



# TOWN OF ACTON, MASSACHUSETTS MUNICIPAL MONTHLY



Natural Resources staff has been helping Council on Aging seniors explore some of the lovely walking spots in town, including the Arboretum.

## JULY 2021 MUNICIPAL MONTHLY

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## TOWN SERVICES HOTLINE

DIAL  
**978-929-6600**

### TOWN SERVICES HOTLINE HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday - Thursday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
Friday: 8:00 AM - 2:30 PM

### TOWN HALL & HUMAN SERVICES\* HOURS OF OPERATION

Sunday: Closed  
Monday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
Tuesday: 8:00 AM - 7:30 PM  
Wednesday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
Thursday: 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM  
Friday: 8:00 AM - 12:00 PM  
Saturday: Closed

\* New hours effective July 6

**All Town offices will be closed on Mon, July 5.**

### ACTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday-Saturday: 10:30 AM-5:30 PM  
Sunday: 2:00 - 5:00 PM

## TOWN MANAGER'S UPDATE

With the rescinded guidance related to the pandemic from the Governor's Office, Town departments are beginning to re-open their buildings and offer services to the community. The Memorial Library is now offering in-person library services seven days a week. The Recreation Department has announced the schedule of summer camp events and is bringing back the popular summer concert series. Additional programming information can be found on the subsequent pages of this Municipal Monthly, or at [actonma.gov](http://actonma.gov).



Last month, the Select Board announced this year's recipients of the Colonel Francis Faulkner Sr. Volunteer of the Year Awards. Each year, each Board member nominates one individual to be commended for their exemplary service to the community. The recipients (pictured L-R above) this year are:

- **Diane Randolph Jones**, *nominated by David Martin*
- **Ray Yacouby**, *nominated by Dean Charter*
- **Tom Gillespie**, *nominated by Joan Gardner*
- **Marion Maxwell**, *nominated by Jon Benson*
- **Ann (Nancy) Corcoran**, *nominated by Jim Snyder-Grant*

Finally, as we close out one fiscal year and enter into the next, I would like to extend my deepest gratitude to the town employees for their resilience during one of the most challenging periods of our lives. As Town Manager, I have been fortunate to witness a community that is kind and insightful, thought-provoking and innovative, and most importantly, committed to deep-rooted values that shape the identity of the community as a whole. I am proud of the employees that serve the Town, especially over the last year.

Sincerely,  
John S. Mangiaratti  
Town Manager



## 2021 MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES OF THE YEAR



### About the Award

Each year town employees are invited to nominate their co-workers for the “Joseph A. Lalli Merit Award”, generously supported and funded by the Steinberg-Lalli Charitable Foundation.

Mr. Joseph Lalli was a strong supporter of public service and wished to leave a legacy by acknowledging a public safety employee and municipal employee each year for their outstanding performance and their extraordinary contributions made to the town and the various programs and services provided to our citizens.

### History of Mr. Lalli

Mr. Joseph A. Lalli was born and raised on a small farm in Maynard to Italian immigrant parents. His father worked in the woolen mills in Maynard as did Joe in his youth. At the time, Maynard was a melting pot of immigrants from many different countries. People of that area derived their livelihood almost entirely from the mills, and the other small businesses that served the workers and their families.

A survivor of rheumatic fever – the disease scarred Joe’s heart and he was forced to find a less strenuous occupation than millwork. He graduated from Fitchburg State College and spent a good part of his working life as an educator in New England. Joe worked diligently at other ventures: growing vegetables, running a bowling alley, starting a driving school, and selling postage stamps to collectors. He lived frugally and invested wisely in the stock market, in cultivating blueberries, in oil and gas partnerships and real estate. Mr. Lalli was very successful.

Many years ago, Mr. Lalli and another local businessman became partners in various ventures, including some here in Acton. A charitable foundation was formed by these two individuals to do good works and share their success with other worthy individuals.

