TOWN OF AVON
NEWSLETTER

Volume 21 **July 2023**

IMPORTANT NUMBERS	
EMERGENCY	**911**
Police Department	**508-583-6677**
Fire Department	**508-583-5361**
Town Hall	**508-588-0414**
Accountant	1031
Assessors	1027
Board of Health	1016
Board of Selectmen	1019
Building Inspector	1022
DPW	1024
Planning Department	1017
Tax Collector	1012
Town Administrator	1020
Town Clerk	1013
Public Library	**508-583-0378**
Council on Aging	**508-559-0060**
School Department	**508-588-0230**
Housing Authority	**508-588-1847**

TOWN WEBSITE

www.avon-ma.gov

TOWN HALL HOURS

Mon. – Wed.	**8:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.**
Thursday	**8:30 a.m. – 7:30 p.m.**
Friday	**8:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.**

TOWN HALL CLOSED:

Tuesday, July 4, 2023

DOG LICENSE – LATE FEES

Avon residents are required to secure a license for their dogs. Those who have not yet received a 2023 license can still do so but will have to pay an additional $25 late fee. Here is what you need to know about licensing your dog:

• Licenses are valid from January 1, 2023 until December 31, 2023

• All dogs six months and older must be licensed on an annual basis

• You may license your dog by mail, provided you include a copy of a current rabies certificate and a self-addressed stamped envelope. If you are licensing your dog for the first time, please provide proof that the animal was spayed or neutered

• If your dog's rabies information is up to date, you may license your dog online by going to the following link: https://www.avon-ma.gov/town-clerk-registrar-voters/pages/dog-licenses

• Any resident aged 70 or older is exempt from the annual fee

TOWN OF AVON NEWS

DEMARCO PARK

The Avon Civic Association kicked off the Summer Concert Series and held their ribbon cutting on June 21st. This was a great family friendly event with an animal encounter from the Mass Audubon. All the hard work of the volunteers from the Civic Association as well as sponsors and DPW who keep DeMarco Park looking good does not go unnoticed or unappreciated. There are still 5 concerts left this summer, hope to see you there!

Avon Civic Association

2023 Summer Concert Series

Wednesdays at 6:30 PM

July 5 – Dan & Mary Clark
Hometown Favorites

July 12 – Jesse Liam Band
High Energy Crowd Pleasing Music

July 19 – Diva's With A Twist
Powerhouse Ensemble Pop, R&B Disco

July 26 – 4EverFab
Beatle's Tribute Band

August 2 – Dale & The Duds
50's & 60's Tunes

TOWN OF AVON NEWS

STAFF SPOTLIGHT

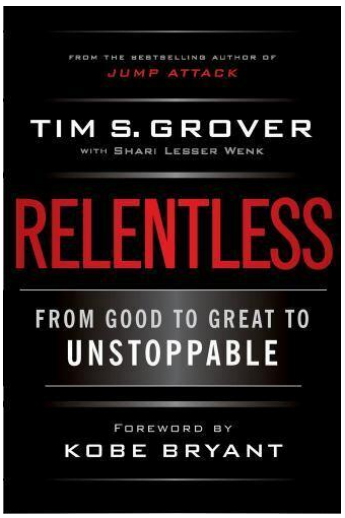
Jonathan Beder – New Town Administrator

1. **What inspired you to pursue the career you have today?**
    a. I started working for the Town of Stoughton Engineering Department in 1997. Holding every position in that Department over the span of 12 years provided me with tremendous insight into most municipal functions within the Town Hall. I thoroughly enjoyed all the attributes of the municipal world and made the decision to pursue a Master of Public Administration degree. In 2009, I then became Stoughton's Assistant Superintendent of Operations at the Public Works. I never thought I would leave Stoughton, but in March of 2011, I was hired as Director of Public Works in Plymouth, MA. Plymouth really developed my skillset for managing in the public sector. After more than a decade as Director, I knew that I had outgrown the role and desired new challenges.

2. **What is your favorite hobby?**
    a. My favorite hobby is carpentry/working with my hands. I enjoy the vision and planning elements that go into the projects. I have worked for a residential builder and a large heavy/highway contractor but doing things for myself without any external pressure is by far the best. No matter how hard I work it feels natural and relaxes me.

3. **What's the next place on your travel bucket list?**
    a. It's a toss-up between Costa Rica or a trip to a ski resort in the Swiss Alps. Volcanoes, rainforests and waterfalls vs outdoor mountain air and snow. Realistically I will be going somewhere out west this fall, most likely Fort Collins in Colorado as my middle son Mitchell is stationed in Cheyenne Wyoming.

