



MUNICIPAL NEWSLETTER

# Town of Carlisle

AUGUST 2023

## Welcome Karen Tyler!

Karen has been hired as the Veterans' Services District Director for the towns of Lexington, Bedford and Carlisle. She brings experience as the District Director for Eastern Essex District Department of Veterans Services, which consists of six towns on the Northshore. Karen served in the U.S. Army from 2001-2003 and was a mental health specialist. We look forward to having her join the community.



Karen's contact information can be found at <https://www.carlislema.gov/818/Veterans-Services>



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[carlislema.gov](https://www.carlislema.gov)

# Congratulations Deputy Chief Booth, Sergeant Baxter and Sergeant Arguoyan!

## **Sergeant Andrew Booth promoted to serve as the town's first Deputy Chief of Police**

From Chief Amendola: "This is the first promotion to Deputy Chief in the history of the Carlisle Police Department. This newly created title was developed to help create a partnership with the Chief to hone in on a greater leadership role and assist me in planning and organizing our department as we grow and move forward. SGT Andrew Booth began his Law Enforcement Career with the Carlisle Police Department in September 2002. He has ascended through the ranks to Inspector- working in Detectives, to Sergeant. Sergeant Booth oversees Patrol Functions, Accreditation, Firearms licensing, CJIS, and our POST Liaison, among other additional duties. He attended the University of New Haven, where he received a bachelor's Degree in Criminal Justice and participated at the 7th MPOC Reading Police Academy. It should also be noted that SGT Booth is an Eagle Scout."

## **Patrol Officer Kerry Baxter promoted to serve as the town's first female Sergeant**

From Chief Amendola: "Detective Baxter began her Law Enforcement Career with the Carlisle Police Department in 2020. Before the Carlisle Police Department, Detective Baxter was a member of the Nashua, NH Police Department, where she ascended through the ranks from Officer to Detective, to Sergeant, to Lieutenant and finished her time out there as a Captain. Detective Baxter has an extensive amount of experience and leadership in policing. She is the recipient of a bachelor's Degree from the University of Idaho, a graduate of the MPTC 1st MPOC Boylston Academy in 1998, and the recipient of the Medal of Valor for Bravery in Nashua in 2003, as well as NH Congressional Law Enforcement Award in 2003. Detective Baxter will be the first Female Sergeant in the history of the Carlisle Police Department."

## **Patrol Officer Chris Arguoyan will now wear the rank of Sergeant after 10 years of service to the town**

From Chief Amendola: "Officer Chris Arguoyan began his Law Enforcement Career with the Carlisle Police Department in March of 2012. Officer Arguoyan has worked extensively in taking on leadership roles at the Department. He is one of our qualified firearms instructors and a certified Field Training Officer who trains and evaluates new Officers when they come to the Department. Officer Arguoyan received his Master's in Criminal Justice and attended the Lowell Police Academy in 2011. Officer Arguoyan was also member of the Massachusetts Army National Guard."



Please join us in congratulating Deputy Chief Booth, Sergeant Baxter and Sergeant Arguoyan!

# Native and Invasive Plant ID Walk



The Environmental Sustainability Committee invites you to join Maddie Kiszewski from Backyard Invasives on a Plant ID walk around Towle Field at 9:30am on August 26th (rain date August 27, 9:30am). We will meet in the parking lot and walk the path through and around the field. Learn how to identify different Invasive Species, Native Plants, Edible Plants, and discuss how we can care for our corner of the Earth and protect our local biodiversity. The event is free, should last about an hour and open to all.



Celebrate Sustainable Laundry with this online [event!](#)



# From the Transfer Station Action Committee

We all participate in the textile industry. Clothing and items made from cloth are essentials in our homes. Textile production has a large impact on the environment as does the disposal of textiles. The fast fashion industry has increased production and disposal of textiles in recent years. We can all make better decisions about the textiles we purchase, and how we dispose of them.

Fast fashion refers to items that are not intended to be worn for more than a season as they are directed at trends. According to Ethical Consumer, these items are produced rapidly for mass market retailers. Fabrics are usually cheap synthetics used to keep costs down. These clothes are not designed to last and quickly end up in landfill.



