



MUNICIPAL NEWSLETTER

# Town of Carlisle

APRIL 2025

*Sign up for  
News Flashes  
on the Town  
website to  
stay updated  
on the next  
edition!*

## Congratulations Lieutenant Burke!



The Carlisle Fire Department is proud to announce that Lloyd Burke has been promoted to the rank of Lieutenant.

Lt. Burke joined Carlisle Fire in 2006, and over the past 18 years, he has served our department and community with unwavering dedication. He has held key roles including Driver/Operator Trainer and now also serves as a Fire Investigator for District 14.

## Welcome Emma Casey!

Emma Casey is our new Public Safety Administrative Assistant, a new role that supports both the police and fire departments following the retirement of Sue Carrier and Kim Donovan. As a project analyst at the Edward Davis Company in Boston, Emma brings a wealth of experience in administrative processes, budget and payroll coordination, and customer service and communication. Her expertise and skills will make her an asset in this newly established role as we build on the strong foundation Sue and Kim helped create.



*carlislema.gov*

# PATRIOTS' DAY 250



## CARLISLE RESIDENTS: THINGS TO KNOW

 April 18–19: Major 250th Events Are Coming! Here's what to keep in mind:

 Carlisle roads into Concord closed

Fri 4/18 at 6PM – Sat 4/19 at 11PM

 Town Hall Closes at Noon on Fri 4/18

 Transfer Station Closed: Sat 4/19

 No Outdoor Burning: 4/18–4/21

 Seniors & residents with disabilities: FREE COAHS Van Ride

 Parking Passes: Pick up at Ferns on Sun 4/13 from 2–4PM

 Volunteers Needed!

 FOR ALL EVENT INFO, PARKING MAPS, AND SIGN-UPS, VISIT: [WWW.CARLISLE250.ORG](http://WWW.CARLISLE250.ORG)

COME TO CARLISLE'S

ROUTE TO  
**SUSTAINABILITY DAY**

APRIL 27 1:00-4:00  
IN THE CENTER OF CARLISLE

**Meet NIBI the beaver**

Get a free bicycle and helmet inspection

**Get a free bat house**

Information and fun for all  
ages!



# From DPW Director James Hall

Howdy folks!

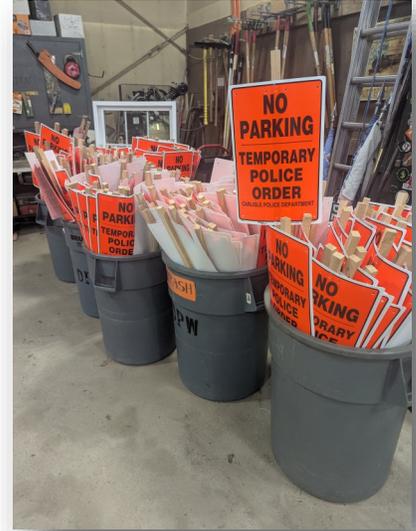
Well, the April showers have put a (damper) - pun intended! On our street sweeping efforts, but as weather permits, we will be out there cleaning up all the sand and debris as soon as possible!

As you are all aware, there is a big 250th celebration the weekend of the 18-19th of this month. We will be installing numerous no parking signs throughout town, so please use caution when preparing for the event. Lastly the transfer station will be closed on Saturday the 19th and will reopen on Tuesday the 22nd!

As always, thank you for your patience and support.

Happy Easter!! 🐰

Jim

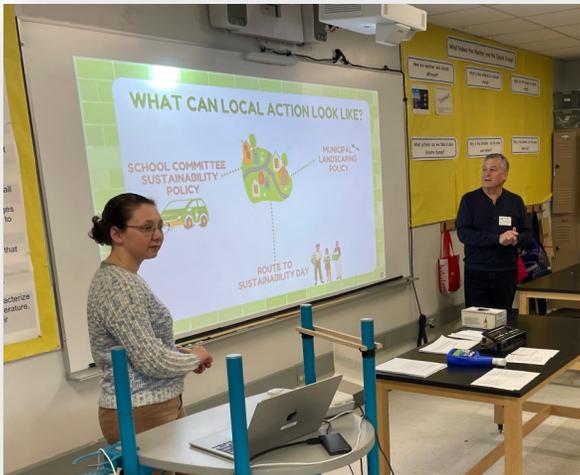


# From Fire Chief Bryan Sorrows

No open burning on Patriot's Day Weekend

There will be no burning permits issues on April 18, 19, 20, 21. The fire district resources will be fully committed for the 250th events and the Boston Marathon as well as it being Easter weekend.

