



MUNICIPAL NEWSLETTER

Town of Carlisle

SEPTEMBER 2025

Congratulations to Sergeant Mastrogiovanni and Officer Ludwig!

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



On September 9, the Carlisle Select Board hosted a special ceremony recognizing two important milestones within our Police Department: the promotion of Jim Mastrogiovanni to Sergeant and the badge pinning of our newest officer, Rob Ludwig. Family members proudly participated in the ceremony, pinning badges on their loved ones before the community. Please join us in welcoming both officers to their new roles and wishing them success as they step into these important Town roles.



@townofcarlislema



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@townofcarlisle



@townofcarlisle

carlislema.gov



Open House at Center Park Wednesday September 17

The Carlisle Cultural Council (CCC) and the Friends of Center Park (FOCP) invite the public to Center Park on Wednesday, September 17 from 5 pm to 6:30 pm for a reception to honor CCC recipients. Refreshments will be served and tours of the park given. This is a chance to celebrate the diversity of programs supported by the CCC while learning more about upcoming grant opportunities. There will also be special displays around the park that showcase the volunteer efforts of the FOCP and the Massachusetts Master Gardeners. Rain date is Thursday, September 18.

REMINDER: Japanese knotweed pilot disposal program

Click [here](#) for important details!



GOT JAPANESE KNOTWEED?

The Transfer Station will accept
Japanese knotweed on:

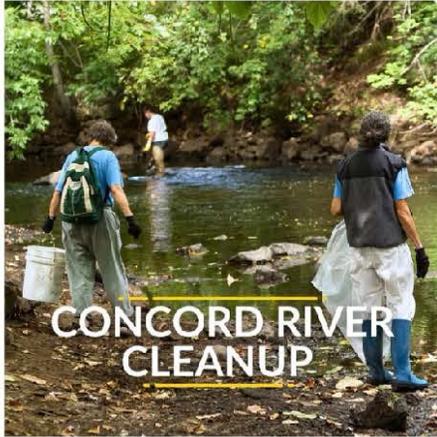
- September 6, 1:00pm-4:00pm
- September 13 1:00pm-4:00pm
- September 20, 1:00pm-4:00pm

Details at the
Environmental
Sustainability Committee
website



CONCORD RIVER CLEANUP

September 27, 9:00am-12:00pm



Where: Bedford Boat Launch in Carlisle

Host: Carlisle Conservation Foundation, OARS and Carlisle Environmental Sustainability Committee

Cleanup type: Land-based or paddle Cleanup

Details, information and registration: oars3rivers.org

Registration required

See you there!!



CARLISLE
CONSERVATION
FOUNDATION



Join us for a fun and meaningful paddle along the Concord River.

Join the Carlisle Conservation Foundation, OARS and Carlisle Environmental Sustainability Committee for a hands-on cleanup of the Concord River! On Saturday, September 27th from 9:00 AM to 12:00 PM at the Bedford Boat Launch in Carlisle, you can help protect our waterways and enjoy the outdoors at the same time. Whether you prefer paddling or staying on land, there's a spot for you—there are a limited amount of boats available for registrants, and there are plenty of land-based cleanup opportunities. Come make a difference, connect with your community, and have fun while keeping the Concord River clean!