When you purchase quality clothing and textile items for your home and family you are making best use of the resources invested in those items, and they will last longer. These better quality items can then be donated or consigned for someone else to use. Ultimately they can be recycled. True, better quality clothing is usually more expensive, but buying one quality shirt may take the place of purchasing three or four cheaper shirts. In the end the consumer cost is generally the same, but the impact on the environment causes less harm.

There are many ways to dispose of your textiles. You can consign them through a local shop, donate them to a local charity or offer them to others on social media. Each of these options may take a little more effort than throwing textiles in the trash, but are better for the environment.



You have probably seen the Bay State Textile bins at the Transfer Station. Did you know that you can put ANY textiles in these bins? Clothing and shoes or household textiles (sheets, curtains, towels, stuffed animals, etc) in good condition as well as clean textiles that are beyond repair can go in these textile bins. The only requirement is that the textiles you deposit are clean and tied up in a plastic bag. These items are sorted to donate useful items and the rest is recycled. These bins are also located at the Carlisle Public School. Initiated by the Carlisle Parent Teacher Organization, each pound of textiles earns money for the PTO to be used for school related events and activities. It also saves the town the costs associated with transporting and disposing of solid waste as textiles are picked up by Bay State Textiles.

Please think about where your textile items will end up when you choose to purchase. Quality items will have a longer life, may help others through donation and will be less harmful to our environment.

# From the Council on Aging and Human Services

The Annual COAHS barbecue was a smashing success this year due to the fantastic weather and the skilled grilling master, Al Foote. Attendees feasted on burgers, hot dogs and veggie burgers accompanied by potato salad and chips.

There was also the opportunity to chat with town hall staff and members of the police department. A good time was had by all.



## 2023-2024 SuAsCo River Stewardship Council Community Grants Now Available!

The Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord Wild and Scenic River Stewardship Council announces the availability of the 2023-2024 SuAsCo Wild and Scenic River Community Grants to support projects that protect and/or enhance the Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord Rivers and their outstandingly remarkable values. The grants program aims to engage municipalities and local organizations in protecting the rivers' resources and building strong local stewardship of the rivers in accordance with The Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord Wild and Scenic River Conservation Plan. Grant requests ranging from \$500 to \$15,000 will be considered. Approximately \$41,000 will be available for distribution in 2023-2024. Visit <http://www.sudbury-assabet-concord.org/> for more information and to download the Request for Proposals and Application. Application deadline is October 10, 2023.

# Extreme Heat and How to Stay Cool

*Erin Green*

*Board of Health Intern*

This summer has been one of the hottest ever with major cities across the globe setting new records weekly. Although New England is comparatively cooler than other areas of the US, heat related illness and death should still be taken seriously. Here's what you should know about how to beat the heat.

High levels of humidity prevent your body from evaporating sweat, making you more susceptible to heat related illnesses. Heat also affects people differently. Age, pre-existing conditions, sunburn, prescription drug use, or recreational drug or alcohol use can all be factors in how your body handles and responds to heat.

Heat stroke and heat exhaustion are both extremely serious and can lead to severe sickness and in some cases, death. Heat stroke is categorized by a very high body temperature of 103 degrees Fahrenheit, fast and strong pulse, reddened, damp, dry and hot skin, headache, dizziness and disorientation, nausea, and loss of consciousness. If someone is experiencing these symptoms, call 911 immediately, move the person somewhere cool and attempt to lower their body temperature with cool washcloths. Do not give them anything to drink.

Heat exhaustion is categorized by strong sweating, cold, clammy skin, nausea and vomiting, muscle cramps, fatigue, dizziness, headache and fainting. If someone is experiencing these symptoms, move to a cooler place, loosen your clothes, sip water regularly, and lower your body temperature with cool washcloths. If you experience prolonged symptoms for over an hour, or severe nausea, seek immediate medical attention.

To avoid these situations altogether:

- Stay in air-conditioned spaces as best you can. If your home is not air conditioned, try public spaces such as the Gleason Public Library.
- Drink more than normal amounts of water throughout the day, not only when you're thirsty.
- Check in on neighbors and friends and visa-versa, create a buddy system!
- Limit the use of your stove or oven, as this only makes your house hotter.
- Always wear sunscreen when going outside, even if it's cloudy. The CDC recommends 15 SPF or higher.

When exercising outdoors, try to time your workouts for early morning or evenings when it's cooler. Limit the amount of time you are outside and pace yourself, exercising is always harder in the heat but that doesn't mean you should beat yourself up over taking a break or two!

