

# TOWN OF ACTON

## MUNICIPAL



## MONTHLY

NOVEMBER 8, 2018

ACTON, MA

### **TOWN MANAGER'S OFFICE**

#### **WELCOME TO THE NEW MUNICIPAL MONTHLY ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTER**

This electronic newsletter will be available the first business day of the month (Dec., Feb., March, May, June, Aug., Sept., and Nov.) on the Town website. The Municipal Quarterly will be mailed to all taxpayers in Acton in addition to being posted on the Town website (Jan., April, July and Oct.).

#### **SPECIAL TOWN MEETING**

Special Town Meeting is December 3rd, look for your copy of the warrant in your mailbox shortly after Thanksgiving or you can view the full version online starting on the 14th.

*Town of Acton*

*Special Town Meeting Warrant*



*Monday, December 3, 2018*

The Special Town Meeting will convene at 7:00 PM in the Acton-Boxborough Regional High School Auditorium  
36 Charter Road

#### **MINUTEMAN BIKE SHARE RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY**

A Ribbon Cutting Ceremony was held on October 25, 2018 at the South Acton Train Station following a ceremonial ride where state and town officials rode the new Zagstar bicycles from Maynard center to the S. Acton Train Station. Riders included Katie Green, Chairman of the Acton Board of Selectmen, Senator Jamie Eldridge, Roland Bartel, Acton Planning Director and Kristen Guichard, Acton Sr. Planner.

Both Acton and Maynard town officials spoke at the ceremony as well as Senator Eldridge and Josh Bedarian (representing Representative Jen Benson). A citation was presented to the Minuteman Bike Share program. Acton and Maynard worked together for several years to accomplish this project and hope to see it expand outward to other communities in the area.



#### **SPECIAL TOWN MEETING: MON., DEC. 3, 2018, 7PM ABRHS AUDITORIUM, 36 CHARTER ROAD, ACTON**

(Note: Special Town Meeting Voter Registration Deadline is Friday, Nov. 23)

Article 1: Amend General Bylaws: Chapter Z - Marijuana Establishments

Article 2: Amend Zoning Bylaw - Regulation of Marijuana Retail

Article 3: Adopt Local Option Excise on Retail Marijuana Sales

Article 4: Amend Zoning Bylaw- Extension of Marijuana Establishment Temporary Moratorium

Free Transportation to Town Meeting: [www.minutevan.net](http://www.minutevan.net) / 978.844.6809

### **HEALTH DEPARTMENT**

#### **THE HEALTH DEPARTMENT NEEDS TO HEAR FROM YOU! WHAT DO YOU THINK ACTON NEEDS TO DO TO BE A HEALTHIER COMMUNITY?**

Please complete a brief survey that you can obtain by emailing the Health Department at [health@actonma.gov](mailto:health@actonma.gov).

We conducted a similar survey approximately 8 years ago and received 800 responses! We would love to hear from more of you this time! We have taken strides to implement improvements based on those results. Now we want to know if we should still be working on those items or if there are different needs that you can identify to improve the health of our community.

Please e-mail the Health Department at [health@actonma.gov](mailto:health@actonma.gov) to have a link sent to you and be added to our mailing list or visit <https://tinyurl.com/healthyacton>.

**YOUR OPINION MATTERS! THANK YOU!**

### **VETERANS SERVICES**

#### **VETERANS DAY CEREMONY**

**Sunday, November 11 at 11:00 a.m.**

A Veterans Day Ceremony will be observed on the Town Common, 472 Main Street. The Acton Minutemen will present the "History of the US Flag" and guest speaker will be Iraq war Veteran, Buster O'Brien. All are encouraged to attend. Please park behind the Town Hall or behind the Acton Center Fire Station. The Ceremony will take place outdoors (weather permitting) by the Isaac Davis Monument on the Common. In the event of inclement weather, we will move the ceremony indoors to the Meeting Room located in the Acton Town Hall. Contact James MacRae, Acton's Veterans' Service Officer, at 978-929-6614 or [vso@actonma.gov](mailto:vso@actonma.gov) with questions.



