



The STOW MUNICIPAL MESSAGE

Welcome to the Stow Municipal Message!

I hope you find it to be a beneficial source of information for the month ahead. Additional information on all items can be found on our website at stow-ma.gov.

Thank you for reading!

Denise M. Demboski, Town Administrator

Town Offices Closed on Monday, April 15th for Patriot's Day

Discussions with Denise

Do you have questions, suggestions, comments, or complaints?

Meet with the Town Administrator at Pompo on the first Wednesday of the month!

Open Forum: 9:30am–11am;

Private Appointments: 11am-11:30am

Call 978-897-1880 to schedule an appointment.

April Discussion:

Wednesday, April 3, 2024

With guests from the Conservation Department

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your email.**

[Click here](#) and select
Stow Municipal
Message - Monthly
Newsletter under
Upload File!

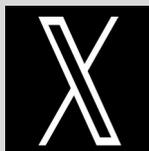
REMINDER! The Board of Health Well Adult Clinic is the first Wednesday of the month at Pompo. Next clinic: April 3, 10a-12n.

April is National Volunteer Month and the Town of Stow would like to thank all our volunteers—from the residents serving on our Boards & Committees to those who volunteer throughout the Town working in different departments. We **THANK YOU** and **APPRECIATE** all you do for the Town!

Stay Connected with the



Town of
Stow!



Stow's Commitment to going GREEN

On Wednesday, March 20th, Stow's first ever EV was delivered. The Ford E Transit Van will be used by the Facilities Department and was paid for using American Rescue Plan Act (APRA) Funds.



Continuing to enhance our **GREEN** initiatives



On Monday, March 25th, Stow's first fully Electric Police Patrol vehicle was delivered. The Ford Lightning Pickup will be in the regular rotation for police patrols. This EV was approved by the voters at the 2023 Annual Town Meeting and funded through Free Cash.



**\$20 PER VACCINE
CASH ONLY**

Board of Health—2024 Rabies Clinics

[Click here for more information](#)

Friday, April 5 from 5 to 6 p.m. in Ayer

Saturday, April 20 from 9 to 10:30 a.m. in Pepperell

Saturday, April 20 from 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Townsend

ALL DOGS MUST BE ON A LEASH—ALL CATS MUST BE IN A CARRIER/BOX.

Dogs and cats over 6 months of age and not previously immunized, and those with a blue (2021) rabies tag must get a current rabies vaccination. The veterinarian will inform you of the expiration date for the rabies vaccines given to your pet for this visit. Bring a copy of your pet's last rabies certificate if available. Residents of Nashoba towns can attend any clinic.



Nashoba Associated Boards of Health

"YOUR Community, YOUR Choice since 1931"

In partnership with your Local Board of Health

We are grateful for the support we receive from the participating veterinarians to provide this valuable and important service.



There is still time to apply for a spot in the Senior & Veteran Tax Work-Off Programs. [Applications are available here](#) or call the Assessors' Office at 978-897-4597 for more information.

RECREATION UPDATE

New Tennis/Pickleball reservation system.

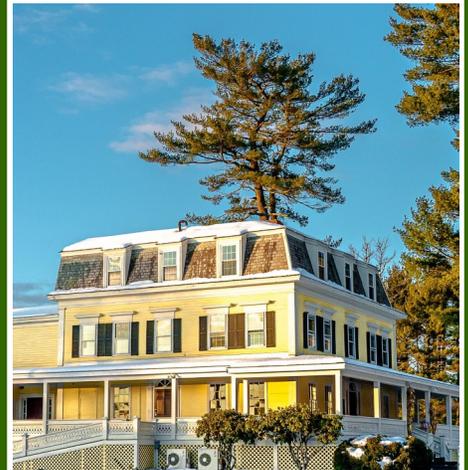
[Click here](#) to go to the Stow Recreation Department website. If you don't have an account set up, you will need to do so at this time. Click on the **Facilities** tab near the top of the screen. A drop-down menu will appear, click on **Facility List**. Scroll down the page until you see **Stow Community Park**. Once there you will choose what court you would like to use and click on the **reserve** button. Once you have chosen the court, follow the instruction and choose the date and time you would like to use the courts. Hit **submit** and you are done. The request will come to our office, and if there are any issues we will contact you. Otherwise, you will receive an e-mail confirmation that you can print out and bring with you to your reserved time slot.

