Across Mediums

Thursday, April 18 @ 1pm

Join us for an inspiring presentation on the convergence of AI and creativity, showcasing the latest AI infused tools designed to ignite artistic expression across a spectrum of mediums.

#### Great Decisions

Thursday, April 18 @ 6:30pm

Discuss Climate Technology and Competition

#### Virtual - Haunted Happenings with Jeff DePaoli: FearTown and Factory of Terror with Owner Mike Quill

Thursday, April 18 @ 6:30pm

Fear Town Haunted House in Seekonk, MA is an outdoor haunted trail through the woods. Factory of Terror in Fall River, MA is a well loved and known local attraction. Join owner Mike Quill and Jeff DePaoli, host of "That Halloween Podcast", as they talk all about these fantastic haunted experiences right in our backyard!

#### Virtual - LGBTQ+ Book Club

\*For 15-100

Monday, April 22 @ 7pm

Read "Crema" by Johnnie Christmas (he/him)

#### Virtual - Cary Library Science Café: AI in Medicine and Biomedical Research

Tuesday, April 23 @ 7pm

Join us as we continue our exploration of AI with two local experts, Professors Wei Ding and John Quackenbush. They will be discussing the revolutionary role of AI in the field of Medicine and Biomedical Research with the use of unsupervised machine learning.

#### Virtual: Q&A with C.S. Harris: Author of the "Sebastian St. Cyr" Historical Mystery Series

Tuesday, April 23 @ 7pm

We are so excited to be chatting with Historical Mystery author, C.S. Harris! As you may know, C.S. (aka Candice Proctor) is the prolific writer of the Sebastian St. Cyr series. We're also celebrating the book birthday of the 18th in this series, "Who Cries for the Lost?" - with a title like that, don't you just want to run out and read every book, starting with "What Angels Fear"? :)

#### Virtual - Author Heather Wolf Discusses "Find More Birds: 111 Surprising Ways to Spot Birds Wherever You Are" Again

Wednesday, April 24 @ 7pm

Join us for another fascinating conversation about being in the moment and noticing the wonderful and varied birds around us. And, this time, we'll focus more on Q&A, although we hope that Heather will share more amazing pics of her neighborhood birds with us!

#### Virtual - Friday Night Film Discussion

Friday, April 26 @ 7pm

Watch "The Music of Silence" (Kanopy)

#### Make Your Own Flower Crown

Monday, April 29 @ 6:30pm

Have you heard that we are hosting a Mini Ren(aissance) Faire at the Ashland Library on Saturday, May 4th? Well, no self respecting Medieval-ite can attend a Ren Faire without a Flower Crown! We invite you to join us making your very own to wear to the Ren Faire or just around the house. Either way, you'll be stylin'!

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

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**LIBRARY**

*continued from page 14*

**Virtual - iPhone Photography: Use Your iPhone Camera to its Full Potential**

Tuesday, April 30 @ 6-8pm  
Take better photos and get the best results from your iPhone by knowing camera features and components to improve the quality of your photos, including hidden settings and tools. Pro photography tips will be shared so you know what the features and settings are, what they do, and when to use them. Take control and improve your photography skills to create stunning photos. For all skill levels. Note: This class is more suitable for iPhones XS/XR and later, with the latest iOS software (17).

**Adult Weekly:**

**Knit and Crochet Club**

Mondays @ 6pm  
Walk-In

**ESL Conversation Group**

Mondays @ 6:30pm  
Walk-In

**Gentle Yoga**

Tuesdays at 6pm  
Registration Required

**Children:**

**Let's Go on a Bug Hunt!**

Wednesday, April 10 @ 1pm

Discover some of our fascinating local bugs - such as beetles, worms, slugs, ladybugs and caterpillars! Gain a greater appreciation for their importance in our lives and their role in our ecosystem. Observe live bugs with magnifiers, and see the world through the eyes of an insect with our "bug glasses"! Learn more about the world of insects, as we explore together on a fun LIVE BUG HUNT on the grounds of the library!

**Ashland Moms - Little Crafters**

Monday, April 22 @ 10:15am  
The Mom's Club of Ashland and the Friends of the Ashland Public Library are offering a story & craft program for infants thru age 5.

**Sending Sunshine: Community Letter Writing \*For All Ages**

Wednesday, April 10 @ 5pm  
Do you love letter writing or want to spend some family time doing this time honored tradition in service of senior citizens? Join us!