# Students Learn about Sustainability



On April 2nd, members of the Environmental Sustainability Committee and Land Use and Sustainability Coordinator Sarah Wasserman presented to Mr. Cranston's 7th grade science classes about Carlisle's sustainability efforts. The class discussed the ways climate change is affecting Carlisle, and how local action happens! We look forward to seeing the students' great ideas on display at Route to Sustainability Day!

*Photo: Sarah Wasserman and ESC Co-Chair Eric Balles.  
Photo credit: Brad Cranston.*

# From the Gleason Public Library

**Martha Feeney-Patten, Director**

## Alpaca Story Time

The Gleason Librarians enjoyed offering an alpaca story time with Ivan the therapy alpaca, followed by a meet-and-greet with Ivan for the Gleason Knitters. Thank you to Amy from the Harvard Alpaca Ranch and to the Friends of the Gleason Public Library for making this visit possible! (I'm attaching a couple of pictures or there are more on our Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/gleasonpubliclibrary/p/DICVChISU1D/>)



## Library Building Project

The Library Building Committee is working with Schwartz/Silver Architects to finalize the renovation project designs and prepare construction documents for bid. Updated cost estimates will be reviewed as part of this process. Fundraising continues to reach the projected total cost. [Read more about the project and capital campaign on our website.](#)



## Taiwanese Documentaries Screening and Discussion

On Thursday, May 8, at 7 p.m., the Gleason will host a screening and discussion of two short documentaries from Taiwan, presented in partnership with the Taiwan Film Festival of Boston.

Wild Road (30 min) highlights Taiwan's first privately established non-profit wildlife rehabilitation center and animal hospital. It features individuals passionate about saving wildlife, making it a powerful experience for viewers interested in environmental and conservation efforts. [Click here to view a video message from the director.](#)

The Tale of Ino Yumin (30min) tells the story of a man devoted to passing on his deep knowledge of nature and indigenous culture to younger generations. This film aligns well with Carlisle's values of cultural preservation and environmental stewardship. [Click here to view a video message from the director.](#)

Prepackaged Taiwanese refreshments will be served.

After the screening, we are pleased to be joined virtually by Chiao-Wei Chen, the director of Wild Road, and Shu-Mei Huang, the director of The Tale of Ino Yumin, for a discussion.

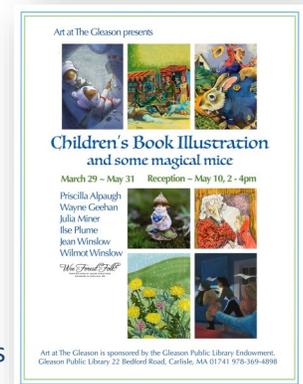
Presented thanks to the Taiwan Film Festival of Boston and Friends of Gleason Public Library. [Please register on our website.](#)



## IMLS cuts

We've had questions about how the Gleason is affected by actions targeting federal funding to libraries and museums through the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). The [Mass. Board of Library Commissioners has up to date information on the impact in Massachusetts here.](#)

(Continued on Page 6)



# Carlisle's requirements for Accessory Dwelling Units are proposed to change



**Carlisle Planning Board  
PUBLIC HEARING  
continues on  
April 14<sup>th</sup> & April 28<sup>th</sup>  
Clark Room & Zoom**

Questions? Comments?  
Julie Mercier, Town Planner  
jmercier@carlislema.gov



Scan the QR code above or  
click the link below  
to read all about it!