Lastly, it's important to remember to never leave children or animals in cars and to check the local weather daily for any alerts or extreme temperature warnings. Attached are some additional resources for groups that are more susceptible to heat related illnesses: [Athletes](#), [Older Adults](#), [Infants & Children](#), [Those with diabetes](#), [Workers](#)

*Information collected from: [Keep Your Cool in Hot Weather | Environmental Health Features \(cdc.gov\)](#), [Warning Signs and Symptoms of Heat-Related Illness | Natural Disasters and Severe Weather | CDC](#)*

# Planning Board Working on Exciting Initiatives in FY24!

*Julie Mercier, Town Planner*

At their meeting on July 31<sup>st</sup>, the Planning Board established some big priorities for FY24.

From the Master Plan:

- MP Rec 4b: Continued support for the GIS Project
- MP Rec 4d: Establish criteria for evaluating land for community purposes
- MP Recs 3d, 7a & 8a: Optimize multi-purpose use of existing Town spaces as part of a comprehensive long-term facilities plan and capital planning process
  - Related initiative: Town Center Parking Study

From the Master Plan and Housing Production Plan:

- MP Rec 19a / HPP Recs 1 & 4: Explore feasibility of compliance with MBTA Communities legislation and guidelines, and consider an additional or alternative Open Space Residential Development or Conservation Cluster bylaw

From the Master Plan, MVP Report, and ESC Work Plan

- MVP Action Grant “Climate Resilient Carlisle” – if awarded (we should know soon!)

Zoning Bylaw Amendments

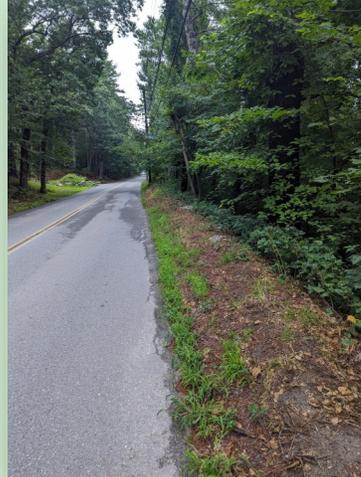
- Accessory Apartment Bylaw – revisit & clarify
- Housing-Related Definitions – clarify

**Next Steps:** Julie Mercier, Town Planner, is putting together Working Groups and gathering information for many of these initiatives. If you would like to be involved or make a suggestion, please email [jmercier@carlislema.gov](mailto:jmercier@carlislema.gov).

# From the Department of Public Works

*Jim Hall, DPW Director*

Hi Folks! Summer is winding down and it's almost back to school time!! The D.P.W. has been hard at work doing roadside mowing and repainting all the crosswalks and stop lines, making it safe for all the kids on their first day back! Next up on the agenda is drainage projects (if it ever stops raining!) Have a wonderful school year everyone!




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# From the Gleason Public Library

*Martha Feeney-Patten, Director*

## Summer Reading:

There's still time to claim your summer reading prizes: Book Bingos and Reading Logs are due by 1pm Saturday, August 26<sup>th</sup>! Thank you to the Friends of Gleason Public Library for supporting our Find Your Voice summer reading program, and to our wonderful staff and volunteers for all of their work on it. Looking for reading suggestions to complete your bingo? Check out our staff book displays, or ask a librarian!

## Our Next Chapter:

If you haven't had a chance to look at the Library's interior renovation designs yet, visit our website for a video tour and more at <http://gleasonlibrary.org/library-renovation>! The Gleason has been at the heart of Carlisle, both physically and in spirit, since its opening in 1896, and we invite you to join us on the journey to ensure that this community treasure will continue to meet the needs of residents for years to come. Keep an eye out for further information in your mailbox this fall.

Save the date for these fun fall events:

Friday, September 29<sup>th</sup>: Art at the Gleason Reception

Saturday, October 14<sup>th</sup>: Books and Brews Fundraiser

Thursday, October 26<sup>th</sup>: The 40<sup>th</sup> Annual Great Pumpkin Spectacle

# Congratulations to this year's Caroline E. Hill Scholarships!

The Caroline E. Hill scholarships were established in memory of Caroline E. Hill, a longtime resident of Carlisle who died in 1967 at the age of 93. Her will included a generous bequest to the town to provide financial assistance to deserving Carlisle residents. It is with great pleasure that the Carlisle Scholarship Committee announces 2023 recipients:

- Remy Bailey (Concord St)
- Marjorie Haddad (Bingham Road)
- Ariana Mostoufi (North Road)
- Gabrielle Shieh (Heald Road)
- Elizabeth Walsh (Robbins Drive)

Please find a few write ups on our winners!



