



Volume 43 Issue 4
Established 1975

THE Rowe Goal Post April 2024



photo by Brooke Shulda

From the Town Hall

Submitted by Brooke Shulda

The Finance Committee and Board of Selectmen have been working hard to finalize the budget for FY25. Budget hearings began in late January and were conducted through the end of February. Finance Committee Chair Dan Pollata and I met frequently throughout March to ensure accuracy, eliminate mistakes, and review and establish articles for the Annual Town Meeting warrant. The Annual Town Meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 13, 2024, at 6:30 p.m.

Town Buildings

Safety Building – In March, Solar panels were installed on the roof of the Fire/Police station. This project was made possible by Greenfield resident, Bill Ashley, who donated \$30,000.00 to the town to complete a solar panel project on a building of choice. Mr. Ashley hired PV Squared to oversee this project.

Building Maintenance—Thanks to our Facilities Maintenance Manager, Jerry Ferguson, the Town Hall, Library, and Safety Building have seen many improvements over the past several months. This spring and summer, Jerry has a long list of projects he hopes to complete.

Infrastructure

Yankee Road — Selectmen Semanie and I met with Lamson Engineering in mid-March on Yankee Road to review the proposed plans and discuss obtaining an updated estimate. This project does not yet have an anticipated start date.

Board of Selectmen Meetings:

-Thursday, April 11, 2024, at 6:00pm

-Thursday, April 25, 2024, at 6:00pm

Annual Town Meeting:

Monday, May 13, 2024, at 6:30pm @
The Rowe Elementary School

HELP WANTED

The Rowe Town Hall is currently looking for a part-time custodian to care for our buildings. This job would be approximately 15 hours of cleaning work a week.

Hours are somewhat flexible, experience is preferred. Applications for this position are available on our town website:

Rowe-ma.gov, go to Downloadable Files-Personnel Forms-Employment application. You can print and bring it into town hall. You can also apply in person at town hall. Please reach out to Donna or Brooke at the Town Hall with questions or to apply. 413-339-5520-x-100 or 101

We will be accepting applications until April 11 th , 2024.

Submitted by Donna Butzke
Administrative Assistant

Town Clerk

Submitted by Kevin Balawick

Town meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 13th and the local election is scheduled for Saturday, May 18th at the Rowe Elementary School. Ballots for early voting by mail will be available Tuesday, April 16th.

Nomination papers must be delivered to the Town Clerk by 5pm on Saturday, March 30th. Anyone interested in running for a position will need to do so as a write-in candidate. If you are interested in being a write-in and need guidance, please contact me. Below are the offices that are up for election and individuals who had taken out papers as of March 26nd. All terms are for three years unless otherwise noted.

Board of Assessors

Ellen Miller (i)

Board of Health

Herbert Butzke (i)

Board of Selectmen

Chuck Sokol (i)

Cemetery Commission

Jay Williams (i)

Finance Committee

Marilyn Wilson (i)

Park Commission

Hannah Poplawski (i)

Planning Board – 5 Years

Matt Stine (i)

Planning Board – 5 Years

Kevin Balawick (i)

School Committee

Beth Balawick

School Committee - 1 Year

Matt Stine

(i) Incumbent



Sunday morning hikers at the Adams Mt. southeast view

Photo by Janet Cowie

COUNCIL ON AGING

*****Your friendly and active Rowe Council on Aging want to see you at an upcoming event- all are welcome! *****

In March the COA held its monthly ***Third Thursday Coffee Morning***, which was not only entertaining, but holistically informative. We want to extend a huge thank you to Chris Bailey and Donna Butzke who not only let us use their essential oils to create our own roller balls to take home but were also AMAZING educators. Who knew using tangerine could help release resentment or a roll-on concoction of lavender, lemon, rosemary and cinnamon could help boost your memory??

The **March Madness- Mobility NOT Morbidity** program hosted by Deb Lively and Rachel Lewis was a great success. The bi-weekly, 1-hour training sessions during the month of March helped encourage participants to improve mobility, strength, flexibility, and stamina. Thank you, Deb, for such an awesome program and a positive atmosphere for exercising! To those who are interested- please just come on down to your exercise room located on the 2nd floor of the town hall and get some 1:1 with Deb the extraordinaire on Mondays and Wednesday from 9am-11am or 4pm-6pm.

