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June 2025

## Girl Power!!!

### Girl Scouts Help Town Committees

BY ROB ST.GERMAIN,  
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

Never underestimate what a group of highly spirited girls can accomplish!

In April, two Ashland Girl Scout troops used a portion of their spring break to help two town committees perform important tasks.

“Only Rain Down The Drain” reads the stenciled public alert message now displayed near storm drains (a.k.a. storm sewers or catch basins) on Concord Street and at the new Mindess School. Girl scouts from Troop 82345, assisted by parent Stephanie Greco, helped Ashland Stormwater Advisory Committee (SWAC) members with the stenciling process.

The purpose of these storm drain messages is to alert and educate the public to NOT dispose of ANYTHING down a storm drain. Believe it not, people pour all kinds of things -- paint, antifreeze, even left-



**Ashland Girl Scout Troop 82345 Storm Drain Stenciling team, from the left: Mia Appelstein, Vera Ustaris, April Kotch, Maddy Elwell, Nina Greco, Callan Donald**

over coffee – into the storm drain. Those liquids poison the streams and wetlands into which the water from the storm drain flows. Included in the long list of storm-drain horror

stories is one from a nearby town where an accumulation of dog-poop bags, together with

**GIRL SCOUTS**  
*continued on page 2*



## Bratica Looking to Get Ashland Into Playoffs

BY CHRISTOPHER TREMBLAY,  
STAFF SPORTS WRITER

When Chris Bratica crosses over the white lines to step onto the baseball diamond Ashland Coach Matt Messer sees him as his ace pitcher, but the junior would much rather take the field playing another position.

“I am told that I am a better pitcher, but I prefer and enjoy playing the field a lot more,”

Bratica said. “As a pitcher you are relied on right away, while you can ease into the game at the other positions. I find myself more comfortable in the field and my confidence has built as I’ve developed.”

As a youngster playing the game of baseball, he found himself on the mound, but by the

**PLAYOFFS**  
*continued on page 3*



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### GIRL SCOUTS

*continued from page 1*

other natural debris, clogged one storm-sewer pipe so completely that it had to be replaced at a very substantial cost.

By assisting in this stenciling process, the girls learned how water from rain and snow flows from the street to wetlands and streams. They learned about the damage that pouring anything other than water down the drain can cause, and how even washing your car near a storm drain is polluting. This is knowledge that they can pass on to their families and others.

On Thursday of their spring break week, Ashland Girl Scout Troop 62204 led by Jill Vernes and assisted by parent Christy Bordieri, helped clean up litter and other junk from a portion of the new Town Forest land recently purchased by the town. The grant that facilitated the purchase requires that the land be maintained in as “natural state as possible”. Though most of this new land is clean, there were a

few encroachments that needed to be remediated. The girls cleaned one area, and a team of adult volunteers cleaned another. Together they created two large piles of junk and trash that were later removed by the DPW.

Both groups of girls have assisted with other town projects. Greco’s troop helped build a rain garden on the Warren School property last year. The Vernes troop has worked on other Forest Committee projects.

Last year they helped on a project to save some of the remaining Chestnut trees in the forest. The process involved turning a little forest dirt into mud and spreading that mud on the trunk of the tree. The girls, some with mud up to their elbows, then wrapped the trunk in plastic to hold the mud in place. This is an experimental process that has proved somewhat effective in saving some of these threatened trees. The science is that soil bacteria can, in some cases, counter the pathogen that is killing the trees.

A couple years ago this same group of girl scouts created a brochure for the town forest that highlights forest problems like dog poop on trails. The girls also marched in the Ashland Town parade and distributed their brochure to spectators along the parade route.



**Ashland Girl Scout Troop 62204 helping to clean up the new section of the Town Forest on April 24. From the left... Bianca Bordieri, Kayla Souppa, Vivianne Vernes.**

Over many years, young scouts, both girl scouts and boy scouts, have done numerous projects of benefit to the town. These young folk are an important asset of this community. It’s a win-win for all and a lot of fun in the process.

## Ashland Receives Fire Safety Grants for Gear and Education

In April, the Healey-Driscoll Administration announced that more than 300 Massachusetts fire departments would receive over \$3 million in grants to support safety equipment for firefighters and life safety education for kids and older adults.

“Massachusetts firefighters do much more than fight fires – they’re our first line of defense in any emergency,” said Gov. Maura Healey. “These grants will help firefighters protect themselves from injury and illness, rescue people in danger, and keep our most vulnerable residents safe from fires and other hazards at home. We are proud to be able to support these vital first responders who never hesitate to answer a call for help.”

The Town of Ashland received a \$9,500 grant for safety equipment; a \$5,400 SAFE grant; and a \$2,400 Senior SAFE grant.

The awards are drawn from three grant programs coordinated by the Department of Fire Services.

The Firefighter Safety Equipment Grant Program (SEG) reimburses local fire departments for purchases of turnout gear, hazardous gas meters, SCBA components, accountability systems, thermal imaging cameras, and more. This round of grants will provide \$1.63 million in funding to fire departments in

266 communities. In many cases, the reimbursed purchases will help them attain compliance with Occupational Safety & Health Administration or National Fire Protection Association safety standards.

The Student Awareness of Fire Education (SAFE) Grant Program funds firefighter-educators who deliver age-appropriate fire and life safety education to school-age children. Since the grants’ inception in 1995, the number of Massachusetts children who die in fires has dropped to historically low levels, from two dozen or more per year to zero for nearly three consecutive years. This year’s awards will deliver more than \$1.1 million to 204 local fire departments.

In 2014, DFS launched the Senior SAFE Grant Program, which is geared toward another vulnerable population – older adults, who face a disproportionate risk of death or serious injury in a fire. Nearly \$485,000 will support alarm installation, fire safety education, fall prevention strategies, and other resources delivered by 203 local fire departments in partnership with local senior centers, councils on aging, and other community partners.

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**PLAYOFFS**

*continued from page 1*

time he was concluding the eight grade and getting ready to enter high school he started to develop his game at other positions, particularly first base and outfield. As a lefty, Bratica came to the conclusion that there were only a few field positions that he could actually play; those being first base and the outfield so that's where he started to improve his skill sets.

Bratica grew up playing baseball, his number one sport, and hockey but eventually gave up the ice sport to focus on his career on the diamond. Around the age of 10 he decided to join the Northeast Longhorn club baseball program in order to improve upon his game. The Longhorns were a program that allowed the Ashland native to take the game he loved more seriously.

"It was at this point that I realized that if I wanted baseball to be a big part of my life then I needed to play better competition," he said. "Playing with the Longhorns I was able to improve my skill and knowledge of the game as well as on my mechanics. It was good to be playing with kids who were all in the same mindset; looking to play the game on the next level."

Making the Clockers varsity squad as a freshman Bratica found that he was not just playing the game on the high school level but he would be playing against kids who were four-years older than he was. Luckily, he also found that there was a good leadership group at Ashland and they



helped with his mentality aspect of the games.

As a freshman he not only found time on the field but also in the outfield. That season he went 2-2 as a pitcher and hit in the low 300's finding his way into the lead-off position by the end of the year.

"I definitely had a good amount of pressure on my shoulders that year," Bratica said. "But just to be able to play the sport I loved so much on a competitive level was great."

Not only was Bratica able to see time on the field as a freshman, but he also found himself right in the middle of the Clockers tournament experience. Ashland advanced into the Division 3 State Tournament and Bratica was to be the Clockers opening round pitcher. Ashland would defeat Worcester Tech 6-1 to move into the second round. The Clockers continued to roll as the took out Fairhaven 3-1 to move into the Elite 8 where Bratica would once again be the team's pitcher, this time against the number one seed Taconic.

The first-year varsity pitcher would do all that he could, but Ashland would eventually loss 2-1 on a walk-of hit.

"It was a big switch going up against so many Division 1 players in the tournament and I struggled mentally at first, but I knew that I had good defenders behind me in the field," he said. "I held my own, but I was very nervous; this was something that I hadn't faced in my career. I wanted to keep it out of my mind and kept telling myself that it was just another game."

Coming into this season the junior knew that he was going to have a big role on the team with the seniors graduating. Being named a captain for a second year he was ready for the teaching of the younger players, but he didn't want the Clockers to have a season like last year. He is looking for all his hard work to pay off in a positive manner this spring and get the squad back into the post-season.

In order to do that he has continued to work on his pitching and has come to learn new pitches.

"I'm understanding how my arm works regarding pitching," he said. "My curve ball has become my go-to pitch and I can throw it for strikes keeping the opposing batters off balance, which has become a big part of my game."

At the time of this writing the junior hurler was 3-2 with 37 strikeouts over 29 innings of work and at the plate he is batting in the low 300's anywhere from the leadoff spot to the three-hole. Coach Messer likes what he has gotten from the third-year player.

"He has been locating all three of his pitches (fastball, curve ball and change-up)," the Clocker skipper said. "He's doing just what I

expected of him. We don't have an overall great team this year, but he'll get the ball every chance he can to keep us in the hunt."

Although Bratica still has not only the rest of this season, but his entire senior campaign with Ash-

land, playing on the next level is his ultimate baseball dream. When the Clocker season comes to an end, he has one final season with the Longhorns to work on his game skills in all three positions. Not only will he be honing his skills for the future he will also be getting ready to take the field one last year with Ashland.

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## Message from Ashland Economic Development Department

Dr. Lauren LaPaglia may be a familiar face in the Ashland community, but her eye care practice is now enjoying a fresh start in a brand-new location.

After previously operating out of a compact space on West Union Street, Dr. LaPaglia has relocated to a modern, more spacious office at 300 Eliot Street, Suite 12A. The newly renovated office has been designed with comfort and accessibility in mind, offering a warm and welcoming environment for patients of all ages.

This new space allows her to better serve the community. They have room to grow and provide a full range of services in a setting that reflects the quality of care they deliver. With the move, Dr. LaPaglia has expanded her team

by bringing on new employees and increasing her capacity to offer comprehensive eye care. Her practice now provides all the services typically offered by an optometrist, including eye exams, vision correction, and disease management. In addition, the new office includes a fully stocked optical store, giving patients the convenience of choosing from a wide selection of frames and lenses on-site.

The expansion marks a new chapter for Dr. LaPaglia's practice, reinforcing her commitment to serving Ashland with expert care and a personal touch.