Please contact the Recreation Department if you have any questions: recreation@stow-ma.gov.

SAVE THE DATE!

May 22 at 7 pm

Stow Acres North Course
Master Plan Presentation
at the Stow Acres Club
House, 58 Randall Road



Join the Library at Pompo on Tuesday, April 16 at 6:30pm,
for a presentation by Jeff Belanger about his book
The Call of Kilimanjaro.

An honest and engaging account of one amateur hiker's journey to spiritual transformation as he climbs 19,341 feet to the summit of Mount Kilimanjaro—Africa's highest peak. After his brother-in-law Chris passed away, author Jeff Belanger made the decision to take the trip of a lifetime, both in honor of Chris and in pursuit of clarity about his own life and goals. **The Call of Kilimanjaro** is a day-by-day record of Belanger's ascent to the peak of Africa's highest mountain.

Explore Africa's highest peak with a multimedia program and Q&A.

Date: Tuesday, April 16

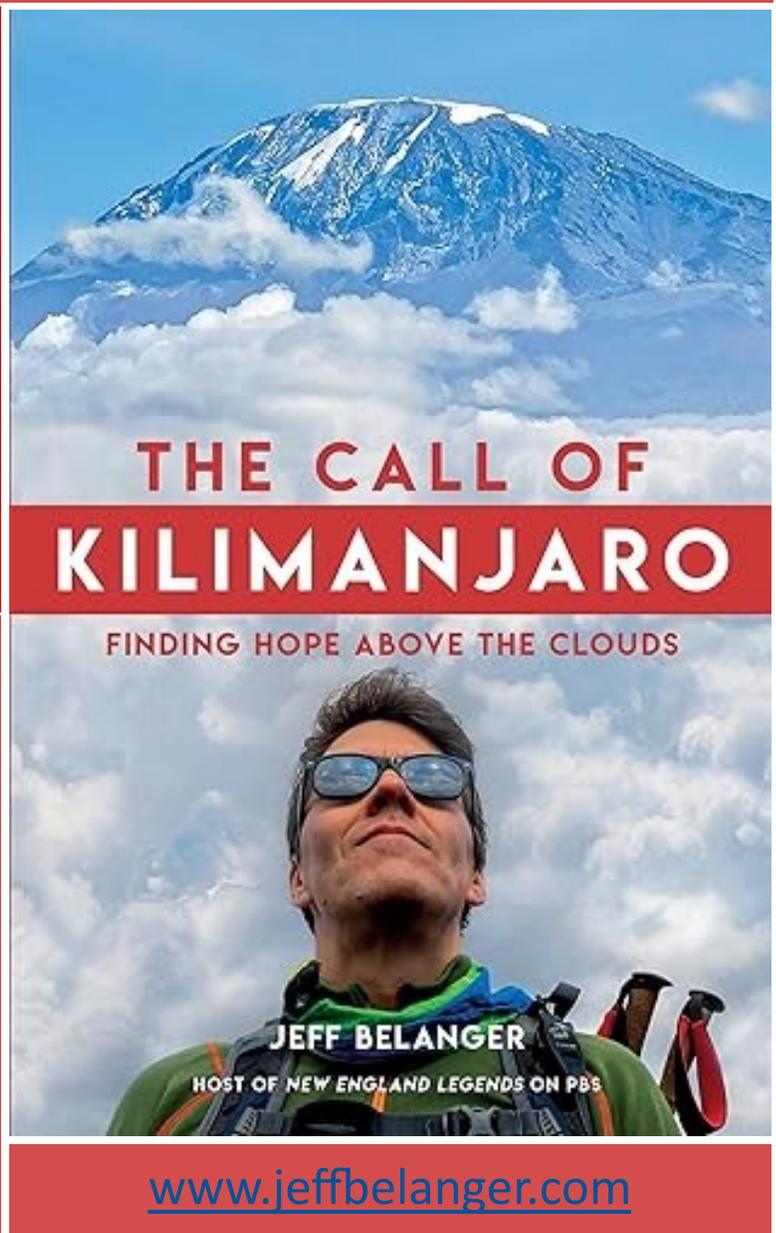
Time: 6:30—7:30 PM

Location: Pompo Community Center, Function Hall

Register: through our [website calendar](#) or use this QR code:



Jeff Belanger is an author, podcaster, storyteller, adventurer, and explorer of the unexplained. He's written more than a dozen books that have been published in six languages, he's the Emmy-nominated host, writer, and producer of the **New England Legends** series on PBS and Amazon Prime, he provides programs and lectures to audiences all over the world, and he's been the writer and researcher for every episode of **Ghost Adventures** on the Travel Channel.



www.jeffbelanger.com

DEVENS HOUSEHOLD COLLECTION CENTER

A reminder from the Board of Health that the Town of Stow is a member of the Devens Household Hazardous Products Collection Center at 9 Cook Street in Devens. This membership allows Stow residents to safely dispose of household and toxic waste.

The Center is open the first Wednesday and Saturday of each month starting in March and through December.

Weather Permitting

Residents can visit up to 20 days a year!

Please visit the [Devens website](#), the [Stow Board of Health website](#), or [link to the flyer](#) for information on acceptable items. Lightbulbs, batteries, and mercury items no longer collected in town can now be disposed of safely at Devens.

VETERANS GRAVES COMMITTEE

Stow is looking for committee members for the Stow Veterans Grave Committee.

More information can be found on our website at: www.stow-ma.gov/veterans-graves-committee, and on the [vacancy posting](#).

Interested individuals should fill out the [online application form](#).

If you have questions, please contact the Select Board's Office at 978-897-4515 or via email at selectboard@stow-ma.gov.

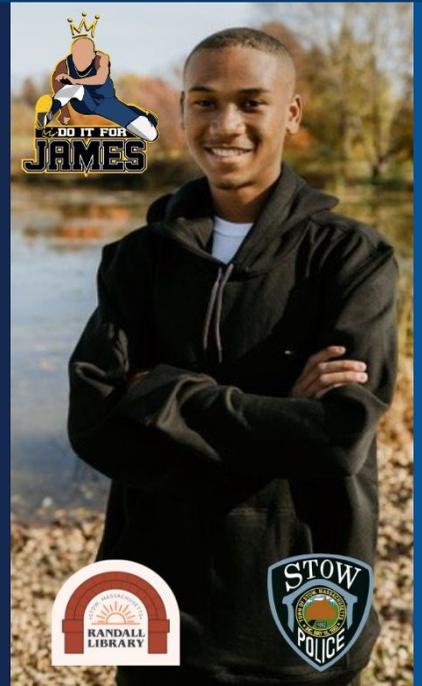
On April 8, in partnership with the Randall Library, we are pleased to welcome the Do It for James Foundation for a presentation at Hale Middle School. For more information please visit: [Discussions with the Do It For James Foundation](#)

presented by the Randall Library and Stow Police Department

Discussions with the *Do It For James Foundation*

Join us to learn about sextortion and why you should start the conversations now

Monday, April 8th @ 6:00 pm
Hale Middle School Auditorium



POLICE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT TEAM

April is Autism Awareness Month, and Lt. Kellie Barhight and Sgt Cassie Scott will be organizing some sensory friendly events. Please keep an eye on our social media for more information.

The Team decided to start our Earth Day Celebrations early this year. We have partnered with Neighborhood Forest to bring saplings to Stow! Despite the short turnaround time for signups, we ended up with 30 registrations! We cannot wait to see how this project turns out!

CALLING ON STOW!

We need your help developing the Stow Comprehensive Plan 2035: Envision Stow for all of us



Take the survey to provide your feedback.

<http://tinyurl.com/StowSurvey>



Attend or host your own meeting-in-a-box.

tinyurl.com/MIABstow, go here to register your meeting: tinyurl.com/StowMIABsignup



Add your ideas to the Crowdmap by visiting the project website.

<https://tinyurl.com/StowCP>

Stow Board of Health
PRIVATE WELL REGULATIONS
Public Notice

The Stow Board of Health, at its regularly scheduled meeting on February 8, 2024, voted to revise its Private Well Regulations to safeguard the health and welfare of the residents of the Town of Stow. The regulations are intended to promote public health and general welfare by ensuring that wells in the Town of Stow are constructed, maintained, or decommissioned in a manner that will protect the quality of the groundwater derived from wells.