Our **April Third Thursday Coffee Morning on Thursday April 18th** will bring a Lifepath informational event. You may remember this from last year and it was so informative it was worth repeating! If you are unsure if you could use Lifepath services (see the nursing goal post article) please come

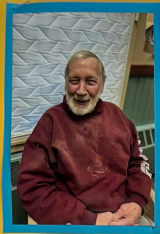
along- you may find that some of Lifepath's services are right up your alley. Like every month, there will also be baked goods, snacks and a selection of tea and coffee, not to mention great conversation and friendly faces always ready to greet you.



Exercising with Deb Lively during March exercise program



Essential oils roller-ball making



Jerry Ferguson
Facilities Maintenance Manager- Hours-vary
 Jerry likes his hours and the people he works with. Jerry likes to fish and loves chocolate.



Meredith Sokol
Custodian- Hours- vary
 Meredith enjoys cleaning folks' spaces and the Historic Town Hall. Also, the quiet isn't so bad. Meredith enjoys the outdoors, plants, documentaries and aviation. Meredith also enjoys taking macro-nature photographs and getting back to drawing.



Dave Fierro
Accountant- Hours-Thursday- 12pm-4pm
 Dave likes to solve accounting challenges. Dave likes drumming and eats anything Italian.



Deb Lively
Fitness Consultant- Hours- Monday and Wednesday- 9-11am and 4-6pm
 Deb enjoys helping people get stronger and fit. Deb likes to snowshoe, read, and garden. Her favorite food is Butternut squash custard.



Brooke Shulda
Town Administrator- Hours Monday-Thursday- 8am-4pm
 Brooke likes to work with the dedicated and reliable staff at the Town Hall. Brooke loves to grow things and likes to save seeds. She loves sweets!



Rachel Lewis
Town Nurse- Hours: Monday, Wednesday, and Thursday 8-4 (CALL FOR APPOINTMENT)
 Rachel loves building trusting relationships and helping others in their time of need. She enjoys soccer, hiking, Harry Potter with family and fur babies. Rachel loves pizza, filet mignon, tacos, and ice cream.



Who's Who? in Rowe Town Hall...



Ben Gelb
Town Treasurer and Tax collector- Hours: Monday, Tuesday (remote), Wednesday and Thursday 9-5
 Ben likes the investing side of his job as well as dealing with banks. He likes distance running and being a volunteer fire fighter. Ben also gives Ghost Tours at the Mount. Ben loves macaroni and cheese as well as glazed salmon and ice cream.



Christine Bailey
Board of Health and Tax Accessors Clerk- Hours- Tuesday-Thursday 8am-1pm
 Christine loves diversity and working with the public. Christine likes to hike, read, and do puzzles as well as hang out with friends. She likes yogurt, and oatmeal chocolate chip cookies.



Kevin Balawick
Town Clerk- Hours; Tuesday 6-8 pm
 Kevin likes to meet new people; he enjoys skiing with his son Teddy and loves PIZZA



Donna Butzke
Administrative Assistant- Hours- Monday-Thursday 8am-4pm
 Donna Likes to help others. Donna enjoys reading, being with her family and gardening. Donna loves homemade soups and seafood as well as chocolate.

I would like to thank Lance and the highway crew for keeping our roads safe all winter long. I think pretreatment of the roads is a great idea. It is much appreciated the good job the crew does throughout the year

Sincerely , Dennis and Gail May



Rowe Town Library News

Submitted by Molly Lane, Library Director

HOURS:

Tuesday 10-5

Wednesday 12-8 Thursday 3-7

Saturday 10-3

Did you know the library has a library of things? We currently have a carpet cleaner, cricut, pressure cooker, metal detector, yard tools, electronics, fun yard games like giant jenga and cornhole, and a pressure washer.

Programs:

Upcoming programs:

Paint Pouring – Wednesday 4/24 @ 5:30 pm - Please preregister for this event- Adults and Teens invited.

Yarnia Crafter's Time –@ 1pm - crochet, knitters, embroiderers, needle point, and other crafts. Join us in a common space to work on your projects with other crafters. *First Tuesday of the month is beginner friendly time.* Someone will be happy to help you learn a new fiber skill this day.