Patients can book appointments or learn more by visiting the new location or contacting the office directly at 508-928-7300 or ashlandfamilyeye.com.

## OBITUARY

**Hannelore Amelia Pacheco (Kuhlmann), 95**, formerly of Holbrook, known affectionately as Hanna to her friends and family, passed away peacefully of natural causes on May 1, 2025, in Raynham, Massachusetts. Born on December 8, 1929, in Mecklenburg, Germany, she was a beacon of adventurous spirit, generosity, and captivating charm throughout her 95 years.

Hanna's early years in Germany were marked by an appreciation for the great outdoors, a passion that only grew as she did. Her love for ice skating, skiing, and hiking was matched by her talent in each, and became an integral part of her life. Her melodious voice found a home at The Boylston Schul-Verein, Walpole, a German Club, where she joined the singing choir, and she sang with gusto and joy, sharing her culture and zest for life with all those around her.

A master of the garden, Hanna cultivated beauty and life in the soil of her home in Holbrook, creating an oasis that reflected the care and attention she gave to every aspect of her life. Her gardens were a symbol of her nurturing soul, a

trait that extended into her relationships with her loved ones.

She is reunited in eternity with her husband, Manuel Costa Pacheco, her mother Dora Becker, and her sister, Ursula Clark, whom she cherished deeply. Hannelore leaves behind a legacy of love carried on by her children Bruce Pacheco and wife Beth, Mark Pacheco and wife Linda, and Michelle McSherry and husband George, her grandchildren Jonathan, Lauren, Emily, Hannah, Katelyn, Shane and Joshua and her great-grandchildren Evelyn and Kellan. Each family member carries forward a piece of Hanna's extraordinary legacy through their own lives.

Those who knew Hanna will remember her as a woman who embraced life's challenges with a remarkable blend of strength and grace. Her generous nature knew no bounds, and she was always the first to offer help to anyone in need. Her life was a tapestry of experiences that made her one of the most interesting and engaging individuals to be around.

Hanna's passing leaves a void in the hearts of all



who loved her, but her spirit remains a guiding light. Her adventurous tales, her laughter in the chorus, and the beauty of her gardens will continue to inspire and comfort her family and friends. Hannelore Amelia Pacheco's life was one well-lived, full of passion and kindness, and she will be dearly missed by all who had the privilege of knowing her.

A private memorial service honoring her life was held at Cartwright funeral followed by her burial at Blue Hills cemetery.

The family would like to thank Old Colony Hospice of West Bridgewater for their compassionate care. Memorial contributions may be sent in lieu of flowers to Old Colony Hospice, 321 Manley St. West Bridgewater, MA 02379.

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# Ashland Lions Club June 2025 Update

## 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 (weather permitting), held at the Ashland Senior Center, 162 West Union St in Ashland. This event runs through June. Contact the Senior Center to sign up no later than the Monday prior to the event.

## Community Shred-it Event

Our annual community Shred-It event to have personal documents safely shredded on site for free is Saturday June 7, 9am-12pm at the VFW, 211 Pleasant St in Ashland. This event free for Ashland Residents. We are accepting paper only (staples OK), limit 3 bankers boxes or paper grocery bags per car. The event is rain or shine.

## Lions build Gaga Ball Pit at Park

The Ashland Lions donated and installed a new Gaga Ball pit near the play place at Stone Park, just in time for summer. The endeavor was spearheaded by Lion Julian "Dok" Doktor over the course of over 2 years, in collaboration with the Town Manager Michael Herbert and DPW Director Doug Small, were able to

make it a reality. Thanks to Lions Dok, Warren, Paul and Holly for getting it up and running!

## Save the Date: Annual Lions Golf Tournament

Join us for the Ashland Lions Annual Golf Tournament, to be held Monday, September 15, at the Highfields Golf and Country Club in Grafton. There will be golf, a meal, raffles and a day of fun to support the Ashland Lions and their mission of donating to Eye Research and Local Charities. Sponsorship opportunities available. For details email [golf@ashlandlions.org](mailto:golf@ashlandlions.org) or visit us online at [ashlandlions.org](http://ashlandlions.org).

## Lions Little Free Library

Bored? Grab a book! The Lions Little Free Library is located just outside the Ashland Post Office, across from Main Street Spirits. Stop by and check it out!

## 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 1100 pairs of glasses!

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- Fayville, MA Post Office
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- Southborough Senior Center
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- TJ's Food and Spirits
- The Residence at Valley Farm

## Become a Lion and Give Back

Do you love the feeling of giving back to your community, while meeting some new people and having some fun? If you're interested in becoming a member of the Ashland Lions, please reach out to our membership chairperson Dan Mitchell via email at [membership@ashlandlions.org](mailto:membership@ashlandlions.org) for details, or message us on Facebook! You can also find several Ashland Lions members at Honeydew on West Main Street most weekday mornings.

## 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



Ashland Lions installed a Gaga Ball Pit at park

or cancellations. While you're at it, be sure to follow Ashland Town News too!

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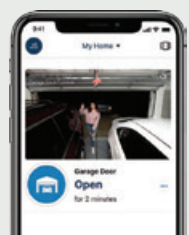
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Your Money, Your Independence

# Mid-Year Review: Five Financial Metrics To Evaluate



Glenn Brown, CFP

As the year reaches its midpoint, June is a great time to reflect on your financial progress.

Whether your goals include building savings, paying off debt, and/or preparing for retirement - evaluating key financial metrics this month gives you the opportunity to make strategic changes to complete a strong year. Here are five essential financial indicators to assess this month and how to act on what you find.

## 1. Net Worth

Your net worth provides a clear snapshot of your overall financial health. It's calculated by subtracting your total liabilities (debts) from your total assets (cash, investments, real estate, etc.).

Why it matters in June: Reviewing net worth mid-year helps you evaluate growth of wealth over time. If it's stagnant or declining, it may signal overspending, increased debt, and/or underperforming investments.

Action step: List all assets and liabilities using a spreadsheet or financial planning software, like eMoney. Compare with your end of December figures to track progress and use this insight to adjust the following items.

## 2. Savings Rate

Your savings rate is the percentage of your income that you're saving — including contributions to retirement accounts, HSAs, 529s, emergency funds, brokerage accounts, etc.

Why it matters now: If you're not close to 50% of your annual savings target, consider increasing contributions to accounts where funds are accessible this year without penalty. This usually means taxable accounts and not 401k or 529 plans, because if a shortfall is created, you'll need ease of access to funds to cover.

How to calculate: Divide your total savings to date by your gross income (pre-tax) for the same period. A 15% savings rate is a solid target, but if you wish to be above-average there are only two ways - save more and/or invest beyond median returns of the population.

## 3. Monthly Cash Flow

Cash flow reflects your day-to-day financial reality by measuring the difference between your monthly income and expenses. Positive cash flow means you're living a sustainable lifestyle and have money left to save and invest.

How to check: Track all income and expenses for the past one or two months. Subtract total expenses from total income. If you're consistently negative, you need to trim spending, increase income, or both.

Action step: Use budgeting apps or spreadsheets to monitor cash flow. Small leaks — like unused subscriptions, frequent takeout, impulse purchases — can erode your financial health over time.

## 4. Emergency Fund Coverage

An emergency fund should cover 3-6 months of essential living expenses to defend against financial surprises.

Why June matters: If you've had unexpected costs this year, your emergency fund may be lower than it should be. Summer travel and seasonal expenses can also drain savings if you're not careful.

Action step: Calculate the last 3 months of essential expenses, compare to your current cash balance, and plan to replenish if needed.

## 5. Investment Portfolio Allocation

June is a great time to check investment returns and asset allocation. Market changes or personal milestones (like a job change, large purchase or desired earlier retirement) may require a strategy shift.

Why it matters: If your portfolio has drifted from your target allocation (e.g., too much in stocks, not enough in bonds or real assets), it can affect risk exposure, volatility and long-term results.

Action step: After confirming monthly cash flows and emergency funds are aligned and no additional funds need to be raised, review your portfolio allocation and rebalance accordingly.

## Final Thoughts

A mid-year financial check-up gives you clarity, control, and the chance to recalibrate while sitting outside with your laptop sipping morning coffee or lazing on a sunny afternoon in the summertime.

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 Plan-Dynamic, 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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# Getting Rid of Ants, The Most Common Home Invader

While homeowners across the country enjoy the warm weather and the sights, smells and activities of the season, they also must contend with increased pest activity. This season, WPC Pest and Termite Control is reminding homeowners to be on the lookout for one of the most prevalent pests – ants.

Often considered the No. 1 nuisance pest, ants also pose significant health and property risk as they destroy wood and contaminate food items. And with more than 700 types of ant species in the United States, it's not surprising that ants can quickly become a source of disgust, frustration and concern for homeowners.

“Most ants thrive in warm and moist conditions, which is why it's best to eliminate moisture or standing water near or

inside the home,” says Jim Maz-zuchelli, owner of WPC Pest and Termite Control. “In some cases, the only way to completely remediate an ant infestation is to call a qualified pest professional who can locate and remove the identified species' nests.”

WPC Pest and Termite Control reminds homeowners that the first step to remediation is to properly identify which ant species is present in the home.

Some of the most common home invaders include:

- **Odorless House Ants:** These ants get their name from the unpleasant odor they give off when crushed, often described as smelling like a rotten coconut. They typically nest in wall voids and crevices and prefer sweet foods.
- **Pharaoh Ants:** Pharaoh ants

prefer sweets, but also consume grease and even shoe polish. They live in extremely large colonies and keep warm near artificial heating sources like baseboard heaters and ovens.

- **Carpenter Ants:** This species hollows out nests in both dry and moist wood, though they prefer the latter. They can be particularly hard to remove since their nests can be more difficult to locate.
- **Fire Ants:** Fire ants can cause severe allergic reactions in addition to structural damage caused by chewing through the insulation around electrical wiring.

Homeowners who suspect an ant infestation should contact a licensed pest professional who can identify ant species and rec-



ommend a course of treatment. To learn more about ants, please visit [www.nobugsnopests.com](http://www.nobugsnopests.com).