#### **ANNUAL VETERANS BREAKFAST, BOXBOROUGH REGENCY**

**Monday, November 12 at the Boxborough Regency Hotel, 242 Adams Place, Boxborough, from 8:30 a.m. to 9:30 a.m.** The ABRHS National Honor Society will be hosting the sixth annual Veterans' Day Breakfast. Students will assist with serving food to the veterans. This intergenerational community event is a great time for people to share stories and get to know one another. This event is sponsored by the National Honor Society of the Acton Boxborough Regional High School, as well as the Rotary Club of Acton-Boxborough. Please RSVP to [leeanne@meidellRE.com](mailto:leeanne@meidellRE.com) or call 978-621-9900.

## COUNCIL ON AGING

### 50+ JOB SEEKERS REGIONAL NETWORKING GROUP

Monday, November 19, 2:00-4:00 at the Acton Senior Center or Monday, November 26, 2:00-4:00 at Concord's Harvey Wheeler Center.

Did you know that 85 percent of all jobs are found through networking? If you are age 50 plus and looking for a new job, a totally new career direction or an encore career, this is the group for you! The November 19 meeting topic is Using LinkedIn as a Powerful Job Search Tool. On November 26, the focus will be Networking 2.0. Guided group networking and the issue of ageism are integrated into each session. Develop new skills, tools and strategies to help in your career transition. Meetings are led by Tom Patria, a career services professional. Check-in/informal networking begins at 1:30 p.m. Newcomers please pre-register at [www.mcoonline/50plus](http://www.mcoonline/50plus). This program is funded by the Massachusetts Executive Office of Elder Affairs and managed by the Massachusetts Councils on Aging (MCOA).

### HISTORY OF ACTON PRESENTATION

Tuesday, November 20, 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Join Bill Klauer and Doug Herrick, Co-Presidents of the Acton Historical Society at the Sr. Center, for a presentation and discussion of the history of Acton and the Acton Historical Society. The presentation will focus on the key events and personalities of Acton, from its founding as an agricultural community in 1735, to its suburban character today.

### ABRHS MADRIGAL SINGERS HOLIDAY PERFORMANCE AT THE SR. CENTER

Friday, December 7, 1:45 p.m. to 2:15 p.m.



The Madrigals, a choral group from Acton-Boxborough Regional High School, will be spreading holiday cheer at the Senior Center this month with Christmas carols and other a cappella specialties. The group's talent, enthusiasm and costumes always leave a lasting impression!

### FRIENDS HOLIDAY FAIR

Saturday, November 17 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Holiday shop while supporting our Seniors! Breakfast and lunch will be available so you won't have to shop on an empty stomach. Our Friends are a dedicated, hardworking group and their fundraising efforts provide many of the free programs available at the Senior Center.



Van rides to the Center will be available, call 978-844-6809.

### MEMORY CAFÉ

Second Friday of each month from 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Join us for lunch, entertainment, and meet new friends, in a supportive, social, stigma-free atmosphere. This is a special time set aside for individuals with memory impairment and their care partners/caregivers. Right At Home of Bedford sponsors the event at the Acton Senior Center. Space is limited, RSVP at 978-929-6652.

### KELLEY'S CORNER PRESENTATION BY THE ACTON PLANNING DEPARTMENT

Monday, November 19, 10:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

Are we still talking about Kelley's Corner? Yes we are! In fact the Board of Selectmen has identified the Kelley's Corner project as one of their top goals. Join us to learn about the plan, ask questions and give feedback.

## POLICE DEPARTMENT

Twenty-four Acton police officers are participating in the fourth annual "No Shave November." Each officer has donated \$100 to Homebase.org to be part of the program, and the Acton Police Association has matched all the donations. The No-Shave November campaign supports the Home Base's mission to help Veterans and Families heal from the invisible wounds, such as post-traumatic stress and traumatic brain injury.



**COFFEE WITH A COP:** Tues., Nov. 13 from 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m., Blackbird Cafe, 342 Great Road, Acton

## RECREATION DEPARTMENT

### DO YOU KNOW THE LATEST?

Join our *E-newsletter mailing list* for information and updates that include concerts, events, sports fields, beach information, recreation programs, bus trip information, project updates and more! **To sign-up, e-mail us at: [recreation@actonma.gov](mailto:recreation@actonma.gov).** Our goal is to keep you informed--and not inundate your inbox! You can also find us on Facebook: NARA Park, Acton Recreation, NARA Camp, T.J. O'Grady Skate Park.