### Sheryl Ball, Health Director

Sheryl (shown left in photo above) attended Lyndon State College (Lyndon, VT), Framingham State University and UMass Lowell, receiving her Bachelor’s degree in Liberal Arts with a minor in Science. Sheryl started her career with the Town of Acton in 1988 as the Secretary for the Health Department and then as Secretary for the Town Manager/Board of Selectmen in 1994. The Town saw much potential in Sheryl and supported her quest for receiving many health certifications over the years. In 2008, Sheryl became a Health Inspector where she was responsible for enforcing compliance with Board of Health rules and regulations. In 2015, Sheryl became the town’s Health Director and remains in that role. Thank you Sheryl for your almost 35 years of service to the town!

### Heather York, Nursing Director

Heather (shown right in photo above) started her career as a Data Entry Clerk then Bank Teller with the TJX Corporation and Flagship Bank respectively. Heather then attended Becker College in 1997 for her Nursing degree when her children were young. Heather worked as a Student Nurse at Memorial Hospital on the Family Practice Floor. She graduated from Becker College in 2000, took the Nursing Boards in July and was then licensed as an RN. Heather worked in the Acute Care Float Pool at UMass Medical Center from 2000-2002. She started in Acton as a per diem Nurse in 2004. Shortly after, seeing her skills she was then promoted to Clinical Manager 2005 and then Nursing Director in 2010 to present. Acton is very fortunate to have Heather on our team!



## **CELEBRATING THE RETIREMENT OF CAPTAIN ROBERT SMITH**



**THANK YOU FOR YOUR DEDICATED YEARS OF SERVICE TO  
THE CITIZENS OF ACTON!**







### WALK MASSACHUSETTS CHALLENGE

Lace up your sneakers - the Walk Massachusetts Challenge is back! This year features more walking options and more prizes! With five individual goals, there's a challenge for everyone - from walking 65 days to walking 692,000 steps - each tied to a fun Massachusetts fact. Ten lucky people will win a \$50 Visa gift card, 25 people a \$25 Amazon gift card, and 50 people a \$10 Dunkin' gift card. The first 500 people who participate will receive a handy reflective wrist band and sports pack, perfect for carrying your water bottle, keys and phone.

For each person who completes the challenge, the Acton COA gets entered into a drawing to win up to \$1,000 for future programming!

Here's how it works:

1. Participants can sign up at [www.mcoaonline.com/walkma](http://www.mcoaonline.com/walkma)
2. The program runs from May 1 to September 30
3. Choose a challenge from one of 5 different levels - walking for days, time, miles, or steps. There's something for everyone!
4. You can track your walking via online by creating a user name and password, or use the chart in our printable walk journal.
5. At the end of the challenge, submit your journal (online or to the Acton COA).

## Beautiful Butterflies

**Monday, July 19 at 1:00PM**

**Via Zoom—Pre-registration is required**

**[https://actonma.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_7Lbay9e7T7SQCP172TKBfQ](https://actonma.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_7Lbay9e7T7SQCP172TKBfQ)**

From the large Eastern tiger swallowtail and colorful monarch to the tiny spring azure, there is a huge range of size, color, and patterns in local butterfly species. What makes a good butterfly habitat? How do you attract more of these beautiful herbivorous animals? Find out more about our local butterflies and what brings them to our neighborhoods. Experience the sights of some of our most beautiful seasonal creatures!

### Presenter: Joy Marzolf - The Joys of Nature

For more information on Birds in Your Backyard or Beautiful Butterflies, please contact Sheryl Ball at the Acton Health Division at [sball@actonma.gov](mailto:sball@actonma.gov) or call (978) 929-6453.

Funding for CHNA15 is provided from Lahey Hospital and medical Center and Winchester Hospital through the Massachusetts Department of Public Health's Determination of Need (DON) process.



### HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY

The Town of Acton holds a Hazardous Waste Day twice a year and offers residents a safe and legal way of disposing of hazardous materials. For more information on hazardous waste disposal or Hazardous Waste Day, please contact the Health Department at 978-929-6632 or click [here](#).