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**Physical Address:** 162 W. Union Street (Lower Level) Ashland, MA 01721

**Food Pantry Hours:** Appointment Only Monday 9 am - 1 pm, Wednesday 11 am- 6 pm, Thursday 9 am - 2 pm

For more information go to the Food Pantry page on the towns website

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# Texas Meat Market Opens in Ashland at Former Dairy Queen Site

After more than a decade of vacancy, the long-abandoned Dairy Queen at 6 Chestnut Street in Ashland has found new life as a vibrant Brazilian meat market and grocery store. The completely transformed property officially opened its doors in late April.

Texas Market brings a fresh, modern aesthetic to the once-forgotten lot. Gone is the run down facade of the old ice cream shop; in its place stands a sleek, welcoming storefront and contemporary signage.

Inside, the store offers a wide variety of traditional Brazilian groceries. But the star attraction is the full-service butcher counter, where customers can purchase freshly cut meats popular in Brazilian cuisine.

The renovation was extensive. The entire building was gutted and rebuilt from the ground up, with omodern fixtures and improved parking access. Community members have expressed excitement not just for the new

shopping option, but for the revitalization of a prominent property that had become an eyesore. Texas Meat Market is now

open seven days a week 8am-9pm, 6 Chestnut Street, Ashland. 508-333-9530.



# Struggling With Acne?

By LISA MASSIMIANO, LICENSED ESTHETICIAN AND CERTIFIED ACNE SPECIALIST

If you have been diagnosed with acne and haven't been satisfied with drug store products or the suggested treatment from your doctor, consider seeing an Acne Specialist.

### What is an Acne Specialist?

An Acne Specialist is a licensed skin care professional who is specially trained to treat acne using a combination of clinical treatments, home care protocols and regular follow-up during the process of clearing acne prone skin.

Most physicians don't have the time to spend educating patients on the root cause of their acne. They often prescribe oral antibiotics and strong topical retinoids that can leave skin dry, red and irritated. Patients get frustrated with these side effects and stop using the products.

### How an Acne Specialist Can Help You.

An Acne Specialist will assess your individual skin type, and the type of acne you have, to develop a plan of action spe-

cifically for you. They will take the time to teach you about the root cause of acne and provide information on lifestyle, diet, medications, and ingredients in makeup and skin care products that exacerbate acne. They help you to get your skin clear and teach you how to keep your acne under control.

For people struggling with acne, it can be frustrating to try and communicate with their doctor on a timely basis. My clients tell me that the best part of working with an Acne Specialist is that we are there for them to answer their questions and provide support while they go through the process of getting their skin clear.

Questions about acne? Email Lisa Massimiano, owner Skin Smart Salon and Acne Clinic at [skinsmartsalon@aol.com](mailto:skinsmartsalon@aol.com) or call 508 881-1180. Visit the website [skinsmartsalon.com](http://skinsmartsalon.com) for information about Skin Smart's acne program and other services.

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LISA MASSIMIANO - LICENSED AESTHETICIAN, ACNE SPECIALIST  
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# Steps to Take Before — and After — a Divorce



Mark Freeman, CEPA

**FINANCIAL FOCUS®**  
Provided by Edward Jones

Going through a divorce is emotionally painful and can disrupt one's life in many ways — but does it also have to be financially devastating?

Not necessarily. You can help yourself greatly by making a series of moves. Here are some to consider:

**Before the divorce is final ...**

- *Determine how you'll cover the cost of the divorce.* To meet the costs of a divorce, which can be tens of thousands dollars, you may need to tap in to

your income stream and savings accounts, or even explore alternative options, such as borrowing from your retirement plan, if it's allowed by a divorce court judge.

- *Create a budget.* You may want to build a temporary budget. Your divorce attorney can advise you on how long your separation period may last in a contested case.
- *Start building separate bank and brokerage accounts.* Consult with your divorce attorney on ways to establish independent bank and brokerage accounts without harming your spouse.
- *Understand your retirement benefits.* Know the value of your and your spouse's 401(k) or similar plans, IRAs, pensions, stock options and other employer benefits. Also, you might need to negotiate the splitting of retirement benefits through a qualified domestic relations order (QDRO). A tax professional and a financial advisor can help you understand how dif-

ferent QDRO proposals can affect your retirement goals.

**After the divorce is final ...**

- *Finish building your separate financial accounts.* You may want to close any joint accounts or credit cards, change online access to financial accounts, remove your name from bills for which you are no longer responsible and complete any agreed-upon asset transfers, such as dividing retirement assets.
- *Create a new budget.* You can now create a longer-term budget, incorporating any spouse or child support you receive as income. You may also need to adjust your spending to reflect items in the divorce agreement, such as expenses now covered by your former spouse and court-ordered responsibilities for paying college education expenses for dependent children and possibly the attorneys' fees for a former spouse.
- *Review your protection plans.* You may need to review your life, homeowners and auto in-

urance policies. And if you were covered under your spouse's health insurance plan, you may want to apply for COBRA to stay on that plan up to 36 months or switch to your own employer's plan, if available. If you don't have access to an employer's health insurance, you may want to explore a marketplace plan from the Affordable Care Act or contact a health insurance broker.

- *Review your estate plans.* To reflect your new marital status, you may need to work with your legal professional to change some of your estate-planning documents, such as a will, living trust, advanced health care directive or power of attorney. Also, review the beneficiary designations on life insurance policies, IRAs, annuities and investment accounts, as these designations can likely supersede instructions on your will or trust.
- *See your tax professional.* You may need to consult with your tax

professional on issues such as changing your tax return filing status, claiming a child as a dependent and dealing with tax implications of assets received in the divorce.

Going through a divorce is not easy — but by taking the appropriate steps before and after the divorce is finalized, you can at least help put yourself in a more secure and stable financial position to begin the next phase of your life.

Contact Mark today to discuss this topic or any of your financial goals.

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

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# Senior Community Center Activities for June

## PROGRAMS & ACTIVITIES:

**June 2nd at 12:00 - NEW!!! Hawaiian Luau Lunch w/ music by the Elderly Brothers**

Please use the payment box outside the Main Office to reserve your seat.

The cost is \$6 per person. Reservations due Thursday, MAY 29th at Noon.

**June 3rd at 9:00 - Crafting - Paint Vinal Disc Records w/ Milly FREE**

Supplies will be provided. Call to reserve your seat at 508-881-0140 x1.

**June 4th & 18th 9:00-11:30 -Veterans Office Hours w/ Richard Sabounjian**

Appointments recommend. Call 508-429-0629 to schedule.

**June 5th at 9:00 - FREE Breakfast sponsored by Ashland Lions**

Call to reserve your seat at 508-881-0140 x1.

Reservations due Thursday, MAY 29th at Noon.

**June 5th, 12th and 26th 10:00 - 12:00- SHINE In Person Appointment w/ Lenore Tracy FREE**

Call to make an appointment 508-881-0140 x1.

**June 5th at 10:00 - Ashland Council on Aging Meeting. Public Invited.**

**June 5th at 10:30 - Downton Abbey Viewing: Season 3, Episode**

## 7 FREE

Tea and coffee provided. Call to reserve your seat at 508-881-0140 x1.

**June 5th at 12:00 - Friends of the Council on Aging Meeting**

Attention All Members: Please attend. Public Invited.

**June 9th at 12:00 - Lunch & Learn w/ Meena Jain, Director of Ashland Public Library**

Readings in Honor of Mothers and Fathers, Updates on What's Happening at the Library. Please use the payment box outside the Main Office to reserve your seat. The cost is \$6 per person. Reservations due Thursday, JUNE 5th at Noon.

**June 10th at 11:30 - NEW!!! Extra Lunch w/ June Weiner, The Casual Chef**

Mini Meatball sandwiches w/ Coleslaw

Reservations for Lunch: Please use the payment box outside of the Main Office to reserve your seat. The cost is \$6 per person

Reservation due by JUNE 5th at Noon.

**June 10th at 1:00 - NEW!!!! Popcorn & a Movie, "Wicked" Musical (2025) PG FREE!**

Misunderstood because of her green skin, a young woman named Elphaba forges an unlikely but profound friendship

with Glinda, a student with an unflinching desire for popularity. Following an encounter with the Wizard of Oz, their relationship soon reaches a crossroad as their lives begin to take very different paths. Call to reserve your seat at 508-881-0140 x 1.

**June 11th at 10:30 - Computer Class w/ Jonathan Baron - "On Line Medical Records:**

Keeping Your Medical Information Private and Secure" Call to reserve your seat at 508-881-0140 x 1.

**June 11th at 11:00 - NEW!!! "Protecting Cognition Functions" w/Anne Fitzgerald, RN FREE**

Daily habits can play a powerful role in protecting your brain. Discussion will include how to stimulate your brain and lifestyle choices for better brain health. Call to reserve your seat at 508-881-0140 x 1.

**June 12th 9:00-11:00 - NEW!!!! OPEN HOUSE All Welcome!** Light refreshments, games w/prizes, exercise demonstrations, crafts & more! Enter to win a gift certificate to Erica's Restaurant!

**June 12th 12:00-10:00 PM - NEW!!!! Ashland Ale House FOA-COA Fundraiser**

10% of the proceeds from your food bill will be donated to the Friends of the Ashland

Council on Aging. Just mention this fundraiser to your server OR mention it when placing your take-out order at 508-861-7780.

All donations will help support programs at The Ashland Senior Center.

**June 13th at 10:00 - Pins & Needles Sewing Class w/ Tobi - Sew a Blouse or Shirt**

(3-week project) Bring your own sewing machine. All levels of skill welcome. Call to reserve your seat at 508-881-0140 x1

**June 13th 10:00-11:30 - Legal Phone Consultation with Arthur P. Bergeron FREE**

Call to schedule an appointment at 508-881-0140 x1.

**June 16th at 10:30 - Hearing Aid Cleaning w/ Hopkinton Audiology FREE**

Call to schedule an appointment at 508-881-0140 x1.

**June 16th 12:00 - Lunch w/ Karen Spilka's Listening Hour. Have ideas? Need help?**

Senator Spilka's staff will be here to listen. The cost of lunch is \$6 per person. Please use the payment box outside the Main Office to reserve your seat. Reservations due Thursday, JUNE 12th at Noon.