Prior to revising these regulations, the Board of Health provided a period for public comments and reviewed comments received as part of the process. The public comment period was from June-August 2023.

A summary of the revisions to the regulations is provided below, and a full copy of the regulations and the redlines can be found on the Stow Board of Health webpage [here](#). These regulations are effective upon publishing.

SECTION 2: Definitions – added and revised definitions

SECTION 3: Requirements for Wells – clarified name of permit requested.

SECTION 4: Well Construction/Decommission Permits – clarified language.

SECTION 5: Well Construction/Construction Permits – clarified requirements, offset distances, construction standards, water sampling procedure, addition of a water quality parameter to existing list of parameters, requirement for water testing for addition of bedrooms, requirement for water testing upon transfer of property, deed notification for required water treatment equipment.

SECTION 6: Well Decommissioning – clarified language, requirement for decommissioning a well.

SECTION 7: Variances – address a misspelled word.

SECTION 8: Penalties and Enforcement – aligned hearing process (time frame) with State regulations.

SECTION 9: Board of Health Water Testing Requirements – modified recommendations.

STOW BOARD OF HEALTH, February 8, 2024

Mary McDowell, Chairperson

Marcia Rising

Merrily Evdokimoff



THE COUNCIL ON AGING WELCOMES COA OUTREACH WORKER JAYNE NOWOKUNSKI

A resident of Lancaster, MA, Jayne Nowokunski is a wife and dedicated mother of two, Graci, 12 and William, 10. She takes pride in her community and looks for ways to give back whether organizing charity fundraisers or coordinating community gatherings such as youth sporting events. She looks forward to bringing joy to the Stow residents through events, field trips, socials and more. In her free time Jayne enjoys pickleball and playing golf. Come over to the Stow Council on Aging to introduce yourself and say hello!

Camp Stow is currently full, but we do have a waitlist!

Send an email to Recreation2@stow-ma-gov with your child's age and the weeks you would like to sign up. We will add children on a first-come, first-served basis whenever a spot opens.



CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY

The fourth session of our Citizens Police Academy will be on April 10 from 6:30-8:45p.

This session will be run by Sgt. Cassie Scott and will focus on community alerts and scams. Please note we are almost at capacity for this event so please sign up as soon as possible. The remaining sessions are as follows:

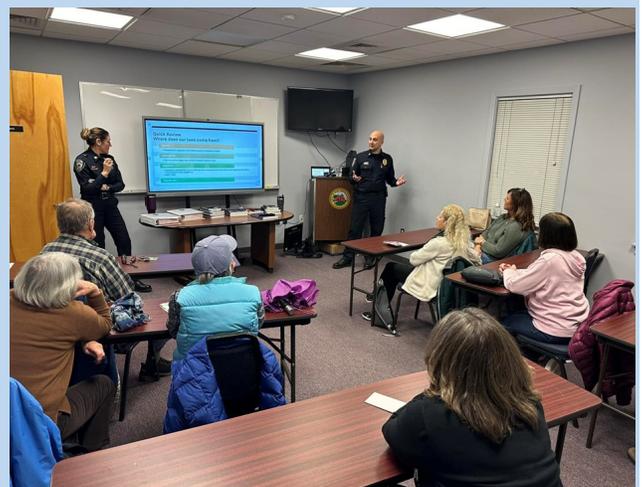
May 8: Basic Patrol and Motor Vehicle Stops hosted by various PD Members

June 12: Use of Force and Firearms hosted by Officer Butler

July 17: Our final session featuring an all-encompassing scenario hosted by various PD members with help from our friends at Stow Fire.

You can sign up here: <https://www.stow-ma.gov/stow-police-department/webforms/stow-police-citizens-academy-sign>

Thank you to those that have already signed up and we look forward to seeing you!



STOW FIRE DEPARTMENT

Do you Close Before You Doze?

In March, fire departments across Massachusetts responded to multiple fires that turned fatal. Fatal fires affect families, friends and responders. We need YOU to help us prevent fire deaths. Fire moves fast. Plan ahead to save lives.