<https://www.carlislema.gov/1196/Accessory-Apartment-Bylaw-Accessory-Dwel>

## *From the Gleason Public Library, Continued from Page 5*

In the past, the Gleason has used IMLS-funded grants for projects including:

- Create access for people with hearing or vision loss, dementia, or other health related concerns
- Bolster Reader's Advisory services provided by the Library through professional development and enhanced resources to help connect people with books and share the benefits of reading
- Boost Education and Library Participation through Science, Technology, Engineering, Math, and Music. The Library sponsored 35 science, technology and music programs for all ages, and worked with local schools to incorporate its new seismograph into the curriculum
- Provide active, older adults in the community of Carlisle with attractive opportunities to engage with the community productively and to enrich their own knowledge, skills, and leisure-time entertainment.
- Increase early childhood story time offerings and collections



# From the Town Administrator: Get Ready for Town Meeting!

Ryan McLane

One of the most common things we hear as municipal official about Town Meeting is, *“I wish I had known more about the issues before the actual meeting.”*

Town Meeting agendas are often packed with important matters, and the time available for deliberation can be limited. That means residents can feel under pressure to make quick decisions.

To help address this, the Select Board last year established the Town Meeting Study Committee (TMSC). While the TMSC may become best known for bringing a food truck to the Annual Town Meeting in 2025, their most important contribution has been helping to create a fantastic new information-sharing plan—specifically designed for voters who want to be more informed.

## Get Informed Before the Meeting

We strongly encourage you to visit the Town’s official Town Meeting website:

<https://www.carlislema.gov/259/Upcoming-Town-Meeting>

By April 18th (at least one month before the May 18th meeting), this site will be filled with detailed information about each proposed article. For every article, you'll find:

1. A summary, including pros and cons for many proposals
2. Background materials to provide context
3. Links to videos and podcasts for deeper insights

Town officials have invested significant time in creating videos and podcasts to help explain the key issues. Videos include helpful graphics to break down article content, and a special podcast series will be released to walk voters through the major topics.

Be sure to follow [The Carlisle Connection](#) on your favorite podcast platform! ([Spotify](#)) ([Apple](#))

## Prefer to Learn In Person?

The TMSC has suggested analog options too. If you're looking for a quick refresher before the meeting, arrive early for the Poster Session—and yes, the food truck too! This is your chance to speak directly with article proponents, ask questions, and get last-minute clarity on any topic.

## Still Have Questions?

If you’d like more information about any article before Town Meeting, please don’t hesitate to contact my office. We’re happy to connect you with the right resources to ensure you feel confident and informed when it’s time to vote.

We look forward to seeing you at the Annual Town Meeting on Sunday, May 18!

- Poster Session and Food Truck: 11:30 AM
- Meeting Begins: 1:00 PM

# CLIMATE RESILIENCE OFFICE HOURS



Chat with Carlisle's Town Planner and Sustainability Coordinator about planning for Carlisle's climate resilient future!

Where: Carlisle Town Hall, 66 Westford Street, Carlisle, MA 01741

When: 1st Tuesday of the Month, 11am - 1pm

For information on language services, or other questions, contact:

[jmercier@carlislema.gov](mailto:jmercier@carlislema.gov)



 **Town of Carlisle**  
MASSACHUSETTS

# CAMBIO CLIMATICO HORARIOS DE CONSULTA



¡Charla con el Planificador Municipal y Coordinador de Sostenibilidad de Carlisle para asegurar un futuro resiliente al clima en Carlisle!