**April Vacation:**

**Disney Week!**

April 16 - 20  
It's a Disney Vacation in Ashland! We'll celebrate all things Disney all week, with a scavenger hunt, character bracket, stickers and other fun events.

**Meet Mirabel!**

Tuesday, April 16 @ 10:30  
Kick off Disney Week at the library with a meet and greet with Mirabel of Encanto fame! Families will hear a story or two, sing and dance along with Mirabel to favorite songs, and of course have plenty of time for photos. Registration is required. Name That Tune! Disney Edition

Wednesday, April 17 @ 1:00  
Think you know Disney music? Test your knowledge with a family-friendly edition of Name That Tune! Register your family/group or individually. Small prizes for the winners!

**Disney Dress-up Day**

Thursday, April 18  
Dress up as your favorite Disney character and visit the library! We'll post pics on our social media (with permission from grownups), and costumed patrons get a small prize.

**Stem Thursdays:**

**Lego Club**

\*Ages 5-9  
Thursday, April 4 @ 4pm  
Thursday, April 11 @ 4pm  
Thursday, April 18 @ 4pm  
Thursday, April 25 @ 4pm  
Each child will be given a box filled with an assortment of Lego blocks to build a creation using only what's inside the box within the 45 minute time limit.

**Saturday Story Time**

\*For Ages 3 and up  
Saturday, April 6 @ 10:30am  
Saturday, April 13 @ 10:30am  
Saturday, April 20 @ 10:30am  
Saturday, April 27 @ 10:30am  
Come listen to Ryan read some of his favorite stories aloud!

**Read to a Dog with Knives and Machete (yes, those really are the dogs' names!)**

\*For kids who are reading on their own  
Saturday, April 13 @ 1:30pm  
Saturday, April 27 @ 1:30pm  
Children with some reading ability will have the chance to read to one of our registered therapy dogs for 10 minutes.

**Weekly Storytimes:**

**PJ Story Time with Ryan (and his stuffed animals!)**

\*For Ages 3 and up  
Tuesdays @ 5:30 pm

**Storytime Sprouts**

\* For ages 0-3 with a caregiver  
Wednesdays @ 10:30am  
Join us for a fun and interactive story time filled with singing, reading, bounces, fingerplays, puppets, instruments, and more! This engaging program is designed to introduce young children to the joys of literature and music while promoting early literacy skills.

**Alphabits**

\*For kids ages 4 & 5  
Thursdays @ 10:30am  
Alphabits is a story time program where each week kids focus on a different letter of the alphabet. Stories, songs, rhymes and a fun art project complement this early literacy-focused 45-minute session.

**Clocktown Rockers!**

\*For ages 2-5 with a caregiver  
Fridays at 10:30-11am  
Join Miss Katrina for this new music and movement program! We'll dance to favorite kids' tunes, have fun with instruments and other props, and read a story, all while building your child's early literacy and executive function skills.

**Weekly Crafting:**

Friday Afternoon Story And Craft  
\*For Ages 4-7  
Fridays @ 4:15pm

**Weekly Project ABC:**

**Project ABC Play, Learn, and Grow Group \*Ages 0 to 5**  
Tuesdays at 11am  
A structured program to help prepare children for socialization and a school experience.  
Registration \*IS\* required for each session of this program

**LIBRARY**  
*continued on page 17*

# SAINT BRIDGET SCHOOL FRAMINGHAM, MA



Open House - Thursday, May 2nd  
5:30pm to 7:00pm



PS, PreK, K | Elementary | Middle



# Greater Ashland Lions Club



**QUIZ NIGHT**

Greater Ashland Lions presents its 27th Quiz Night!!

**Friday, April 12, 2024**

8 max per team - 20 teams total

**\$20 per person**

Basket Raffle/Cash Bar/Dessert Table

Teams may bring own food/snacks

**CASH PRIZE**

VFW - 311 PLEASANT ST - ASHLAND  
6:30PM START

CONTACT: RO PORTER  
ROPORTER2@VERIZON.NET- (508) 881-4743

Our annual Quiz / Trivia Night will be held on April 12th at the VFW Hall on Pleasant Street (6:30pm start time). Form a team (8 people maximum) for this fun and friendly trivia competition and win a Cash Prize. There will also be Raffles, Dessert Table, and a Cash Bar. Contact Lion Ro at 508.881.4743 or Lion Nicole at 781.718.6478 for tickets (\$20/per person).