Registration: Required

Click [here](http://oars3rivers.org) for details and registration

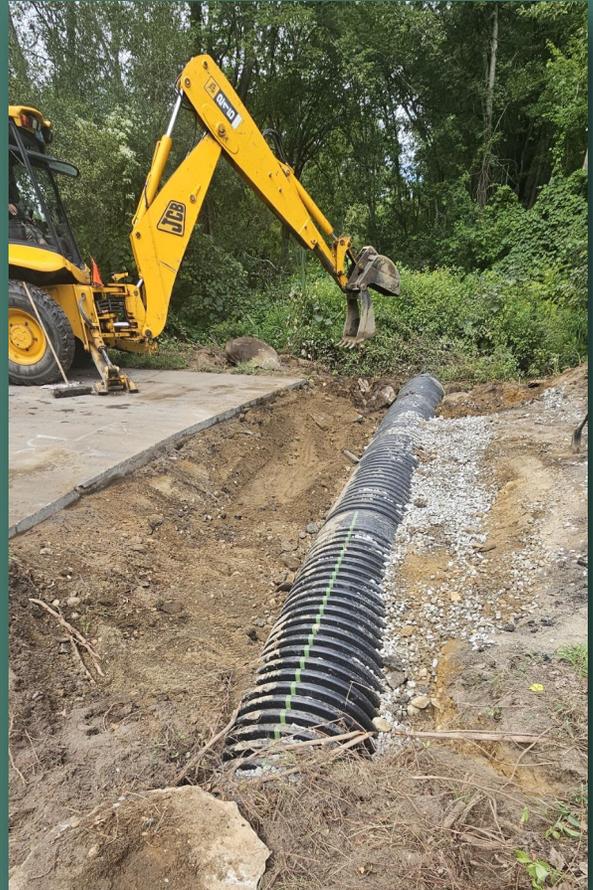
From the DPW Director

Howdy folks!

Well summer is winding down, and the kids are back in school, but the beat goes on here at the DPW. We have had a busy August. Starting out the month, we had a major culvert repair on Curve Street along with other smaller projects throughout town. We are also ramping up for our fall paving projects as well. We will soon publish an updated version of our five-year paving plan, so stay tuned for that. Lastly, I would like to thank the citizens of Carlisle for approving funds at the last town meeting for our new roadside mower!!! We hope to take delivery of it by the end of September! THANK YOU ALL!!!

As always, we thank you for your patience and support.

Jim



Housing Trust Update

John Ballantine, Jr., member

Over the past year the Housing Trust has been working with the town planner, town administrator, and outside consultants regarding the feasibility of converting the Cranberry Bog House to housing. Progress has been slow and steady. Currently, the Housing Trust has been advised that there is probably sufficient capacity around the site to install an eight bedroom septic that meets Title 5 regulations and is not disruptive to the site.

The Housing Trust also reviewed conceptual plans for four or five housing units that would fit within the current configuration of the bog house at costs that seem to fall within mid-level price of housing in Carlisle. In other words, initial reviews by outside consultants supports the possibility of multi-unit housing in the Bog House. However, there is much more due diligence that needs done to see if these preliminary assessments are possible.

Over the coming months, the Housing Trust in consultation with the Select Board, town planner, and other boards hope to work with experienced consultants to refine preliminary design and construction costs. We will also be very cognizant of site plan designs and compatibility with conservation / recreational use of the Cranberry Bog. This will take a good deal of time, effort, and conversations with everyone concerned

Needless to say, there are many details and ongoing consultations with all the town boards and committees regarding conversion of the Cranberry Bog House. The Housing Trust appreciates all the advice and assistance it has received from all the interested parties in Carlisle. We hope to have a more detailed update on the next steps for the Cranberry Bog House for town boards and committees by the Spring of 2026.

CCF OKTOBERFEST

The Concord Carlisle Foundation is bringing OKTOBERFEST to Carlisle! Join us on Saturday October 4th from 11 to 3. at Clark Farm Market for food, live music, beer, kids' activities, and games for the adults! Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for kids ages 4 to 10. The rain date is Sunday October 5th. Buy your tickets here before they sell out! <https://givebutter.com/IA4Opu>

From the Carlisle Public School and School Committee

Dear Carlisle Community,

We are delighted to share that we are off to an outstanding start to the 2025–2026 school year. While summer is always a wonderful time for rest and renewal, it has been truly energizing to welcome students back to campus and to see the excitement and enthusiasm that accompany a new school year. We are equally thrilled to greet the many new students who have joined our community this year, further enriching our school community. As of the first day of school we have 614 students enrolled in Carlisle Public School in grades Pre-K to 8.