Kid's afterschool activity- WED 4/3 @ 4pm – Join us for activities around Eclipses to help celebrate the upcoming Solar Eclipse

Book Chat Third Thursday (4/18) @ 4:30 pm – “The Lemon Tree” by Sandy Tolan

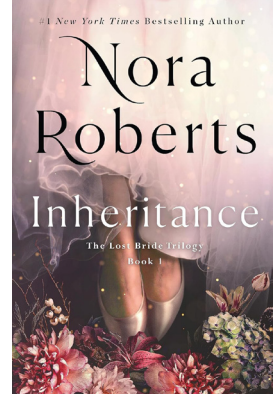
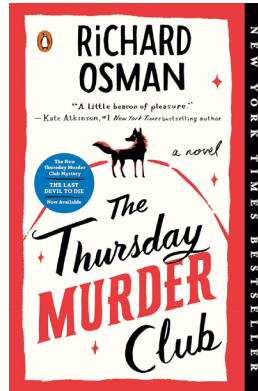
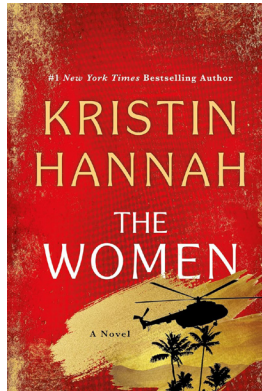
Kids' Vacation crafts - Wednesday 4/17 @ 3 pm - Kindergarten/Pre-school craft time. These crafts will be tailored towards the younger aged children but not limited to only this age group. All are welcome.

Thursday 4/18/@ 3 pm – “Simple Science” Program

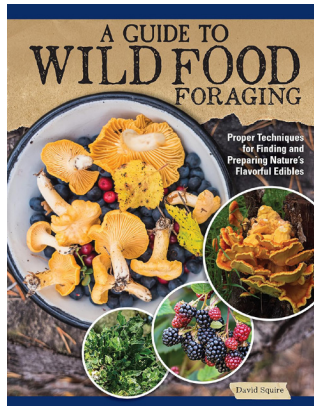
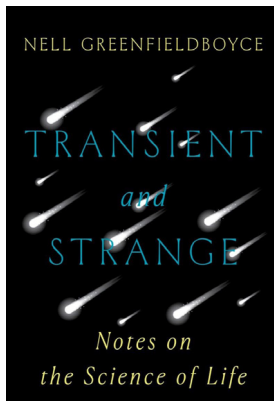
Contact the library if you would like to be put on our email notifications for programs Rowelibrary@gmail.com

Some New Books:

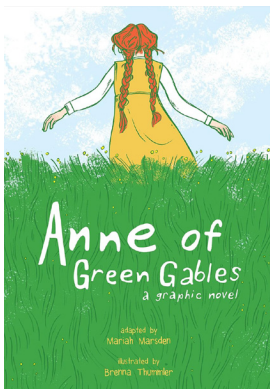
Adult Fiction:



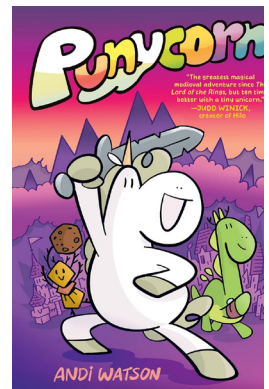
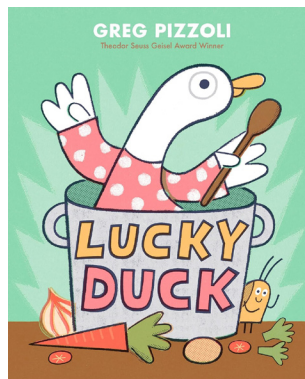
NonFiction:



Graphic Novel:



Kids:



ROWE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



It has now been over four years since the schools were closed on March 13, 2020, and remained closed for the remainder of that school year. The first two years of the pandemic were as much about keeping kids connected to each other, and to the staff, as it has been about keeping them connected to their education. We have also found that it has been about supporting the families through this. This year has been about maintaining that connection while pushing harder on the academic side. I can't imagine going through challenging times like these with any other group of caring and compassionate educators. As hard as it was on our students, it would have been immeasurably harder if the staff hadn't been there for the students every day. The years of the Pandemic were difficult for all of us, but the Rowe teaching staff has worked hard to craft engaging and developmentally appropriate lessons and activities. Increasing the amount of outdoor education has also been a big part of the last few years.

It's time for our annual Spaghetti Supper, where the 5th and 6th grades raise money for their biennial Washington, D.C. trip and Nature's Classroom trips. This year's Spaghetti Supper is Thursday, April 25 from 5:30 to 7. Come enjoy a delicious meal and some good company, or take your meals to go, both help raise money for a good cause. The School Committee is scheduled to meet on Thursday, April 11th at 4 p.m. I hope you can join us.