We are finalizing our Pasta Night. It will be held at the VFW Hall on Pleasant Street on May 17th, 2024 (starting time TDB). Check our column in next month's Ashland Local Town Pages for more information. Note: Entertainment will be provided by Elvis.

The Greater Ashland Lions Club will again be working with

the fourth grade teachers of the Mindess School, with an Arbor Day event. Each student will receive a seedling to plant.

Are you an Ashland High, Keefe Tech or home-schooled Ashland student? Apply for the Greater Ashland Lions Scholarship. Contact your guidance counselor for more information.

Holidays of note: April Fools' Day, National Peanut Butter and Jelly Day, Tax Day, First Day of Passover and Earth Day.

No, I didn't forget Patriot's Day. The Boston Marathon celebrates their running on this day. Join others at Route 135 and cheer the runners on.

Do you have any used eyeglasses or un-needed hearing aids 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 BY: LION ROSALIE PORTER, 2ND VP

## New Officer Welcomed

Officer Melvin Ligon, welcome to the Ashland Police Department! Proudly, we introduce Officer Ligon, who joined our ranks on February 20. His path to us is highlighted by an impressive

record of service. It began in the United States Marines and continued in roles such as police officer in the Boston Schools system and as a seasoned detective.

Officer Ligon's strong history



in law enforcement and dedicated service makes him a valuable asset to our community. His devotion to safety, perfected over years of varied experiences, marks him as a fantastic team addition. A special thank you to Chief Rossi, Deputy Chief Vinciulla, and the entire Police Department for their efforts in attracting such a qualified officer.

We extend our warmest welcome to Officer Melvin Ligon, confident that his skills and dedication will further enhance the safety and well-being of our town. Join us congratulating Officer Ligon as he embarks on this new chapter of his career with the Ashland Police Department.





**LIBRARY**

*continued from page 15*

**Project ABC Tinker Playgroup**

\*for Ages 3 to 6  
Thursdays @ 4pm  
Register for a 6-week long session run by the MetroWest YMCA and Project ABC with Boston Children's Museum. Each week each family will receive one tinker kit to play with and take home. Space is limited to 10 families for the entire session. Please only register if you can make it to all 6 weeks.

Registration \*IS\* required for this program; you can register at this Google Form.

**Teen:**

**Taylor Swift Day**

Saturday, April 6, 11-3 p.m.  
Celebrate the pop superstar before her new album drops! We will have three main events and other drop in activities throughout the day.

Taylor Swift has taken the world by storm, and now she's taking over the library! Come in on Saturday April 6th for a whole day of Swiftie-themed activities. The schedule of events is as follows:

12 p.m. Warm-up Act: Taylor Trivia

1p.m. Opener: Swifties Sing Karaoke

2PM Headliner: Name-that-Taylor-Tune

All day: Friendship Bracelet Making and Design Your Own Heart-Shaped Sunglasses

**Teen Trivia Night**

Wednesday, April 24 @ 5:00  
Topic TBA

**Friends of the Ashland Public Library Donation Day & Mini Book Sale!**

Saturday, April 6 @ 10-1pm  
Mini Book Sales and Donation Days are held the 1st Saturday of every month from 10am-1pm. Exceptions are the Big Sale weekends in March, December, and June. To keep the shelves stocked with fresh selections, the Friends accept donations in the library parking lot of gently used books, audio books and DVDs. Friends volunteers will be available to assist donors during this time. There is also a cart in the mezzanine lobby for donations at any time during library hours.

Proceeds from these monthly book sales and all fundraising efforts made by the Friends fund 100% of children, teen, and adult programs, our wonderful Museum Passes, and so much more!

# Ashland Lions Club April 2024 Update

**Ashland Lions Scholarships**

Each year, the Ashland Lions award three \$2000 scholarships to high school Seniors living in Ashland. Applications for 2024 are now being accepted. Students and parents can get more information on how to apply by visiting the guidance department at AHS or Keefe Tech, or by visiting our website at ashlandlions.org.

**Ashland Lions Meat Raffles**

Have you ever been to a Ashland Lions meat raffle at TJs? Attendees buy raffle tickets to win the opportunity to choose an item from 4 tables chock full of premium meats and cheeses. Come have some lunch, buy some raffle tickets and join in the fun! Our last one for the season will be held on Saturday, April 6 at 12pm, at TJs Food and Spirits in Ashland. See you there!

