



MUNICIPAL NEWSLETTER

Town of Carlisle

MARCH 2023

New Faces at Town Hall!

Welcome Frank Schembari as our new Assessor's Assistant! Frank brings assessing experience from the Town of Pepperell. He has been a great addition to the Assessor's Office!



Welcome Sandy Nason as our new Assistant Treasurer/Collector! Sandy brings extensive experience to Town Hall, most recently as Treasurer/Collector in the Town of Hubbardston. We are glad to have her on our finance team!

Gleason Public Library

Martha Feeney-Patten, Director
mpatten@gleasonlibrary.org

The Gleason is looking forward to some great family programs. Our new "Nature Connection Explorations" series will take participants outdoors for a mindful exploration of nature. Listen for birds, make a nature map, become a plant detective, draw a leaf, write a poem about a pebble, count flower petals, imagine a bee's life, tell a seed's story, and wonder about the world. For ages 6+ with a grown-up; sponsored by the Susan P. Zielinski Fund. On Tuesday, April 11th, author Carrie Finison will be here for a special preschool story time. And on Thursday, April 20th, during school vacation week, join us for a hands-on STEAM program where participants will make their own Rube Goldberg machines, made possible by a Carlisle Cultural Council grant.



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carlislema.gov

Carlisle Recreation

Make Life-Long Learning FUN!

Programs & Classes:

See what's happening at Carlisle Recreation. Join a class and get in on the Fun! Check out a complete list of class offerings at [Carlisle Recreation Department: Programs \(myrec.com\)](https://www.carlislema.gov/myrec.com).

New Program Idea:

Have an Idea for a New Program? Let us Know! We would love to offer a class in your field of expertise! Contact Holly Mansfield at hmansfield@carlislema.gov

Summer Employment:

Looking for Summer Counselors and Counselors in Training! Is your child or grandchild looking for a fun and exciting summer job! Apply to be a Counselor or a Counselor in Training. To obtain an summer application for Carlisle Summer Fun, contact Holly Mansfield at hmansfield@carlislema.gov

Stargazing Party - See the Attached Flyer

Date: Thursday, March 23, 2023

Time: 7:00pm

Who: Everyone Welcome!

Fee: Free

Location: Banta Davis, 304 Bedford Road

Coordinators: Carlisle Recreation & Carlisle Library

Join us for a evening of Stargazing with Kelly Beatty, Senior editor at Sky Telescop, and members of the Amateur Telescope Makers of Boston. They will bring their telescopes to get a great look at the night sky. Please feel free to bring along your own telescope too.

This program is geared for ages 5 and up. We will need clear skies, so please check the website for updates. Registration is recommended at [Carlisle Recreation Department: Programs \(myrec.com\)](https://www.carlislema.gov/myrec.com).

Carlisle Recreation Dept
and Gleason Public Library

Stargazing Party

Thursday, March 23rd

7:00 PM | Banta Field

Join us for an evening of stargazing at Banta Field! We'll go stargazing with Kelly Beatty, senior editor at Sky & Telescope, and members of the Amateur Telescope Makers of Boston. They will bring their telescopes to get a great look at the night sky. Please feel free to bring along your own telescope too.

This program is geared for ages 5 and up. We will need clear skies, so please check the website for updates. If you have a question, please contact us at hmansfield@carlislema.gov:

Register online at carlislema.myrec.com/info/activities



Friends of the Gleason Public Library

Karin Kliger

The Friends of the Gleason Public Library sponsor many museum passes that give you access to the area's great museums at discounted prices. Last fiscal year, over 700 people enjoyed the museum passes and we hope to increase this number further. Please take this short survey to help us serve the community even better!

Museum Pass Survey

Current Museum Passes:



Boston Children's Museum
308 Congress Street, Boston, MA 02210
617-426-6500 <http://www.bostonchildrensmuseum.org>
[Details/Reserve]



Concord Museum
200 Lexington Road, Concord, MA 01742
978-369-9763 <http://www.concordmuseum.org/>
[Details/Reserve]



Discovery Museum
177 Main Street, Acton, MA 01720
978-264-4200 <http://www.discoveryacton.org/>
[Details/Reserve]



EcoTarium
222 Harrington Way, Worcester, MA 01604
508-929-2700 <http://www.ecotarium.org/>
[Details/Reserve]



Harvard Art Museums
32 Quincy Street, Cambridge, MA 02138
617-495-9400 <http://www.harvardartmuseums.org/>
[Details/Reserve]