My name is Remy Bailey, I am a Rehab Science Major at Merrimack College and am currently on the Merrimack Women's Swim team.

I am a rising Sophomore at Pitzer College in Claremont, CA (one of the five Claremont Colleges). I am majoring in Environmental Analysis on the Sustainability and Built Environment track and minoring in Data Science. The SBE track explores sustainable design in a holistic manner and I am interested in urban planning. During the academic year I work as a bike mechanic for my school's Green Bike Program. I am excited to continue working at the shop and learn more about bike repair. This past year, I joined the Claremont Colleges Women's Rugby Team and we ended up winning the National Championship in Houston, TX. I am looking forward to playing again this coming academic year. During this summer I have been working at Camp Onaway in Hebron, NH as a counselor and part of the maintenance team. I have enjoyed coaching the campers in crew at the waterfront and teaching woodworking in the Woodshop, as well as maintaining the grounds and buildings of the camp.



My name is Gabrielle Shieh, and I'm a rising senior at Brown University studying Computer Science with a concentration in Machine Learning and Security. In addition to academics, I'm a co-captain of the golf team at Brown and I will be doing research on Neural Fields in the fall!

# Cultural Council Reception To Honor Culture Creators



**2023**  
**GRANTEE RECEPTION**  
**WEDNESDAY**  
**SEPTEMBER 20, 2023**  
**CARLISLE CENTER PARK**  
**4:00 - 5:30**

celebrate a great year of cultural programming  
enjoy food, music & the beauty of center park  
promote & hear about upcoming cultural events  
learn about the 2024 grant cycle  
free and open to the public  
rsvp by sept 14 to [culturalcouncil@carlislema.gov](mailto:culturalcouncil@carlislema.gov)  
rain date sept 21 @ 4:00

 [@carlisleculturalcouncil](https://www.facebook.com/carlisleculturalcouncil)

On Wednesday, September 20 from 4:00-5:30 PM at Carlisle Center Park, the Carlisle Cultural Council will be hosting a public reception to celebrate the Council's 2023 Grantees - the producers of the varied, entertaining, and meaningful cultural programs that they deliver to our community. The reception is free and open to the public. Come enjoy refreshments, music and the natural beauty of Center Park, and learn more about the organizations and people contributing to the cultural vibrancy of Carlisle.

September also marks the start of the Mass Cultural Council's 2024 local grant cycle; applications are due October 19. The Grantee Reception is a great time to meet Cultural Council members, ask questions about the grant funding process and learn about volunteer opportunities with the Council.

The Carlisle Cultural Council is a local government agency supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency. The volunteer members of the Carlisle Cultural Council are committed to promoting the arts, music, history, culture, and the humanities in Carlisle. We serve our community by supporting and producing both participatory and audience-based cultural and arts activities which benefit the Carlisle community.

We would love for you to join us! RSVP by September 15 to [culturalcouncil@carlislema.gov](mailto:culturalcouncil@carlislema.gov). Rain date is September 21 from 4:00-5:30 PM.

Contact:

Jenn Albanese [jennalbanese@gmail.com](mailto:jennalbanese@gmail.com)

Mark Levitan [mark@marklevitan.com](mailto:mark@marklevitan.com)

# Announcing Carlisle's partnership with HomeWorks Energy

Dear Carlisle Resident,

The Town of Carlisle is launching a new initiative to help residents reduce energy use and save money while lowering carbon emissions in our community. With plenty of summer left, it is crucial to ensure our homes are cooling efficiently and that they'll be ready to save energy in colder temperatures.

The Carlisle Master Plan (April 2022) Energy Task Force identifies reducing energy usage in residential buildings as a key component to the town's sustainability efforts. Carlisle's Master Plan recommends establishing and pursuing goals aligned with the state's carbon reduction goals.

As we continue efforts to make Carlisle more environmentally sustainable, we need the support and participation of community members like you.