Dónde: Carlisle Town Hall, 66 Westford Street, Carlisle, MA 01741

Cuándo: Primer Martes del Mes, de 11am a 1pm

Para obtener información sobre servicios lingüísticos u otras consultas, contáctanos:

[jmercier@carlislema.gov](mailto:jmercier@carlislema.gov)



 **Town of Carlisle**  
MASSACHUSETTS

# 气候韧性 办公时间



同本镇（Carlisle）的计划及可持续发展协调员见面，探讨如何积极为本镇气候韧性的未来未雨绸缪！

地点： Carlisle 镇政府  
66 Westford Street, Carlisle, MA 01741

时间： 每月第一个周二上午11点到下午1点

如需语言服务或者您有其它问题，敬请电邮：

[jmercier@carlislema.gov](mailto:jmercier@carlislema.gov)



 **Town of Carlisle**  
MASSACHUSETTS

# आबोहवा लचीलापन कार्यालय घंटे



बात करें कार्लिस्ले के शहर योजनाकर्ता और स्थिरता समन्वयक के साथ कार्लिस्ले के अबोहवा लचीलापन भविष्य की योजना के बारे में!

कहां: कार्लिस्ले टाउन हॉल, 66 Westford Street, Carlisle, MA 01741

कब: महीने का पहला मंगलवार, सुबह ११ बजे से दोपहर १ बजे तक

भाषा सेवाओं पर जानकारी के लिए, या अन्य प्रश्न, संपर्क करें:

[jmercier@carlislema.gov](mailto:jmercier@carlislema.gov)



 **Town of Carlisle**  
MASSACHUSETTS

# From the School Committee

Dear Carlisle Community,

April has arrived, bringing with it both the beautiful weather and the excitement that often accompanies spring in Carlisle. The longer, brighter days are a welcome change, offering us more opportunities to spend time outdoors with family, friends, and neighbors.

This spring we are pleased to be able to offer [STEAM courses](#) again for our elementary students. The course selection has expanded to include both public speaking and Spanish along with the cursive writing and art courses offered during previous sessions. Courses are starting soon. Spring sports have also kicked off, and we wish our volleyball and ultimate frisbee teams a successful spring season.

April marks the beginning of our state assessments, the Massachusetts Comprehensive Assessment System (MCAS). Students in grades 3-8 will be participating in assessments in ELA and Math throughout April and May. Additionally, Science assessments for grades 5 and 8 will take place in May, followed by the Civics for grade 8 in early June. While these assessments do interrupt the regular school day, they do provide us with valuable data. We understand that everyone has their own feelings regarding these assessments but it is worth pointing out that they do provide us with some important insight and valuable data with regard to the work we do and the development of our students. Principals will share more information about the testing schedule, which will also be available on the [District Calendar](#) on the website.

April also brings the school vacation, with no classes from April 21st through April 25th. During April vacation, we observe Patriots' Day on Monday, April 21st. This year marks the 250th anniversary of the battle of Lexington and Concord with multiple events planned in Carlisle and the surrounding communities over the next few weeks. This is a wonderful opportunity for students and families to explore and learn more about the history of Carlisle. For more details on the anniversary and events visit the [Patriot's Day 250 website](#). Also, as a reminder, there is an Early Release day on Wednesday, April 9th for faculty and staff professional development.



For those students, and perhaps some parents, already looking forward to the end of the school year, with only one snow day this year our last day of school is scheduled for Tuesday, June 17th. This day will be an early release day. The 8th Grade Graduation Ceremony is officially set for Thursday, June 12th. More information about the graduation ceremony will be shared in the coming weeks. We hope you are able to enjoy the spring weather and have a relaxing April break.

Warm regards,

Sharon Whitt  
Carlisle School Committee Chair

Jim O'Shea  
Superintendent of Schools

# From the Tax Collector's Office

## IMPORTANT NEWS

Real Estate taxes will be due on Thursday, May 1st for the 4th quarter of FY25. This bill was mailed to you in January with the bill for taxes due on February 3rd. The Collector's Office will not be mailing a reminder notice. If you need a copy of your tax bill, please call the Collector's Office at 978-369-5557.



CONCORD CARLISLE FOUNDATION

## THOREAU OF THE DICE



### From Casino Night to Community Impact — Let's Keep the Momentum Going

Our recent Casino Night was a tremendous success, and we couldn't have done it without you—your presence, your generosity, and your unwavering belief in our mission to uplift the Carlisle community. We are proud to support organizations like the Council on Aging and the Human Services, which deliver critical services to those who need them most. At the Concord Carlisle Foundation, we believe that community support is the greatest force for good. Your donations make it possible for us to continue funding programs that touch lives and strengthen our shared future.