Harvard Museums of Science and Culture
11 Divinity Avenue, Cambridge, MA 02138
617-496-1638 <https://hmsc.harvard.edu/>
[Details/Reserve]



Institute of Contemporary Art/Boston
25 Harbor Shore Drive, Boston, MA 02210
617-478-3100 <https://www.icaboston.org/>
[Details/Reserve]



Isabella Stewart Gardner Museum
25 Evans Way, Boston, MA 02115
617-566-1401 <http://www.gardnermuseum.org...>
[Details/Reserve]



Mass Audubon
MA
781-259-9500 <https://www.massaudubon.org/>
[Details/Reserve]



Massachusetts State Parks (Department of Conservation and Recreation)
251 Causeway Street, Suite 900, Boston, MA 02114-2104
617-626-1250 <http://www.mass.gov/eea/agenc...>
[Details/Reserve]



Museum of Fine Arts
465 Huntington Avenue, Boston, MA 02115
617-267-9300 <http://www.mfa.org/>
[Details/Reserve]



Museum of Science
1 Science Park, Boston, MA 02114
617-723-2500 <http://www.mos.org/>
[Details/Reserve]



New England Aquarium
1 Central Wharf, Boston, MA 02110
617-973-5200 <http://www.neaq.org/>
[Details/Reserve]



New England Botanic Garden at Tower Hill
11 French Drive, Boylston, MA 01505-0598
508-869-6111 <https://www.nebg.org/>
[Details/Reserve]



Orchard House
399 Lexington Road, Concord, MA 01742
978-369-4118 <http://www.louisamayalcott.org/>
[Details/Reserve]



Peabody Essex Museum
161 Essex Street, Salem, MA 01970-3783
978-745-9500 <http://www.pem.org/>
[Details/Reserve]



Salem Witch Museum
19 1/2 Washington Square, Salem, MA 01970
978-744-1692 <http://www.salemwitchmuseum.org...>
[Details/Reserve]



Trustees of the Reservations
MA
978-921-1944 <http://www.thetrustees.org/>
[Details/Reserve]



USS Constitution Museum
Charlestown Navy Yard, Building 22, Charlestown, MA 02129
617-426-1812 <https://ussconstitutionmuseum.org...>
[Details/Reserve]



Worcester Art Museum
55 Salisbury Street, Worcester, MA 01609
508-799-4406 <http://www.worcesterart.org/>
[Details/Reserve]

Route to Sustainability Day: April 22



REMINDER: SAVE THE DATE!

Route to Sustainability Day is on April 22, 2023, Earth Day, 10:00-2:00.

Come find out how you can lower your carbon footprint; come explore ways to be good stewards of your land; come taste how a healthier lifestyle can be good for you and the planet; come learn ways first responders are preparing for changes in climate; come participate in a scavenger hunt..... and so much more fun and information for all ages!

“Green” choices you can make on the day include walking/biking to the event, bringing a water bottle to fill at public building water fountains and taking photos of the information instead of paper pamphlets.

More details on the Environmental Sustainability Committee’s [webpage](#).

Native Plant Sale for Route to Sustainability Day

It's hard to believe, but Spring is really just around the corner.

The Garden Club has organized a Pre Ordered Native Plant Sale for Route to Sustainability Day on April 22nd.

Order Native Trees and Shrubs through the Garden Club webpage by April 12th and they will be ready for you to collect on Earth Day at Center Park. The Garden Club experts have done all the hard work by preselecting the plants from Weston Nurseries that should thrive in Carlisle.



<https://www.carlislegardenclub.org/online-store.html>



Route to Sustainability Day, Continued



Would you enjoy helping out with Route to Sustainability Day?

A huge community-wide undertaking like this needs many hands and talents. If you have some time now and are looking for a building project, we would love to talk to you. If the idea of engaging with people in the town center on a perfect spring day excites you, please let us know. And if you don't mind lifting and carrying, we also have a spot for you. Photographers and videographers, we welcome your talents.

Please contact Christina and Kath at esc.carlislema@gmail.com to learn more and sign up for a 2 or 4 hour shift on Earth Day, or for a task in the weeks ahead. The Environmental Sustainability

Committee can't wait to meet you (or become better acquainted) and appreciates your commitment to making Carlisle a more environmentally sustainable place to live, work and play.