To launch the new school year with spirit and unity, on Wednesday, September 2nd we held a whole school assembly in the gymnasium for students in grades kindergarten through grade 8. This gathering provided an opportunity to focus on our theme of being a community in one school. It also allowed us to introduce and welcome our new staff members and to reaffirm for our students that every adult in our school is here to support them. We were honored to be joined by Carlisle Fire Chief Bryan Sorrows and School Resource Officer Drew Corwin, and we all enjoyed a special appearance by the ‘Carlisle’ Husky. The event was a highlight for all students, and we look forward to hosting similar gatherings throughout the year.

This year we welcomed a number of new faculty and staff to our school community and we also had a number of staff who changed positions within our schools. Many in the community have already had the opportunity to meet Val Gransewicz, our new Director of Student Support Services, as she started back in July and hit the ground running. We are also joined this year by new staff members:

- Jeff Bombardier, 8th Grade Science
- Lorrie Chiappetta, Registered Behavior Technician (RBT)
- Lei Dong, Elementary Paraprofessional
- Jackie Fuller, Elementary Paraprofessional
- Erin Higgins, Food Service
- Carrie Patel, School Nurse
- Bryanna Pottie, Food Service
- Jessica Rice, 7th Grade ELA
- Katie Brownlie, Elementary Paraprofessional
- Elizabeth Smith, Middle School Paraprofessional.

In addition to those new colleagues, we have a number of staff who will be taking on new roles for the upcoming year including Callie Burns who moved to second grade, Tatiana Cotter joined the 4th Grade team, Tessa McKinley took on a permanent position in Special Education, Jennifer Moeller moved from Kindergarten to a Tier II Tutor position, Anna Niezrecki is serving as a long-term substitute in 6th Grade Science, and Susan West transitioned to become an Elementary Paraprofessional position. We are also pleased to welcome back Kevin Maier who returned as our Band Director.

The School Committee met over the summer to create goals to support student learning for the 2025-2026 school year. Scheduled to be voted on during the September 17th meeting, the goals for the upcoming year are:

- Elevate visibility and understanding of student achievement.
- Deepen school–community partnerships
- Adopt a fiscally sustainable FY 27 budget
- Further collaboration with town government on shared services
- Set a clear strategic direction through FY 2030 that addresses enrollment shifts, staffing, and facilities needs.
- Focus on School Committee governance in partnership with the Superintendent.

We hope the first few weeks of September have been smooth and positive for all Carlisle families, setting the tone for a wonderful school year to come. As always, please feel free to reach out with any questions, thoughts, ideas, or concerns.

Warm regards,

Brian Waterson
Carlisle School Committee Chair

Jim O’Shea
Superintendent of Schools

TOWN OF CARLISLE

From the Concord-Carlisle Regional School Committee (CCRSC)

As the new school year begins, the Concord-Carlisle Regional School Committee (CCRSC) has spent time focusing on its goals for the upcoming school year. Approved in our September meeting, the four goals are:

- Ensure transparent, collaborative, and fiscally responsible budgeting that aligns with district priorities and earns public support.
- Strengthen two-way communication with stakeholders and deepen collaboration with town leadership, specifically, in addressing acts of hate and antisemitism in our communities and in promoting equity, inclusion and belonging.
- Ensure district policies are current, inclusive, and responsive to emerging student and community needs.
- Monitor and support district leadership through evidence-based evaluation aligned with student achievement and equity.

The CCRSC will pilot a new meeting structure this academic year, changing to a monthly meeting format instead of meeting twice a month. The meeting calendar is available on the district website (<https://www.concordps.org/school-committee/meetings-and-minutes>). Following a successful pilot last year, our next meeting will be held in Carlisle at Town Hall on Wednesday, October 8 at 6:00pm. We welcome all interested members of the Carlisle community to come to Town Hall that night. The agenda is still being set, but we do plan to start conversations on the FY27 budget.