MCAS tests for students in grades 3-6 will be happening over the next six weeks, starting April 2. While it is a state requirement, we see it as a snapshot of a student's learning and rely on this standardized test as well as the formal and informal assessments we do all year long with students to gauge how they are learning.

Right now, it looks like the last day of school for students will be Monday, June 17, and Tuesday, June 18 for staff. Graduation will likely be that Monday. More details to come, including when our end of the year Talent Show and Music Concert will take place.

If you have thoughts or questions, please be in touch with your calls and emails. I look forward to hearing from you. Please call 413-446-4949 or email me at wknittle@roweschool.org.

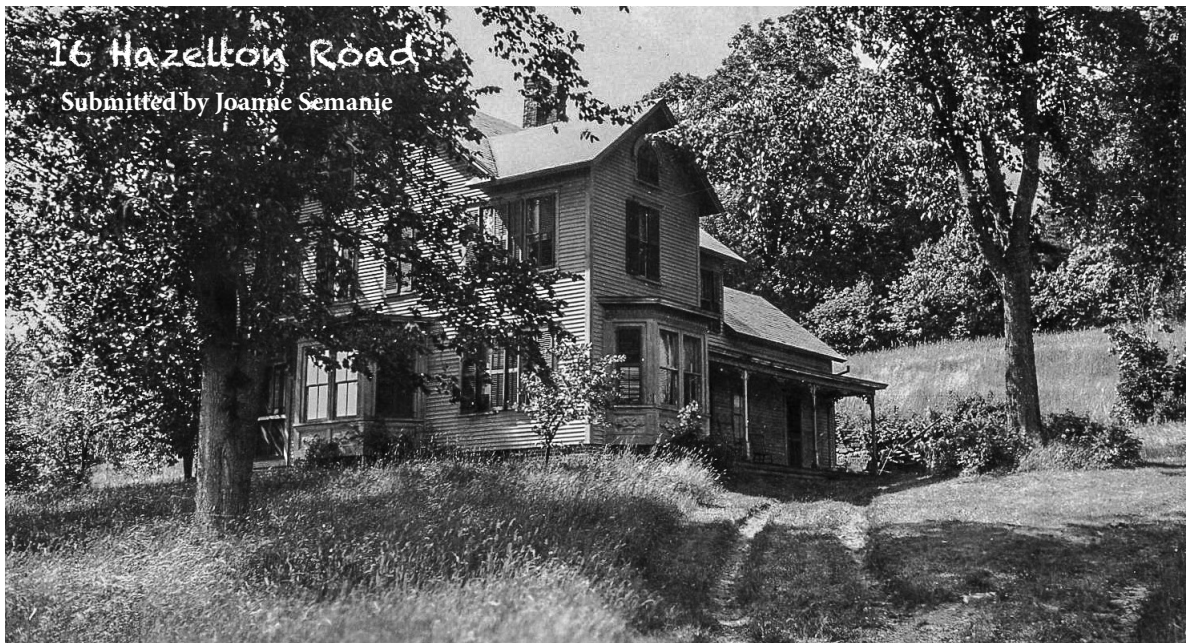


Paul McLatchy Jr. - Guest Reader at Rowe School



16 Hazelton Road

Submitted by Joanne Semanije



The house on Hazelton Road has recently changed ownership and I have been thinking about its original owners. Benjamin T. Henry arrived in Rowe in the early 1880s. He was the third child of John and Jane Henry, born in Boston in 1857. While I'm not sure what brought him to Rowe in his early twenties, he was certainly an ambitious man. In 1882 he purchased the store in the center of town that had been established about 1845 by Cyrus Ballou. Two years later he was appointed postmaster, a position he kept until 1914. He was the toastmaster at the first Old Home Day held in 1885.

B.T. married Anna Wells in 1886. Anna was the daughter of Robert Wells and Laura Ballou. She grew up on the big farm at the top of Middletown Hill Road.

B.T. and Anna Henry on their wedding day, February 16, 1886. Anna's wedding dress is on display at the museum.



On February 25, 1889 B.T. purchased a small piece of land from Eleanor Reed for the sum of \$65.00 and built the house that now stands on Hazelton Rd.