**June 17th at 11:30 - NEW!!! Speed Friending: How to Get to Know your Neighbor FREE**

Presented by Lynn Croft You

will meet 3 people, one at a time, for 10 minutes each. You will have an opportunity to share about yourself and learn about each other. Questions (prompts) will be provided, for ex.

1.) What's your favorite book or movie?

2.) If you could have dinner with a celebrity or historical figure (or anyone), who would it be and why? Call to reserve your seat at 508-881-0140 x 1

**June 18th at 10:00 - Town Manager's Coffee Hour - FREE.** All are welcome! Call to reserve your seat at 508-881-0140 x1. Drop ins welcome.

**June 19th CLOSED - CLOSED FOR JUNETEENTH**

**June 20th at 10:00 - Crafting -Personalized Luggage Tags w/ Elissa FREE**

Supplies will be provided. Call to reserve your seat at 508-881-0140 x1.

**June 24th at 12:30 - NEW!!! Strawberry Shortcake & Wheel of Fortune Game Show FREE w/ Kevin Richman.** Work as a team and participate in a Game Show.

Your reward will be strawberry shortcake, laughter and fun. Call to reserve your seat at 508-881-0140 x1.

**June 25th 11:00 - 12:00 - NEW!!! NEW ZEALAND Nature Travel Talk w Joy Marzolf FREE**

New Zealand is home to many rare birds and marine mammals including the comical yellow-eyed penguin. Watch and listen as the yellow-eyed penguin returns from the ocean to feed its chick and the Antipodes Island parrot demonstrates looks, personality and talent. Rare sealions and Hector Dolphins will frolic near the coastal shore. Call to reserve your seat at 508-881-0140 x1.

**June 26th 10:00-11:30 - Clocktown Memory Cafe w/ music by Rick Ferreira**

Clocktown Cafe provides a welcoming place for individuals with Alzheimer's disease, dementia or a cognitive impairment accompanied by the caregiver. Light refreshments will be served. Please RSVP to Susan McNulty smcnulty@ashland-mass.com or 508-532-7945.

**June 26th 1:30-3:00 - Cooking Class with Chef Lee -Egg Rolls w/ Pork**



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**SENIOR CENTER**  
continued on page 11

## Ashland Town News

now has its own  
Facebook page!



Ashland Town News  
on Facebook  
to keep up-to-date with  
articles, events, giveaways  
and contest announcements  
for Ashland!



# Senior Center Trips and Events

Memorial Day has now officially kicked off the start of summer, we are excited for the coming months and the trips and special events the Friends of the Ashland COA have planned and are now taking reservations for.

Our new Drive on your own Dinner Theater at Lake Pearl in Wrentham has offered theatergoers the opportunity to enjoy a wonderful dinner and a tribute show of their favorite performers while saving the cost of the bus.

The 2025 schedule for Lake Pearl in Wrentham, MA includes lunch and show events featuring tribute bands and other entertainment, including the Doobie Brothers tribute on May 21st, Fleetwood Mac tribute on June 17th, and Tom Jones tribute on August 20th. Additionally, a John Denver tribute is scheduled for September 16th. The Edwards Twins are also scheduled for a lunch show on September 10, and so much more. For specific programming, ticket information and purchases, text

Donna Shaw at 508-740-8054.

The FOACOA is presently preparing and organizing a new fundraising monthly Dine Around program. A “dine around” fundraiser involves patrons dining at a given restaurant, where a part of their meal and soft drinks is donated back to the FOACOA.

All proceeds will be donated to the Ashland Senior Center in support of their programming and services they offer.

Our first Dine Around will be held on Thursday, June 12,

2025 at the Ashland Ale House on 23 Pond Street from Noon the closing. Patrons can support our efforts with a takeout order or enjoy a casual meal inside the restaurant.

Simply mention us at check out or present the coupon to your server to have a percentage of your bill applied to the fundraising efforts. Coupons for these monthly events can be found at the Senior Center, on the Center's web page, on various town web pages and in the monthly Senior Center newsletter.

## SENIOR CENTER

*continued from page 10*

Class \$5 pp. Call to reserve your seat 508-881 0140 x1

**June 27th at 10:00 - Pins & Needles Sewing Class w/ Tobi - Sew a Blouse or Shirt**

(2nd week of 3-week project) Bring your own sewing machine. All levels of skill welcome. Call to reserve your seat at 508-881-0140 x1

**June 30th 12:00 - Lunch and Learn w/ Dr. Roger Luckmann presenting “Staying Safe in the Heat”** The cost of lunch is \$6 per person. Please use the payment box outside the Main Office to reserve your seat. Reservations due Thursday, JUNE 26th at Noon.

NOTE: We try our best to deliver correct information. Programs and events frequently alter after we produce our schedule. We appreciate your patience!

## 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 \$6 unless otherwise noted.

**Bowling** - Tuesdays at Ryan's Amusement in Millis at 9 am

**Blood Pressure Check FREE!!!** - Wednesdays at 10:30 am

**Canasta - FREE!!!** Wednesdays at 12:30 pm

**Chair Yoga** - Wednesdays at 1 pm

**Chess - FREE!!!** Mondays at 1:30 pm

**Craft Class FREE!!!** - First Tuesday at 9 am and Third Friday of the Month at 10 am

**Cribbage - FREE!!!** - Thursdays at 12:30 pm

**DROP-IN Knitting & Crochet-ing Group - FREE!!!** First & Third Tuesday of the Month at 11 am

**Dull Men's Club w/ Doc** - Tuesdays at 9:30. Coffee and Conversation. FREE!!!

**Exercise with Joni** - Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays at 9:30 am

**DROP-IN Advanced Water-color Class** - Tuesdays & Wednesdays at 9:30 am

**Line Dancing with Lisa** - Thursdays at 12 pm

**Mahjong - FREE!!!** Fridays at 10:30 am for all levels

**Mindful Coloring - FREE!!!** First and Third Thursdays of the Month at 1:30 pm

**Mindfulness & Meditation** - Thursdays at 11 am with Mary Green

**Parkinson's Boxing** - First & Third Wednesday of the Month at 1:30 pm

**Pins and Needles Sewing Class** - FREE!!! Second & Fourth Friday of the Month at 10 am

**Ping Pong - FREE!!!** Mondays at 2 pm. Table, rackets and ping pong balls provided.

**Pitch Card Game - FREE!!!** Mondays at 1:00 pm

**Tai Chi - Tuesdays at 11:45 am** with Jon Woodward

**Veterans Office Hours - FREE!!!** Every other Wednesday from 9 -11:30 am. Check Calendar for Dates.

**Zumba Gold with Kellie** - Tuesdays at 10 am

# Message from Ashland Health Department

## Fall Prevention Part 1-Home Environment

Among adults over 65 years old in the United States, the leading cause of injury and injury-related deaths is unintentional falls. Although the prevalence of non-fatal and fatal falls increases with age, falls are not an inevitable part of aging. Most falls in older adults can be prevented by addressing modifiable risk factors. Making some changes in your physical environment can help reduce the risk of a fall.

Declutter your home. Enlist a friend to assist and look at your space with fresh eyes. Do you have scatter rugs? Remove them or tape them down securely. Small footstools, magazine racks and the like should be removed or moved away from walking paths. Keep the walking pathways in your home clear of trip hazards like power cords, shoes, and pet dishes. Keep the phone within easy reach when in bed, avoiding the need for quick moves when you are drowsy.

Keep your home well-lit; at night motion-sensor lights can be helpful and conserve energy. Use nightlights for the walking path you traverse at night, there are low-cost battery-operated options if electrical outlets are scarce. Keep a flashlight in an easy to access spot in the event of a power failure at night, and always turn the light on before climbing or descending the stairs.

Wet surfaces are high-risk areas. Use a non-skid mat in your tub/shower, and invest in grab bars for the shower area. Use a non-slip bathmat for exiting the shower or tub (and put away when not in use). Depending on your mobility and balance, a shower chair and handheld shower head can be a great investment for your safety.

Stairs pose real fall hazards. Always use the handrail, and ensure it is securely attached. If you have an increased risk of falls, install a handrail on both sides of the stairs. Avoid using the stairs while carrying heavy or bulky items. It is safer to make more trips with manageable loads.

Falls from ladders are a common occurrence. Carefully consider any stepladder use, and keep height to a minimum. Experts advise caution in anyone over age 60 when it comes to use of a stepladder. Ask for help when you need it! Some folks may take on physical tasks they can't easily perform alone, increasing the risk of falls and injury.

In a large study of patients visiting the ER after falling from a ladder, the results were conclusive:

Although they fell from lower heights, older adults (over age 65) sustained more severe injuries than those under age 65. They were more likely to sustain trau-

matic brain injuries than younger adults. In most of the falls, the patient had no one assisting them, and researchers pinpointed incorrect ladder placement and excessive reaching as the most common reasons for such falls. Always keep often-used items in easy reach to avoid having to use a stepladder, but if you must, use one with safety features like a locking device, non-slip steps and feet, and a stable base. It should also be lightweight and have a handrail.

Outside the home

When walking outside, keep eyes and mind on task. Watch for uneven sidewalks, broken pavement, loose bricks, and curbs. Poorly maintained pathways with tree roots or debris that cause sudden changes in elevation are another common hazard. Remember that surfaces can be slippery from rain, snow, or even early morning condensation.

Avoid areas with steep inclines or stairs without safety handrails and be mindful of your footwear. Always wear appropriate footwear for the conditions you'll be traversing when outdoors-avoid flip-flops, slides, and high heels. Ensure a good fit, good traction, and tied laces!

Please feel free to reach out to Ashland Board of Health at 508-532-7922 if you have any questions or concerns.

# The b.LUXE *beauty beat*

## Ready, Set, Glow!

### The Best Summer Facials at b.LUXE

BY GINA WOELFEL

*So, let's go!*

The flowers are blooming, the sun is shining, and iced coffee is officially back in our rotation—that's right, **summer is just around the corner!**

While we've mostly thawed out from winter, your skin might still be playing catch-up. After months of dry indoor heat, unpredictable New England weather, and layers of holiday makeup, it's time to refresh your complexion before the summer sun takes center stage.

We've designed our hand-picked lineup of **facials and skincare treatments to exfoliate, hydrate, and bring back your skin's natural glow**—just in time for the sunny season ahead. With beach days, weddings, and outdoor adventures on the calendar, we've rounded up a few summertime favorites to help your skin look—and feel—its absolute best.