As you probably already heard, while the amenities building project passed in Town Meeting in both Carlisle and Concord last spring, it unfortunately failed in the special election Concord held in August. This election was needed because their share of the borrowing was over \$1M. The Campus Completion Subcommittee is working this fall on next steps, as the CCRSC continues to feel it is critical to have permanent bathrooms at the lower fields to ensure they are accessible to all members of the community (not to mention to finally comply with MA plumbing codes). We thank Carlisle residents for their support of the project this past spring, and we hope for continued support if and when a new vote is brought forward during Town Meeting in 2026.

Lastly, we invite members of the Carlisle community to reach out to the CCRSC at any time. Each meeting we have up to 20 minutes of public comment, or you can email concordcarliseschoolcommittee@concordps.org. For the year ahead Brian Waterson and Lynette Kelleher will serve as the Carlisle representatives on the CCRSC, and you are always welcome to reach out to them directly.

We hope the start of the school year has been a success for everyone!

Sincerely,

Brian Waterson,
Vice Chair, Concord-Carlisle Regional School Committee

From the Environmental Sustainability Committee



Active Transportation

-- or --

How I Learned to Stop Driving And Start Cycling Everywhere (including Town Meetings)

The [US Department of Energy \(DOE\)](#) and [Department of Transportation \(DOT\)](#) both describe active transportation as human powered mobility – which includes walking, scooters, skateboards, wheelchairs, and bicycles. Active transportation takes the place of motor vehicle use which translates to reducing emissions (including CO₂), conserving hydrocarbon fuels (a national security interest), and improving individual and public health. DOE believes that [electric bikes can be a low-cost path to reducing energy consumption](#) – calculating that e-bikes can have an efficiency as high as 3,800 MPGe (miles per gallon equivalent). Furthermore, DOT states that [most trips \(52%\) are under three miles, a short distance perfect for biking, walking and ‘rolling’](#). And another important aspect of active transportation is that it can provide a vital first mile / last mile link to mass transit.

Active transportation, cycling in particular, does come with extra safety concerns. Infrastructure specifically geared toward active transportation and the safety of vulnerable road users (VRUs) is a high priority in many municipalities, including Carlisle. And at the Massachusetts state level, in late 2022 / early 2023, the legislature passed, and Governor Baker signed, ‘[An Act to Reduce Traffic Fatalities](#)’, more commonly known as the ‘Vulnerable Road User Law’. In short, [the law requires motorists to pass a vulnerable road user at a “safe passing distance” of at least four feet](#). Working closely with Jim Hall and the wonderful DPW crew, ESC helped facilitate the purchase and placement location of VRU signage on the inbound side of roads coming into Carlisle.

As an ESC member, as well as for many years before that, I’ve come to embrace, and enjoy, ‘walking this talk’ – and I do it mostly on bike!! Commuting to and from work in Cambridge by car was the traffic nightmare that nudged (drove?) me to bicycle commuting. I’ve never looked back and continue to cycle everywhere that I can. Town staff and residents have often seen me at Town Hall for routine meetings with bicycle helmet in hand. And the real bonus... as Carlisle’s semi-Annual Town Meetings become better and better attended, arriving by bike avoids the traffic jam, and... you guessed it... provides primo parking just steps away from the auditorium entrance.

4 September 2025
Submitted by Eric Balles
Environmental Sustainability Committee



From the Carlisle Youth Commission

The Carlisle Youth Commission is excited to welcome back all Carlisle middle schoolers! Come party in pink at the *Pink Social* on **Friday, October 3rd, from 7:00–9:00 pm**. Don't forget to bring loose change and bills—we'll be holding a grade-level contest to see who can raise the most for **Kicks for Cancer**. The winning grade gets to pick the theme for November's FNL!

Registration is available on the Carlisle Rec website, and we encourage parents to sign up to chaperone at least one FNL this year. We can't wait to see everyone there!