4. **What is your favorite dish to make/eat?**
    a. Favorite dish-Blackened swordfish or Prime-rib, but sometimes, nothing beats a good bacon cheeseburger. Every year I brine a turkey for Thanksgiving and must say, that I cook a great prime rib for Christmas.



5. **What is the last book you read?**
    a. Relentless, written by Tim Grover. It's a pretty good read if you like motivational non-fiction. This book highlights personal achievement and what it takes to be the best at what you do. I enjoyed how the book focused on the extensive and dedicated training regiments of Michael Jordan, Kobe Bryant, and others. It's about becoming elite and maintaining that status through consistent and dedicated efforts. Commitment, self-sacrifice, dealing with adversity, and ultimately how to best enjoy that status is the theme.

TOWN OF AVON NEWS

SUMMER FUN AT THE LIBRARY

SUMMER READING: FIND YOUR VOICE BOOKLIST

Books on our shelves to check out for our summer reading theme!

Adults:

Gone Girl - Gillian Flynn
The Bandit Queens - Parini Shroff
Win Every Argument - Mehdi Hasan
King: A Life - Jonathan Eig

Teens:

Firekeeper's Daughter - Angeline Boulley
The Davenports - Krystal Marquis
You Call This Democracy - Elizabeth Rusch
In Limbo - Deb JJ Lee

Picture Books:

Ambitious Girl - Meena Harris
Mae Among the Stars - Roda Ahmed
I Promise - LeBron James
We Will Rock Our Classmates - Ryan T. Higgins

Middle Grade:

Moonwalking - Lyn Miller-Lachmann and Zetta Elliott
Finish the Fight! - Veronica Chambers
New Kid - Jerry Craft
Climate Action - Georgina Stevens

SUMMER READING: FIND YOUR VOICE

AVON PUBLIC LIBRARY

JULY 2023

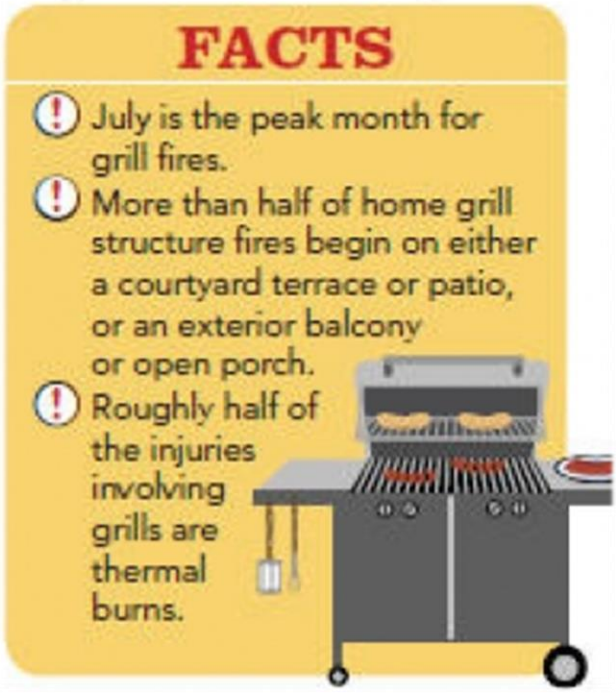
SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Art Week		CLOSED		**Adult Craft: Paint and Sip Mocktails** **6:30 P.M.** *Join us for a paint and sip craft event. Mocktails will be literary themed and an instructor will guide you through your painting.*		
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Music Week	**Rock-a-Beats** **11 A.M.** *Join us for an immersive music experience led by Rock-a-Beats!*		**Kid's Craft: Instruments** **11 A.M. - 2 P.M.**		**Guess the Song** **1 P.M.** *Join us for a fun game of Guess the Song! First place winner gets a prize!*	
	17	18	19	20	21	22
Animal Week	**Movie Monday: Zootopia** *Join us for a screening of Disney's Zootopia!*		**Kid's Craft: Owl** **11 A.M. - 2 P.M.**	**Farm Visits** **1 P.M. - 2 P.M.** *What is better than baby farm animals? Join us for a visit from Farm Visits, who will be bringing 20-25 baby animals, including baby goats, piglets, and chicks. You will even be able to pet and feed the animals!*		
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
Kindness Week			**Kindness Rock Painting** **11 A.M. - 2 P.M.** *We will be painting kindness rocks to put around town. Drop in any time between 11 and 2.*		**Friendship Bracelets** **1 P.M. - 3 P.M.** *Join us for a friendship celebration! Come and create friendship bracelets for you and your besties.*	

TOWN OF AVON NEWS

CLERKS DAY ON THE HILL

Our Town Clerk Patricia Bessette was at the Boston Statehouse on June 28th for Clerk's Day on the Hill. The event allowed town clerks the opportunity to meet with their legislators and discuss the regulations and challenges of early voting. Patricia had the opportunity to meet with both Senator Brady and Senator Timilty.