View of the Henry house from the hill behind the library.



The Henry house looking down West Road (now Hazelton) from Zoar Road.

Ben and Anna had two daughters, Martha (b. 1887) and Florence (b. 1894). Both grew up in town, attending schools here.

The family was actively involved in the Unitarian Society. Ben was the chairman of the committee tasked with the building of the stone church in 1907. Anna was involved until the First Congregational Unitarian Church of Rowe voted to disband in 1946. All monies and property were given to Rowe Camp.

Ben Henry died in 1927, Anna lived until 1949, outliving her youngest daughter by 8 years. The property was transferred to Martha who sold it in 1968.

Martha Henry loved the town of Rowe and became a benefactor of the Rowe Historical Society at its start. There are thousands of items in the museum that came from the Henry household from kitchenware to clothing, toys to jewelry. I had the privilege of spending time with Martha as a teen in the museum with her showing me her school workbooks and reminiscing about her childhood in Rowe. The Henry family are all together now in the North Cemetery.

The new owner of the Henry house has familial roots in Rowe having descended from Percy Brown. It's fun to think of Ben Henry and Percy Brown working together in the early 1900s and now a relative as the new owner. It seems fitting.



Martha Henry graduation photograph.

The History of Pelham Lake Park
April 27, 10 am
Meet at the Riding Ring Meadow

Join us for an easy, ~1.5 mile walk at Pelham Lake Park. We will discuss the geologic, natural and human history of the park, the life of its donor Percy Brown, and some of the ways that the Park is preparing for the future. Starting from the riding ring, we will walk along the Meadow and Babbling Brook Trails.

Please contact Dana at :

dmwilliams237@gmail.com or visit the Rowe Historical Society Facebook page.

