

Farmers Market Fun

BY SEAN SULLIVAN

A few choice pics from Natick's Farmers Market! These were taken on Saturday, May 17th. Dark gray clouds loomed westward, but drizzle largely missed the market that morn-

ing and afternoon. The event runs every Saturday, rain or shine, from 9:00am to 1:00pm. Save the dates for these upcoming highlights. On June 7th, Jonah will bring his magic tricks to the market. Boston Body Pilates will run a free Pilates mat class on

June 14th at 9:30. June 14th is also "doll and diaper" collection day for the Natick Service Council. June 21st will feature Beach Reads Day with several local authors in attendance. See you on the Natick Common!



Intervening Early in Autism

BY SEAN SULLIVAN

When Lauren Ostrowsky's daughter Colby wasn't crawling at about 11 months of age, her parents took notice.

Such delays in development can be signs of more serious issues.

"She was late on her milestones," said Ostrowsky. A few months later, Colby lost her language capabilities. It was a source of alarm for her parents and the family physician who'd been charting the child's health and progress.

Now ten years old, Colby remains non-verbal. Her diagnosis is one of autism.

All along the Ostrowskys' journey, the New England Center for Children has been a source of support. NECC focuses on autism-related education, research and resources for families living with the neurodevelopmental condition.

Part of that support is identifying autism as early as possible,

AUTISM

continued on page 3

WHAT IS YOUR HOME WORTH?
Contact Me for a Complimentary Market Analysis!
23 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

JOHN MCHUGH
 JohnSellsNow@Gmail.com
 978.902.5646


Just Listed

 2 Everett Terrace
 Natick, MA 01760
 \$1,499,000
Hello Summer!

MELISSA SULLIVAN & COMPANY
 Reach out to Melissa Sullivan & Co. for all of your real estate needs! 857.383.1687

SELLING A FIXER-UPPER?

If you don't know where to start

Let us manage it for you!

**Sable Homes
Metro-West**

WILLIAM RAVEIS



Call us for more information • Sable Homes Metro-West Team • 508-733-8935

Friends of Milford Announce 2025 Summer Live Tribute Concert Series

Expanded Lineup Features Iconic Tributes Every Monday Night at Plains Park

The Friends of Milford are thrilled to announce the return of the Summer Live Tribute Concert Series for 2025—bigger and better than ever. This year’s series features six exciting tribute performances celebrating legendary artists, all held Monday nights at 6:30 PM at Plains Park, rain or shine.

The 2025 lineup includes:
Cher – July 14
Elvis Presley – July 21
Rod Stewart – July 28

Neil Diamond – August 4
Frank Sinatra – August 11
Johnny Cash – August 18

John Seaver, a founding member of the Friends of Milford, shared his excitement: “The 2024 Summer Concerts were a great success, with over 250 people attending each of the three concerts. This year, we’ve expanded the Concert

Series to six concerts. We are looking forward to a great summer of fun and music.”

The concert series is a community-driven event made possible by the dedication of the Friends of Milford—John Seaver, Anthony Consigli, David Consigli, Steve Ellis, Paul Mastroianni, Rick Nashawny, and Harold Rhodes—with generous sup-

port from the Milford Lions Club.

Attendees are encouraged to bring blankets, lawn chairs, and their dancing shoes for an unforgettable summer of music under the stars.

For more information, please contact: Harold Rhodes at haroldrhodes@comcast.net

Looking to advertise your business?

Contact Susanne: 508-954-8148
sue@sodellconsult.com

Celebrate Trails CRT Cleanup



On April 27, about 25 volunteers of all ages performed a variety of tasks along the Cochituate Rail Trail, including garlic mustard removal, granite marker and bronze plaque cleaning, and establishment of a “no-dig” pollinator garden to be planted in the coming months. We are pleased to supplement the great work of Natick DPW in helping to maintain the CRT.



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

Sizes 6.5ww - 11ww, also 12m

Come See All The New Wide Shoes For Summer

Mention this ad for \$15 OFF your purchase
Expires June 30, 2025



The Forgotten Foot

“It’s Worth the Trip!”

1255 Worcester Road, Framingham
Behind St. Mary’s Credit Union, Rte. 9 West
Hours: Mon. - Sat. 11 a.m. - 6 p.m. • Sun. 12 - 4 p.m.

508-879-3290

Call today for AC Preseason Specials!



COAN

HEATING & AIR CONDITIONING

Specialists in Home Comfort & Energy Conservation

AC • FURNACES • HEAT PUMPS • HOT WATER SYSTEMS • FUEL TANKS
Service Plans, Install and Repairs & More!
Coan Bioheat® Fuel Delivery



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

AUTISM

continued from page 1

so that specialized therapies and curricula can be most impactful. As with all education, starting sooner can have a drastic impact on trajectory and outcomes.

For the Ostrowskys' son Camden, that has meant participation in an early autism detection and intervention program. Research has shown that children with autistic siblings have a 20 percent chance of being diagnosed with the condition themselves.

"They suggested he get tested," said his mother. "And so he started right away."

Those evaluations include regular visits from NECC therapists and teachers. They engage with Camden in play-based activities designed to gauge his development in a variety of aptitudes.

"We saw Cam from birth," said Erin Michaud. She is research director at NECC's early autism intervention study and programming. Camden from early on exhibited a few markers of autism, and thus was sent to an outside organization that confirmed his diagnosis.

One of those markers is an avoidance of eye contact.

"We talk to the parents on how to work on that," said Michaud. Remedying or even improving the child's competence in such seemingly simple abilities can pay developmental dividends over a lifetime.

As with all investments, the earlier the intervention the better. Between four and five years is the average age for a diagnosis of autism, said Michaud.

"That's way too late. That's the point of the study. And then they get that early intervention in."

Now three years old, Camden is scheduled to attend Natick preschool soon. There, he'll take part in a modified educational experience tailored to his special needs.

Camden is into cartoons and shows streamed from Youtube, while his sister Colby is a big fan of Curious George. Colby requires more supervised care and attention, and so attends a day school run by NECC.

"She's there all day," said Ostrowsky. "It's a lot of work, a lot of therapies. Tons and tons of therapists and teachers, which is so helpful. We have loved every single therapist we've ever had."

A stay-at-home mom, she spends some portion of her days searching online for programs

geared toward assisting families like hers. She subscribes to and participates in online social groups, ones that offer emotional support, guidance and resources from other families facing similar challenges.

"I just always have my head up for different programs," she said. "Am I taking advantage of the services I can get?" is a question often top of mind.

Lauren's husband David is her co-captain who helps make their house a home for the family. A dependable roster of support staff from NECC enables them to work toward that goal.

"It's kind of all we know," said Lauren. "We feel really supported, and we feel like we've had a lot of help."

For growing children, a consistent environment can be a blessing. Dependable routines serve as solid foundations on which to build skills and make progress. But stability and predictability aren't hallmarks of our current federal government.

Organizations that help families like the Ostrowskys often depend on grants and funding that flow from federal sources. Now, each day might bring a grab bag of executive orders, budget cuts and snap staff reductions from

Washington.

And people who rely on those agencies directly or downstream, now must plan for more uncertain tomorrows.

Still, some states are more hospitable than others in their aid to residents with special needs. State and local governments with robust assistance programs already in place are more apt to weather the capricious winds of change blowing from Congress and the executive branch of national government.

"Massachusetts is well known for doing a good job in special

ed," said Michaud. NECC's programs are funded in part by local school systems. The early intervention study and program are being funded by a private party.

"We're really lucky for that. We haven't had to worry where our funding's coming from."

Ostrowsky said the Bay State's support for families with special needs has been a source of stability all along their journey.

"I am concerned," she said. "But I know that Massachusetts is really great. So I feel like we are in the right place. We are hopefully, probably going to be OK."