From the Department of Public Works

James Hall
DPW Foreman
jhall@carlislema.gov

Spring is right around the corner !!
Yes folks! It's everybody's favorite time of year. The birds start chirping, the snow starts melting, the flowers start blooming and the familiar hum of the street sweepers brooms picking up all the sand and leaves from this past winter are all signs of the warm weather that's on its way!!!

Happy Spring everyone!!



Council on Aging and Human Services

In honor of St. Patrick's Day, Carlisle 60+ residents were treated to a free and tasty traditional boiled dinner of corn beef and cabbage by several Concord Carlisle High School (CCHS) students and Carlisle COAHS Program Manager, Linda Cavallo-Murphy on Saturday, March 11. Of the 90 meals requested, 86 to-go meals were handed out at the Carlisle Fire Station, while another 14 meals were delivered to Benfield Farms, Village Court, and homebound seniors. The Carlisle COAHS would like to thank the CCHS Student Government, CCHS Parents Association, and the Friends of the Carlisle COA for sponsoring this annual event and the Carlisle Fire Department for hosting it.



From the Town Planner

Julie Mercier
jmercier@carlislema.gov

The Master Plan – Implementation Update!

The Master Plan – Carlisle Forward – was accepted by the Planning Board on May 9th 2022. The final document sets forth 87 recommendations and contains nearly 450 pages, the majority of which comprise a comprehensive appendix. The body of the report is about 100 pages in length organized around 8 chapters that address the community goals.

The Master Plan Steering Committee last met on June 30th 2022 and agreed to develop materials to summarize the findings of the Plan in conjunction with the implementation actions to be undertaken by the Planning Board and the Select Board. Over the summer, the Select Board adopted 22 of the recommendations as priorities in establishing their Fiscal Year 2023 goals. These adopted recommendations included 15 of the 20 priority recommendations identified in the Master Plan. Several of the remaining priorities are key initiatives of the Planning Board and the Affordable Housing Trust.

In September, the Select Board asked Town Administrator Ryan McLane to form a Master Plan Working Group to include MPSC Chair Jack Troast and other key municipal staff, including the new Town Planner. (cont'd)

The objective of the working group was to assign the 87 recommendations to Boards and Committees as well as staff representatives who would assume primary responsibility for particular recommendations. The process was designed to establish a dialogue with the respective Boards and Committees to insure that they felt the responsibility was properly assigned. Many Boards and Committees provided feedback on the implementation matrix, largely ratifying what was laid out and noting additional studies or entities that should be part of the conversation. Once adopted, the Boards and Committees will be responsible for regular reporting to the Select Board and the Town.

To date, the Town has completed 4 out of 87 recommendations. Specifically, the completed recommendations are:

- 4a: Hire a Town Planner
- 13c: Establish a Master Plan Implementation Committee (later deemed to be a staff led working group)
- 15b: Establish the Environmental Sustainability Committee
- 22c: Ensure adequate staffing for COAHS (this will need periodic revisiting)

The new Town Planner, Julie Mercier (jmercier@carlislema.gov) joined the municipal team in December 2022 and will serve as principal staff liaison to Boards and Committees in their responsibilities for the Plan implementation. Julie will also be supported by other members of the administrative team including but not limited to Ryan McLane, Aubrey Thomas, Sylvia Willard, Linda Fantasia, Kim Kane, Jennine Blum, the COAHS team and sustainability staff.

In addition to the completed recommendations, progress is being made on a number of other recommendations throughout the community. Though a formal kick-off event is being planned for later this year, in the meantime implementation is off and running!

GIS Project – The Good News!

Being fashionably late to the party can certainly have its advantages! At least that is one big takeaway that Town Planner Julie Mercier is having as she digs into this project. Many aspects of municipal GIS implementation have been streamlined by the state (MassGIS) over the years – from pre-qualifying vendors, to the preparation of draft RFPs, to the creation and maintenance of excellent (and free) state-wide data layers. In addition, it is important to point out that Carlisle volunteers have done a lot of superb work (i.e., OSRP, Master Plan mapping), so the Town is not starting from scratch. Julie has been working to gather all the GIS data layers in one place – in order to build from what is readily available. Her next step is to work with other Town officials to procure competitive and qualified vendors for the following project components: online web hosting (i.e., MapGeo), parcel updates, and digitization of local data layers (i.e., cisterns, wells, septic, culverts, zoning, etc.). If you have data or ideas, please email jmercier@carlislema.gov!