**Save the Date: Community Shred-it Event**

Please join us on Saturday June 1, 2024, 9am-12pm (or when truck is full), to have your personal documents safely shredded on site at the Ashland VFW 211 Pleasant St. The event is open to Ashland residents only. We are accepting paper only (staples OK), limit 3 bankers boxes or paper grocery bags per car. The event is rain or shine.

**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. In the past year we have collected over 1300 pairs of glasses!

**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

**Senior Breakfasts**

Seniors, why not join us and other members of the community for breakfast? Senior Breakfasts are on the first Thursday of each month, held at the Ashland Senior Center, 162 West Union St in Ashland. This event runs through May.

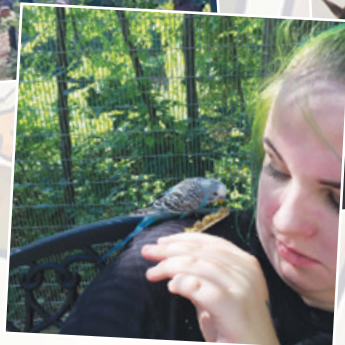
**Stay up-to-date on Lions happenings**

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

# SOUTHWICK'S ZOO PHOTO CONTEST

ILLUSTRATION BY ROWAN KAPLAN MASSACHUSETTS COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN



**In 2025, Southwick's Zoo will be celebrating 60 years of family fun! Share a photo of your favorite memories at Southwick's Zoo for a chance to win a family four-pack of general admission passes for the 2024 season and make some new memories!**

**Contest begins April 1, 2024.**



Scan to Enter

By entering this contest, you are providing consent for Southwick's Zoo and Our Town Publishing (the publishers of The Yankee Xpress/Blackstone Valley Xpress, Free Press and the newspapers of Local Town Pages) to use your photo(s) for print, digital and social media purposes, and allowing Southwick's Zoo and Our Town Publishing to contact you via email for this promotion or upcoming promotions. Only one winner per household. Cannot be an employee or family member of Southwick's Zoo or Our Town Publishing to win.





# Sports

## In the Water, He Feels Comfortable

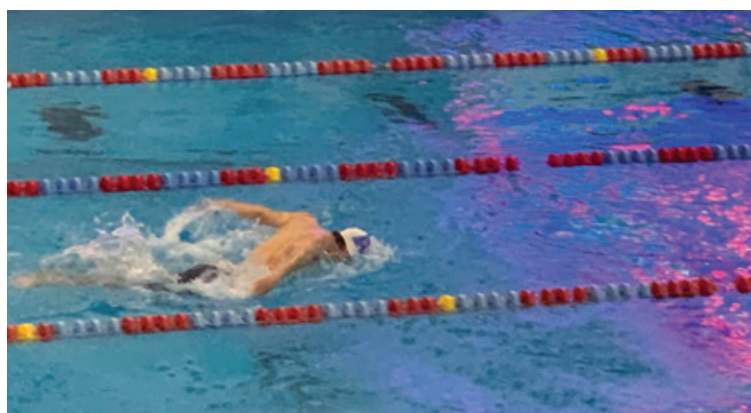
BY CHRISTOPHER TREMBLAY  
STAFF SPORTS WRITER

Nathan Gelfand may have first gotten into the pool at a much younger age, but by the time he was 6 years old, he found himself competitively swimming.

Originally the Ashland native began swimming for the Suburban Sharks out of Framingham, but once Covid hit the area things got shut down and he eventually found the Lifetime Club Team in Medfield and took his talents there.

“My friends were swimming with Suburban and I wanted to give it a try,” he said. “When I’m in the water I find it to be very relaxing, particularly during the longer distance events. It’s competitive and a nice source of adrenaline, especially when winning.”

Upon entering high school, Gelfand found himself running cross country in the fall and track, mainly the mile, during the spring, but he lacked a sport in between the two. Eventually he zeroed in on swimming, something that he already knew that he could do at a high level. The now-senior captain of the Clocker swim and dive team participates in usually two of the following events: the 100 butter-



fly, the 100 backstroke and the 200 IM as well as the first legs of the 200 medley and the 400 freestyle.