Full Heating and Air Conditioning Service

Serving Natick for over 30 years

Tune-Up Special \$129.95

Call today to schedule service

781-239-9912
targetairsystems.com



REDEFINING OUTDOOR DESIGN | ELEVATING ESTATE MAINTENANCE

indresanocorp.com • 781.431.8503

Bacon Free Library in June 2025

Library Hours

Monday through Friday, 9:30-5:30
with extended hours on Tuesday until 7:00pm

Saturdays 9:30-1:30

Curbside pickup is available during all open hours

Check our website for the most up-to-date information and to register for programs: <https://baconfreelibrary.org>

Children's Programs

All Together Preschool Storytime -- Mondays and Tuesdays @ 10am -- Join us for stories and songs! We'll be outdoors, weather permitting. Bring along a blanket to get comfy.

Note: if the weather is wet or below 55 degrees, we'll move this storytime indoors. The historic nature of our building limits its accessibility. This program is also offered in an accessible location at the Morse Institute Library (check their website for dates, times, and more information).

Baby Time -- Wednesdays @ 10am -- Stories, bounces, and songs for babies 0-24 months and their grownups! This program is held indoors. The historic nature of our building limits accessibility. This program is also offered in an accessible location at the Morse Institute Library (check their website for dates, times, and more information).

Jammin with You -- Fridays, June 6th & 20th @ 10:30am -- Be prepared to laugh, dance, sing, and jam your way through 30 minutes of non-stop family fun! We'll be outdoors, weather permitting. Bring along a blanket to get comfy. Note: if the weather is wet, this program will be rescheduled.

Read to a Dog -- Saturday, June 7th @ 10am -- Children ages 5 and up can sign up for a 15-minute reading session with Sophie, a gentle golden retriever who loves belly rubs, stories, and cuddles. Registration is required; register on our website.

Circus Tots Class -- Monday, June 9th @ 11am -- Take your first steps into the magical world

of circus with this class from our neighbors at Eastern Acrobatics! Kids ages 3-6 will learn some simple and fun circus skills outdoors on the BFL lawn. Registration is required for each child attending.

Juggling Class for Kids -- Tuesday, June 10th @ 4:30pm -- Learn some basic juggling skills in this fun outdoor class from our neighbors at Eastern Acrobatics! Geared toward kids ages 7 and up. Registration is required for each child attending.

Read-a-Story, Dance-a-Story -- Friday, June 13th @ 10:30am -- Join us on the lawn for an outdoor dance class inspired by the enchanting tale, The Firebird. We'll glide through spellbound forests, flap like mystical birds, and break a powerful curse with our dance. Perfect for young movers and curious minds, this class blends storytelling, dance, and music for a joyful and expressive experience. Recommended for ages 3-8. No dance experience needed -- just bring your imagi-

nation! This class will be taught by Ms. Ashlie from the Community Dance Academy at Walnut Hill School for the Arts. Registration is required for each child attending.

Big Bubbles with Mr. Vinny the Bubble Guy -- Tuesday, June 24th @ 4pm -- Kick off Summer Reading with some running, jumping, and bubble-popping fun! With his giant, homemade bubble wands, Mr. Vinny gets kids and adults involved in bubble chasing games. Silly, interactive entertainment for all ages!

This program will be held outdoors on the BFL lawn. If it rains, the fun will move to the Morse Institute Library and Mr. Vinny will share his shadow puppet show instead.

Professor Bugman's Insect Safari -- Friday, June 27th @ 3pm -- Come explore the arthropod biodiversity outside in your own community with a real entomologist! Professor Bugman will bring the equipment and expertise; you bring the curiosity. If it rains, this program will be held indoors at the Morse Institute Library. Geared toward ages 4-12. Registration is required for each child attending.

also provide tips on how to avoid your own disaster in a national park. Be ready for your summer vacation plans with this pertinent and, probably, humorous presentation! Register for the Zoom link.

Juggling Class for Adults -- Tuesday, June 10th @ 5:30pm -- Learn some basic juggling skills in this fun outdoor class from our neighbors at Eastern Acrobatics! This session is for adults. Registration is required.

Vanish: Disappearing Icons of a Rural America -- streaming documentary film -- June 13th - June 27th -- Vanish chronicles the "visual preservation" adventures of fine art photographer, Jim Westphalen, as he travels across the country seeking out and creating stunning imagery of America's disappearing rural structures. Equal parts art, history, and storm chasing, this film takes you on a road-trip with Westphalen as he races against time and the unrelenting elements to capture the extraordinary beauty of aging barns, one-room schoolhouses, grain elevators, prairie churches, and other classic structures that our country's rural heritage was built upon. Vanish also features deep-dive interviews with preservation experts as well as the passionate people who strive and struggle to save these fading treasures, sharing their intimate stories of dreams, loss, and triumphs.

Please register on our website to view the film. You will receive the link to screen the film on June 13th. The link will

LIBRARY

on page 3

localtownpages

Published Monthly
Mailed FREE to the
Community of Natick
Circulation: 16,442
households & businesses

Publisher
Chuck Tashjian

Editorial
Susan Manning

Send Editorial to:
editor@naticktownnews.com

Advertising Sales
Susanne Odell Farber
508-954-8148
sue@sodellconsult.com

Advertising Director
Jen Schofield
508-570-6544
jenschofield@localtownpages.com

Creative Design & Layout
Michelle McSherry
Kim Vasseur
Wendy Watkins

Ad Deadline is the
15th of each month.

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

© Copyright 2025 LocalTownPages

RonsTire.com

Ron Saponaro



Tel: 508-872-2266
Fax: 508-872-2011
Email: ronstire@rcn.com

635 Waverly Street, Rte 135
Framingham, MA 01702



Prottas Painting

Interior/Exterior Painting

- Detailed Prep for Lasting Results
- Solutions to all Peeling Problems
- Expert Color Consulting Available
- No Subcontractors or Down Payments

Fully Insured
No Deposits Required
Call Glen at:
Cell: 781-290-7826
Office: 508-650-3909
www.ProttasPainting.net




Adult Programs

Author Randi Minetor discusses Death in the National Parks --- Virtual program, Monday, June 2nd @ 7pm on Zoom -- Why do some people lose their lives in America's national parks? Randi Minetor, author of seven books in the nonfiction Death in the National Parks series, will explore the fatal mistakes people make when they venture into unfamiliar wilderness. She will

BREMANN

HOME IMPROVEMENT

- New construction and additions
- Bathroom and kitchen remodeling
- Window and door replacement
- Wood flooring and refinishing
- Decks, siding and roofing
- Power washing, gutter repair
- Basement refinishing
- Carpentry and painting
- Masonry, stone patios and retention walls
- Handyman work

Detailed & Meticulous • Reasonable Rates
Call Mauricio
508.202.8602
FULLY INSURED MA HIC.#169427



Medway's new Treasure Box, a true 'mom and pop' shop

Treasure Box is a new “antique and vintage mini-mall” located at the Medway Plaza Shopping Center, to the right of the main entrance.

The 2,000 square foot shop opened in December and is owned by Sully and David Dang who are New England locals.

“We are family-operated, and you'll often see our little ones visiting us in the store,” said Sully. “We're a true ‘mom and pop’ shop.”

Between the two owners, they have more than 40 years of experience in collectibles and memorabilia, and both have business backgrounds.

“We have been selling online for many years, then we decided to go brick-and-mortar because we think the best way to get people interested in an item is to get it into their hands,” said Sully, noting the COVID-19 pandemic affected both her and David's previous employment so they decided to take on this new adventure.

“We both grew up antiquing and thrifting with our parents and digging for treasures,” said David.

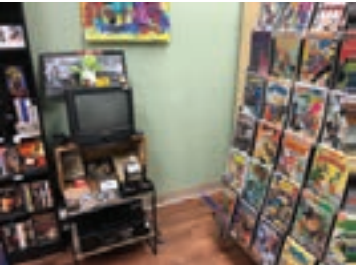
The shop includes space for over 30 individual vendors who feature antiques, art (from local artists), books, coins, collectibles, curios, jewelry, sports memorabilia, toys and games, trading cards, limited clothing items, and much more. All items are handmade, vintage or antique and are consigned or donated.