**When: Wednesday, September 15, 2021 from 400 - 6:30 PM**

Location: DPW Garage at 14 Forest Road

**Note: These collection services are for Acton residents only and proof of residency will be required.**



# Resilience after COVID: A Re-Entry Conversation

PLEASE JOIN THE TOWNS OF ACTON, BOXBOROUGH AND LITTLETON AND WELCOME AUDREY MAY, LMHC

On August 9, 2021

At 11:00 AM

**FREE VIA ZOOM—Pre-Registration is Required**

As COVID-19 cases continue to decrease in Massachusetts, residents are faced with the challenge and opportunity of moving forward with their lives. For many, this elicits a host of conflicting feelings. There may be a sense of hope for returning to life as normal, as well as uncertainty over how to rebuild feelings of safety and community. Please join us in a one-hour presentation and discussion that will focus on understanding the COVID-19 pandemic as a shared global trauma. Learn about the mental and physiological effects of trauma, concrete ways for managing symptoms of anxiety associated with COVID, and strategies for gradual re-entry into the community.

## Audrey May, LMHC

Audrey is a Licensed Mental Health Counselor with 9 years of clinical experience. She holds a Master's Degree in Mental Health Counseling and a Master's in Criminal Justice Studies, both from Suffolk University. Audrey has worked in a variety of settings including in-home, group/residential settings, and outpatient services, with an emphasis on reaching under-served communities. She works with teens, young adult, and adult populations with a specialty in trauma treatment, depression and anxiety disorders, and high-risk behavior.

For more information please contact Sheryl Ball at the Acton Health Division at [sball@actonma.gov](mailto:sball@actonma.gov)  
or call 978-929-6453

## WHAT'S THE TAKEAWAY ON TAKE-OUT?

During the pandemic, we've supported local restaurants by ordering lots of food to go. "Date night out" became "date night in" as our favorite eateries prepared meals for us to enjoy at home.

Helping these businesses survive and thrive is a great way to keep our communities strong. But what should we do with all the extra take-out packaging we've collected? And is there any way to reduce the clutter we don't need as we move into a summer of takeout picnics?

Take heart, take-out fans! We have some tips to solve your carryout conundrums. Check out the graphic for a full menu of what goes where—from plastic clamshells to compostable containers, we've got you covered.

- Don't take stuff you don't need. Eating at home? Ask the restaurant not to include plastic utensils or plates with your order.
- Be an advocate for change. Encourage your favorite spots to shift to paper-based compostable containers, if they haven't already.

## HAVE YOU HEARD OF THE CLIMATE EMERGENCY DECLARATION?

At the Special Town Meeting on September 8, 2020, a non-binding resolution "Declaring a Climate Emergency" was passed with near unanimous support. You can read the details of the declaration [here](#).

The Declaration specifically calls on "Town government and staff, and all Acton civic groups, businesses, and residents to commit to a climate mobilization effort, with appropriate support from the state and federal governments, to bring net Town-wide carbon emissions to zero as quickly as possible, with a target date of 2030." Fast forward to today and we are now beginning the process of mapping the pathway to net zero emissions through a Climate Action Plan.

## WHAT IS A CLIMATE ACTION PLAN (CAP)?

A CAP is a detailed and strategic framework for measuring, planning, and reducing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and related impacts from climate change. The Town of Acton CAP will build a roadmap for making informed decisions and understanding where and how to achieve the largest and most cost-effective emissions reductions, while also ensuring that the benefits of a sustainable future accrue to all.

Would you like to provide your input on the Climate Action Plan? You can fill out the following anonymous survey: [tinyurl.com/actoncap](https://tinyurl.com/actoncap)

Would you like to be even more involved in the process and/or receive regular updates via email? Sign up by visiting: [bit.ly/ActonCAPVision](https://bit.ly/ActonCAPVision)

We invite you to also check out the Climate Action Plan page where you will find regular updates on the process: <https://bit.ly/ActonClimateActionPlan>



### POLYSTYRENE COLLECTION DAYS

3rd Saturday of the month

10AM - 1PM:

July 17th

August 21st

September 18th

October 16th



Bring your  
clean polystyrene



We can't accept  
polystyrene food  
containers

**Acton Transfer  
Station & Recycling Center**

*\*Transfer Station sticker required for access*



**The Town of Acton is about to begin the Climate Action Plan process. We want your input! Have 10-15 minutes to spare? Please fill out the online community-wide survey on climate and sustainability found here: [tinyurl.com/actoncap](https://tinyurl.com/actoncap)**