Originally Gelfand found things incredibly nerve wracking as the meets were so much different due to all the Covid restrictions in addition to being a freshman and not really knowing a lot of people on the team.

“We had to wear our masks up until the actual meet, then we could take them off. Meets were remote, so we were not swimming against the other team, just our teammates,” Gelfand said. “I really didn’t know many people except my friends, so I basically was swimming against the clock and trying to do beat my own times.”

As a freshman, Gelfand was selected to the Tri-Valley League All-Star team. An honor that told the young swimmer that he had the talent to perform in the pool. The freshman noted that he was swimming at the same level as his friends, but being named to the TVL was a sign that he may have a future in the sport.

Having such a successful first year with Ashland, Gelfand decided that during his sophomore year he was going to forgo track so that he could concentrate more on improving his skills in the water. The extra training provided him with another successful campaign. The junior would record a personal best time (57.7) in the butterfly, a 1-minute backstroke and 2:14 in the 200 IM; he was once again named to the All-Star team.

“I find the 100 backstroke to be my favorite as I can breathe the entire time,” the senior said. “Being on my back is very relaxing despite the fact that I am swimming hard.”

Now as a senior captain he wants to let his teammates know that he is a friend first and a captain second.

“I want the other swimmers to be comfortable with who I am before I have to tell them what

to do,” he said. “Being the only senior male on the team I have found myself befriending a lot of the younger athletes, but it’s cool.”

Thus far, the senior has best times of 58.7 in the butterfly, 1:01.11 in the backstroke and 2:17 in the 200 IM and would like to improve upon his times at the Sectionals from a year earlier.

“I am hoping that I can at least do what I did last year in the fly and the backstroke,” he said. “I can only suit up and do my best, I am not aiming low.”

At the Division 2 Sectionals Gelfand swam a 58.6 in the butterfly and an 1:01.7 in the backstroke. And although he did lower his time in the butterfly competing in the State Finals his time of 57.65 was not nearly enough to earn him a State Championship.

Now that his high school swimming career has come to an end, Gelfand is hoping that swimming doesn’t have to end.

“I have not been recruited for swimming by any colleges so far,” he said. “So, if I get to college and there is a club team or a pool I’ll do some sort of swimming. I enjoy being in the pool, it’s not only relaxing but a lot of fun.”

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## Ashland Athletics Online Store

It is finally here! A one-stop shop where you can get all of your Clocker gear is launching today!

We have partnered with BSN, one of the country’s largest athletic gear and equipment distributors to have our own Athletics store.

The 24-hour-a-day, seven-days-a-week, 365 days-a-year permanent store is filled with anything and everything any fan would need to show their Clocker Pride!

From t-shirts to hoodies, winter coats to baby bibs, everything is 100% customizable, and each category has designs

upon designs that can make your gear different from anyone else. The options are truly endless.

This new launch allows for a consistent brand identity for all of our sports while at the same time driving revenue that will be funneled right back into Ashland Athletics, making it a win-win for all involved.

We also wanted to make sure there were price points for any family interested in purchasing and that constant sales take place, including the current sitewide 25% off sale.

No more waiting weeks for your order to arrive. Now, you

can place the order, and the turnaround time is around ten days, and it is shipped straight to your home.

Share the link with friends and family and continue to help support Ashland Athletics: <https://sideline.bsnsports.com/schools/massachusetts/ashland/ashland-high-school>.

Go Clockers!

KEVIN ANDERSON  
ASHLAND DIRECTOR OF  
ATHLETICS



# Real Estate Corner

## Ashland Recent Home Sales

Date	Ashland	Amount
03/14/2024	349 Captain Eames Cir.	\$609,000
03/13/2024	207 Eliot St.	\$540,000
03/05/2024	243 Trailside Wy.	\$450,000
03/01/2024	40 Braeburn Ln.	\$767,000
03/01/2024	181 America Blvd.	\$570,000
03/01/2024	253 America Blvd.	\$710,000
03/01/2024	118 Oak St.	\$707,000
02/29/2024	18 Rossi Ln.	\$1.12 mil
02/28/2024	72 Eliot St.	\$650,500
02/29/2024	7 Meadowbrook Ln.	\$450,000
02/27/2024	103 Myrtle St.	\$525,000
02/23/2024	37 Cutler Dr.	\$550,000
02/23/2024	14 Lantern Wy.	\$740,000
02/16/2024	9 Wesson Rd.	\$550,000



