



# TOWN OF ACTON, MASSACHUSETTS MUNICIPAL MONTHLY

JANUARY 2025

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## TOWN SERVICES HOTLINE

**978.929.6600**

### HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday-Thursday: 8AM-5PM

Friday: 8AM-2:30PM

## TOWN HALL-HUMAN SERVICES

### HOURS OF OPERATION

Monday: 8AM-5PM

Tuesday: 8AM-7:30PM

Wednesday: 8AM-5PM

Thursday: 8AM-5PM

Friday: 8AM-12PM

Saturday-Sunday: Closed

Closed: Jan. 1, Jan. 20

### **ACTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY and WEST ACTON CITIZENS LIBRARY**

Hours of Operation are listed in this bulletin.

**Subscribe to our News Flash for news,  
agendas and meeting postings delivered by  
email or SMS text  
message.**

**SUBSCRIBE**



## TOWN MANAGER'S UPDATE

### ANNUAL BUDGET PRESENTATIONS

On December 16th, I presented the Fiscal Year 2026 - 2035 Capital Improvement Plan to the Select Board. This capital plan identifies long-term needs and investment priorities to inform the work that goes into developing the annual operating budget. Some highlights included in this year's plan is the final design and construction of a new DPW Building (pg. 8); Town Hall Electrification (pg. 13); Complete Streets and Sidewalk program (pg. 15); and several projects aimed at sustainability, equity, infrastructure maintenance and repairs, and communication. To view the capital plan, please click on the image below.



FY2026-FY2035  
Capital Improvement Plan

As the Select Board and Finance Committee reviews and provides additional feedback, the FY26 capital plan will continue to evolve.

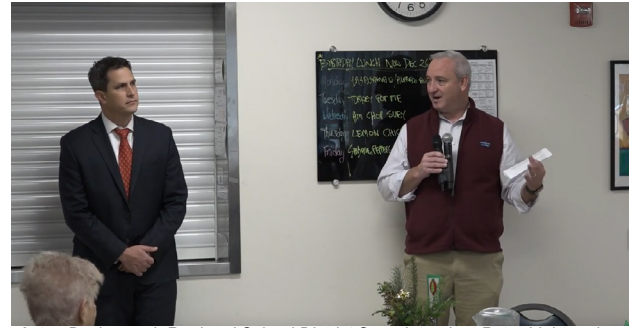
Another important piece of budget season is preparation and presentation of the FY 26 operating budget. During the December 16th presentation, I provided the Select Board with a preview of the FY26 Level Services Requests from Town Departments. Information about the FY26 budget will continue to be posted throughout the budget season at the above link. To learn more about the proposed FY26 Town Budget, please consider attending (either in person or over zoom) one of the following meetings where the budget will be presented and discussed.

- 1/13/2025: Presentation of Town Manager FY2026 Recommended Budget
- 1/15/2025: Select Board and Finance Committee Budget Workshop Night One
- 1/21/2025: Select Board and Finance Committee Budget Workshop Night Two

## TOWN MANAGER'S UPDATE

### JAVA WITH JOHN

On December 20th, the Council on Aging hosted the December Java with John. Joining me was Acton Boxborough Superintendent Peter Light. The event was well attended and hosted once again on Acton TV. A recording of the event can be viewed by clicking the image to the right. If you are interested in attending a Java with John, the next event is scheduled for January 17th at 30 Sudbury Road.



Acton Boxborough Regional School District Superintendent Peter Light and Town Manager John Mangiaratti at Java with John



Photo of interior of Silver Girl

### WELCOME TWO NEW BUSINESSES TO ACTON

I am very excited to welcome two new businesses to Town, Stop & Shop and Silver Girl. Located at 251 Arlington St, Silver Girl brings a new and exciting restaurant to West Acton. Stop & Shop, located at 252 Main Street, has replaced the old K-Mart located in Kelly's Corner. Both businesses bring a new dynamic to different parts of Acton and we are thrilled to welcome them to Town!