# RECREATION DIVISION

## **NARA CAMP FOR AGES 4 - 14**

July 5-9: Pirate Week

July 12-16: Superhero Week

July 19-23: Olympics Week

July 26-30: Carnival Week

**REGISTRATION CLOSES AT NOON THE THURSDAY PRIOR TO EACH SESSION START DATE. SESSIONS OFFERED THROUGH AUGUST.**



**NARA BEACH:** Open Daily 9AM-6PM

## **JULY PROGRAMS OFFERED:**

- Amazing Athletes (Ages 3-5)
- Code Wiz Summer Camp (Ages 7-17)
- Family Nature Walks
- Super Soccer Stars (Ages 2-7)
- Summer Baseball Clinic (Ages 7-14)
- Summer Tennis Clinic (Ages 4-9)
- Swim Lessons (Ages 3+)
- ThinkForFun (Grades K-8)
- Wicked Cool Vet School (Ages K-5)
- Online Zumba (16+)
- Bus Trips have returned!



**NEW FALL/WINTER CLASSES BEING  
ADDED ONLINE AT ACTONREC.COM**

## **NARA JULY EVENTS**

**Fri, July 23 - 8PM: Yellow Brick Road - Elton John Tribute**

Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 day of/gate, under 10 free.

**Wed, July 28 - 6:30PM: Tanglewood Marionettes** presents "The Dragon King." \$15 admission per family. Pay online at [actonrec.com](http://actonrec.com) to save time! Rolling Pizza Truck will be available for pizza purchases.

**Fri, July 30 - 8 PM: Dirty Deeds - The AC/DC Experience**

Tickets are \$15 in advance, \$20 day of/gate, under 10 free.



Visit [ACTONREC.COM](http://ACTONREC.COM) for details on all events, programs, camp and more!

## COUNCIL ON AGING

The Acton Senior Center/Council on Aging is offering in-person, virtual, and drive-through events in July. There are exercise classes, lectures on a range of topics, meals, and various groups.

Beginning July 6, the Senior Center hours will be Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 8 AM to 5 PM, Tuesday 8 AM to 7:30 PM, and Friday 8 AM to Noon. Visit our website [www.actoncoa.com](http://www.actoncoa.com) for the latest information, to view our newsletter, or to sign up for notifications. Don't forget to follow us on Facebook [@actoncoa](https://www.facebook.com/actoncoa)!

In July, there are nine in-person fitness classes a week to choose from.

Lectures include:

- Staying fit over 50 on Wednesday, July 14 at 1:00 PM
- History of the Great Depression on Tuesday, July 20 at 1:00 PM
- The music of the Big Band era Wednesday, July 21 at 1:00 PM
- Art of the French Revolution Wednesday, July 29 at 1:00 PM
- Series on James Joyce's Dubliners that begins Friday, July 16 at 10:00 AM
- Floral arranging class on Tuesday, July 27 at 10:30 AM
- Watercolor class begins Wednesday, July 21 at 9:00 AM
- Words Galore which will be offered in person and virtually.

Zane, the APD service dog, will also have scheduled visits! Other activities that have returned to in person at the Senior Center include movies, Ask the Lawyer, games, Computer Club, needle arts, genealogy, Grandparents Raising Grandchildren, book group (virtual group is also continuing), and LitLovers.

Minuteman Senior Services will resume congregate in-person lunches Monday through Thursday at noon starting Tuesday, July 6. Grab and Go lunches will continue to be offered Monday through Friday. Sign up at least 24 hours in advance with John, the dining room coordinator, in-person or call (781) 221-7098. There will be a dinner and also an ice cream night where folks can eat at the Senior Center or drive-through to pick up and eat at home.

For seniors and their family members who want information on area social services, please contact COA Senior Services Coordinator Beverly Hutchings at (978) 929-6652. She provides information on home care agencies, elder day programs, housing options, food and fuel assistance, as well as a variety of other services. The COA also offers appointments with a SHINE counselor to discuss Medicare insurance options.

The COA is following federal state and local COVID-19 guidelines. Vaccinated people no longer are required to wear face coverings or social distance while in the building. Please stay home if you are not feeling well and remember signing in when you enter the building is required. If you need a new "My Senior Center" key tag, please let us know.

You can reach the Council on Aging at 978-929-6652 or e-mail [seniorcenter@actonma.gov](mailto:seniorcenter@actonma.gov).