Chaperone Sign-up: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C084BACAE29AAFACF8-57625062-friday#/>

Registration: https://carlislema.myrec.com/info/activities/program_details.aspx?ProgramID=30457

**THE CARLISLE YOUTH COMMISSION WELCOMES BACK
CARLISLE MIDDLE SCHOOLERS!**

FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE

PINK SOCIALS

**FRIDAY
OCTOBER
3RD
7:00-9:00PM**

**PARTY IN
PINK!**

**DJ & DANCING, PROFESSIONAL PHOTOBOOTH,
RAFFLE PRIZES, PIZZA, SPORTS AND A MOVIE**

**BRING LOOSE CHANGE & BILLS FOR A CONTEST
TO SUPPORT KICKS FOR CANCER!**

REGISTER ON THE CARLISLE REC WEBSITE

From the Facilities Director

The new scissor lift, recently approved for purchase by Carlisle residents, has already proven to be an invaluable addition for the Facilities Department. The Facilities Director has been able to complete long-overdue repairs in a short amount of time, including repairing electrical lights and addressing ceiling repairs in high areas that were previously difficult to access. This investment is already showing its value by improving efficiency and helping to maintain town buildings safely and effectively.



Healthy Carlisle

This summer, ticks were out in force. Massachusetts emergency departments saw more tick exposure visits than in recent years. While Lyme Disease, Babesiosis, and Anaplasmosis are the most common tick-borne diseases in Massachusetts, ticks in the Commonwealth can transmit the pathogens causing Tularemia, Rocky Mountain spotted fever, Borrelia miyamotoi, and Powassan virus as well. The fall often brings a second wave of tick activity, so ensure you know how to protect yourself against ticks. In the event you are bitten, you can remove the tick and send it for testing. See below for additional information.

How Do I Protect Myself Against Ticks?				
<p>Dress tick smart</p> <p>Weather permitting, wear long-sleeved, light-colored shirts and long pants tucked into your socks.</p> 	<p>Avoid tall grass</p> <p>Stick to main pathways and the center of trails if possible.</p> 	<p>Rinse off</p> <p>Bathe or shower after coming indoors (preferably within 2 hours) to wash off or more easily find ticks.</p> 		
<p>Use tick repellent</p> <p>Use repellents containing 20% DEET, picaridin, IR3535, oil of lemon eucalyptus, or para-menthaneol. Follow package directions.</p> 	<p>Check your body and gear</p> <p>After being outdoors, conduct a full-body check looking for ticks. Don't forget to check gear, equipment, and pets too.</p> 	<p>Tumble your clothes on high heat</p> <p>Tumble dry already dry clothes on high heat for 10 minutes to kill ticks.</p> 		
What Should I Do if I Find an Attached Tick?				
<p>How To Properly Remove a Tick</p>	<p>STEP 1</p>  <p>DISINFECT THE BITE AREA</p>	<p>STEP 2</p>  <p>GRAB THE TICK CLOSE TO THE HEAD WITH TWEEZERS</p>	<p>STEP 3</p>  <p>PULL THE TICK STRAIGHT OUT CAREFULLY AND SLOWLY</p>	<p>STEP 4</p>  <p>DISINFECT THE BITE AREA</p>
	<p>How Do I Know if the Tick is Carrying a Pathogen?</p>			
	<p>Use the Tick Testing Program</p> <p>This program tests ticks for a variety of pathogens. Carlisle residents can order a tick test from tickreport.com for the reduced rate of \$30. Enter your zip code at checkout, and the subsidy will be automatically applied.</p>	<p>Mail Your Tick</p> <p>Place your tick — whole or partial — in a plastic bag and mail it to the tick testing lab. The lab will identify the tick and conduct the appropriate tests.</p>	<p>Receive Results</p> <p>Results are securely delivered via email within three business days of your sample(s) arriving at the lab.</p>	
	<p>For more information about ticks, visit the Board of Health website.</p>			

The Tick Testing Program should not replace a visit with a medical provider if there are symptoms present.

Visit tickreport.com to order a tick test. For more information about ticks, visit the [Board of Health website](#).

Carlisle Council on Aging & Human Services (COAHS)

Message from the Director

As we move into fall, COAHS is excited to expand our trips and activities, offering more ways for residents to stay connected, engaged, and active. From local outings to cultural programs, our goal is to provide opportunities that appeal to a wide range of interests and bring neighbors together. This fall, we're offering more opportunities to get out and explore.