Photo of ribbon cutting at new Stop & Shop

### DPW BUILDING DESIGN PROGRESS AND UPCOMING MEETINGS

During the December 12th DPW Building Committee, project designer Weston & Sampson provided an update on design, cost estimates and value engineering efforts to date. The Committee reviewed options for value engineering and ultimately decided on eliminating a number of items included in design. These reductions resulted in a savings of over \$4M, reducing the estimated project cost to \$43M. Value engineering efforts continue with the goal of further reducing the overall estimated project costs. To watch that meeting and view the presentation from Weston & Sampson, please click [HERE](#). The Committee is hosting an open house at the DPW Building located at 15 Forest Drive, on Saturday January 25th from 10AM - 12PM. Attendees will be able to tour the building and view the many deficiencies that are driving the need for replacement. Please mark this on your calendar and join to learn more about the proposed project and current conditions.



Rendering showing proposed DPW Building onsite from above

As the New Year begins, I want to take the time to thank you for your support and interaction throughout the year. I am proud of the work we accomplished during 2024 and look forward to accomplishing even more in the new year.

I hope you and your family have a wonderful New year!

John S. Mangiaratti  
Town Manager



**JEN SCHMIDT – PT ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, HEALTH DIVISION**

Jen is the new afternoon Administrative Assistant for the Health Department. She comes to us with 15 years of experience as a Food Scientist working in Food Safety, Research & Development, and Regulatory Compliance with a focus on sourcing sustainable ingredients. She has a passion for food safety and public health as well as baking challenges. When she’s not at work you can find her exploring new places in Massachusetts with her husband and two daughters.



**YAN LI - PT ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT, HEALTH DEPARMENT**

Yan Li, originally from China, has been a resident of Acton for over seven years. Yan holds a Bachelor’s degree in Civil Engineering and a Master’s in Computer Science. Recently transitioning to a new career path, Yan now works at the Health Department in Acton, with a strong commitment to serving and improving the well-being of the local community.



**JESSICA THOMAS, CUSTOMER SERVICE REPRESENTATIVE, LAND USE DEPARTMENT**

Jessica is the Building Divisions newest customer service representative with the Land Use Department. She is a valued addition to the department. Jessica resides here in Acton and is the proud mother of two childre

**PLANNING DIVISION**

The Town of Acton is seeking  
your feedback for the



**HOUSING  
PRODUCTION PLAN  
SURVEY**

We need your help to create a plan for  
housing solutions that contribute  
toward a healthy, equitable, and  
prosperous Acton.

This survey will ask you a series of  
questions so we can gain a better  
understanding of your perspective and  
community priorities.





Take the survey online:  
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/3JZM28B>

Questions? Please email:  
[planning@actonma.gov](mailto:planning@actonma.gov)



As we begin a new year, January offers meaningful opportunities to reflect, learn, and take action.

**National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month** reminds us of the ongoing fight against modern slavery and human trafficking. This month, we commit to raising awareness, supporting survivors, and working toward a future free from exploitation.

On **World Braille Day** (January 4th), we celebrate the invention of braille, which has empowered countless individuals who are blind or visually impaired. This day reminds us of the importance of accessibility and inclusion in creating an equitable world.

**Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day** (January 20th) inspires us to honor Dr. King's legacy of justice, equality, and service. It's a time to reflect on his dream of unity and to take part in acts of kindness and community service that strengthen our bonds.

On **International Holocaust Remembrance Day** (January 27th), we remember the victims of the Holocaust and reaffirm our commitment to standing against antisemitism and all forms of hatred. This day reminds us to ensure that history's lessons inspire compassion and action.

Finally, we welcome the **Lunar New Year** on January 29th, celebrating the Year of the Snake. This joyous occasion is a time for renewal, family, and cultural appreciation. Let's honor the diverse traditions that make our community vibrant and united.