From the Transfer Station Action Committee

Christine Lear

What's the best thing you've ever found in the Swap Shop? I got a beautiful oriental rug, a food processor and five ceramic plant pots! A friend furnished their vacation house. And my daughter collects toys, games and puzzles for local charitable organizations every week. The Carlisle Swap Shop is an endless source of great stuff!

The Swap Shop is intended to allow Carlisle residents to leave gently used, and still useful, items so that other residents might take them for their own personal use. Smaller items should be placed in the Swap Shop in the labeled sections on the shelves to allow others to easily see each item. Larger items (furniture, rugs, large appliances etc.) may be placed outside to the left of the shed. Do not place boxes or bags of mixed items in the Swap Shop – please sort them into the appropriate area. Do not leave items that are broken.

Items placed at the Swap Shop should be of use to most people, otherwise the shed becomes cluttered, difficult to navigate and leads to more work for the DPW staff at the end of the day. Please consider the following:

- Games, puzzles and toys should be complete and in working order; tape them closed if they are in their original box.
- Household items should be clean and whole, not cracked, chipped or broken.
- Small appliances should be clean and in working order.
- Books should be placed on the bookshelves, not left in closed boxes or bags.
- Items should be placed on the shelves or outside the shed in such a way that they are easy to see/access. Do not leave a bag of miscellaneous items that others will have to rummage through to know what is there.

Things that do not meet these general criteria are either trash or should be recycled:

- Clothing should be bagged and placed in the Textile Bins near the paper recycling.
- Paint is not permitted. Please allow water-based paints to dry in the can (at home) and then dispose of them in solid waste.
- Nothing flammable and/or toxic should be left at the Swap Shop, such as fuel and hazardous waste.
- Office electronics should not be placed in the Swap Shop.

Keep in mind that the Swap Shop is just a great way to keep items out of the trash and bring a little joy to friends and neighbors. Your thoughtful donations to the Swap Shop will make it an even better experience for all.

Read all about the Swap Shop here, https://www.carlislema.gov/DocumentCenter/View/4109/08_R_SwapShop?bidId=

Healthy Carlisle

Tricia McGean, BSN, RN

Opioids

Opioid use and misuse stories have saturated the news, social media and even entered your living room through riveting television programming like Hulu's Dopesick. While opioids can be an effective part of a pain control treatment plan, there are many side effects and risks associated with these medications which should be examined closely before instituting therapy. While there are many avenues to pain control, it is our responsibility to have conversations with our provider to decide on appropriate pain management strategies.

Prescription opioids are used to treat moderate to severe pain following an injury, surgery, or chronic health conditions such as cancer. Common names of these drugs include Oxycodone (Percocet, OxyContin), Hydrocodone (Vicodin), Fentanyl, Morphine and Codeine. Opioid side effects include tolerance to the medication (needing more for the same pain relief), physical dependence, constipation, confusion, and sleepiness. Individuals 65+ and those with respiratory conditions such as asthma, sleep apnea and chronic obstructive pulmonary disease may be more sensitive to opioid effects.

Pharmaceutical Fentanyl is a synthetic opioid used to treat severe pain and is 50-100x more potent than morphine. It is legally prescribed in the form of transdermal patches or lozenges, but most cases of Fentanyl related overdoses have come from illegally made Fentanyl. It is often mixed with heroin or cocaine to increase its euphoric effect, with or without the user's knowledge. Not only does it potentiate the effect of drugs such as cocaine, but it is also widely used because of its cheap cost to manufacture. Due to its potency, a relatively small amount of Fentanyl can be deadly as just two milligrams can cause overdose or death!

The number of overdose deaths involving synthetic opioids in 2020 was more than 18 times the number in 2013 with a marked acceleration during the COVID19 pandemic. MA was awarded more than \$500 million as part of the Opioid Settlement Fund and Carlisle is eligible to receive a portion of these funds which will be used for programming and education related to substance use prevention, harm reduction, and treatment.