The 2-bed, 1-bath, 1,260 square foot home at 37 Cutler Drive in Ashland recently sold for \$550,000. Image credit: www.zillow.com Source: www.zillow.com / Compiled by Local Town Pages

## Welcome to Sub Zero Ice Cream in Ashland

In partnership with the Ashland Business Association, we had the pleasure of giving a proper and official Ashland welcome to a new business, Sub Zero Nitrogen Ice Cream! Local legislators and town leaders joined together to welcome this new business on Friday, February 16th. Owners, Lauren and Dan Crowley have created a welcoming space that provides a create-your-own ice cream that is absolutely delicious!


Since opening at the Annual Holiday Stroll in December it is clear that they are invested in Ashland and we sure are invested in them. Lauren and Dan took advantage of the town's Business Incentive program and in total they are receiving just over \$28,000 in financial support through the incentive program. They have invested \$250,000 in this space and have created 10



new jobs and are still hiring! This new business has already proven to be a big hit in downtown. It is a great gathering space that gives people a "delicious" reason to come downtown. Congratulations to Lauren and Dan, welcome to Ashland! Be sure to stop in soon to wish them well and create your own favorite treat!

Sub Zero Nitrogen Ice Cream is located at 91 Main Street, Ashland and is open Tuesday - Friday 2pm-9pm, Saturday and Sunday 12pm-9pm, Closed Mondays.






Direct: 508.989.0181  
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# What to know about selling your home when divorcing



Kim Foemmel

## REAL ESTATE INSIGHTS

According to Forbes Magazine, in 2021 there were almost 700,000 divorces reported by 45 states.

Divorce is thought of as an ending, but it's also the beginning of a new life for all involved, so it's crucial to wrap up loose ends and let everyone move on without being encumbered.

While Massachusetts has one of the lowest divorce rates in the country, coming in 44th with a 7.82% rate compared to the national average of 9.2% per WiseVoter.com, that's still a lot of people who must suddenly make big decisions, including what to do with their home.

Massachusetts is an equitable distribution state, meaning there's no law in place to determine which partner keeps the house; rather, the house is considered an asset to be included in a divorce. "Fair" doesn't necessarily mean "equal," as the

divorce settlement may take things like income disparity into consideration.

In some cases, one partner sells their interest in the house to the other, but there's no "one size fits all" solution that works for every divorce. It's important for both partners to communicate openly about their wants, needs and expectations, through attorneys if necessary, and to talk to a real estate agent to make sure all parties know the value of the property, issues with the home and who will be responsible for them.

When going through the stress of a divorce, many people don't think about things like having the well and septic system tested. If there are hidden problems with those or other things, the partner who keeps the house may find themselves suddenly fac-

ing a heavy financial burden for repairs. Have them inspected prior to a divorce. Title 5 septic results are valid for two years but can be extended to three years if the system is pumped annually. Well quality results are good for five years. Refer to your Board of Health website on water testing requirements.

A full home inspection will help ensure that any problems with the house are known to both partners so that they or the court can determine what the financial responsibilities pertaining to home repairs will be for the spouse leaving. Even if the inspection doesn't find any serious issues, the inspection report will note the age of the home's systems and recommendations on how to maintain the systems and when they should be budgeted to be replaced.

Experienced real estate agents will be a huge help in navigating the process as they often are knowledgeable in divorce law as it pertains to real estate. Sitting down with your agent can give you the support and information you need to make the best decision as you embark on this new chapter of your life.

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## The Spring Market has Sprung!

**JUST LISTED**



**216 Winter Street**

[216WinterStreet.com](http://216WinterStreet.com)

Beautiful colonial with 4+ bedrooms and 3 baths. The house is set back on 2 acres. Interior is 3,908 sq.ft.

**JUST LISTED**



**32 Overlook Road**

[32overlookRoad.com](http://32overlookRoad.com)

Luxurious estate in Highlands Ridge has 4 bedrooms and 4.5 baths. 3 car garage and fenced in yard. Interior is 6,450 sq.ft.

**JUST LISTED**



**8 Highcroft Way**

[8HighcroftWay.com](http://8HighcroftWay.com)

Located in Highland Park, this townhouse has 2-3 bedrooms and 3 baths .1 car garage and private patio. Interior is 2,285 sq.ft.

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