As we embark on 2025, let's carry forward these values of awareness, inclusion, and hope. Together, we can create a brighter year ahead.



## Town of Acton DEI Office

### 2025 Heritage & Awareness Calendar

<h4>JANUARY</h4> <p><b>National Slavery and Human Trafficking Prevention Month</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Jan 4: World Braille Day</li> <li>Jan 20: Martin Luther King Day</li> <li>Jan 27: Int'l Holocaust Remembrance Day</li> <li>Jan 29: Lunar New Year</li> </ul>	<h4>APRIL CONT.</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>April 11: LGBTQIA + Day of Silence</li> <li>April 12: Passover</li> <li>April 13: Palm Sunday</li> <li>April 18: Good Friday</li> <li>April 20: Easter</li> <li>April 21: Patriots Day</li> </ul>	<h4>AUGUST</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aug. 9: Int'l Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples</li> <li>Aug. 26: Women's Equality Day</li> </ul>
<h4>FEBRUARY</h4> <p><b>African American and Black History Month</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Feb 1: National Freedom Day</li> <li>Feb 19: Day of Remembrance of Japanese American Incarceration During WWII</li> <li>Feb 26: Maha Shivarati</li> <li>Feb 28: Ramadan starts</li> </ul>	<h4>MAY</h4> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Asian American, Native Hawaiian, and Pacific Islander Month</li> <li>Haitian Heritage Month</li> <li>Jewish American Heritage Month</li> <li>Older Americans Month</li> </ol> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>May 5: Cinco de Mayo</li> <li>May 5: Missing and Murdered Indigenous Persons Awareness Day</li> <li>May 15: Global Accessibility Awareness Day</li> <li>May 17: Int'l Day Against Homophobia, Transphobia and Biphobia</li> <li>May 21: World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development</li> <li>May 26: Memorial Day</li> </ul>	<h4>SEPTEMBER</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Sept 1: Labor Day</li> <li>Sept 11: A Day of Remembrance</li> <li>Sept 15-Oct. 15: Hispanic and Latino Heritage Month</li> <li>Sept 21: Int'l Day of Peace</li> <li>Sept 22-28: Int'l Week of the Deaf</li> <li>Sept 22-24: Rosh Hashanah</li> <li>Sept 23: Int'l Day of Sign Languages</li> </ul>
<h4>MARCH</h4> <p><b>Women's History Month</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>March 8: Int'l Women's Day</li> <li>March 14: Holi</li> <li>March 17: St. Patrick's Day</li> <li>March 21: Eid-al-Fitr</li> <li>March 25: Int'l Day of Remembrance of the victims of slavery and the Transatlantic slave trade</li> <li>March 31: Transgender Day of Visibility</li> </ul>	<h4>APRIL</h4> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Arab American and Middle Eastern and North African American Heritage Month</li> <li>Autism Awareness Month</li> <li>Deaf History Month</li> </ol>	<h4>OCTOBER</h4> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Down Syndrome Awareness Month</li> <li>Global Diversity Awareness Month</li> <li>LGBT History Month</li> </ol> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Oct 13: Indigenous People's Day</li> <li>Oct 15: Blind American Equality day and White Cane Awareness Day</li> </ul>
	<h4>JUNE</h4> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>LGBTQIA+ Pride Month</li> <li>National Caribbean American Heritage Month</li> </ol> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>June 19: Juneteenth</li> <li>June 26-27: Hijri New Year</li> </ul>	<h4>NOVEMBER</h4> <p><b>Native and Indigenous American Heritage Month</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Nov 11: Veterans Day</li> <li>Nov 13-19: Transgender Awareness Week</li> <li>Nov 19: Red Shawl Day</li> </ul>
	<h4>JULY</h4> <p><b>Disability Pride Month</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>July 18: Massachusetts Emancipation Day</li> <li>July 26: Disability Independence Day</li> </ul>	<h4>DECEMBER</h4> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Dec 8: Bodhi Day</li> <li>Dec 14-22: Hanukkah</li> <li>Dec 25: Christmas</li> <li>Dec 26-Jan 1: Kwanzaa</li> </ul>