As you walk into the store, you encounter several glass display cabinets, items for sale on the walls, and traditional vendor booths. There is also a black bookcase that features various items Sully pulls from each vendor to create a temporary seasonal display.

After you pass the front half featuring the iconic ‘treasure’ chest from the 1800s, you'll enter the second half of the sprawling shop.

Since Treasure Box opened this past December, there are only a few rental spaces left, including a booth, individual locked shelves, and one wall space to hang items.

“We get to know our vendors really well, and we're able to promote them through traditional sources and our social media,” said David, noting that personal



touch can be difficult for large antique mills and shops.

“And we are selective about the types of vendors and items we incorporate,” said Sully. “We don't want to create competition between vendors within the store. At the moment we're specifically looking for a vintage toy vendor and coin/stamp vendor.”

Treasure Box also accepts donated items, including decor, cards, comics, men's and women's accessories, clothing, small housewares, collectibles, memorabilia, vintage toys, old records and more. They do not accept textiles, and are very selective on furniture given the space available in the shop.

Donated jewelry is bagged and put inside the antique “Treasure Box” and sold for \$4 per grab bag. “You never know what treasure you'll find in

Business spotlight

- Inventory changes often at Treasure Box. Spotted recently were:
- Atari game system
 - Books
 - Boombox
 - Oil & Watercolor paintings
 - Sports & Pokémon Trading Cards
 - Comic Books
 - Housewares
 - Women & Children's Clothing
 - Cabbage Patch dolls
 - Pez & Die Cast Car collection
 - Military & Americana items
 - Asian antiques
 - Vintage jewelry
 - Cameras



there, that's part of what makes it fun.”

They also offer consignment



Treasure Box also accepts donated items. Donated jewelry is bagged and put inside the antique “Treasure Box” and sold for \$4 per grab bag. “You never know what treasure you'll find in there, that's part of what makes it fun.”

and house calls.

“If people would like the freedom of mind from pricing, setting up and selling, consignment is a great idea. Sometimes people just have a few items and it's more economical to consign.”

In general, Sully says prices at Treasure Box are very competitive. “Because of the independent vendors, the pricing runs the gamut, we have something in every price range.”

The store, located to the right as you drive into the main entrance to the Medway Shopping Center, is kid-friendly and ADA-friendly with wide uncluttered aisles that are easy to maneuver.

They accept all forms of payment (cash, check, credit cards, Venmo, and Apple Pay). They offer gift certificates as well, and are also offering a free gift with purchase if you mention this article, while supplies last.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT



**BOOK A
FREE
IN-HOME
EVALUATION!**

A/C • Heating • Water Heaters



508-301-3955
ProComfortControl.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.

www.oldcolonyhospice.org

LIBRARY

continued from page 4

be good through June 27th

Summer Romance Beach Read Recommendations with Lorelei of Lorelei’s Lit Lair -- Virtual program, Monday, June 16th @ 7pm on Zoom -- If you know romance, you probably know Lorelei! Affectionately referred to as a passionate romance ambassador, Lorelei has been offering book recommendations through social media since 2010. In this program, Lorelei will chat 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. Register for the Zoom link.

True-crime Author E.C.Hanson discusses Dead End Road -- Virtual program, Monday, June 23rd @ 7pm on Zoom -- 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 others, E.C. Hanson digs into this unsolved murder case. 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 this book, his research, and his goal in pursuing this cold case. Register for the Zoom link.

Drop-In Plein Air Art Studio -- Monday, June 30th @1:30pm -- Join Natick landscape artist Barbara Levine for drop-in plein air painting on the grounds of the Bacon Free Library. (Other locations may be considered as well.) All levels of painters, and all mediums are welcome. Supplies will not be provided, so please bring your

own equipment including: easels, paints, brushes, any solvents or mediums used, painting surfaces, paper towels, drinking water, hats, garbage bags, sunscreen, and good humor. Barbara will be on hand to offer suggestions during this weekly 2-hour program. Come to as many sessions as you like and please arrive by 1:30pm in order to have time to set up. Please register for the sessions you will be attending, so that we have an idea of how many artists to expect each week and so we may contact you if the program is canceled due to inclement weather. This program is for adults only. Register on our website.

Adult Book & Film Clubs - registration required for all clubs; please visit our website for details

<https://baconfreelibrary.org/clubs-programs/>

Mystery Book Club -- Thursday, June 5th @ 1pm on Zoom

History Book Club -- Thursday, June 12th @ 11am on Zoom

Environmental Book Club -- Saturday, June 21st @ 12pmat the library

Tuesday Book Club -- Tuesday, June 24th @ 6:30pm at the library

Nonfiction Book Club -- Saturday, June 28th @10am on Zoom

Cinephile Mondays -- last Monday of the month @ 4pm on Zoom; watch and discuss films. Check the BFL website for the film of the month and to register.

Museum Passes

The Bacon Free Library and Morse Institute Library offer passes for free or reduced-admission to 30 local museums. Check one out and plan your next day trip!

“Quality and Professionalism Every Shingle Time”

OUR SERVICES

- ▲ Roofing
- ▲ Siding
- ▲ Gutters
- ▲ Windows
- ▲ Doors
- ▲ Skylights

OUR NEW SERVICE DIVISION

\$99 Service Calls

- ▲ Gutter Cleaning
- ▲ Small Leaks
- ▲ Ventilation Questions
- ▲ Flashing Repairs

Experience the Best in Roofing:
60+ Years of Quality Service

LICENSED | INSURED | CERTIFIED

CONNELL
ROOFING • SIDING • GUTTERS

781-444-7577
www.ConnellRoofing.com

Natick PAVING

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL

Paving - Sealcoating
Crack Filling - Excavation
FULLY INSURED & FREE ESTIMATES

SCHEDULE NOW!
Call Mauricio 508-202-8602
BHRPaving@gmail.com

The Short Term Rental Report

What ‘Unreasonable Hospitality’ Can Teach Us About 5-Star Vacation Rentals



Dave Menapace, President

In today’s vacation rental market, great photos and clean linens are just the baseline. If you want your guests to leave raving, not just satisfied, it’s time to embrace a whole new level of care. Enter *Unreasonable Hospitality* by Will Guidara.

Originally set in the fine-dining world, Guidara’s approach is

a masterclass in turning ordinary service into unforgettable experience. But here’s the good news: you don’t need a Michelin star to apply these lessons. You just need heart, creativity, and a willingness to do things most hosts won’t.

Here are five powerful takeaways from the book, along with tips on how to use them to level up your vacation rental game.

1. Make It Personal

Cookie-cutter stays are out. Personalized experiences are the gold standard. Before your guests even arrive, find out who they are. Is it a family with toddlers? Stock some bedtime books. A couple on their honeymoon? Cue the champagne and rose petals. These thoughtful touches don’t cost much, but they leave an incredible impression.

2. Surprise and Delight

Guidara’s golden rule: give guests what they didn’t even know they wanted. Think beyond the basics. A s’mores kit by the firepit, a beach day basket, or a handwritten note with your favorite local restaurant tips. It’s about creating “wow” moments that make people smile, snap a photo, and say, “This place gets it.”

3. Create Moments, Not Just Stays

Your home is more than a place to sleep. It’s a stage for memories. Ask yourself: how can I help my guests create one amazing moment during their stay? Maybe it’s a telescope for stargazing. Maybe it’s a rainy-day game basket. These small touches turn a rental into a story your guests will retell for years.

4. Empower Your Team to Say “Yes”

Hospitality isn’t a solo act. If you work with a team - cleaners, handymen, or guest support - give them the green light to care deeply. Let them solve problems creatively, leave personal notes, or offer early check-ins when possible. When your team feels empowered, they stop checking boxes and start creating joy.

5. Systematize the Magic

Spontaneity is great, but consistency is even better. Build your special touches into systems: seasonal welcome baskets, guest-type profiles, or rotating “wow” ideas. This ensures every guest gets a dose of delight, no matter who’s staying or who’s working that week. Magic doesn’t have to be random. It can be reliable.