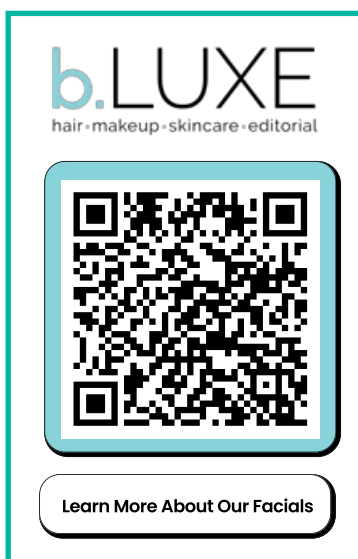
#### The Power of 3 Facial

Think of this as the ultimate skincare triple threat. The Power of 3 Facial blends dermaplaning, a brightening peel, and a deeply hydrating mask to sweep away dull, dry skin and reveal the fresh, dewy glow beneath the surface.

Using a sterilized blade, dermaplaning gently sweeps away built-up surface debris, fine vellus hair (aka peach fuzz), and micro—surface wrinkles without harsh chemicals, downtime, or discomfort.

**Results:** A smoother, more refined complexion that better absorbs your skincare products and creates the perfect canvas for makeup.

**Best for:** All skin types except active acne or hypersensitive skin.



#### Oxygenating Facial

Is your skin feeling tight, dry, and thirsty for hydration? This facial delivers a refreshing gulp of oxygen to your complexion, clearing out clogged pores and flooding your skin with moisture. But it's more than just a quick fix—it's our ultimate anti-aging facial treatment. Infusing the skin with pure oxygen and potent actives helps boost circulation, stimulate collagen production, and restore your natural glow.

You'll leave with visibly plumper, smoother, and more radiant skin—and the results don't stop when you walk out the door. This treatment works long after your appointment, improving elasticity, reducing fine lines, and giving your complexion a fresh, youthful bounce you'll love.

**Best for:** Tired, dull, oily, acne-prone, devitalized, or element-stressed skin needing a deep reset and revitalization.

**Pro tip:** Schedule early in the season for a complete refresh.

#### HydroLifting Facial

This anti-aging, hydrating miracle worker profoundly improves the visible toning of the face, neck, and jawline.

**Best for:** Anyone wanting to feel tighter, brighter, and red-carpet-ready.

**Results:** Smooth, vibrant skin—like you got eight hours of sleep (even if you didn't).

#### The Mind Body Facial

The complete reset—from the inside out. The Mind Body Facial combines the skin-loving power of G.M. Collin skincare with the **calming energy of Reiki and personalized aromatherapy.**



It's a facial-meets-spa-meets-energy-clearing kind of treatment, and it's every bit as dreamy as it sounds.

You'll start with a full consultation and then settle into a session that includes a deep cleanse, exfoliation, steam, a custom mask, and hot stone foot therapy. Oh, and let's not forget the soothing hand, arm, and shoulder massage with aromatherapy that will have you floating in relaxation.

**Best for:** Stressed-out skin, tired minds, and anyone needing a serious dose of self-care.

**Results:** Hydrated, glowing skin and a calmer, lighter you.

#### Big Results, Minimal Time Stand-Alone or Add-On Chemical Peel 30 min

Ready to shed that dull, dry layer? This professional-grade chemical peel is customized to your skin type and gets right down to business. Your esthetician will choose the best acid—glycolic, salicylic, or lactic—to smooth texture, brighten tone, and give your skin that fresh-faced glow.

Think of it as spring cleaning for your skin.

**Best for:** A quick, no-nonsense glow-up.

**Just a warning:** They can be addictive from the very first one!

#### Stand-Alone Oil Dermaplaning 30 min

Short on time? No worries—you can book an oil dermaplaning on its own for the ultimate lunch break glow-up. This quick treatment smooths skin, removes

peach fuzz and helps your products absorb more effectively.

**Best for:** Makeup lovers, SPF devotees, and anyone craving a smoother, more radiant complexion.

#### Pro Tip for Summer: Don't Skip the SPF

Sun protection is non-negotiable—especially after a glow-boosting facial. Make daily SPF part of your routine to keep your skin looking radiant and healthy all season long. **Great skincare doesn't end at the spa!**

**Bonus:** You can purchase your G.M. Collin SPF with your HSA!

b.LUXE proudly carries a curated selection of top-tier SPF formulas from G.M. Collin to help you perfect and protect your glow.

#### One Last Thing

b.LUXE isn't just your go-to for luxury facials—it's a local, woman-owned business that combines top-tier skincare with a warm, welcoming vibe. Whether you're a first-timer or a regular, you'll feel right at home from the moment you walk in.

Give your skin the love it deserves—your summer glow is just a facial away!

Visit bluxe.com or call the salon at (508) 321-1624 to schedule your luxury facial.

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# Spring Cleaning is Greener with Affordable Junk Removal

There are plenty of reasons to call a junk removal service. Maybe walking through your basement has gotten difficult or there is no more room in the attic? Perhaps you are planning to move, and you need to declutter before your open house?

## Business spotlight

Figuring out who to call can be challenging. 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 2005. 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 ten, along with eight 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. 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!

Contact Affordable Junk Removal and let a local small business take care of everything for you. Call Jay Schadler at (774) 287-1133 or visit us online at [www.affordablejunkremoval.com](http://www.affordablejunkremoval.com).

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# June 2025 at the Ashland Library

For more events, look online.

## Summer Reading Kickoff Party: Reading Dragons Edition!

\*for families

Saturday, June 7 All Day

It's time for summer reading, and families and kids of all ages are invited to join us for our exciting ALL-DAY Summer Reading Kickoff Party! We'll have all kinds of special things going on throughout the day, including carnival games, a bounce house, snow cones, and so much more.

Plus, you'll get the chance to sign up for our brand-new Reading Dragons program to track your reading over the summer! For each day you read, you'll get to collect special and unique dragon trading cards—you can even level up the dragon cards you've already earned. Can you collect them all? Stop in to get everything you need to get started!

Drop in, no registration required.

## Adult:

Visit our Website Calendar for Additional Info & Registration links:

<https://tinyurl.com/apl-calendars>

## In Person - Gardening Series: Container Gardening with Seedlings

Monday, June 2 @ 6:00—7:30 PM

This is a fun workshop will focus on how to plant, prepare and care for seedlings in a large recycled plastic nursery pot. There will be a variety of seedlings to choose from and each attendee will select three seedlings to plant into a larger plastic nursery pot.

## Virtual - Death in the National Parks: Who, How, and Why with Author Randi Minetor

Monday, June 2 @ 7pm

Why do some people lose their lives in America's national parks? Randi Minetor, author of seven books in the non-fiction "Death in the National Parks" series, explores the fatal mistakes people make when they venture into unfamiliar wilderness.

## Virtual - Food Photography: Take Amazing Photos of Food with Deborah Tual

Tuesday, June 3 @ 7pm

Join Deborah Tual, our favorite iPhone and Photography aficionado, to explore techniques of photographing food that will help you to create wonderful im-

ages with interest and impact, whether you are at home or at a restaurant.

## Virtual - Changing Our Perspectives: 5 Books with Bill Thierfelder

Tuesday, June 3 @ 7:00—8:15 PM

If you're looking for a "meaningful" book to read, here are five prime suggestions: Ray Bradbury's FAHRENHEIT 451, Toni Morrison's BELOVED, Yasunari Kawabata's SNOW COUNTRY, Carl Sagan's COSMOS, and Walt Whitman's LEAVES OF GRASS. This program gives a brief overview of each author and the principal ideas of each book--ideas that are intended to challenge our preconceived notions and inspire our "better angels."

## In Person - Mah Jongg

Wednesday, June 4 @ 6pm

Whether you have a rudimentary knowledge of Mah Jongg or have been playing for years, we would love to have you join us for an evening of strategy, luck and fun. This is an opportunity for the novice to hone their skills and experienced players to share their knowledge.

## Virtual - Environmental Book Club

Wednesday, June 4 @ 6:30pm

Read Plastic Free by Rebecca Prince-Ruiz and Joanna Atherfold Finn.

## Virtual - Nourishing the Caregiver: Cultivating Calm in Chaos

Wednesday, June 4 @ 7:00pm

This interactive workshop will help you: define stress, learn daily stress management techniques, understand the de-stress alphabet, learn the seven dimensions of wellness, and set goals for yourself. This class is appropriate for anyone caring for someone (even themselves!) and is not dementia-specific.

## Virtual - Author Alexis Prescott Discusses "The First Witches"

Thursday, June 5 @ 2pm

Please join us as author Alexis Prescott discusses her recent release, The First Witches: Women of Power in the Classical World, a book which provides a readable overview of how the Western witch originated. So profound was the impact of the classical witch upon Western thought and literature that she even lives on today as a prototype of the gruesome woman found in folklore, horror stories and movies.

## HYBRID - Romance Book Club

Thursday, June 5 @ 6:30pm

Read a Contemporary Romance

## Virtual - Declutter series with Jamie Novak: How to Delete Digital Clutter Easily

Thursday, June 5 @ 7pm

Log on for this month's declutter club zoom when decluttering humorist Jamie Novak shares how to easily delete digital clutter. Plus, how to find the email or photo you need with one click. Then join the live guided tidy-up for a quick jumpstart!

## Fixit Clinic at the Ashland Public Library

Saturday, June 7 @ 1:00—3:00 PM

We are very excited to be hosting the Fixit Clinic at the Ashland Public Library. Fixit Clinic is an all-ages, do-it-together activity where people bring their broken household things and learn how to assess, disassemble, and repair them instead of sending them to landfill. Don't toss it, fix it!

## In Person - Card Making with Jan Poppendieck

Monday, June 9 @ 6:30pm

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

## Virtual - Q&A with Adult and YA Author Edward Underhill

Monday, June 9 @ 7pm

We're excited to join the Boyden Library, Foxborough for this informative and interesting program! Transgender YA and now Adult author Edward Underhill will be joining the Boyden Library as part of the "Together With Pride" initiative to discuss his two newest books; The In Between Bookstore (Adult debut released in January 2025) and In Case You Read This (YA released in May 2025) with Boyden's Teen Librarian Jennifir Huston.