[ACTONMA.GOV/DEI](https://actonma.gov/dei)



The poster for the 2025 Acton Mobile Plunge features a top section with a person in a red hat and yellow vest jumping into a pool. Logos for Special Olympics Massachusetts and Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics Massachusetts are present. The main section has a dark blue background with white and green text. It includes a calendar icon for Saturday, February 1, 2025, a location pin for 25 Ledgerock Way, Acton, MA 01720, and a clock icon for a 11:00 AM check-in and 12:00 PM plunge. A green 'REGISTER NOW' button is above a QR code. The bottom left shows a photo of two people in front of a 'BEAR FORCE ONE' sign. Logos for Acton Police and Polar Plunge are at the bottom, along with the website www.polarplungema.org and contact email jstackhouse@actonma.gov.

**Special Olympics**  
Massachusetts

**LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN**  
FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS  
MASSACHUSETTS

# 2025 ACTON

## MOBILE PLUNGE

**SATURDAY**  
1 FEBRUARY 2025

**25 LEDGEROCK WAY,  
ACTON, MA 01720**

**CHECK IN - 11:00AM  
PLUNGE - 12:00PM**

**REGISTER NOW**

**ACTON POLICE**

**POLAR PLUNGE**  
FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS MASSACHUSETTS

**WWW.POLARPLUNGEMA.ORG**

**CONTACT: [JSTACKHOUSE@ACTONMA.GOV](mailto:jstackhouse@actonma.gov)**

### WHAT IS THE POLAR PLUNGE?

The Polar Plunge is a series of events where people go to the extreme to support over 14,000 Special Olympics Massachusetts Athletes!

Whether you are participating or not, come out and cheer on the brave! Check-in for participants is at 11 a.m. and the plunge begins at noon!

Join us for the Law Enforcement Torch Run Acton Polar Plunge! Take the plunge and make a difference — every donation supports the incredible athletes of the Special Olympics. Let's come together for a great cause! Scan the QR Code to donate and show your support for the members of the Acton Police Department taking the plunge!

Click [here](#) if you would like to support the Acton Police Department taking the plunge!



Photo: During the grand opening of the new Stop & Shop location, Acton Police participated in a "Coffee with a Cop" event. At this event, both Stop & Shop and Acton Police generously made donations to the Acton Food Pantry.





# SENIOR REAL ESTATE TAX RELIEF



There are numerous ways you might qualify for tax relief if you are:

- Over 65 with a financial hardship -- i.e. income and assets that are low-to-moderate
- Veteran or surviving spouse
- Disabled
- Tax deferral
- *Ask us about the Circuit Breaker Credit!*

To find out if you qualify, visit the Acton town website at [www.actonma.gov](http://www.actonma.gov) and click on the "Quick Link" for Property Tax Relief Programs or call the Assessor's office for more details at 978.929.6621 or e-mail [assessors@actonma.gov](mailto:assessors@actonma.gov).

### **WINTER HAS ARRIVED!**

The DPW offers the Following Information/Reminders

#### **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 St), S. Acton Fire Station (54 School St), Railroad Street, rail trail terminus at Maple Street, and at the end of Sylvia Street. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated.

#### **WINTER MAINTENANCE**

Please remember that our crews have to travel on snow covered, slippery untreated roads to get here at any hour of the day or night. Please be patient as the crews will be out as soon as possible to begin the snow & ice operations.



#### **FIRE HYDRANTS**

Fire hydrants are under the control of the Acton Water District. The Water District asks residents with hydrants in front of or near their property to please clear the snow away from the area so that in an emergency the hydrant will be accessible. Questions regarding snow removal near hydrants should be directed to the Acton Water District at (978) 263-9107.