*Elvis tribute by Acton resident Calvin Benelli*



*Return of Bridge players to in-person games*



**Are your utility bills too high?**

**Is your rent too high?**

**Are you concerned about the environment?**

**Join us on Saturday, July 17, 3:00-5:00 PM  
at NARA Park Bathhouse Pavilion.**

**Make your voice heard** as we work together to find ways that renters can save energy, reduce utility bills and protect the environment.

**Don't miss out!** You'll get free energy-saving light bulbs and the chance to win door prizes. Interpretation, children's activities and accommodations for accessibility will be provided.

**Need a ride?** Let us know on the registration form, and we'll send a **free** accessible van to pick you up!

**Sign up today!** Register at **[tinyurl.com/actonrenters](https://tinyurl.com/actonrenters)** or call/text **978-393-1090**.

You can choose to attend this event in person, or virtually using Zoom.

# DIRECTORY OF TOWN DEPARTMENTS

**ACTON TOWN SERVICES HOTLINE - (978) 929-6600**

<b><u>Department</u></b>	<b><u>Phone Number</u></b>	<b><u>E-Mail</u></b>
Acton Nursing Services	978-929-6650	<a href="mailto:nursing@actonma.gov">nursing@actonma.gov</a>
Assessors	978-929-6621	<a href="mailto:assessor@actonma.gov">assessor@actonma.gov</a>
Building Division	978-929-6633	<a href="mailto:building@actonma.gov">building@actonma.gov</a>
Cemetery Division	978-929-6642	<a href="mailto:cemetery@actonma.gov">cemetery@actonma.gov</a>
Citizens' Library	978-929-6654	<a href="mailto:wacl@actonma.gov">wacl@actonma.gov</a>
Collector/Treasurer	978-929-6622	<a href="mailto:collector@actonma.gov">collector@actonma.gov</a>
Community Resources	978-929-6651	<a href="mailto:lducharme@actonma.gov">lducharme@actonma.gov</a>
Council on Aging	978-929-6652	<a href="mailto:seniorcenter@actonma.gov">seniorcenter@actonma.gov</a>
Engineering Department	978-929-6630	<a href="mailto:engineering@actonma.gov">engineering@actonma.gov</a>
Fire Department	978-929-7722	<a href="mailto:fire@actonma.gov">fire@actonma.gov</a>
Health Division	978-929-6632	<a href="mailto:health@actonma.gov">health@actonma.gov</a>
Highway Department Transfer Station	978-929-7740 978-929-7742	<a href="mailto:highway@actonma.gov">highway@actonma.gov</a>
Human Resources	978-929-6613	<a href="mailto:hr@actonma.gov">hr@actonma.gov</a>
Information Technology	978-929-6612	<a href="mailto:it@actonma.gov">it@actonma.gov</a>
Memorial Library	978-929-6655	Visit: <a href="http://actonmemoriallibrary.org">actonmemoriallibrary.org</a>
Municipal Properties	978-929-7744	<a href="mailto:mpo@actonma.gov">mpo@actonma.gov</a>
Natural Resources Division	978-929-6634	<a href="mailto:NR@actonma.gov">NR@actonma.gov</a>
Planning Division	978-929-6631	<a href="mailto:planning@actonma.gov">planning@actonma.gov</a>
Police Department	978-929-7711	<a href="mailto:police@actonma.gov">police@actonma.gov</a>
Public Facilities	978-929-7744	<a href="mailto:mpo@actonma.gov">mpo@actonma.gov</a>
Public Works	978-929-7740	<a href="mailto:highway@actonma.gov">highway@actonma.gov</a>
Recreation Department	978-929-6640	<a href="mailto:recreation@actonma.gov">recreation@actonma.gov</a>
Town Clerk	978-929-6620	<a href="mailto:clerk@actonma.gov">clerk@actonma.gov</a>
Town Manager	978-929-6611	<a href="mailto:manager@actonma.gov">manager@actonma.gov</a>
Veterans' Services	978-929-6614	<a href="mailto:vso@actonma.gov">vso@actonma.gov</a>
Water District	978-263-9107	Visit: <a href="http://www.actonwater.com">www.actonwater.com</a>