At the heart of *Unreasonable*

Hospitality is one big idea: people don’t just want a place to stay, they want to feel like they matter. And when you deliver that kind of care, you build loyalty, earn glowing reviews, and create something far greater than a rental business.

So go ahead, be unreasonable. Be the host your guests can’t stop talking about. Because when hospitality is done right, it doesn’t just meet expectations, it transforms them.

This article was brought to you by Dave Menapace, a thought leader in short term rentals and President of The 5 Star Co-Host, LLC (www.5strcohost.com) a leading vacation rental management company in New England.

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

SOUTHWICK'S ZOO

WILD FUN

ALL-DAY ADVENTURES

Roar with the lions, soar through the trees on the Skyfari, catch a bird show, and explore over 200 acres of amazing wildlife from around the world!

SouthwicksZoo.com

Mendon, MA

PURCHASE TICKETS

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 honest, 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 Adoptable 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.

Celebrating 15 Years of Spark!

Bring your family and friends for a FREE afternoon of fun at Spark's Community Birthday Party!

When: Sunday, June 8th - drop by anytime from 2-4pm
Where: Spark's Little Free Diverse Library at Connor Heffler Park, Natick
Who: You, your family, friends, and community members of ALL AGES!
What: Free kid-friendly activities, music and bubbles with DJ Mike, and celebratory cake pops will be served (while they last!) thanks to Starbucks! Additional details can be found here.
We appreciate you sharing this intergenerational community

event and hope to see you then! We can't wait to celebrate with you!
We invite you to "make a wish" and share your thoughts and reflections on Spark's 15th Birthday! We plan to use these notes (anonymously) to highlight this milestone. Make a wish here: <https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScBi2b-KrsPDlbBOZGcY2wWl6ICjL-HvwO6Vg5BV3FkF9osOeQ/viewform>

All Aboard!

In partnership with the Town of Natick Recreation and Parks Department, FoNT helps run All Aboard, a program to make cycling accessible to riders with disabilities or mobility limitations on five Saturdays in 2025. This free program is funded by grants, and relies on volunteers. We



are recruiting riders and volunteers for June 14. All Aboard is supported by grants from the MetroWest Health Foundation, the MathWorks Community Foundation, and the Rotary Club of Natick.

Juneteenth in Natick

The Natick Historical Society and Natick is United will co-host a community reading of Frederick Douglass' powerful 1852 speech, "What to a Slave is the 4th of July?" at 10:30 AM on Natick Common. Historian and Natick resident, Brenna Greer, will offer an introduction to the speech and facilitate dialogue afterwards. The afternoon continues with

Natick Center Cultural District's Juneteenth event on Natick Common from 12:00–3:00 PM. There will be delicious food, fun activities, and musical performances by Drum Nomads and Squeezebox Stompers. All are welcome! More details coming soon. ASL Interpreting Services will be available during the event. NCCD invites BIPOC business owners and non-profits supporting these initiatives to create memorable cultural experiences and/or provide information to the community. Please email Heather Rockwood at executivedirector@natickcenter.org to inquire.

CELEBRATE • EDUCATE • INSPIRE

JUNETEENTH IN NATICK

19 JUNE 10:30 AM TO 3:00 PM IN NATICK CENTER NATICKCENTER.ORG

Achieve Clear Skin



ACNE CLINIC FOR ALL AGES

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

Education. Coaching. Support.

90% of my clients clear in 12-16 weeks

LISA MASSIMIANO - LICENSED AESTHETICIAN, ACNE SPECIALIST
CERTIFIED BY THE NATIONAL FACE REALITY ACNE CLINIC

Schedule your acne consultation today!

508-881-1180

SkinSmart SALON

SkinSmartSalon.com
SkinSmartSalon@aol.com

44 FRONT STREET, 2ND FLOOR • ASHLAND

116 Main Street, Medway (508) 533-6655

32 Hasting Street, Rte 16, Mendon (508) 381-0249

43 Main Street, Hopkinton (508) 625-8100

325 N. Main Street, Natick (508) 647-0500

296 Washington Street, Westwood (508) 533-6655

907 Main Street, Walpole (508) 533-6655

Don't forget your muffins, cakes and pastry for Father's Day! muffinhousecafe.com

Open Daily Bakery with Fresh Muffins/Pastries

Breakfast and Lunch Sandwiches Best Blueberry Muffins Since Jordan Marsh

Receive 10% off any cake with this coupon
All our cakes are made from scratch on the premises
Expires 6-30-2025

FREE SMALL COFFEE with a purchase of a muffin with this coupon
Expires 6-30-2025

Know the risks of investing — and not investing



Gary Shilman, Financial Advisor

FINANCIAL FOCUS®

Provided by Edward Jones

Investing involves risk — and so does not investing. You should know how both these types of risk can affect your ability to reach your financial goals.

Let's start with the risks associated with investing. There's not a single investment risk because different types of investments carry different types of risk. Here's a look at three investment categories and some of the risks connected with them:

- **Stocks** – When you invest in stocks or stock-based mutual funds, you will incur the risk that the value of your investments may decline. Stock prices can fall for any number of reasons – lower-than-expected earnings, a change in management, change in consumer tastes, and so on. Although the historical trend for stocks has been positive, there will always be periods when prices are down. One way to help defend against this volatility is to hold stocks for the long term, rather than constantly buying and selling, and to own a mix of stocks from different industries and even different countries.

- **Bonds** – When market interest rates rise, the value of your bonds can decline because investors won't pay full price for them when they can get the newer ones that offer higher rates. Another type of risk associated with bonds is credit risk, which essen-

tially describes the risk that the bond issuer may default, potentially disrupting your flow of interest payments. However, you can help mitigate this risk by purchasing investment-grade bonds that receive the highest credit ratings from independent rating agencies.

- **Certificates of deposit (CDs)** – Although CDs are generally considered safe because their principal is guaranteed, they do carry reinvestment risk — the risk that you won't be able to reinvest the proceeds of a maturing CD at the same interest rate. To help protect against this risk, you could own CDs of varying maturities. When market rates are low, you'll still have your longer-term CDs paying higher interest, and when market rates rise, you can reinvest the money from your maturing shorter-term CDs into the new, higher-paying ones.

Now, let's turn to a com-

pletely different type of risk — the risk of not investing. And this risk is easy to understand: If you don't invest, or if you consistently invest only in the most conservative vehicles, your money may not grow enough to allow you to reach your important long-term goals, such as a comfortable retirement.

Of course, this doesn't mean you should never own conservative investments, including CDs and some types of bonds. When you're saving for a short-term goal, such as a down payment on a house, a wedding or a long vacation, you want the money to be there when you need it, so an investment that offers protection of principal may be appropriate, even if it doesn't provide much in the way of growth.

For those long-term goals, though, you may need to build an investment portfolio that contains growth potential and that reflects your personal risk tolerance and time horizon. Over time, your risk tolerance may

change. As you get closer to retirement, you may want to take a somewhat more conservative approach — but you'll always need some elements of growth.

When you invest, risk can't be eliminated, but it can be managed. Keeping this in mind, consider a long-term investment strategy that allows for risk but also offers the possibility of reward.

Contact Gary Shilman to discuss your financial needs, wants, and wishes.

Gary Shilman
Financial Advisor Edward Jones
348 Washington Street
Wellesley Hills, MA 02481
781-694-8138
Gary.Shilman@edwardjones.com

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

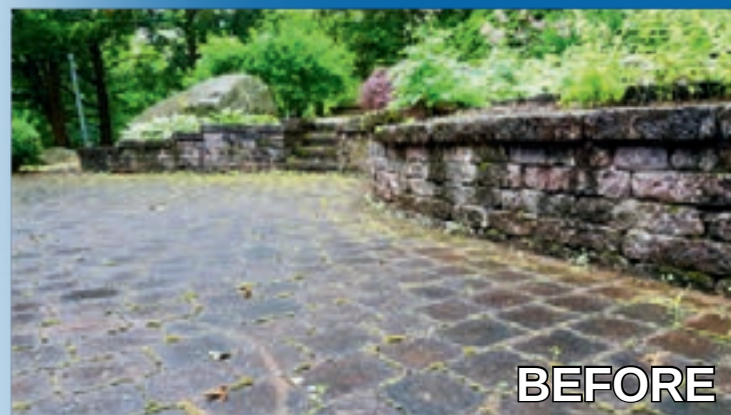
Sponsored articles are submitted by our advertisers. The advertiser is solely responsible for the content of this article.