#### **SIDEWALKS**

Normally, sidewalks are plowed during the storm and scraped in the following days if needed. Sidewalks in the school zones are given first priority. We ask that you do not block sidewalks with snow shoveled or plowed from your driveway.

#### **MAILBOXES**

Mailboxes installed in the Town right of way are placed at the owner's risk. Each mailbox installation should be sufficiently solid to withstand snow-clearing efforts by the Town. It is the responsibility of the owner of the mailbox to clear the snow around the mailbox to assure mail delivery by the U.S. Postal Service, not the DPW or its plow contractors. If the snow banks are too high to shovel, place a temporary box beside the road until the snow has melted enough to allow access to the mailbox. Please check that your mailbox and post are secure and in good condition prior to the snow season. When installing a mailbox choose a suitable location. If you are unsure, check with the postal carrier.

#### **BASKETBALL POSTS & NETS**

Please remove your basketball posts & nets away from the edge of the road before the snow & ice events. These can cause damage to Town vehicles and also interferes with snow removal operations. The Town cannot be held responsible for damage caused to them.



## STRATEGIC PLAN FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN ACTON

TOWN OF ACTON  
ECONOMIC  
DEVELOPMENT  
COMMITTEE

### Overview

A focused economic development planning effort becomes a significant input into the 2025 Comprehensive Community Plan and results in economic development gaining equal status with other established town priorities.

- Town governance moves away from a reactive stance that is regulation heavy to a proactive thoughtful approach to shape the future desired environment
- Employers and developers are excited to work with the town to achieve the vision of a community that protects the environment, values all people, and is financially and culturally vibrant

### Acton 2020 Plan Economic Development Goal

To promote economic development that results in a more robust commercial and industrial tax base, promotes local employment, and supports other town priorities.

## PUBLIC FEEDBACK IS IMPORTANT 2025 WORKSHOPS

Please join our meeting in-person or via Zoom.

Wed, Jan. 8 (snow date Jan. 9)	<b>Presentation and Luncheon for Acton Businesses</b> , in-person, Acton Town Hall, 11:30-1:00 p.m.
Wed, Jan. 22 (snow date Jan. 29)	<b>Findings and draft recommendations - public workshop</b> 7 p.m., Acton Town Hall or Zoom
Wed, Feb. 26 (snow date March 5)	<b>Final presentation - public workshop</b> 7 p.m., Acton Town Hall or Zoom

[www.actonma.gov/business](http://www.actonma.gov/business)



Photos: From Shop Small Acton 2024.  
Thank you for supporting our local businesses!  
[Actonma.gov/business](http://Actonma.gov/business)



### INVITATION FOR PUBLIC ENGAGEMENT

Town of Acton Strategic Economic Development Plan.

Click [here](#) to view a video featuring Patty Sutherland, Co-Chair of the Economic Development Committee inviting Acton residents, business owners and citizen's interested in the Town's economic success.





Click [here](#) to view the full list of calendar events including recurring monthly events, please visit our program calendar: [Acton Memorial Library Calendar](#).

### **ACTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY HOURS**

(Closed: Jan. 1, Jan. 20)

Monday-Thursday: 9 a.m. – 8 p.m.

Friday & Saturday: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Sunday: 1 p.m. – 5 p.m.

### **WEST ACTON CITIZENS' LIBRARY HOURS**

(Closed: Jan. 1, Jan. 20)

Tuesday – Thursday: 9 a.m. – 5 p.m.

Saturday: 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Monday, Friday, Sunday: CLOSED

STRESSED ABOUT DORM LIVING? • WANT EASY RECIPES THAT DON'T REQUIRE A STOVE? • COME TO MEALS IN A MUG!

# MEALS IN A MUG FOR TEENS

INGREDIENTS, MUGS, AND MICROWAVE WILL BE PROVIDED!