GRILLING SEASON



TOWN OF AVON NEWS

RALPH D. BUTLER ELEMENTARY

The Butler School held their annual Field Day on June 2. Students in grades PreK-6 participated in a variety of games including Tug of War, Soccer, Capture the Flag, Water Balloon toss, and more!

Flag day was celebrated at the Butler School on June 14. Students sang songs including America the Beautiful, You're a Grand Old Flag, and This Land is Your Land. All students were invited to participate in a writing contest entitled "What the Flag Means to Me" and several students were chosen to read their selections on Flag Day. We were excited to welcome Senator Michael Brady and State Representative William Galvin who attended this event.

Sarah Shaw, the Butler school principal, is set to retire at the end of this school year. In her words, “I would like to give a huge THANK YOU to the Town of Avon and the families at the Butler School, which I have called home for the last 18 years. The families, staff, and students at the Avon Public Schools are amazing people who all work together to make our students successful. I will miss you all and I thank you for all you have taught me along the way on this journey. I wish everyone a safe and relaxing summer! Love, Mrs. Shaw”

RANDOLPH AND AVON HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE AND MEDICATION TAKE-BACK DAY

Saturday, August 12, 2023 from 9:00AM-12:00PM
Randolph High School Parking Lot,
70 Memorial Parkway, Randolph

See town website for Accepted Items

Proof of Residency is Required
Remain in your vehicle at all times

For more information, contact the Avon Board of Health at 508-588-0414 ext. 1016 or kwaldron@avon-ma.gov

TOWN OF AVON NEWS

AVON YOUTH BASEBALL

Each year at the end of the season, Avon Youth Baseball holds a closing day celebration. This year's celebration was a huge success! We had perfect weather, until the downpour arrived at clean up time. To kick off the day's festivities our vice president, Marci Kovick, presented this year's winners of our scholarship, recognized players aging out and announced all the teams for the season! We then had a fun-filled day of games, wiffle ball & speed gun challenges. Each age division participated in skills competitions with winners receiving trophies. To round off the fun, players got to throw water balloons at their coaches!

The whole event was MCed by local DJ, Tony, who kept the crowd going. 2 GO BOX (located in Avon) came by with their slush cart which was a big hit! Avon's own DPW generously grilled and everyone raved about the food. The Avon Fire Department stopped by with an engine for the kids and the Avon Police Department walked down to join in the festivities. Our event ended in announcing the winners of our fabulous raffles, donated by some very generous local businesses and residents.

As a non-profit town youth organization, all proceeds will turn directly back to the players, families, and future of the league. We strive for our events to include the whole community so please come and join the fun! We love Avon and how our small town comes together for each other! ⚾ - Toni Chapman

TOWN OF AVON NEWS

A MESSAGE FROM THE SELECT BOARD

Dear Avon Community,

It has now been about six months since I was elected as the newest member of the Select Board. I have certainly hit the ground running from budget workshops, introductions to department heads, regular Select Board meetings, a Special Town meeting, and the Annual Town meeting.

With the nicer weather, there has been no shortage of outdoor events! In May, the Select Board attended the annual Memorial Day parade. It was a beautiful day where many participants and spectators enjoyed the event as well as the cookout at the VFW. Thank you to the parade committee for organizing! In June, the Select Board was invited to the Flag Day celebration at the Ralph D. Butler Elementary School. This is always such a nice event listening to students sing and read about what the flag means to them and honor military family members. We were also joined by State Representative Bill Galvin and State Senator Michael Brady.

Highlights from recent Select Board meetings include the annual appointments to boards and committees by the Select Board. We appointed folks to the Zoning Board of Appeals, Cultural Council, and Historical Commission to name a few. Please don't hesitate to reach out if there is a board or committee that you are interested in joining or learning more about! DPW continues their outstanding work, having been awarded both a Community Compact Municipal Fiber Grant to centralize management of IT infrastructure as well as receiving a MassTrails Grant to construct a shared use path within DeMarco Park from North Main St. to East High St. The improvements made to the town by both projects will be a great benefit to all!

Finally, we have welcomed Leanndra "Lee" DeNicola to the Avon Police Department as well as hiring Jonathan "JB" Beder as our new town administrator. We can't wait to see the great accomplishments both will having throughout their careers in Avon.

The Select Board would like to wish everyone a happy and healthy 4th of July. We hope to see you out and about at a town event throughout the summer!

Sincerely,

Shannon Coffey

Associate, Avon Select Board

Have any town related questions, send them into ssimon@avon-ma.gov and they may be answered in the next newsletter