## Virtual - Historical Fiction Book Recs with Bestselling Author, Kerri Maher (subbing for Jane!)

Tuesday, June 10 @ 6:30—7:00 PM

Love Historical Fiction but not sure what to read next? This month Jane Healey is on book tour so guest author, Kerri Maher, is pinch hitting for her! Join Kerry for 30 minutes of pure book recommendations - the best of historical fiction out there! We're so grateful to Kerri for stepping in

with what we expect will be fabulous book recs!

## In Person - Men's Discussion Group: Accepting People As They Are

Tuesday, June 10 @ 6:30pm

For this session Ben Draper will lead a discussion on accepting people as they are (including our children and close relations!). We all have people in our lives who we wish would be different. How can we accept and celebrate them while also keeping our sanity?

## Virtual - Masters of Song: Burt Bacharach with Clint Edwards

Tuesday, June 10 @ 7pm

Explore the life and music of one of popular music's greatest composer-innovators. We'll follow his long collaboration with lyricist Hal David and their work with Dionne Warwick, noting Burt's remarkable advancements in the harmony and rhythms of popular song. (I Say A Little Prayer, Close To You, Alfie etc.)

## Virtual - Another Evening with Bestselling Author Alka Joshi

Wednesday, June 11 @ 7pm

Alka will talk about how she came to writing in her 50s, how the Jaipur trilogy came about and the real-life inspiration for SIX DAYS IN BOMBAY. Alka will share the story of her 10 years to publication of THE HENNA ARTIST, how she ended up writing the sequels and the Netflix series in development.

## Virtual - Extra Book Club

### Discussion: "Fourth Wing" to "Onyx Storm - There WILL be Spoilers!"

Wednesday, June 11 @ 7pm

Please join us over Zoom for a discussion of "Fourth Wing", "Iron Flame", and "Onyx Storm" by Rebecca Yarros. If you're as obsessed as we are, join us for a lively conversation of the series - favorite characters, creatures (spoiler, ours is Andarna!), and storylines. There will be spoilers right through "Onyx Storm" so come prepared to dish!

## Virtual - "A History of Women's Work: The Evolution of Women's Working Lives" with Author Janet Few

Thursday, June 12 @ 10am

Please join us as author Janet Few discusses her new book "A History of Women's Work: The Evolution of Women's Working Lives". Delving into three main areas of women's work: household tasks, home industries, and

paid employment outside the home, "A History of Women's Work" encourages us to view how our own contributions to the work force affect our own sense of self and effect on the world at large. It also asks us to look back and see the profound impact women have had on the "working" world - stories that should not be lost to the annals of time.

## In Person - Women's Wisdom Circle: Living Unapologetically

Thursday, June 12 @ 6:30pm

For this session Meredith Bazirgan will lead a discussion on living unapologetically - because we have nothing to apologize for! We hope you can join us for this important topic!

## In Person - Great Decisions

Thursday, June 12 @ 6:30pm

Discuss India: Between China, the West, and the Global South

## Virtual - Mystery/Thriller Book Recs with Bestselling Author, Joseph Finder

Thursday, June 12 @ 6:30—7:00 PM

Love Mysteries and Thrillers but not sure what to read next? Join bestselling author, Joseph Finder, for this quarterly session of his recommendations of some of the best mystery/thrillers out there! We're sure you'll find something to like from Joe's many enthusiastic reviews.

## Virtual - Memoir: A Generous Sharing- How to write a memoir

Thursday, June 12 @ 7pm

In this talk, Maureen Stanton will give a brief history of memoir, and discuss its value as testimony and witness narrative, as well as the connection that memoir writers have with readers. She'll share her newly released memoir, The Murmur of Everything Moving, and talk about the pleasures, and sometimes perils, of writing in this intimate literary genre.

## Virtual - Inclusive and Diverse Book Recs with Bookstagrammer @sometimesleelynnreads

Thursday, June 12 @ 7:30—8:00 PM

Looking for the best books with BIPOC/LGBTQ+/Neurodivergent/Disabled etc. characters or by representative authors but not sure what to read next? Join bookstagrammer, Leelynn Brady (aka @sometimesleelynnreads)

LIBRARY

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**LIBRARY**

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reads), monthly for 30 minutes of pure book recommendations - any genre as well as YA and Middle Grade books, as long as they are by diverse authors or have inclusive storylines!

**In Person - Mystery Book Club**

Friday, June 13 @ 12pm  
Read *The Last Thing He Told Me* by Laura Dave

**Virtual - Friday Night Film Discussion**

Friday, June 13 @ 7pm  
Watch *Jean de Florette*

**Virtual - Summer Romance Beach Read Recommendations with Lorelei of Lorelei's Lit Lair**

Monday, June 16 @ 7pm  
We have so much fun with Lorelei that we are thrilled to have her back again. This time, Lorelei will be chatting about the books she's looking forward to reading this summer - the best of romance beach reads! If your TBR pile isn't already groaning, it will be! Grab a cool drink and join us.

**In Person - Cook Book Club**

Tuesday, June 17 @ 5pm  
Cook from Rodney Scott's

*World of BBQ: Every Day Is a Good Day* by Rodney Scott

**Virtual - Creating a Tech-Healthy Family with Andrea Davis of Better Screen Time**

Tuesday, June 17 @ 7pm  
Are you tired of screens taking over? Are you wondering how to help their kids thrive in a digital world? Gain the confidence and tools you need to tackle tech head-on with our Tech-Healthy Family Formula. This formula provides five steps parents can take to help reduce screen time, restore family time, and finally feel peace of mind.

**In Person - Bio/Memoir Book Club**

Wednesday, June 18 @ 11am  
Read *What Looks Like Bravery* by Laurel Braitman

**Virtual: Inclusive & Diverse ROMANCE Book Recommendations with Read My Lips Boston**

Wednesday, June 18 @ 6:00—6:30 PM

We are super excited to be partnering with bookstore owners of Read My Lips Boston for this special series! Hear about the best ROMANCE book recommendations with BIPOC/LGBTQ+/Neurodivergent/Dis-

abled etc. characters or by representative authors. Join book store owners (and twin sisters!), Lily and Hannah Barrett, quarterly for 30 minutes of pure romance book recommendations - that are by diverse authors or have inclusive storylines! We're sure you'll find something to like from Lily and Hannah's many enthusiastic reviews.

**Virtual - Thriller/Horror Book Recs with Bookstagrammer @redreadreviews**

Wednesday, June 18 @ 7:30—8:00 PM

Not sure what to read next? Join Jody Blanchette (aka @redreadreviews), monthly, for 30 minutes of pure book recommendations - the best of horror and thrillers out there! We're sure you'll find something to like from Jody's many enthusiastic reviews.

**Virtual - "Dead End Road" with True Crime Author E.C. Hanson**

Monday, June 23 @ 7pm  
In June 1977, Renee Freer, nicknamed Giggles, went out to play with her friends. A few hours later, she was found bludgeoned to death with a rock. In a true crime book unlike most, E.C. Hanson stumbles upon an unsolved murder case that haunted

his former stepfather. Unable to get specifics from the old and new guard of detectives, Hanson forges ahead, mining what he can from previously released articles and people who lived in the neighborhood at the time. An unusual yet passionate text, *DEAD END ROAD* honors Renee Freer's memory and asks how will you help? Join us for this conversation with E.C. as he discusses his book, research, and goal in pursuing this cold case.

**Virtual - Racism and Civil Rights with David Kalivas**

Tuesday, June 24 @ 7pm  
Unfortunately, racism and the struggle for civil rights and equity is not new to the American experience and to help us understand the historical context on where we find ourselves as a society, Dr. David Kalivas will offer an analysis of the history of racism and civil rights in the United States.

**In Person - Ice Cream Bar and Spring Reading Discussion**

Wednesday, June 25 @ 6:30pm  
If you love books and ice cream and additions to your TBR pile, join us for this special evening of relaxing, discussion, and all the toppings! This program is

for adults 18+ and does require registration (so we have plenty of goodies to go around :).

**Virtual - Art on Thursday: From Graffiti to Museum Galleries: The Art & Advocacy of Keith Haring**

Thursday, June 26 @ 7pm  
Keith Haring's vibrant and iconic art captured the spirit of 1980s New York City, blending pop art, graffiti, and social activism. What made his bold, energetic figures and symbols so universally appealing? Haring's work, characterized by its simplicity and accessibility, addressed pressing issues including AIDS awareness. From subway stations to museums, Haring's art continues to inspire and provoke thought decades after his untimely death.

**Virtual - Friday Night Film Discussion**

Friday, June 27 @ 7pm  
Watch *Manon des Sources*

**Adult Weekly:**

**Knit and Crochet Club**  
Mondays @ 6pm  
Walk-In

**LIBRARY**

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**PURCHASE TICKETS**

# Pond Street Promenade at Summer Solstice

What works for community connections? Well, literally we have to the physical connection available which is why the new sidewalks on Pond Street are so important. To continue our community building, there is a free low-key event coming up. Promenade is a fancy word for going out walking (vocabulary.com). With our new sidewalks on Pond Street (Rt. 126), as a fun way to support community and interact with others we'd love you to participate in the event by just walking! To make it more fun, 'dressing up' in some way is encouraged, though absolutely not required. Showing up is the most important. The event is in collaboration with The Ashland Business Association (ABA). We hope to have families, individuals, business and other organizations all be part of the promenade.

Not too long ago, it simply wasn't possible to safely walk

along Pond Street. Though the sidewalks and project are not 100% complete, the majority of the 2-mile route has safe complete sidewalks. Walk along Pond Street for the Promenade, concentrating on the lower end near Framingham since many won't have time for the whole 2 mile walk up and 2 miles back.

To participate in the Promenade, if you can't walk there from your home, there are locations to park such as along Butterfield Drive, Market Basket Plaza. Come join the walk, plan your route, and even support the local businesses along the route.