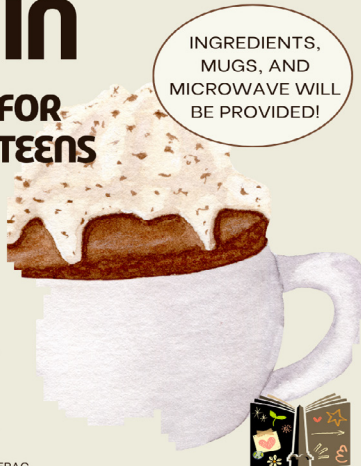
**TUESDAY  
21 JANUARY 2025  
4 PM - 6 PM**

MEETING ROOM @ ACTON MEMORIAL LIBRARY

**INCLUDE:**

- MAC & CHEESE
- CHOCOLATE CAKE
- OMELETTE

**REGISTRATION HERE:**  
[HTTPS://ACTONMEMORIALLIBRARY.ASSABETINTERACTIVE.COM/CALENDAR/MEALS-IN-A-MUG/](https://actonmemoriallibrary.assabetinteractivetive.com/calendar/meals-in-a-mug/)



### **Meals in a Mug for Teens**

**Tuesday, January 21, 4:00 – 6:00 p.m.**


We'll make three different easy recipes, all of which can be made in a microwavable mug or bowl. **Click [here](#) to register.**

# Introduction to SEWING MACHINES

**January 7  
4:00 PM**

AML Meeting Room  
Register Now!

*Make a Bookmark*



**Acton Memorial Library**

### **Introduction to Sewing Machines**

**Tuesday, January 7, 4:00 – 5:00 p.m.**

Learn the basics of using a sewing machine and make an easy corner bookmark. **Click [here](#) to register.**

# ARE YOU LINKEDin

presented by Metro South/West Career Center

Looking for work? Join us to learn about LinkedIn

- ✓ Where to Start
- ✓ Stand Out in a Crowd
- ✓ Build a Focused Network
- ✓ Protect Your Privacy

**January 14th at 2:00 PM**  
Join remotely or in person

**REGISTER NOW**

**Acton Memorial Library** **MASSHIRE METRO SOUTH/WEST**



### **Are You LinkedIn?**

**Tuesday, January 14, 2:00 – 3:00 p.m.**

Introduction to LinkedIn, the popular professional networking website. **Registration instructions [here](#).**

# fixitclinic

do-it-together disassembly and discovery

**Saturday, September 14th 2024**  
**Saturday, January 11th 2025**  
**Saturday, May 24th 2025**  
**Saturday, September 13th 2025**  
**10am - 1pm | AML Meeting Room**

Join the folks from Fixit Clinic to learn and (with luck) repair! We provide the space, tools, and expert coaches to help you tinker, troubleshoot, and perhaps fix your small appliances, toys, devices, clothing, electronics, or other items.

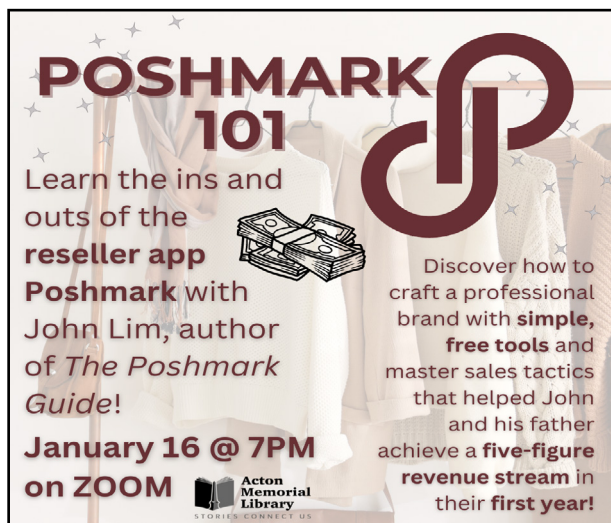
**Acton Memorial Library**



### **Fix It Clinic**

**Saturday, January 11, 10 a.m. – 1 p.m.**

Volunteers help troubleshoot and repair a variety of small items. **No registration required.**



**POSHMARK 101**

Learn the ins and outs of the reseller app **Poshmark** with John Lim, author of *The Poshmark Guide*!