- **Deep Sea Fishing Trip** – Saturday, September 13 | 11:00 AM–4:00 PM, Hampton, NH Join us for a three-hour striped bass fishing adventure with Al Gauron Deep Sea Fishing. No experience needed—bait and tackle provided. Van departs 11:00 AM from the Congregational Church. Cost: \$45, covering trip, rod rental, and transportation.
- **Larz Anderson Auto Museum – Extinct & Vintage Car Day** – Saturday, October 18 | 10:30 AM, Brookline, MA Step back in time with a fascinating display of rare and vintage automobiles. Fee: \$15, including van transportation and museum admission. Van departs 9:30 AM from the Congregational Church. Register by Friday, October 10.

September Highlights

- **Coffee & Connections** – Fridays at 10:00 AM, Clark Farm Market Enjoy coffee, pastries, and good conversation.
- **Blood Pressure Checks by Bridges** – Friday, September 26 & Friday, October 24 Free, walk-in screenings to help you stay on top of your health.
- **Fall Fitness Series** – Mondays & Wednesdays, starting September 9 Gentle but effective movement to support strength and balance.

We are also working to address the complexity of food insecurity here in Carlisle. While food access may not always look the same in a small town as it does in larger cities, barriers like transportation, affordability, and social isolation still affect many of our residents. Our approach goes beyond meals—it includes rides to grocery stores, programs that bring people together around food, and efforts to reduce the loneliness that so often accompanies food insecurity.

Did You Know?

COAHS provides **durable medical equipment**—walkers, wheelchairs, and shower chairs—for short-term loan at no cost. If you or a neighbor could benefit, give us a call.

Visiting Made Easy

- **Monday–Thursday:** 8:30 AM–4:30 PM
- **Friday:** 9:00 AM–12:00 PM

At COAHS, we're committed to making sure every resident feels supported and included regardless of their age or circumstance. Please continue to share your ideas and feedback with us—we want our programs and services to reflect the creativity, energy, and needs of the Carlisle community.

— Geoffrey Kotowski, Director

From the Gleason Public Library

Middle School Early Release Movie: On each early release day during the school year, beginning on Tuesday, September 16, middle schoolers are invited to the Gleason Library Hollis Room for a movie and snacks! For kids in grades 5 through 8 only; please call 978-369-4898 or email info@gleasonlibrary.org for movie titles.

Save the Date! [The 42nd Annual Great Pumpkin Spectacle will be held on Tuesday, October 21.](#)

Library Card Sign-Up Month

This September, the Gleason Library invites Carlisleans to celebrate Library Card Sign-Up Month and discover how a single card can open the door to endless opportunities.

This year's theme, "One Card, Endless Possibilities," is a reminder that libraries are for everyone—no matter your age, background, or goals. Whether you're diving into a new hobby, searching for your next great read, brushing up on tech skills, or helping your child succeed in school, it all starts with a library card.

Stop by the Gleason to sign up for or renew your card during the week of September 15th to 20th and you can get your picture with a giant library card, or do a fun scavenger hunt in the Children's Room. You're welcome if you already have a card, too! Because with a Gleason Public Library card, the possibilities are truly endless.

Welcome Back, Students

The Gleason Library is happy to welcome back Carlisle students this fall. Kids age 9 and up are welcome to visit the Gleason independently; this privilege comes with the responsibility of following library behavior expectations. Help us ensure that the library is a welcoming space for everyone.