### TANGLEWOOD MARIONETTES PERFORM SLEEPING BEAUTY

Friday, November 30 beginning at 6:30 p.m. at the Acton Rec. Center. Admission is \$8 at the door or \$6 in advance if you sign-up online at [actonrec.com](http://actonrec.com). We are also offering a puppet manipulation workshop for ages 8 to 99!. Register for the workshop at [actonrec.com](http://actonrec.com).



**HOLIDAY BOSTON POPS SHOW!** We've planned one of the best holiday shows to see in Boston! Acton Rec. is offering a memorable bus trip on **Wednesday, December 12** that includes tickets to the 4:00 p.m. Holiday Boston Pops with the Boston Symphony Orchestra following a delicious lunch at the Living Room Restaurant, with a meal choice of Boston Scrod, Chicken Marsala or Yankee Pot Roast before the show, and round-trip deluxe motor coach transportation. Cost is \$110 per person and you can register online at [actonrec.com](http://actonrec.com) or in person at the Rec. Center.

### DROP & HOLIDAY SHOP

Kids ages 5 & up, stay and play while parents take a night to shop or dine! **Friday, December 14 from 5:00-10:00 p.m.** at the Acton Rec. Center - Cost is \$40 per child. Pre-Registration is required: [actonrec.com](http://actonrec.com). Limited enrollment!

### WINTER PROGRAMS NOW BEING OFFERED!

You can register online or in-person for programs offered through March, 2019 at [actonrec.com](http://actonrec.com). Programs are offered for all ages from arts and crafts to Zumba!

### DECEMBER, FEBRUARY AND APRIL SCHOOL VACATION BREAK PROGRAMS! HAVE YOU MADE YOUR CHILDCARE PLANS YET?

Acton Recreation is now offering affordable school vacation programs for youth ages 5-12 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., \$50 per child, per day. In addition to these programs, we are also offering Action and Adventure Day Trips for ages 9-13.

**REGISTRATION IS AVAILABLE ONLINE AT [ACTONREC.COM](http://ACTONREC.COM)**

### December School Vacation Program

Come play with us at our recreation center!

We'll have arts & crafts, active games, team building games, theater games, outdoor play, and more!

Location: Acton Recreation Center  
50 Audubon Drive, Acton, MA

December 24-31  
9:00 AM - 4:00 PM  
\$50.00 per Child per Day  
Ages 5-12  
Register Online:  
[www.actonrec.com](http://www.actonrec.com)

DECEMBER



## FIRE DEPARTMENT

### THANK YOU FOR A GREAT 125TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The rain didn't stop this parade or grand celebratory event held on Saturday, October 13! Leading the parade, which included over 40 fire trucks, ABRHS Marching Band, and the Greater Boston Firefighters Marching Band, was Grand Marshall, Bill Klauer, a retired Acton Firefighter and EMT.

A celebration like this would not have been possible without the dedication of many hours spent behind the scenes planning and fundraising by firefighters Brent Carter, Tom Matthews and Deputy Fire Chief Robert Vanderhoof.

Thank you to all the sponsors who helped fund this event: ACM Fire Extinguishers, Acton Firefighters Local 1904, Acton Police, Acton Truck Repairs, Acton-Boxborough Rotary, Boxborough Auto Inspections, CBK Towing, Gallant Insurance, Haartz Auto Fabric, and Curcubit Farm.



## ACTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY

### ED THE MUSIC MAN

On Monday, November 19 at 3:30 p.m., the library presents "Ed the Music Man." Ed Morgan, known in the greater Boston area as 'The Music Man,' has delighted kids and grown-ups alike for more than 10 years with his interactive blend of original and traditional children's songs. Join the fun with this singing and dancing session for kids ages 1-99.

### WORLD WAR I POSTERS ON EXHIBIT

In recognition of the centennial of the November 11, 1918 Armistice that ended the First World War, the library is exhibiting a series of posters from the library archives advertising "Liberty Bonds." The posters will be on exhibit through December 17, 2018. Most of the posters on exhibit are from the 1917-18 Third Liberty Loan Drive and are still striking in their visual and emotional appeal. This exhibition is made possible with funding provided by the Acton Memorial Library Foundation.

### ACTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

Tuesday, November 20 at 7:30 p.m. This month's book discussion is about The Undoing Project: A Friendship that Changed Minds by Michael Lewis. Copies are available for check out at the circulation desk.

FOR MORE UPDATES CHECK OUT THE LIBRARY'S WEBSITE: [WWW.ACTONMEMORIALLIBRARY.ORG](http://WWW.ACTONMEMORIALLIBRARY.ORG)

## ACTON NURSING SERVICES

### ACTON NURSING SERVICES NAMED AS A TOP AGENCY IN THE 2018 ABILITY HOMECARE ELITE



Acton Nursing Services has been named a Top Agency of the 2018 HomeCare Elite, a recognition of the top-performing home health agencies in the United States. For 13 years, HomeCare Elite has annually identified the top 25 percent of Medicare certified agencies and highlighted the top 100 and top 500 agencies overall.

The ranking is developed by ABILITY® Network, a leading information technology company helping providers and payers simplify the administrative and clinical complexities of healthcare. It is sponsored by DecisionHealth, publisher of Home Health Line and the Complete Home Health ICD-10-CM Diagnosis Coding Manual.

"I would like to congratulate the team at Acton Nursing Services and thank them for their commitment to providing consistently high-quality care," said Christine Lang, senior director for ABILITY Network. "During a time of increasing demands on home health professionals' time and attention, these caregivers and leaders have demonstrated that they have prioritized their patients and created a solid foundation for serving their communities and partnering with other healthcare providers."

Acton Nursing Services credits favorable patient centered outcomes and consistent high patient satisfaction scores with the agency's ability to achieve recognition as one of the HomeCare Elite. "We are honored to be recognized in the top 25% of Home Health Agencies in the country! I am extremely proud of the ANS staff for their continued hard work and commitment to keeping our patients safe in the community and delivering the best care imaginable to our patients. Acton Nursing Services believes that continuity of care is a huge factor in our consistent high patient satisfaction scores. As a small municipally owned home health agency we have the ability to provide patients with the same staff members throughout their admission," said Heather York RN, Director of Acton Nursing Services. "We find that keeping the same nurse, therapist and home health aide is favorable to patients, providing them with a familiar face who is knowledgeable with all factors of their particular medical situation and who then provide exemplary case management."

"Congratulations to Acton Nursing Services from all of the staff at DecisionHealth," said Marci Geipe, product manager for Decision Health. "Your leadership and staff have placed a premium on the patient care your agency provides as showcased by your quality outcome scores. The entire community benefits from the compassion that your staff shows toward your patients, leading to cost savings for the entire healthcare system."

HomeCare Elite agencies are determined by an analysis of performance measures in quality outcomes, best practices implementation, patient experience (HHCAPHS), quality improvement and consistency, and financial health. In order to be considered, an agency must be Medicare-certified and have data for at least three outcomes in Home Health Compare. Out of 8,898 agencies considered, 2,223 are recognized on the 2018 HomeCare Elite winners list overall.

The entire list of 2018 HomeCare Elite agencies can be downloaded by visiting the ABILITY Network website at [abilitynetwork.com/hce](http://abilitynetwork.com/hce).



CONGRATULATIONS ACTON NURSING SERVICES!

## HIGHWAY DEPARTMENT

### WINTER PARKING BAN



Residents are reminded that a winter parking ban is in effect from **November 1 until April 1**. On street parking is not allowed between the hours of 1:00 a.m. and 6:00 a.m. The parking ban also includes the Municipal Parking areas located behind the W. Acton Fire Station (258 Central Street), S. Acton Fire Station (54 School Street), Railroad Street, rail trail terminus at Maple Street, and at the end of Sylvia Street. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

### SAND AND SALT

A mixture of sand and salt is available to residents (no contractors) at the designated area located at the Highway Department at 14 Forest Road. Please use caution while entering and exiting as vehicles and equipment are prevalent. Please bring your own shovel and container.

More information is available in the Winter Maintenance publication that can be found on the Town of Acton website ([www.actonma.gov](http://www.actonma.gov)) or picked up at the Town Clerk's office located at the Acton Town Hall, 472 Main Street.

## ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT

### PUBLIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT



### Strawberry Hill Road Safety Improvements Project

November 28, 2018

7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

Acton Town Hall  
472 Main Street  
Acton, MA 01720

At this meeting, we will discuss existing traffic and safety conditions and solicit feedback from community members on the feasibility of on-street parking and ways to improve safety and mobility on Strawberry Hill Road between Pope Road and Great Road/ Route 2A/Route 119.

For more information, visit:

<http://doc.acton-ma.gov/dsweb/View/Collection-10244>

## TOWN OF ACTON ~ CONNECT WITH US!



Join our online community and stay in the know with exclusive news and updates on **Facebook**:

<https://www.facebook.com/ActonMAGov/>

Follow us on **Twitter** @ActonMAGov:

<https://twitter.com/ActonMAGov>

Sign up for **Town notifications**, emergency alerts and general alerts - subscribe, unsubscribe or manage your subscriptions:

<https://www.acton.ma.gov/list.aspx>

## NOVEMBER HOLIDAY HOURS

Town offices will be closed:

**Monday, November 12 - Veterans Day Holiday**

Honoring veterans past, present & future--thank you for your service to America!

**Thursday, November 22 & Friday, November 23 -**

**Thanksgiving Holiday**

Wishing you and yours a warm, memorable and safe Thanksgiving Holiday.



## NATURAL RESOURCES

### 2019 COMMUNITY GARDENS



The Town of Acton Natural Resources Division currently has Community Garden plots available to rent at three locations: Morrison Farm at 116 Concord Road, North Acton Community Garden at 845 Main Street and the Hebert Farm Community Garden located at 88 Prospect Street. Residents and non-residents are eligible. There is a limit of one plot per household. The 2019 gardening season runs from Saturday, April 6 through Sunday, November 2, 2019. Gardeners are required to follow Acton Water District watering policy. Registration for all garden plots are by walk-in only. Forms will be provided at the Kennedy Building, located at Woodlawn Cemetery, 104 Concord Road, Acton, MA 01720.

Current 2018 plot holders who wish to renew their plot for 2019 are required to renew no later than Tuesday, November 20. All available plots will be assigned on a first-come first-serve basis beginning at 9:00 a.m. on Monday, January 7. For more information including rates, please contact Kim at Natural Resources at 978-929-6642 or e-mail [cemetery@actonma.gov](mailto:cemetery@actonma.gov).

### DOG PARK SURVEY

[The Acton Dog Park Committee](#) is considering six possible sites and is looking for community input as to which would be the best location for our Town's park. Please look over the [site descriptions](#), and let us know your opinions by taking this very [short survey](#) no later than December 8th. Acton's Dog Park Committee: [adpc@actonma.gov](mailto:adpc@actonma.gov) Click [here](#) to visit our facebook page.

## PLANNING DEPARTMENT

### THE MINUTEMAN ZAGSTER BIKE SHARE NETWORK

For more information, visit

<http://bike.zagster.com/minuteman/>

Promotional Passes will be available through December, 2019 for a complimentary bike rental. Passes may be picked up at the Acton Town Hall on a first-come first-served basis.

Zagster bike stations are located in W. Acton across the street from True West at Gardner Field, Mill & Mill in Maynard and the South Acton Train Station.

Membership options include an hourly plan or annual membership (\$25 billed annually). Trips under 2 hours are free, then \$1 for each hour or up to \$12 per ride.

(More than one day, fee added)



1. JOIN

Download the Zagster app and join the Minuteman bike share.



2. CHOOSE

Find your bike's number and enter it into the Zagster app to get a unique unlock code.



3. UNLOCK

Enter the unlock code into the on-bike keypad. After the ring lock opens, remove the docking cable from the side of the ring lock.



4. RETURN

Park your bike at a Minuteman Zagster station.

Press and HOLD the LOCK button on the keypad until the light flashes.



5. LOCK

On the right side of the bike, find the orange tab on the ring lock and slide it down.

Place the docking cable from the station into the port on the ring lock. Tap END RIDE in the Zagster app.



MID-RIDE STOPS

For quick stops away from a Minuteman Zagster station, you can lock to any public rack.

See HOW TO in the app for more details.

No smart phone?

Text SMS to (202) 999-3924 to learn how to ride by text message.