Refresh. Renew. Revive.

Popular Services:

- House Washing
- Roof Treatments
- Deck and Patio Cleaning
- Window Cleaning
- Gutter Cleaning and More



BEFORE

Patio Restoration



AFTER

508-944-6644
underpressurewash.com

Stucchi Landscape & Design – Creating a Design that Grows with the Seasons

By JENNIFER RUSSO

Spring has certainly sprung, and we are thinking about all of our awesome summer plans now. Cookouts and outdoor dinners, pool time, and beautiful garden spaces! The beautification projects have been popping up and you've probably driven by a house and loved a new walkway or bushes that they added. Maybe you were watching HGTV or looking at a summer furniture catalog and were inspired by the design of a patio, pergola, or other outdoor space on the page. Now is the time to turn all of those ideas into a gorgeous and functional masterpiece of your own!

Stucchi Landscape & Design is ready to help you, leveraging their decades of experience to help shape your ideas to fit your property, explain the entire process from beginning to end, and make it the perfect place to suit the needs of your family and guests. Perhaps you are looking for a bigger patio space or an outdoor kitchen or want to trade an old kids play area into a home-vacation oasis with a pool and bar. Maybe you've decided to try your hand at gardening or homesteading and need raised garden beds or a place for a greenhouse. It could be that you just want more trees and interesting plants in your space, but aren't sure what will work, where to

Business spotlight

get them, or how to go about it. Whatever it may be, Stucchi can bring that project to life.

And believe it or not, now is also a terrific opportunity to start thinking about what we need for the fall and winter months too. With the incredibly wet spring season we have had giving us rain for days at a time, you may have become aware of certain spots in your yard that are prone to runoff and pooling. Proper drainage is important year-round. Inadequate drainage leads to foundation damage, icy patches, and when the snow melts it can cause flooding and ruin your basement. Getting ahead of these issues is important and can be done in the summer months.

"Living in New England with a relatively short summer, we know autumn will be here before we know it. People look forward to gathering around firepits when the weather cools down, this is a great time to have those installed. Another option to consider is to have the bones of your phased projects installed. Integral components such as walls, patios, walkways, pools, and other landscape construction features can



Photos courtesy of Chris Rucinski



be built ahead of time for next season," shares owner Jim Stucchi.

Depending on the town you live in, certain permits may be required for the installation of pools and other structures. Stucchi works with the appropriate boards and conservation committees to ensure that everything is done the right way according to these regulations.

"Nobody likes to think about the colder months this early. However, this is the time to con-

sider the trees and shrubs that provide interest all winter long. Whether they are funky evergreen specimens, classic birch trees with their exfoliating bark or the quintessential bright red orbs of winterberry hollies. We often design landscapes with trees specifically for their interesting branching structures and what they look like once their leaves have fallen, when they reveal their 'sexy skeletons'. Since winter is a season that lasts quite some time around here, it is well worth taking those elements into account now."

Another thing worth thinking about early is lighting. There is an opportunity to cast a dramatic glow over your landscape investments and highlight your home's architectural details. Adding details like pathway, deck, and accent lighting to highlight focal points like trees, gardens or water features can go a long way.

"We can add custom lighting to make the property even more beautiful, especially during those long, dark, winter months. Our low voltage landscape lighting systems are designed with energy-saving LED lamps with an array of fixtures that complement every architectural style and fit every budget. No obnoxious security flood lights or dim solar paths. It also adds curb appeal and extra security to your home," shares Jim.

It is critical to Stucchi that each space works just right for the owner, taking the time to really listen to their clients to understand their lifestyle and how they want to use the property. Every project is assessed and evaluated, and every detail is considered. Their forward-thinking and comprehensive approach ensures that the project is a success for the long term, maximizes the property's potential, and is designed in a way that it can be beautiful year-round.

With over 25 years of landscape design experience built on a foundation of trust and integrity, Jim not only serves his customers but also supports the communities he works with. Jim is a longstanding board member for the Metrowest YMCA, a current member of the Keefe Technical High School Landscape/Horticulture Advisory Board and has served as President of the Massachusetts Nursery and Landscape Association.

Stucchi Landscape & Design is based in Holliston and offers services all around New England. Projects are customized to a client's goals, timeline and budget. To learn more or to begin bringing your outdoor vision to life, visit stucchilandscape.com or call 774-233-2151 to book a consultation.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

BRING YOUR REMODELING DREAM TO LIFE!

If you can envision it, then we can build it.

**HOME IMPROVEMENT
NEW CONSTRUCTION
KITCHEN & BATH REMODELING
PAINTING & CARPENTRY
CLEANING SERVICES**

IN BUSINESS FOR OVER 20 YEARS

Commercial / Residential

Remodels • Home Improvement • Additions • Painting

FULLY INSURED • FREE ESTIMATES
www.alltimesconstruction.com

508-231-7703

ALL TIMES CONSTRUCTION

Natick Resident Emily Sarazin Completed 129th Boston Marathon to Benefit Community Foundation for MetroWest

Natick, MA – April 24, 2025 – Natick resident Emily Sarazin successfully completed the iconic 129th Boston Marathon on Monday, April 21, 2025, running to support the Community Foundation for MetroWest (CFMW) and give back to her local community.

A lifelong athlete, Emily’s passion for running grew after a distinguished career in competitive soccer. She transitioned from half marathons to her first full marathon in Ottawa, Canada, in 2014—a milestone event that ended with a marriage proposal from her now-husband, Brennan. Since then, Emily and Brennan have made Natick their home, raising their sons Cooper (7) and Mason (5), and fostering a family culture that celebrates running and community involvement.

“I love the influence my running and training has on my sons,” Emily shared. “Mason and Cooper have both already said they want to run the Boston Marathon one day (and they were both upset when I told them they’d have to wait until they turn 18!).”

Emily chose the Community Foundation for MetroWest as her charity partner because of her deep appreciation for the organization’s commitment to addressing local needs. “I love that the local community benefits, and I admire how the Foundation’s team understands the community’s current and greatest needs,” she explained. “The Foundation



which helped mold my perspective, and I hope my kids can take part in something similar,” she said. Throughout her training and fundraising journey, Emily expressed gratitude for the overwhelming support she received from the Natick community and beyond. “It’s incredible to see people come together in such a positive way!” she said.



The Community Foundation for MetroWest is dedicated to improving the quality of life for all who live and work in the region by connecting philanthropic resources with community needs. Natick residents and community members supported Emily’s marathon effort and the impactful

To learn more about Emily’s fundraising efforts and the work of the Community Foundation for MetroWest—or to make a donation before

fundraising concludes on May 30th—visit her fundraising page: <https://www.justgiving.com/page/emilysarazin>.

About the Community Foundation for MetroWest: In 1995, the Community Foundation for MetroWest became the trusted philanthropic partner for individuals, families, nonprofits, and businesses in the region who are driven to enhance the quality of life for all in MetroWest. For thirty years, the Foundation has developed extensive Action Projects (including Equity in Education, Housing and Homelessness Prevention, Workforce Development and Arts & Culture) and awarded more than \$37 million in grants to charitable organizations. The Foundation currently stewards more than \$33 million in charitable

assets for current needs and future impact. To learn more about the Foundation’s commitment to improved quality of life in MetroWest, visit communityfoundationmw.org or call (508) 647-2260.

truly brings the ‘it takes a village’ concept to life, and I believe that building up the community will positively impact everyone.”