The town is encouraging all homeowners and renters to participate in the Mass Save® program and take advantage of the generous incentives available to reduce energy costs and make your home more comfortable.

Carlisle is teaming up with HomeWorks Energy, a Mass Save partner, to help homeowners and renters participate in the program and complete energy upgrades, many of which are offered at low or no cost through the program.

## Start with a no-cost Mass Save Home Energy Assessment

A home energy assessment is the first step! A specialist will assess your home, including its insulation levels, and show you how to save energy and money year-round. Already had an assessment? You can still access the new incentives. Benefits include:

- No-cost sealing of air leaks and 75%-100% off recommended insulation
- Up to \$10,000 in rebates for air-source heat pumps, \$15,000 for ground-source (aka, geothermal) heat pumps, and \$750 for heat-pump (aka, hybrid) water heaters
- 0% financing for energy efficiency upgrades up to \$50,000
- No-cost items like programmable thermostats, water-saving devices, and advanced power strips

HomeWorks Energy has already performed more than 100 assessments and 40 weatherization projects in Carlisle, helping many residents improve the energy efficiency of their homes.

According to ENERGY STAR estimates, nine of ten homes have insufficient insulation. Adding up the small gaps and cracks in a typical home is equivalent to having one window open in your home year-round. Sealing these leaks and upgrading insulation can improve home comfort and reduce energy costs this summer.

Take action today! Schedule your assessment or energy efficiency upgrades now by calling **(781) 305-3319** or visiting [HomeWorksEnergy.com/Carlisle](https://HomeWorksEnergy.com/Carlisle).

*Some restrictions apply, and offers are subject to change or cancellation. Visit [MassSave.com/HEA](https://MassSave.com/HEA) for more information.*



# BOARD AND COMMITTEE VACANCIES

AFFORDABLE HOUSING TRUST  
TWO VACANCIES / 2-YEAR TERM

AGRICULTURAL COMMISSION  
ONE VACANCY / 3-YEAR TERM

CELEBRATIONS COMMITTEE  
ONE VACANCY / 1-YEAR TERM

COMMUNITY PRESERVATION COMMITTEE  
ONE VACANCY / 3-YEAR TERM

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE  
FOUR VACANCIES / 1-YEAR TERM

FINANCE COMMITTEE  
TWO VACANCIES / 3-YEAR TERM

LAND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE  
ONE VACANCY / 1-YEAR TERM

SCHOLARSHIP ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
ONE VACANCY / 1-YEAR TERM

TRANSFER STATION ACTION COMMITTEE  
TWO VACANCIES / 1-YEAR TERM

ZONING BOARD OF APPEALS  
TWO ALTERNATE MEMBERS / 3-YEAR TERM



VISIT [CARLISLEMA.GOV](http://CARLISLEMA.GOV)  
FOR MORE INFORMATION

# From the Town Administrator's Office: Fall Town Meeting is October 16

*Ryan McLane, Town Administrator*

While none of us want to let go of summer just yet, Fall Town Meeting is just around the corner. The meeting is scheduled for October 16, 2023, at 7pm at the Carlisle Public School auditorium. We encourage residents to participate in Town Meeting discussions early and reach out to us if they need more information to make informed decisions.

We will post all relevant Fall Town Meeting information at this website: <https://www.carlislema.gov/259/Upcoming-Town-Meeting>

The Select Board will vote to close the Fall Town Meeting Warrant on Tuesday, August 22. This means no more articles can be submitted for consideration.

Some articles already submitted include:

- 1.) Remove the Building Committee from the town's bylaws.
- 2.) Remove the Long-term Capital Requirements Committee from the town's bylaws.
- 3.) CPA Article – Fund renovations for the Gleason Public Library
- 4.) CPA Article – Fund repairs and restoration work for the Central Burying Grounds
- 5.) Moving the Town Clerk position from an elected position to an appointed position
- 6.) Citizen's Petition – Adopt the Specialized Building Code

The Select Board will hear from relevant petitioners and hold a public information session about these articles at their regularly scheduled meeting on September 12<sup>th</sup>. This is a hybrid meeting with a link published on the town's website. After discussions, the Select Board will sign the warrant and post it for public consideration.

If you would like to send written questions or comments to the Board or if you would like to request additional information, please email Jennifer Gibbons at [jgibbons@carlislema.gov](mailto:jgibbons@carlislema.gov).