**January 16 @ 7PM on ZOOM**

Discover how to craft a professional brand with **simple, free tools** and master sales tactics that helped John and his father achieve a **five-figure revenue stream** in their first year!

Acton Memorial Library  
STARTER CONNECT US

**Virtual: Poshmark Basics 101**  
**Thursday, January 16, 7:00 – 8:00 p.m.**  
 Learn the ins & outs of the reseller app Poshmark with John Lim, author of *The Poshmark Guide*.  
 Funded by the AML Foundation. Click [here](#) to register.



**Winter Concert Series: Kadak Chai Band**

**Sunday, January 26th 2025 | 2pm - 3pm | AML 2nd Floor**

Bollywood band playing Hindi, Tamil, Punjabi, Urdu, and English hits from the 60's, 70's, 80's, 90's to today, all with a rock twist to ensure maximum dhoom and masti!

Acton Memorial Library  
Funded by the AML Foundation

## COUNCIL ON AGING



**LEARN ABOUT TOWN EVENTS!**

January 2025

There are multiple opportunities at the Senior Center in January to learn what's happening in town and have your voice heard!

**FinCom Listening Session**  
 Tuesday, January 28  
 6:00 pm

**Proposed New DPW Facility**  
 Thursday, January 30  
 1:00 pm

**Java with John**  
 Friday, January 17, 9:45 am  
 Monthly visit with Town Manager John Mangiaratti

ACTON COUNCIL ON AGING/  
 SENIOR CENTER  
 30 Sudbury Rd. Rear

978-929-6652  
 actoncoa.com



Community Members & Municipal Employees!

**Join the Acton Rainbow Planning Team**

The Acton Council on Aging is forming a team to explore the programming needs of Acton's LGBTQ+ older adults

**1st Meeting via Zoom:**  
 Wednesday, Jan. 29th  
 2:00pm

Contact Chris Chirokas  
 cchirokas@actonma.gov  
 978-929-6652



## COUNCIL ON AGING

The Council on Aging at the Senior Center offers services, meals and activities for residents age 60 and up. Most activities are free of charge with a nominal charge for meals.

**Location:** We are located in the Human Services building at 30 Sudbury Road Rear; contact us at [seniorcenter@actonma.gov](mailto:seniorcenter@actonma.gov) or 978-929-6652.

**Hours:** Monday, Wednesday, Thursday 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday 8 a.m. to 7:30 p.m., and Friday 8 a.m. to 12 p.m. *Closed on January 20 for Martin Luther King Jr. Day.*


The Senior Services Coordinator provides older adults and their families with information on area social services including home care agencies, elder day programs, housing options, food and fuel assistance.

Each month there are multiple meal opportunities: special lunches, an evening dinner, daily lunch provided by Minuteman Senior Services, monthly breakfast, the lunch Bistro open to all ages (now open only on Wednesdays), frozen grab & go lunches provided by Open Table, and Meals on Wheels delivery.

Visit our website [www.actoncoa.com](http://www.actoncoa.com) to view our newsletter for details on services, meals and activities. Follow us on Facebook @actoncoa. To sign up for newsletter or news flash notifications from the COA visit: [www.actoncoa.com/list.aspx](http://www.actoncoa.com/list.aspx)



Photo: Special lunches at the Senior Center are always popular.