INSTALL WORKING SMOKE ALARMS:

Smoke alarms give you and your loved ones the earliest warning possible that there is a fire, so you can get out of your home quickly and safely. Install smoke alarms in every sleeping room, outside each separate sleeping area, and on every level of the home. Check your smoke alarms twice a year and replace them once they stop working according to the manufacturer's recommendations. When replacing or buying new smoke alarms, look for products that are third-party listed or certified.

CLOSE BEFORE YOU DOZE:

A closed door can be an effective barrier against deadly levels of carbon monoxide, smoke, and flames, and may give you more time to respond to the smoke alarm. In fact, there can be a 900-degree temperature difference between a room with an open door and one with a closed door. While a room with an open door may reach 1,000 degrees Fahrenheit, a room with a closed door may only reach 100 degrees Fahrenheit.

Make closing doors at night part of your bedtime routine.

CREATE & PRACTICE A FIRE ESCAPE PLAN:

If there is a fire in your home, there won't be time to plan a way out in the moment. Create an escape plan for your home and practice it with your family so you're ready for a fire emergency. Don't wait, plan ahead.

Community Outreach Available!

The Stow Fire Department will bring education TO YOU! You can request members of the fire department to visit your group, meeting, business or event to discuss safety, first aid and more! You can make a community outreach request by visiting www.stow-ma.gov/fire-rescue and submit a community outreach and education request [webform](#).



From the Recreation Department—Platypus Society Open House

The Platypus Society is hosting an open house at the Pompositticut Community Center
on Saturday, April 6 and Sunday, April 7.

Come by with the whole family any time between 2pm and 5pm for snacks and an array of fun activities.

See for yourselves what the Platypus Society is all about and ask any questions you may have about what our program has to offer. Whether you are currently enrolled in the Platypus Society or are interested in joining for the rest of this year and/or next year, all are welcome and encouraged to come and have some fun! We look forward to meeting all our new friends and families who are interested in learning more about and/or joining the Platypus Family!

Board and Committee Volunteer Opportunities

[See the list here](#)

Interested individuals should
fill out the online
[Application Form](#)

Call 978-897-4515 or email
selectboard@stow-ma.gov
for more information.

ARE YOU READY FOR THE SUMMER?

Registration is open for all our summer programs!

Information and registration can be found at
[www.stow-ma.gov/recreation-department/pages/
recreation-department](http://www.stow-ma.gov/recreation-department/pages/recreation-department)

Skyhawks Sports Camps

FC Filmmakers Classes

Summer Dance Arts & Yoga w/Jennifer McGowen

Stow Rec's Summer Thing! (Formerly Art & Swim)

Beach Passes

FC Puma Soccer Academy

VETERANS SOCIAL

The COA and Stow's Veterans Agent, Joe Jacobs, co-host a Veterans Social at 10am on the third Tuesday of every month at Pompo Community Center . Get to know fellow veterans in a welcoming and casual atmosphere. Light refreshments and coffee will be served. This event is free and open to Stow veterans of all ages.

To register:

- Use MyActiveCenter: <https://myactivecenter.com/#>
- call 978-897-1880, come in person to Pompo, or email the COA at COAAdminAsst@Stow-MA.gov

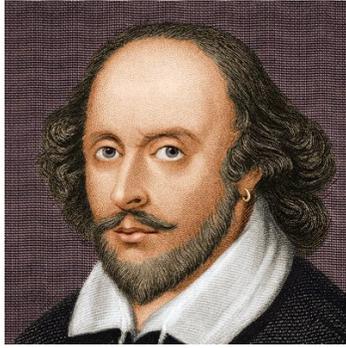
DOG LICENSES ARE DUE

Over 300 unlicensed
dogs. \$10 per dog
until April 15th.

[https://
epay.cityhallsystems.com/](https://epay.cityhallsystems.com/)

*After April 15th the cost
is \$35 per dog.*

*Contact us if you have
any issues and we will
work with you to help
avoid late fees.*



SHAKESPEARE COMES TO STOW!

Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 4 at 3pm, when our Stow Community Park will be magically transformed for a live performance of Shakespeare's timeless comedy, "A Midsummer Night's Dream."

Imagine a late spring afternoon when families, friends, and neighbors gather in the open expanse of the park. The anticipation is palpable. Blankets are spread, picnic baskets opened, and the hum of excitement fills the air. The stage awaits the performers from Lenox's Shakespeare & Company who will breathe life into Shakespeare's words.