The Foundation’s Youth in Philanthropy program resonated with Emily, reflecting her own formative experiences in community service. “I was able to participate in several community service opportunities growing up,



NATICK AFFORDABLE HOUSING
2- Three or Four Bedroom Townhomes
Prices: Three BR—\$325,300
Four BR—\$347, 500

Stonegate St. Patrick—43 E. Central St—Natick

Public Information Meeting Via Zoom.com
6:30 p.m., Thursday, June 26, 2025
Meeting ID: 869 4958 1424
Passcode: 364339
Application Deadline
July 28, 2025

MAX INCOME
1 person: \$92,650 5 person: \$142,900
2 person: \$105,850 6 person: \$153,500
3 person: \$119,100 7 person: \$164,100
4 person: \$132,300 8 person: \$174,650
Pets allowed per policy.
Assets to \$75,000.

Units distributed by lottery. 1st Time Homebuyers
Reasonable Accommodations Available for persons with disabilities.

Language/translation assistance available, at no charge, upon request.

For Info and Application Availability:
Pick Up: Natick Town Hall, Community Development Office, Public Library
Phone: (978) 456-8388 **FAX:** 978-456-8986
TTY/TTD: 711
Email: lotteryinfo@mcohousingservices.com
Online: mcohousingservices.com

Applications must be submitted or postmarked on or before the application deadline. Applications can be returned by mail. The Application includes all submission information.



SALMON
HEALTH & RETIREMENT



A fresh start, A CARING COMMUNITY

As nature blossoms, so can you —
at Whitney Place Assisted Living and Memory Care at Natick. With select apartments starting at \$5,995, there’s no better time to embrace a fresh start in a caring, supportive community built to help you thrive.

Your next chapter starts here —
call 508-655-5000 to schedule your personal tour today!

Whitney Place at Natick
– Three Vision Drive, Route 9 West
Natick, MA 01760

Community Foundation for MetroWest Announces 11th Annual Spring Inspiration Breakfast

"Journeys in Philanthropy: Pathways to Impactful Giving"

The Community Foundation for MetroWest (CFMW), with generous support from presenting sponsor National Development, is pleased to announce its 11th Annual Spring Inspiration Breakfast, "Journeys in Philanthropy: Pathways to Impactful Giving," taking place on Monday, May 29th, 9-11:00 am at the Wellesley Country Club. This inspiring morning will bring together donors, philanthropic leaders, and community members to explore the diverse paths to impactful giving.

Co-chaired by Megan and Ken Knox, dedicated supporters of the Foundation, the event will feature personal stories of impact, insights into meaningful giving, and opportunities to connect with others

who are transforming their communities through philanthropy.

CFMW is honored to recognize Carol and Jack O'Neil as this year's Community Philan-

thropic Honorees. Longtime supporters of the Foundation, the O'Neils have played a pivotal role in strengthening nonprofit initiatives across MetroWest and beyond. Jack, a former Chairman of CFMW's

Board of Trustees, has also served as a Trustee at Colby College. Their philanthropic leadership spans education, housing, food security, and healthcare, supporting causes such as school scholarship programs, local food pantries, and major capital projects. Their generosity continues to leave a

lasting imprint on the region, improving lives and expanding opportunities for those in need.

A dynamic panel discussion, moderated by Katie Collins, Founder and Principal of

- Miki Akimoto, Chief Impact Officer of the National Center for Family Philanthropy
- Orson Watson, Philanthropic Advisor
- Caroline Murphy, Vice President of Advancement and Philanthropic Services at the Community Foundation for MetroWest.

Together, they will share insights on effective family philanthropy, discuss diverse approaches to giving, and inspire attendees to forge their own philanthropic paths.

"This is a rare opportunity to learn from experienced philanthropists, engage in

thought-provoking conversations, and consider how you can shape your own path in giving," said Jay Kim, Executive Director of the Foundation.

About the Community Foundation for MetroWest

The Community Foundation for MetroWest is the trusted philanthropic partner for individuals, families, and businesses dedicated to enhancing the quality of life for all in the MetroWest region. Since 1995, the Foundation has awarded more than \$35 million in grants to charitable organizations and stewards over \$30 million in charitable assets to 30+ cities and towns across the region. Visit communityfoundationmw.org or call (508) 647-2260 to learn more.



**Community
Foundation
for MetroWest**

Robert Roofing & Gutters

49 YEARS IN BUSINESS!

**ONE CALL SENDS
A ROOFER...
NOT A SALESMAN**

857-247-8709

- Roofing
- Siding
- Windows
- Gutters
- Residential Rubber
- Flat Roofs

FINANCING AVAILABLE

**NO GIMMICKS,
JUST HONEST PRICING!**



CertainTeed



**FREE ESTIMATES
LICENSED & INSURED**

www.robertroofingandgutters.com • Rgreene465@gmail.com

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

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

NEW ENGLAND
REGLAZE

NOW
\$349

DON'T REPLACE YOUR OLD TUB, REGLAZE IT!
TUBS, TILE SINKS AND MUCH MORE

SAVE
\$100
WITH AD

Reg. \$449

WE DO ANY TUB!
CALL NOW
617-895-7771

www.newenglandreglaze.com

UPCOMING
EVENTS

JOIN US!

Limited space
available.
Call us to RSVP.

FRI 6/20 | 4-7 PM

THURS 7/24 | 2-4 PM

Brews & Barbecue

Enjoy savory ribs,
antique cars, &
swing music, too!

Low Down
Country Boil

Lobster rolls, crab cakes,
clam chowder—oh my!

THE
RESIDENCE
at Natick South

119 E Central Street, Natick
781-694-6997
residencenaticksouth.com

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 Mazuchelli, 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.



GOT ANTS?



CALL NOW
to protect your home!

FREE Inspection
FREE Outside Barrier

WPC Pest & Termite Control
508-435-2211
nobugsnopests.com

 LICENSED & INSURED
ALL WORK GUARANTEED
FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED

- Some of the most common home invaders include:
- **Odorous 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 recommend a course of treatment. To learn more about ants, please visit www.nobugsnopests.com.

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



Riverbend of South Natick



◆ Short Term Rehab

◆ 24 Hr Nursing Coverage

◆ Respite Stays Welcome

◆ Physical Therapists On Site

◆ On Call Physician

◆ Hospice Services

Exceptional Short-Term Rehab & Skilled Nursing Care

For more information or to set up a tour, please visit our website, or call the number below

(508)653-8330

34 South Lincoln St, South Natick, MA

www.rehabassociates.com/riverbend



Medicaid/Medicare Certified



Looking to advertise
your business?

Contact Susanne:
508-954-8148
sue@sodellconsult.com

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?

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.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

MA. CSL 105479

MA. REG 135975

HOUSE HELPERS

Contractors

HouseHelpers.org

FRANK DIGIANDOMENICO, OWNER

(508) 875-8789 office • (508) 561-2080 cell

Since 2001

Licensed and Insured

SUMMER SPECIAL

10% OFF Window Replacements

Energy Credit Qualified - Offer good thru 8/31/25

Basements | Kitchens | Baths | Decks

Interior & Exterior Remodeling & Structural work

Visit our website to learn more @ HouseHelpers.org

STUCCHI

LANDSCAPE & DESIGN

STUCCHILANDSCAPE.COM

774-233-2151

Sports

Barnes Is The Total Package For NHS Volleyball Team

By KEN HAMWEY
STAFF SPORTS WRITER

Branch Barnes is a dynamic competitor who also is a great ambassador for Natick High School.



Branch Barnes is a high-honors student who carries a grade-point average of 4.0. Photo by Jason Stracuzzi

The 18-year-old Barnes, who plays outside hitter for the Redhawks’ volleyball team, has a plethora of achievements and attributes that make him a breed apart.