Any businesses/organizations that are interested in participating in this event, whether it's to volunteer, offer fun specials during this time, let the Ashland Business Association know so we can help promote your addition! Send an email to [publicity@ashlandbusinessassociation.com](mailto:publicity@ashlandbusinessassociation.com)

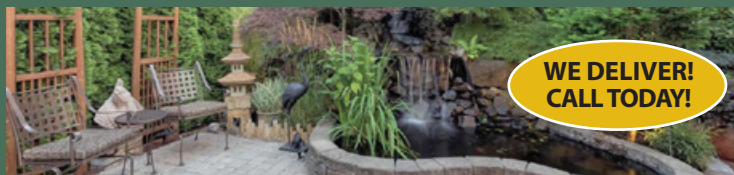
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## LIBRARY

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### Gentle Yoga

Tuesdays @ 6pm  
Registration is required

### ESL Conversation Group

Wednesdays @ 6:30pm  
Walk-In

### Children:

#### Special Programs:

#### Sensory Bin Exploration

Mondays, June 2, 9, 16, 23, 30  
@ 10:30-11:30 AM

Bring your little ones to enjoy an open play sensory bin exploration! Every Monday morning will feature a new theme, offering hands-on fun for children ages 2-6.

#### Dungeons and Dragons: Grad Campaign

Monday, June 2 @ 4:30-6:00 PM

Calling all young adventurers! Continue your Dungeons & Dragons journey in our 4-week (bi-weekly) workshop designed for kids who have already completed the intro session. With the guidance of an experienced Dungeon Master, participants will deepen their understanding of character development, advanced gameplay strategies, and collaborative storytelling. Each session will build on existing skills, empowering kids to take on more complex challenges and even start running their own campaigns. Space is very limited, and registration is required.

#### Messy Art Storytime

Thursdays, June 5, 12, 26  
@10:30-11:15 AM

Join Miss Paige for storytime and messy, hands-on fun! Each week, children ages 2-6 will enjoy a new art project that lets their creativity shine. Dress for a mess and get ready to create! No registration required.

#### Clocktown Rockers!

\*For ages 2-5 with a caregiver  
Friday, June 6 @ 10:30-11:00 AM

Friday, June 13 @ 10:30-11:00 AM

Friday, June 27 @ 10:30-11:00 AM

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.

### Intro to Dungeons & Dragons

\*For ages 8-12

Monday, June 9 @ 4:30-6:00 PM

Calling all young adventurers! Join our 4-week (bi-weekly) Dungeons & Dragons workshop and embark on an exciting journey into the world of role-playing games. With the guidance of an experienced Dungeon Master, beginners will learn the basics of character creation, storytelling, and gameplay. Each session will build skills and confidence, with the goal of empowering kids to launch and run their own campaigns. No prior experience needed—just bring your imagination and a sense of adventure! Space is very limited and registration is required.

### Little Picassos Outside!

\*for grades K-6

Tuesday, June 10 @ 4:30-5:30 PM

Tuesday, June 24 @ 4:30-5:30 PM

Calling all budding artists! Join Miss Kayla for this special summer edition of Little Picassos Club where we'll be taking our messy and creative fun outside into the sunshine! We'll work on different mixed media projects each week, ranging from outdoor painting to nature collages and so much more. Registration required.

### Pokémon Club

\*for grades 2-6

Tuesday, June 17 @ 6:30-7:30 PM

Are you a Pokémon master? Kids in grades 2-6 are welcome to join us for our NEW and exciting Pokémon Club! We'll watch episodes of the anime, work on crafts, play games, talk about our favorite Pokémon—you might even get a chance to show off your card collection! Come hang out and make new Pokémon friends. Registration required.

### Game On! Magic Show

\*for families

Monday, June 23 @ 3:00-4:00 PM

Farmer's Market Field

Mike Bent performs his "wonderfully wacky and outrageously funny" magic show to kick off Ashland's summer vacation! Make sure to stop by the children's room to grab your Reading Dragons club packet and stock up on reading for the ensuing lazy days of summer! Registration required.

### Jell-O Slime!

Tuesday, June 24 @3:00-4:00 PM

Love making slime? Come to the Children's Program Room and create your own taste-safe Jell-O slime to show off to friends and family! This hands-on program is perfect for kids ages 6-12.

### Lego Club with Kim the Lego Lady

\*Grades K-3

Wednesday, June 25 @ 4:30pm

Calling all LEGO masters! Join Kim the Lego Lady for an interactive building adventure! Afterward, your awesome creations will be displayed in the library until the next LEGO club! Registration is required and space is limited.

### Clay Monsters

Wednesday, June 25 @ 6:00 PM-7:00 PM

Join us for a fun and creative program where you'll bring your wildest monster ideas to life! Get your hands dirty and unleash your imagination as you create a unique creature to put on display at the library using air-dry clay. This program is perfect for ages 6-12. Registration is required.

### Dragons Love Tacos Taco Party

\*for families

Thursday, June 26 @ 2:00-3:00 PM

If you, like us, are a fan of Adam Rubin's wonderful picture book *Dragons Love Tacos*, we welcome you to join us for our first-ever *Dragons Love Tacos Taco Party*! We'll read the story, participate in fun games and activities, and of course, get to enjoy some (dessert) tacos. This event will be outdoors if weather permits. Registration required.

### Minecraft Escape Quest

\*for grades 3-6

Friday, June 27 @ 2:00-2:45 PM

Friday, June 27 @ 3:00-3:45 PM

Do you love Minecraft AND solving puzzles? Then our *Minecraft Escape Quest* will be right up your alley! Work together with other kids to solve a Minecraft-themed mystery and receive a special prize at the end.

This is an escape room-style program best suited for kids in grades 3-6. Registration required. \*\*Please note: the 2:00 and 3:00 sessions are exactly the same, so please only register for ONE session.\*\*

## LIBRARY

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# Spring Cleanup

## Spring Yard Waste Collection

The 2025 Spring Yard Waste curbside collections will be held on Mondays beginning on 4/7/2025 and will end on 6/9/2025 (with the exception of Marathon Monday, 4/21/2025 and Memorial Day, 5/26/2025).

Yard waste brown paper leaf bags or barrels should be left at curbside by 7am on the designated pick-up days. Yard waste in plastic bags will not be accepted. No brush, branches or stumps.

If you have followed the correct procedures and still have not had your yard waste picked up, please contact DPW at 508-532-7943.

Special Note: Please refrain from illegally dumping. The Town provides a bulky item pick up service through Waste Management. The number to call to schedule a bulk item pick up is 1-800-972-4545, one free pick up a month is allowed.

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## Electronic Collection

The electronics recycling drop-off at the DPW will run on the following schedule for 2023:

Saturday, 4/5/2025, 9 am – 12 noon

Saturday, 6/7/2025, 9 am – 12 noon

Saturday, 8/2/2025, 9 am – 12 noon

Saturday, 10/4/2025, 9 am – 12 noon

The following fees will be assessed at electronics drop-off:

- TVs & computer monitors (up to 20" screen, measured diagonally): \$10.00 each
- DVD/CD players; printers; CPUs; receivers; misc. household electronics: \$10.00 each
- TVs & computer monitors (over 20" screen, measured diagonally): \$20.00 each
- Window A/C units, dehumidifiers & microwaves: \$20.00 each
- Refrigerators (small dorm size): \$25.00 each
- Refrigerators (full size): \$45.00 each

As always, our monthly recycling program for used motor-oil,

oil based paints, fluorescent light bulbs, contained mercury, Ni-Cad batteries (found in cell phones, cordless phones and camcorders) and rechargeable batteries will continue to be held on the 1st Saturday of each month at the DPW yard located at 20 Ponderosa Road (behind the salt shed) 9 am – 12 noon.

Please refrain from illegally dumping any waste at the facility during non-collection days. The DPW yard is located in a heavily wooded watershed area right next door to the Ashland Animal Shelter and any items that are left while the facility is unattended by staff is subject to ingestion by area wildlife and spillage having obvious negative effects on the environment which only defeats the purpose of the collection facility.

## Hazardous Waste

Ashland's Annual Household Hazardous Waste Collection Day Ashland DPW - 20 Ponderosa Road, Ashland, MA Saturday, May 10, 2025 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

## Acceptable Hazardous Waste:

- Engine degreaser
- Weed killers
- Aerosol cans
- Spot removers
- Furniture polish
- Driveway sealant
- Epoxy resin
- Radiator cleaners
- Furnace cement
- Roof cement
- Caulking
- No-Pest strips
- Car wax

- Fiberglass resins
- Lighter fluid
- Drain cleaners
- Oven cleaners
- Engine/Radiator flushers
- Metal polish
- Arts & crafts supplies
- Transmission fluid
- Photo chemicals
- Floor cleaners
- Chemistry sets
- Dry cleaning solvents
- Carburetor cleaner
- Pesticides
- Rust preventatives
- Wood preservatives (except Penta)
- Herbicides
- Wood strippers
- Oil based paint/Varnish/Stain
- Insect sprays
- Turpentine/Paint thinners
- Solvents/Degreasers
- Brake fluid
- Sealants/Glues
- Antifreeze
- Rodent killers
- Pool chemicals
- Muriatic acid
- Creosote
- Batteries (auto & household)
- Moth balls
- Bleach
- Ammonia
- Cesspool cleaners
- Motor oil
- Mercury products
- Oil filters
- Gasoline/Kerosene

NO LATEX PAINT WILL BE ACCEPTED. Latex paint is not hazardous. Dry out paint with Quick-Dry, kitty litter or shredded newspapers and dispose of with your curbside rubbish. Be sure to leave the lids off of the cans.

Trident Environmental Group, Inc. reserves the right to refuse any waste deemed unsafe to handle or unsuitable for the collection. Such waste includes:

- Large quantities of unknown materials
- Radioactive waste (including smoke detectors)
- Explosives (gun powder, flares, ammunition & fireworks)
- Asbestos
- Unsuitable waste
- Pressurized fire extinguishers
- Compressed gas cylinders
- Tires
- Commercial & Industrial waste
- Prescription medications, syringes, Infectious and Biological wastes
- Substances regulated by the Drug Enforcement Agency
- PCBs

\*Please be sure to:

- Remain in your car
- Have your driver's license ready for proof of Ashland residency
- Pack waste in boxes (in their original tightly sealed containers, if possible)
- NOT SMOKE!
- Not to mix chemicals

Drive directly to site with hazardous waste

# Pet of the month: Clovis



Clovis is a 4-year-old boy who was found as a stray and brought to our shelter. At first, Clovis was shy, and he can still be at times, but he is also a really sweet kitty.