As the first lines are spoken, the audience is transported to the mystical realm of Athens and the enchanted forest beyond. We witness the misadventures of four young lovers, the antics of a group of amateur actors, and the whimsical interventions of the fairy king and queen, Oberon and Titania. Laughter echoes through the park as Puck, the mischievous sprite, weaves his spells, causing confusion and hilarity in equal measure.

Yet amidst the laughter, there is also beauty and depth. Shakespeare's wit and wisdom shine through as the characters navigate the complexities of love and desire. Themes of reconciliation, forgiveness, and the transformative power of imagination resonate with the audience, reminding them of the enduring relevance of the Bard's work.

This truly special event, co-sponsored by Stow TV and the Randall Library Friends Association is free to all. Just bring your chair or blanket; picnics welcome, too!

Need to brush up on the play? Stow TV will present two stagings of the play by the Nashoba High School drama group with productions, version one beginning April 11 and version two on April 25. Or discover the joy of reading Shakespeare via the "No Fear Shakespeare" book series. Complimentary copies of the play are available at Randall Library, inviting patrons to immerse themselves in the beauty of Shakespeare's language accompanied by a contemporary translation.

As the final act draws to a close and the applause fills the evening air, we will have shared a unique experience. For a few precious hours, transported to another world, united by the experience of storytelling and theater. And as we disperse into the night, carrying with us memories of laughter and enchantment, we'll know we were part of something truly magical, a celebration of art, community, and the enduring legacy of William Shakespeare.

"A Midsummer's Night Dream" performed by Shakespeare & Company, Saturday May 4, 2024, 3pm, at Stow Community Park (next to the blue door church) Bring a folding chair or blanket to sit on the lawn. Service animals only, please. Rain location: Stow Town Hall

Tax Collector / Treasurers Office

Real Estate and Personal Property Tax Bills for the 4th Quarter were mailed out for April 1, 2024, and are due May 1, 2024.

The Second Commitment for Excise Tax will be mailed on April 12, 2024, and due May 13, 2024.

Demands for Excise will be mailed April 29, 2024, and Due May 13, 2024.

Due Dates are when payments must be received by the Collector's Office.

2024 CENSUS/STREET LISTING

Over 900 census forms have not been returned. If yours is sitting in a pile of mail, please take a minute to review, make necessary changes, and return to the Town Clerk's office in the envelope provided. Mail or drop off at the Town Building.

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

Saturday, May 11, 9a - at The Center School

ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION

Saturday, May 18, 10a—4p - at The Center School

VOTING INFORMATION

<https://www.stow-ma.gov/town-meeting-election-information>

VOTER REGISTRATION DEADLINE – MAY 1 at 5:00pm

ANNUAL TOWN MEETING

SATURDAY, MAY 11

ANNUAL TOWN ELECTION

SATURDAY, MAY 18

IN PERSON EARLY VOTING

MONDAY, MAY 13 – WEDNESDAY, MAY 15

ABSENTEE BALLOTS

Absentee Ballots are available for registered voters who meet the eligibility requirements:

<https://www.sec.state.ma.us/divisions/elections/languages/absentee-ballot-applications.htm>

Come Work With Us!

SEASONAL POSITIONS

[Waterfront Director](#) - Seasonal/Summer

[Water Safety Instructor](#) - Seasonal/Summer

[Camp Director](#) - Seasonal/Summer

[Head Camp Counselors](#) - Seasonal/Summer

[Assistant Camp Counselors](#) - Seasonal/Summer

[Beach Pass Checkers](#) - Seasonal/Summer

[Head Lifeguard](#) - Seasonal/Summer

[Lifeguards](#) - Seasonal/Summer



For more information on these and any other employment opportunities we have, please visit [our website](#).

NORTHEAST REGIONAL TOUR OF SHAKESPEARE

SATURDAY, MAY 4TH

3PM AT STOW

TOWN CENTER PARK

FREE



A
MIDSUMMER
NIGHT'S DREAM



by William Shakespeare

Directed by Tom Jaeger

*Co-sponsored by Stow TV &
the Randall Library Friends Association*

SHAKESPEARE & COMPANY
SHAKESPEARE.ORG