Consider theses accolades —

the 6-foot-2, 160-pound senior has been a three-time captain, starting as a sophomore; he’s been a Bay State Conference all-star three times (twice as an honorable mention); he was an all-state selection by the Boston Herald as a junior; and he’s viewed as the No. 1 setter in the New England club-volleyball circuit.

A high-honors student who carries a GPA of 4.0, Barnes’ coach at NHS, Peter Suxho, knows he’s got a gem who’s very special.

“Branch is very athletic,” Suxho said. “He can jump, block and hit. He’s got power, he’s well-skilled and his volleyball IQ is really high. Branch is a read-and-react player who relies on good instincts. A versatile player, he’s a captain who leads by example and by being supportive of all his teammates.”

Barnes likes to think that his work ethic and his leadership ability are what make him tick.

“When we hit a lull in our play, I like being the catalyst who restarts the flame,” he emphasized. “In my role as an outside hitter, I like delivering the knockout punch by putting the ball on the floor. I’m an ardent believer of taking the game to our opponent.”

A native of Natick, Barnes is acutely aware that an athlete’s effort and work ethic can’t surpass

100 percent. He says his competitive philosophy and his No. 1 goal in his final season at Natick are “to leave everything on the floor and give 100 percent on every play.”

“I compete like I want to reach 110 percent,” he said. “And, no matter what our record is, I go into every match like we’re 0-0. It’s a plus to have a short memory.”

When the Redhawks began the season, they dropped their first two matches — to Needham and Brookline. Barnes showed no signs of panic.

“Those are two of the top four teams in the state,” he offered. “Both have strong programs. Newton North and Natick are the other two. We’ll be okay.”

He was right.

At Local Town Pages deadline, the Redhawks were on a 12-match winning streak. They were 12-2, well-positioned for a playoff run. And Barnes’ statistics have been a key to Natick’s surge. He’s compiled 185 kills, 28 blocks, and 22 aces.

“My No. 2 goal is to advance in the playoffs and hopefully go on a deep run,” he said.

Barnes is no stranger to tourney volleyball. Or deep runs. As a freshman and sophomore, Natick got to the Elite Eight before elimination. Last year, after defeating Springfield Central, Cambridge



Whether he’s jumping, blocking or hitting, Branch Barnes is a dynamic volleyball player. Photo by Jason Stracuzzi

and Winchester, the Redhawks were ousted in the Final Four by Newton North.

“For my goals to be achieved, it’s crucial that we compete with great effort on every play in every game,” Barnes said. Natick lost four seniors from last year’s 15-5 squad and this year’s contingent is young. “Four of our starters are first-year varsity players,” Barnes noted.

Besides Barnes, who last year compiled 210 kills and 39 blocks, Natick’s other captain, junior

setter Luke Dratch, and senior Simon Pedrelli (middle blocker), are top-notch contributors.

“Luke has a tough job following in the footsteps of Harrison Landry, an all-star and all-state player,” Barnes said. “He’s smart, a true student of the game who is very analytical and has a high volleyball IQ. Simon has a great attitude and is a team player who’s the rock of the team.”

SPORTS
on page 3

WENZEL

Inc.



- Patios
- Walkways
- Walls
- Fire Pits
- Outdoor Kitchens
- Pool Surrounds



- Landscape Design & Installation
- Lawn Installation
- Grading
- Excavation
- Drainage

508-376-2815

Free Estimates • Fully Insured

www.WenzelLandscaping.com



Looking to advertise your business?

Contact Susanne: 508-954-8148

sue@sodellconsult.com

SPORTS

continued from page 16

Barnes, who's in his fifth year of club volleyball, is also a fan of his coach, who's won state titles at Natick and Millis. "Coach Suxho is a proponent of tough love," Barnes said. "He tells you what you need to hear, not what you want to hear. A great motivator, he emphasizes being relentless."

Barnes has yet to choose what college to attend but he knows he wants to major in computer science and definitely play volleyball, either at the varsity or club level. "I've had some offers from Division 1 schools but my top priority is academics," he emphasized.

Natick's back-up setter, Barnes plays that position for his club team (Small Volleyball of Boston). After playing in a variety of club tournaments, Barnes usually is ranked top setter in New England.

As his Natick High career nears the finish line, Barnes gets reflective when recalling his best match and his top thrill in volleyball.

"Beating Newton North last year, 3-1, was my best match," he

said. "That win gave us the No. 1 rank in the state for awhile. It was a great all-around effort, for me and the team. I felt like that match was the most prepared I've ever been. I just felt very confident."

Barnes's top thrill is being named a captain as a sophomore, then two more times. "It tells me that the program and its coaches have faith in me and trust me," he said. "It's been great to associate and work with our coaches."

Embracing his role as an outside hitter, Barnes likes his role that embodies both offense and defense. "I like scoring and forcing opposing teams to adjust to us and I also enjoy transitioning to defense," he said. "The position is challenging because it requires a well-defined skill set. It involves being adept on defense and also at passing, hitting, and serving."

Calling his parents (Mark and Sarah) role models for their support and encouragement, Barnes says: "My dad is athletic-minded and has really embraced volleyball and my mom is like a captain off the court. She's heavily involved in the program and organizes lots of team dinners."

Barnes has learned valuable life lessons in both interscholastic

and club volleyball. "Because of sports, I'm able to handle adversity, be resilient and remain committed," he noted. "Sports have also helped me to become

a strong leader and a good teammate. Two other lessons include being accountable and responsible."

Branch Barnes is the total

package — in volleyball and in academics. He definitely personifies desire, dedication and devotion to whatever task he tackles.

MERCURY RECOVERY PROGRAM

Mercury is an element that can be harmful to human health and the environment if not disposed of properly.

Mercury is found in products such as:



Thermostats



Thermometers



Mercury Switches



Fluorescent Lamps

Please contact your local Board of Health or Department of Public Works for information on where to safely dispose of these items.

SPONSORED BY



Happy Father's Day!

PROGRAMS

- Flexible pricing & budget programs
- Ask about our Veteran, Military, First Responders discount

SERVICE

- Emergency service 24-7
- Oil & propane fired equipment

FREE: 100 GALLONS
of Home Heating Oil or Propane*

FREE: \$100
ACCOUNT CREDIT

towards your first
Tune-up or Service Plan*

Give us a call today!

800-649-5949

info@medwayoilpropane.com

FUELS

- Heating Oil
- Propane
- Diesel
- Bagged Coal

INSTALLATIONS

- Oil & propane heating systems & water heaters
- Oil to propane conversions

Be sure to ask about our
NEW CUSTOMER PROGRAM!

MEDWAY
OIL & PROPANE

"Your Total Home Comfort Company"

FAMILY OWNED & OPERATED SINCE 1954



Your Neighbors have Voted Us
GOLD MEDAL WINNERS!

Call today to learn more about our services!

*APPLIES TO WHOLE HOUSE HEAT CUSTOMERS ONLY. ASK FOR DETAILS. *NEW AUTOMATIC DELIVERY CUSTOMERS ONLY. OFFER ENDS THE LAST DAY OF THE MONTH.

Real estate agent Nina Sable will take it from here

Nina Sable is “willing to do everything” when it comes to real estate, so it’s no surprise that she is ranked a top producer who has sold properties across the state — from Cape Cod to Boston to Palmer. While her reach is vast, Sable also has deep local connections as a Natick-based agent with William Raveis.

Sable has experience selling a variety of properties — from single-family homes and condos to log cabins and mobile homes — but she is particularly well known for working with absentee owners and seniors. “Just turn over your keys to me,” she says, “and I’ll take it from there.”

When working with absentee owners, which may include clients selling a family estate or landlords hoping to offload a property, Sable says that most people “don’t ever have to step in the house again. I make the process really easy for them.”

That process includes Sable tapping into her extensive network to prepare a house for sale with minimal effort on the



Nina Sable, with William Raveis Real Estate in Natick, has extensive experience working with seniors who are planning to sell their homes.

owner’s part. This might mean getting the home decluttered, coordinating with movers, connecting with attorneys, meeting with fire inspectors, working with the buyer’s agent, and executing other tasks that enable the owner to have a hands-off approach. Throughout the un-

Sable Homes Metro-West

Business spotlight

dertaking, Sable says she is an “over communicator” and always makes sure clients are kept in the loop. “I am really good at educating people about the process,” she says.