As we look ahead, we invite you to contribute to our Annual Fund 2025 by April 30. Together, we can ensure that local organizations have the resources they need to keep serving our neighbors. Scan the QR code or visit [www.concordcarlislefoundation.org](http://www.concordcarlislefoundation.org) to make your gift today.

Have questions? Reach out to us at [info@concordcarlislefoundation.org](mailto:info@concordcarlislefoundation.org)—we'd love to hear from you!



## CULTURAL EVENTS APRIL & MAY \* Carlisle Cultural Council Grant recipients.

### APRIL

- 14<sup>th</sup> 10:15 am: [6th Graders Explore Global Cuisine](#), with COAHS
- 18<sup>th</sup>-19<sup>th</sup>: [Patriots' Day 250th Celebrations](#)
- 25<sup>th</sup>: Native American Speakers at Carlisle Public School\*
- 25<sup>th</sup>: Gleason Library [Poetry contest deadline](#)\*
- 27<sup>th</sup>: 1-4pm [Route to Sustainability Day](#). Town Common\*
- 27<sup>th</sup>: 3 pm [Carlisle Community Chorus](#) @RTSD
- 30<sup>th</sup>: Wee Felted Mice, Gleason Library\*

### MAY

- 3<sup>rd</sup> 4 pm: [Concord Women's Chorus](#), "Still Heard Round the World: A Celebration of Music Written by and for Women." Trinity Episcopal Church, Concord\*
- 9<sup>th</sup> 8 pm: [Carlisle Chamber Orchestra](#), 10th Anniversary Concert, Carlisle Congregational Church\*
- 14<sup>th</sup> 7 pm: [Carlisle Community Chorus](#) Spring Concert, Corey Auditorium\*
- 17<sup>th</sup> 2 pm: [Poetry Festival](#) and awards ceremony, Gleason Public Library\*

## SAVE THE DATES!

### 4<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL CARLISLE MUSIC FESTIVAL @OLD HOME DAY

Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> and Sunday 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2025

- Expanding to 3 Music Stages
- Children's Activities
- Food Trucks & Exhibitors

*Featuring exciting new groups and returning favorites:*

**Yarina • Five O'Clock Shadow • Nightlife • 5 Orange • Concord Women's Chorus  
Kenny Selcer & Steve Gilligan • The Hansen Brothers • Hot Club of Carlisle • Soundbites  
Red Velvet Slide • The Soul Soothers • Dale Joachim's Jazz • Don't You Worry  
Neighborly • Carlisle Community Chorus • Backbeat Farm Drum and Brass Band**



## NEW EVENT!

### Old Home Day Community Performance Showcase

Friday June 20, 7:00-9:00 PM at the Music Festival Tent, FRS yard. For soloists, small groups, musical theater sketches, poetry/spoken word. Must live or work in Carlisle. Watch for details.

## KEEP THE MUSIC PLAYING — SUPPORT THE CARLISLE MUSIC FESTIVAL @OLD HOME DAY

Entering its 4<sup>th</sup> year, the Carlisle Music Festival entertains hundreds of music lovers of all ages, while providing a "big stage" experience for the best of Carlisle's talented musicians across many genres. **Your gift to The Carlisle Cultural Council Fund will help us produce the Festival this year and in the future.** Make a secure online donation by credit card. Scan the QR code or visit [carlisleculturalcouncilfund.org](http://carlisleculturalcouncilfund.org) See additional giving options, including Donor Advised Fund donations, [here](#). Thank you!





Town of  
**Carlisle**  
MASSACHUSETTS

# FOLLOW US ON Social Media

## FACEBOOK

@townofcarlislema



## INSTAGRAM

@townofcarlislema



## X

@townofcarlisle



## LINKEDIN

@townofcarlisle



## LISTEN TO OUR Podcast

@thecarlisleconnection

## SPOTIFY



## APPLE PODCASTS