This handsome boy is still quite playful and will love spending time with you, especially with wand toys or other enrichment activities like tunnels or toy mice. He is also very curious and enjoys watching the world through the window. When he's not busy playing or exploring, Clovis loves to snuggle and be petted—especially head and chin scratches!

No need to worry about forgetting his mealtime—Clovis loves his food and will be sure to remind you when his tummy is empty. He'll rub all over you to make sure you understand—it's only fair, after all. Let's be hon-

est, nobody truly owns a cat; they own us!

Clovis is looking for his forever family, where he will thrive in a home without children and with experienced cat owners who understand that playtime is not cuddle time. If you can give him the attention and play he craves, he will be a loving companion who will return your affection.

As we are closed to the public, adoptions are by appointment only. If you have an interest in meeting Clovis, please use this link to find additional information about him. You can also see all our currently available Adopt-

able Cats here, and fill out our online adoption application at <https://metrowesthumanesociety.org/adoptable-cats/>

We will review all applications and make appointments for those applicants we feel would provide a good and loving home.

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**LIBRARY**

*continued from page 16*

**Mini Marvels: Comics Workshop**

\*for Ages 5-8  
Saturday, June 28 @ 2:00—3:00 PM

Do you love comics and graphic novels? Want to learn how to make your own? In this workshop, you'll get to put the finishing touches on the comics you've been working on throughout the previous sessions! This is a beginners workshop intended for kids ages 5-8.

This comics workshop will be happening once monthly leading up to July for our inaugural Ashland Library Kids Comics Fest. Each month, kids can add to what they've been working on, and their finished work can be displayed at the fest. Registration required.

**Minecraft Interactive Movie**

\*for families  
Monday, June 30 @ 1:00—3:00 PM

Join us for an afternoon at the movies with an interactive showing of the hit film A Minecraft Movie (2025)! Come enjoy the movie in an extra-special way through hands-on fun during certain scenes. Bring your own blankets to sit on and we'll provide the interactive goodies. Registration

is required.

**Weekly Storytimes:**

**Clocktown Rockers!**

\*For ages 2-5 with a caregiver  
Tuesdays 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.

**Storytime Sprouts**

\* For ages 0-3 with a caregiver  
Wednesdays @ 10:30am-11am

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.

**Saturday Stories**

\*for ages 2-5 with a caregiver  
Join Miss Kayla for a new Saturday morning storytime! We'll read lively stories, do fun rhymes and movement activities, and work on simple crafts. For families with children ages 2-5. No registration required.

Saturday, June 14 @ 10:30—11:00 AM

Saturday, June 21 @ 10:30—11:00 AM

Saturday, June 28 @ 10:30—11:00 AM

**Project ABC Play, Learn, and Grow Group**

\*for Ages 0 to 5  
Tuesdays at 11am through June 10th

A parent and child group offered by the Metrowest YMCA and the Early Childhood Alliance of Ashland & Framingham. A structured program to help prepare children for socialization and a school experience.

Registration **\*IS\*** required for this program

The program ends for the season on 06/10.

**Teen:**

**Teen Makers Club**

Thursday, June 12 @ 6pm  
Join us for our monthly club of teen makers!

Stitch, knit, crochet, and generally hang out with other crafty teens the second Thursday of every month from 6:00PM-7:00PM. Bring, work on, and show off your latest projects, and maybe learn a few new tips while you're here! Registration is requested, but walk-ins are welcome!

**Comic Workshop**

\*FOR TWEENS AGES 8-11\*

Monday, June 16 @ 4:00pm  
Learn or refine your art of making comics with a series of workshops featuring guest teacher, Adam Kane! Sign up for one or all! Each workshop will be newcomer friendly, but feature a different aspect of comic book making.

**Comic Workshop**

\*FOR TEENS AGES 12-15\*

Monday, June 16 @ 5:00pm  
Learn or refine your art of making comics with a series of workshops featuring guest teacher, Adam Kane! Sign up for one or all! Each workshop will be newcomer friendly, but feature a different aspect of comic book making.

**Teen Advisory Board**

Wednesday, June 4 @ 5:00—6:00 PM

The Teen Advisory Board will meet monthly to discuss what YOU think the library can provide to local teens. Plan events and make crafts that go along with them! Community service hours are offered.

**Friends of the Ashland Public Library 2-Day Book Sale**

Friday, June 13 @ 5:30—7:30 PM

Saturday, June 14 @ 9:30 AM—3:00 PM

The Friends of the Ashland Public Library invite you to their Big 2-Day Book Sale on June 13th and 14th!

The sale includes thousands of titles, organized by genre and author, with a special section for children's books. To keep the shelves stocked with fresh selections, the Friends will be accepting donations in the library parking lot of gently used books, audio books and DVDs. Friends volunteers will be available to assist donors from 9:30am until 1pm on Saturday. There is also a cart in the mezzanine lobby for donations at any time during library hours.

AND, by popular demand, the \$5 a bag sale is back! Fill a bag (that the Friends provide) from the Bag Sale tables for \$5!

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! If you can't make it to the sales, the Friends have a book sale corner on the 1st floor of the library (in the beautiful original part of the building). There, you can find great books for yourself and your family any time the library is open.

# Real Estate Corner

## Ashland Recent Home Sales

Date	Ashland	Amount
05/14/2025	274 Union Street	\$765,000
05/13/2025	221 Trailside Way	\$338,000
05/09/2025	214 Algonquin Trail	\$679,214
05/09/2025	208 Prospect Street	\$800,000
05/07/2025	349 Chestnut Street	\$810,000
05/02/2025	114 Captain Eames Circle	\$522,000
05/02/2025	64 Meeting House Path	\$480,000
05/01/2025	219 Trailside Way	\$450,000
05/01/2025	228 E Union Street	\$1.34 mil
04/30/2025	32 Independence Lane	\$1.38 mil
04/30/2025	10 Wayside Lane	\$660,000
04/30/2025	64 Meeting House Path	\$480,000
04/29/2025	33 Pine Hill Road	\$640,000



The 2-bed, 2-bath, 1,292-square-foot home at 114 Captain Eames Circle in Ashland recently sold for \$522,000. www.zillow.com Source: www.zillow.com / Compiled by Local Town Pages

# Real Estate Corner

## Importance of Home Insurance



**Kim Foemmel**  
Real Estate Broker

According to the National Association for Insurance Commissioners, "Home insurance covers the structure of your home and your personal property, as well as your legal responsibility (or liability) for injuries to others or their property while they're on your property." There are four key components of standard home insurance:

- Dwelling coverage covers damage to the structural parts of your home (roof, foundation, walls and so forth).
- Personal property coverage protects other structures or items on the property (such as a shed or fence) as well as furniture, electronics and clothing.
- Liability protection protects the homeowner from financial responsibility for acci-

dents, regardless of fault, and will cover medical bills if someone is injured on your property.

- Additional living expenses/loss of use can provide for temporary housing and living expenses if the home becomes uninhabitable due to a covered loss.

Life is full of both natural and man-made surprises — fire, hail-storm, theft — that can result in costly damage. However, not all damage can be claimed. It's important to know exactly what's covered under your specific plan, and equally important to be aware of what's not covered in your policy. Some natural disasters, such as earthquakes, are excluded from coverage. Things like septic systems, pest infestations and mold also are generally not covered. Sewer backups, flood

insurance, expensive artwork or jewelry may require higher or supplemental insurance. If you have specific concerns about whether or not an item or event is covered, make sure you discuss them with your insurance provider.

Costs and claims are rising due to a number of factors, but there still are things you can do to minimize this crucial expense. First, shop around. Ask about discounts (such as for first-time homebuyers or nonsmokers) and research ways to lower your premium, such as getting or upgrading a home security system or raising your deductible. Oftentimes you can receive a discount if you get home insurance from the same company as your car insurance. The money spent on a sound policy is worthwhile to protect against potentially devastating loss.

There are many resources and tools available to help you understand what you need to know to get the most effective policy for your situation. U.S. News & World Report publishes an annual review of the best home insurance companies. You also can check out various websites such as Insurance.com, NerdWallet, Bankrate or Investopedia to get detailed explanations of financial concepts and terms as well as comparisons and advice on financial products.

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FoemmelFineHomes.com

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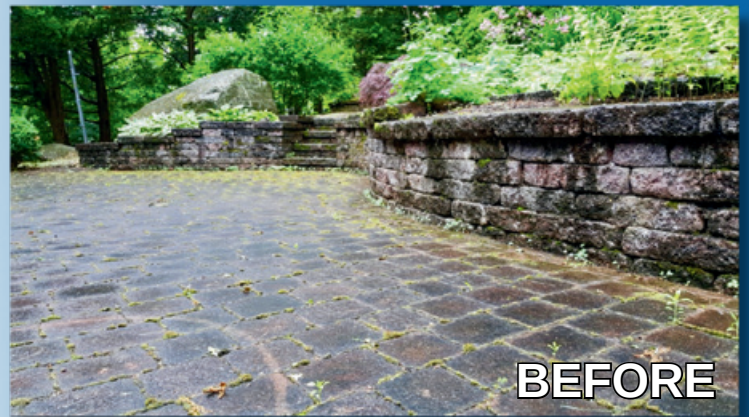
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JUST LISTED

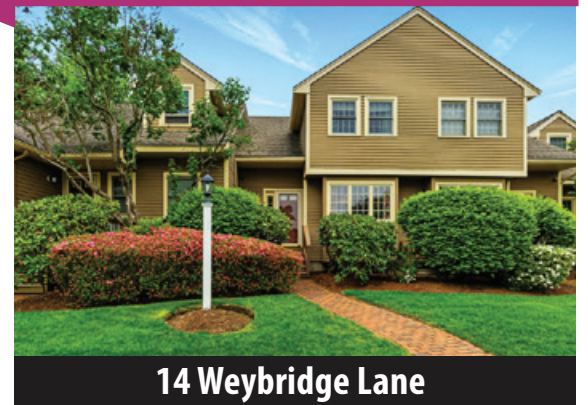


28 Downey Street

28DowneyStreet.com

Waterfront retreat with 5 bedrooms and 3 baths. 3,024 sqft. Private guest house on property or can be sold as a 2 family!

JUST LISTED



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14Weybridge.com

Beautifully maintained townhouse with 2 bedrooms and 1.5 baths. 1,800sqft home. Finished lower level.

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