When it comes to local buyers and sellers, Sable notes that William Raveis has a “beautiful office that is easily accessible” if clients wish to meet outside of their homes. She has been at the Natick location for over eight years and has developed a keen knowledge of Natick neighborhoods and fostered many professional partnerships. As part of the Natick, Wellesley and Needham team at William Raveis, she

also has access to specialized resources in all three towns.

Beyond the immediate area, a newer specialty of Sable’s is the Cape Cod market. “If people in Natick are ready to move out of their homes and get settled in a new place on the peninsula, I can help them out in both places,” she says. “I particularly love it down there and enjoy helping people find beautiful waterfront properties.”

Sable entered the real estate sector after working in the senior care industry, which has made her an ideal agent for older adults. “Many seniors in Natick have a lot of equity in their homes and want to get out, but they might face several barriers,” Sable explains. “For example, the house may need extensive repairs, the owners might have financial constraints, or they might not know all of their options. I also work with reverse mortgages for those who want to stay in their house.”

Given her connections in senior care, Sable is able and will-

ing to connect people to assisted living centers, estate planners, financial planners, real estate attorneys and whatever other services they may need. “Coming out of the helping industry, my real estate work really parallels that,” she says. Sable worked with the federal Long-Term Care Ombudsman program where she helped families navigate their care options. “I functioned as a negotiator for care, and those skills have transferred over to negotiating in real estate as well,” she explains.

Even if homeowners aren’t ready to act, Sable says she can be a valuable resource to them by sharing market data, providing suggestions and answering questions. Sable stresses that today’s market is “complicated” and warrants the helping hand of an expert.

For more information, visit sablesellshomes.com, or contact Sable at (508) 733-8935 or nina.sable@raveis.com.

PAID ADVERTISEMENT

FINANCING AVAILABLE

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

Or Call

508-877-3500

Millis, MA 02054

Fully Licensed & Insured

CSL 056746

HIC 108807

\$500 OFF Full Roof Replacement

On 28 Square Feet or More

Exp. June 30, 2025 • Offers May Not be Combined

ROOFING • SIDING • WINDOWS

5 STAR

Lifetime Roof Guarantee
Get a FREE Upgrade to a

CertainTeed
SAINT-GOBAIN

Lifetime Guarantee
Exp. June 30, 2025
Offers May Not be Combined

OVER 30 YEARS OF BUSINESS
ROBERT EVANS JR. CONTRACTOR
ROOFING, SIDING, WINDOWS & MORE
EST. 1992

Real Estate Corner

Recent Natick Home Sales



MARCY BLOCKER
Love Where You Live





Date	Natick	Amount
05/15/2025	79 Woodland Street	\$1,150,000
05/15/2025	6 Parsons Way	\$1,670,000
05/14/2025	36 Oak Street	\$895,000
05/13/2025	10 Rutledge Road	\$925,000
05/09/2025	98 W Central Street	\$604,000
05/09/2025	28 Walden Drive #17	\$450,000
05/09/2025	26 Farm Hill Road	\$1,200,000
05/09/2025	6 Course Brook Lane	\$1,430,000
05/08/2025	47 Felch Road	\$999,011
05/08/2025	1 Sherwood Road	\$995,000
05/07/2025	7 Eisenhower Avenue	\$957,500
05/07/2025	2 Lodge Lane	\$1,180,000
05/06/2025	28 Winter Street	\$1,100,000
05/06/2025	57 Wethersfield Road	\$1,100,000
05/06/2025	21 Waban Street	\$640,000
05/05/2025	48 Silver Hill Lane #20	\$334,900
05/05/2025	34 Village Hill Lane	\$411,000
05/02/2025	6 Loker Street	\$936,250
05/02/2025	4 Harrison Street	\$850,000
05/01/2025	39 Irving Road	\$1,870,000
05/01/2025	1 Huntington Street	\$1,650,000
05/01/2025	21 Centre Street	\$2,100,000
05/01/2025	34 Hartford Street	\$865,000
05/01/2025	3 Graystone Lane	\$2,210,000
04/30/3035	22 Harvard Street	\$862,000
04/30/2025	8 Warren Road	\$705,000
04/30/2025	3 Village Way #7	\$395,000
04/30/2025	24 Edgemoor Avenue	\$857,000
04/29/2025	72 Winter Street	\$1,500,000
04/29/2025	24 Barnesdale Road	\$1,280,000
04/29/2025	52 Silver Hill Lane #23	\$220,223
04/29/2025	4 Wyndemere Lane	\$2,370,000
04/28/2025	6 Oak Knoll Road	\$630,000
04/28/2025	13 Morgan Drive #101	\$755,000
04/25/2025	4 Hardwick Road	\$770,000
04/25/2025	56 Charles Street	\$950,000
04/25/2025	12 Walnut Street #4	\$360,000
04/25/2025	40 Nouvelle Way #T636	\$735,000
04/25/2025	24 Plain Street #A	\$1,210,000
04/24/2025	6 Woodleigh Road	\$1,350,000
04/23/2025	1 Princeton Road	\$740,000
04/18/2025	9 Garden Road	\$570,000

Source: zillow.com Compiled: Local Town Pages

508.740.2328 • marcyblocker.com
marcy.blocker@nemoves.com



The 5-bed 5-bath 5,410-square-foot house at 3 Graystone Lane in Natick recently sold for \$2,210,000. Image credit: www.zillow.com

Looking to advertise your business?

Contact Susanne:

508-954-8148

sue@sodellconsult.com

Real Estate is showing **POSITIVE SIGNS!**

Chip Sulser
617.686.0952
chipsulser.com
chip.sulser@commonmoves.com

Serving & Living in Natick for 40+ years

BERKSHIRE HATHAWAY HOMESERVICES
COMMONWEALTH REAL ESTATE

Care • Competence
Commitment

5 STAR CUSTOMER RATING



LET YOUR HOME BE

Next!

JUST LISTED!



6 Gilbert Road, Natick

FOR SALE!



12 Bay State Road, Natick

FOR SALE!



70 Rockland Street, Natick



CALL BETH!
BETH BYRNE
508.561.0521
bbyrne@advisorsliving.com

BUY. SELL. DREAM.

180 LINDEN STREET STE 105 | WELLESLEY, MA 02482 | AdvisorsLiving.com



MAKE THIS SUMMER

THE START OF YOUR NEW HOME ADVENTURE



FOR SALE
NATICK, MA



PENDING
NATICK, MA



FOR SALE
NATICK, MA



PENDING
NATICK, MA



COMING SOON
NATICK, MA



PENDING
NATICK, MA

CALL JANICE TODAY, START PACKING TOMORROW!



Janice C. Burke
REALTOR®



Janice Burke
508.380.7206
jburke@advisorsliving.com

103 Central Street | Suite A
Wellesley, MA 02482







THE ALLAIN GROUP

JESSICA ALLAIN
—
#1 in Natick Homes
Sold Since 2018*
M 617.820.8114
theallaingroup@compass.com

COMPASS
compass.com



Putting the *Home* in *Hometown*.

Congratulations to the Natick High School Class of 2025!

We admire all of your hard work and can't wait to see all of the amazing things you will do next.

NATICK REAL ESTATE SUPERLATIVES

Best Curb Appeal



Best Kitchen



Best Yard



Best Location



Compass is a licensed real estate broker and abides by Equal Housing Opportunity laws. All material presented herein is intended for informational purposes only. Information is compiled from sources deemed reliable but is subject to errors, omissions, changes in price, condition, sale, or withdrawal without notice. This is not intended to solicit property already listed. Photos may be virtually staged or digitally enhanced and may not reflect actual property conditions. *Source: MLSPin Total Single Family Sales Volume, Natick 1/1/2018 - 12/31/2024.