Upcoming Dates

ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION

MAY 16, 2023

Town Offices that will appear on the Ballot:

- Two Members of the Select Board
- One Member of the Board of Assessors
- One Member of the Board of Health
- One Member of the Library Trustees
- Two Members of the Planning Board
- Two Members of the School Committee

Important Deadlines:

- **March 20 at 7pm:** Annual Town Caucus
- **March 28 at 3pm:** Deadline to submit nomination petitions with the Board of Registrars to be on the ballot
- **April 28 at 8pm:** Deadline to register to vote at Annual Town Meeting
- **May 6 at 8pm:** Deadline to register to vote at Annual Town Election
- **May 8 at 7pm:** Annual Town Meeting
- **May 9 at 3pm:** Last day to request absentee ballot for Annual Town Election
- **May 15 at 12pm:** Last day to vote absentee in person for Annual Town Election
- **May 16 from 7am to 8 pm:** Annual Town Election

Please visit the [Town Clerk's page](#) for more information.

For questions about the Election, Caucus, or getting on the ballot, contact the Town Clerk by phone at 978-369-6155 or email townclerk@carlislema.gov

Annual Town Meeting Updates

ATM: May 8, 2023 at 7:00pm

A few changes are coming to the next Annual Town Meeting to improve efficiency and accessibility while working toward sustainability goals:

- The Town is implementing an **electronic voting** process for this year’s Annual Town Meeting. Electronic voting helps ensure speed, accuracy and privacy.
- In lieu of Warrant books being mailed to every household, **ATM postcards** will be mailed with QR codes that lead to the Warrant on the Town website. Warrants can be mailed by request.
- Town Hall would like to offer **childcare** during Annual Town Meeting. Please contact Aubrey Thomas, Assistant Town Administrator at athomas@carlislema.gov for interest, thoughts or suggestions.



Example of an electronic voting “clicker.” (Cape Cod Chronicle)

New Faces at the Carlisle Fire Department



Welcome (left to right) Steve Robinson, Beth Wojitas, and Andrew Downs!

Legislative Updates

Residents looking to assist their town officials in advocating for the town’s needs can contact their legislative delegation about an important budget priority – fixing town roads!

The Governor’s budget and related bills, released March 1, serves as the start of the state budget process. The current proposal includes a \$200 million proposal for Chapter 90 (two-year bill), the state’s primary road program. These are the funds the town uses to pave and repair roads. The \$200 million proposal continues the state’s pattern of level funding this important program, resulting in a buying power equal to just 34% of the amount authorized 11 years ago. Carlisle officials joins similar small towns around the Commonwealth and the Massachusetts Municipal Association in advocating for an increase to \$330 million for Chapter 90.

Here is what that increase would mean for Carlisle:

Current \$200 million proposal: \$252,918 for road repair

\$330 million proposal: \$407,197

For more on the proposal, visit: <https://www.mma.org/municipal-officials-call-for-increase-in-chapter-90-road-program/>



Representative Simon Cataldo
Democrat - 14th Middlesex
Simon.Cataldo@mahouse.gov
Phone:(617) 722-2000 x7321
State House
24 Beacon St.
Room B1
Boston, MA, 02133



Senator Michael J. Barrett
Democrat - Third Middlesex
Mike.Barrett@masenate.gov
Phone:(617) 722-1572
State House
24 Beacon St.
Room 109-D
Boston, MA, 02133

Carlisle Cultural Council Announces Winter Grant Awards

The Carlisle Cultural Council is excited to announce the recipients of its Winter 2023 Cultural Grants. These grants will support a variety of visual arts, history, language arts, nature and multidisciplinary programs for the benefit of the Carlisle community. A total of \$6,135 is being granted to 11 Carlisle-based organizations. Funds for this round of grants have been provided to the Council by the Town of Carlisle from federal American Rescue Plan Act funds.

“Once again, the Cultural Council is delighted to have received applications for so many creative and interesting programs in this grant round,” stated Council Chair Mark Levitan. “All told, these programs will appeal to a wide range of age groups.”

The Cultural Council encourages the entire Carlisle community to join in congratulating and supporting these worthy local organizations and programs. Look for dates and program information on organization websites, social media and in the Carlisle Mosquito.

Carlisle Poetry Festival and Poetry Contest - Friends of Gleason Public Library

Carlisle Oral History Project - Carlisle Communications Inc

Native American History - Carlisle PTO

Felted Rainbow Patches - Gleason Public Library

“Stories of US” - CPS Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Community Advisory Council

Balancing kitchen gardening with outdoor pollinators - Carlisle Farmer's Market

Quarterly Art Exhibitions - Gleason Public Library

Native plants for your landscape-workshop - Friends of Center Park

Cake and Pie Decorating - Carlisle Old Home Day Association

Choosing and Planting Native Plants - Carlisle Garden Club

“Old Time Radio Show” - Savoyard Light Opera Company