 *Acton Council on Aging*

**JANUARY 2025  
PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS**

**WINTER CLASSES**

Line Dancing, Miso Soup/Onigiri Cooking, Drawing & Watercolor, Chair Yoga

**LIFELONG LEARNING**

History of Italy, 20th Century Review, Photojournalist John Chase, Girl Bands of the 60s, Real Estate Compensation Changes, Charles Ponzi


**HEALTH & WELLNESS**


Reiki appointments, Posture & Health, Caregiver's Journey, Forgiveness & Healing, Normal Aging vs. Memory Loss, Memory Lane Café, Laugh for Your Health


**OTHER PROGRAMS**


Matt York's performance of Willie Nelson music, Ask the Lawyer appointments, Tech Help

Watch the February newsletter for details on a February 4 Lunar New Year celebration



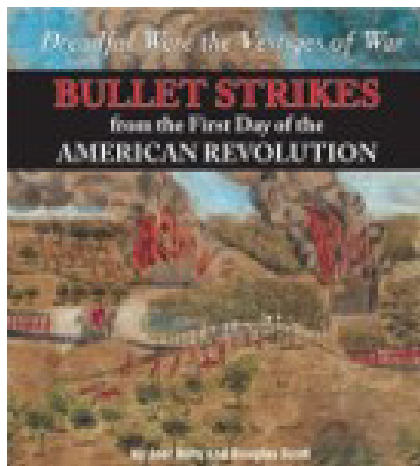
 [SENIORCENTER@ACTONMA.GOV](mailto:seniorcenter@actonma.gov)

 978-929-6652

 [ACTONCOA.COM](http://actoncoa.com)

### Wed, January 29 - "Dreadful Were the Vestiges of War: Bullet Strikes from the First Day of the American Revolution" with Joel Bohy

Acton Town Hall, Room 204 at 7 PM



In 2015, Joel Bohy began a collaboration with conflict archaeologist Dr. Douglas Scott to understand more about the objects that were turning up during archaeological investigations on former battlegrounds. They studied all the surviving bullet-strikes including Buckman Tavern in Lexington, whose front door still bears the mark of a bullet fired on April 19, 1775. They also studied a powder horn worn by James Hayward of Acton who was shot through this horn at Fiske Hill during the British retreat. As Lord Percy arrived and led the British back to Boston, the Jason Russell House in Arlington was the scene of intense fighting. Using modern forensic techniques, Bohy and Scott have been able to determine what types of arms were used.

### Wed, February 26 at 7 PM - Acton Patriots of Color Theme Acton Town Hall, Room 204

Please join our celebrated historians Bob Pion, Bill Klauer and Anne Forbes discussing the most recent learnings of Acton's Black residents, in honor African-American History Month. Black citizens were among the residents here when first became a Town in 1735 and several fought in the Revolution at the Concord Bridge and other New England battles.

### March 6, 2025 at 7 PM – Presenter: Meredith Bergmann Acton Town Hall, Room 204.

Meredith Bergmann designed the Phillis Wheatley Monument, which was installed in 2003. The monument is made of bronze and granite and measures 59 in x 50 in x 32 in. Phillis Wheatley is considered the first African-American author of a published book of poetry.

### March 22, 2025 at 1 PM - South Acton Tour with Amy Cole

Walking in and around South Acton's historic Mill Corner, you will learn about Acton's earliest colonial settlement and its development into a hub of industry and commerce. You will learn about the people, places and practices that shaped the town's history and our nation's as well. Topics include Native American history, the use of natural resources, the importance of Colonel Francis Faulkner and Acton's West Militia Company, the impact of the railroad, nearby historic buildings, including those owned by the Iron Work Farm and more.

Tour leader Amy Cole is an accomplished professional tour leader. She grew up near Acton Center and knows the town well. She has a wide- ranging interest in Acton's unique history. This tour is sponsored by the Acton 250 Committee and the Iron Work Farm. **Important Details:** Advanced registration is required - limited to 20 attendees. The tour begins with a talk in the Iron Work Farm, followed by a walk to nearby sites that will conclude between 2:30 and 3 PM. Arrival time is 12:55 PM for 1 PM start. Details on parking and where to meet will be sent via email closer to the walk date. Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/Acton2500322>

**Visit: [www.actonma.gov/250](http://www.actonma.gov/250) for more information, updates, and upcoming events.**



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