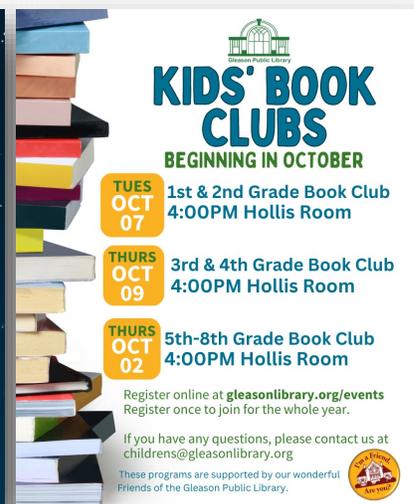
These expectations include: no eating food or candy (covered drinks are okay); be respectful to others in the library, including peers and staff members; converse with "library voices"; and keep high-traffic areas clear of belongings and gatherings. Visitors who repeatedly do not follow these policies will be asked to leave the library for a period of time. If you have any questions, please call contact Library Director Martha Feeney-Patten at mpatten@gleasonlibrary.org, Teen Librarian Tahleen Shamlian at tshamlian@gleasonlibrary.org, or either at 978-369-4898.



STARGAZING PARTY
TUESDAY, 9/30
6:30 PM
BANTA-DAVIS FIELD

Recreation Dept. Gleason Public Library ATM BOSTON CARLISLE COMMUNITY CENTER

Open to all ages.
Check the Carlisle Recreation website for weather updates.
Register online at carlislema.myrec.com/info/activities



KIDS' BOOK CLUBS
BEGINNING IN OCTOBER

TUES OCT 07	1st & 2nd Grade Book Club 4:00PM Hollis Room
THURS OCT 09	3rd & 4th Grade Book Club 4:00PM Hollis Room
THURS OCT 02	5th-8th Grade Book Club 4:00PM Hollis Room

Register online at gleasonlibrary.org/events
Register once to join for the whole year.
If you have any questions, please contact us at childrens@gleasonlibrary.org
These programs are supported by our wonderful Friends of the Gleason Public Library.

From the Gleason Public Library, Continued from Page 13

FALL STORY TIMES

BEGINNING OCTOBER 3

FALL 2025

TUESDAYS **BABY LAPSIT**
10:30AM **BIRTH TO PREWALKING**
CHILDREN'S ROOM

FRIDAYS **FAMILY STORY TIME**
10:30AM **TODDLER + PRESCHOOL**
HOLLIS ROOM

Register for each individual session at gleasonlibrary.org/events
Questions? Email childrens@gleasonlibrary.org



POISONING THE WELL:

How Forever Chemicals Contaminated America



Thursday
September 18
6 PM
Via Zoom

Award-winning environmental journalist Sharon Udasin traces the ugly history of corporate greed, military impunity, and community devastation.



FEMINISM & MUSIC

WITH MUSIC LECTURER RICHARD TRAVERS

WEDNESDAY,
SEPTEMBER 24
1:30 PM - 2:30 PM
HOLLIS ROOM



Register online.

Women are often lauded entertainers, but are still less likely to hold positions of authority beyond performance. Learn about women who have made important strides for equality and inspirational impacts as conductors and producers.



MBTA COMMUNITIES

ZONING FOR MULTI-FAMILY HOUSING



The Planning Board
will refine draft zoning language
and site selection
for compliance with the
MBTA Communities Act



PUBLIC HEARING

WHEN?

MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 29
7 PM

MONDAY, OCTOBER 6
MONDAY, OCTOBER 20



WHERE?

CLARK ROOM @ TOWN HALL
66 WESTFORD STREET
&
ZOOM
[LINK ON AGENDA]

<https://www.carlislema.gov/1195/MBTA-Communities>

For more information, including draft versions of the bylaws, scan the code above

Carlisle Recreation

Make Life-Long Learning Fun



If you haven't noticed it yet... take a look at the NEW sign as you enter the Banta Davis Playing Fields. We would like to send a huge Shout Out to Andrew Newman who completed the sign as his Eagle Scout project. Alongside Andrew is Matthew Evans and Adam Synnestvedt who donated their time to assist Andrew with building the sign.

Thank you for improving the entrance to the Banta Davis Playing Fields.





Town of
Carlisle
MASSACHUSETTS

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INSTAGRAM

@townofcarlislema



X

@townofcarlisle



LINKEDIN

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SPOTIFY

APPLE PODCASTS

LISTEN TO OUR Podcast

@thecarlisleconnection