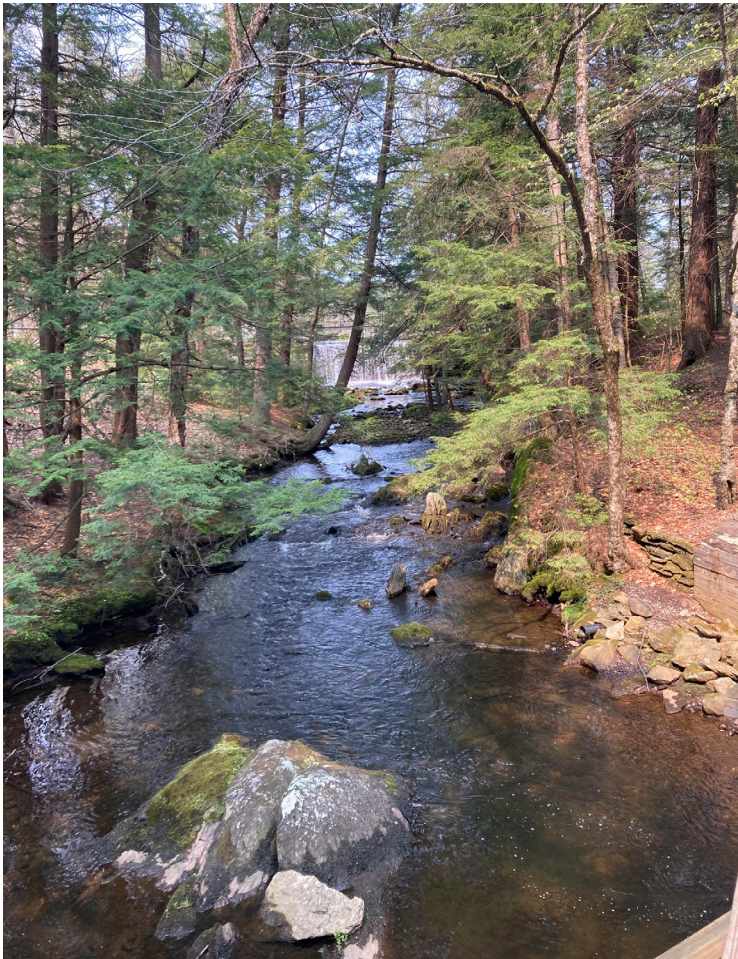


photo by Rick Williams

PELHAM LAKE PARK NEWS



photo by Claudine Poplawski

Pelham Lake Park Forest Resilience Project

Last fall Rowe residents received a mailing with information about a proposed forest resilience project at the park. In addition, there was a public forum to present and discuss this project in detail. The project is now ready to move forward with securing grant funding. The project will involve a small resilience harvest that will focus on removing trees that are unhealthy or at risk to climate changes on two -2 acre parcels on the Davis Mine Loop Trail. A lack of establishing young trees (regeneration) is one of the PLP's primary vulnerabilities to climate change as stated in the Pelham Lake Park Forest Stewardship Plan. The operation plan for this project can be found on the town's website under the Pelham Lake Park Department files and is titled: PLP Climate-Smart Forestry Operations Plan FINAL 2023.pdf. There will be a **Woods Walk** to the site on **Thursday, May 2nd at 5:30-6:30** with forester, Alex Barrett to explain the project in person. Please take advantage of this opportunity to find out more about this project and plan.

Lifeguard Training

The Pelham Lake Park department is looking for Red Cross certified lifeguards for the 2024 summer season. The Park offers a competitive wage with area swim facilities. Red Cross Lifeguard Training will be offered at the Greenfield YMCA in May of 2024. More information about the course can be found at the Greenfield YMCA's website. If you or someone you know is interested you may contact the Park Manager for further information about the position.

submitted by Laurie Pike

Vernal Pool Phenology Project Update

The vernal pool data collection has been delayed due to the ongoing cold temperatures and the presence of ice still on the pool. With this past snowstorm, it is likely we will start data collection **Monday, April 1st**.

If you haven't seen the Park's Facebook Page, the location of the study pool was changed to better meet project criteria. Now, we will meet at the Park Headquarters and walk just past the Green Bridge on the Lakeview Trail.

For further updates, please watch the Park's Facebook Page or email Hannah Poplawski directly, hmpoplawski7@gmail.com.

This program is supported in part by a grant from the Rowe Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Mass Cultural Council, a state agency.

submitted by Hannah Poplawski

Summer Employment at Pelham Lake Park

AR Class 1, 18yrs and older

AR Class 2, 18yrs and older

AR Class 3, 16yrs and older

AR Class 4 14yrs and older

Lifeguard, 18yrs and older

Rec Director, 18yrs and older

Rec Assistant, 18yrs and older

Rec 2nd Assistant (2 positions), 14yrs and older

Yoga Instructor, 18yrs and older

Swim Lesson Instructor, 18yrs and older

Applications are available at the Town Hall, see Brooke Shulda, Donna Butzke or on the Town of Rowe web page (department tab, Pelham Lake Park, Park Files). All applications are due Friday May 3. If you have any questions please call the park at 339-8554.

submitted by Sean Loomis



Rowe residents - This article may look a little familiar -

but it is so important it required a repeat!

There may come a day when you might need a little extra help in your home, with your day-to-day activities or with your health needs. Lifepath is a private, nonprofit corporation that serves Franklin County (as well as other communities in Hampshire, Hampden, Berkshire, and Worcester counties). Lifepath helps people find the best options and services to maintain independence and quality of life in their own homes and communities.

Lifepath offers many services in the Rowe area including: Meals on Wheels, Adult Family Care, Life Alert, Dementia Caregiver's Support Group, Case Management, Personal Care Attendant (if and when available), Farm to Home Food Program, SHINE program (Serving Health Insurance Needs for Everyone), Foot care and much more. For more information please visit <https://lifepathma.org/>

Even if **YOU** are not currently in need of services, your loved ones might be, and this is a great opportunity to arm yourselves with invaluable information that may be helpful in your future or the future of your loved ones.

SAVE THE DATE

~Food, Fun, & Knowledge~

Please join us on Thursday, April 18th from 10:30- 12 noon at the Rowe Town Hall (during Third Thursday Coffee hour) for an informational gathering regarding Lifepath services! Tea, coffee, other light foods, and of course baked goods will be provided.

"Before finding Life Path, my family and I were struggling to navigate my father's care. I feel like Life Path gave me part of my life back."

-Submitted by the Town Nurse

-Vitamin Joy-

One of the most important goals in life should be feeling and expressing joy. I propose a column devoted to raising joy in ourselves, our family, town and further. We welcome all stories you would like to share that inspire joy and kindness that you have experienced. Please submit your stories, ideas, lists, recipes, or memories to:

adminasst@rowe-ma.gov

This months submission is from
Brooke Shulda,

-Moments that Bring Me Joy-

Watching my children love, learn and grow,

Patty, one of our pups, yawning first thing in the morning,

The feeling of the fresh spring soil on my hands,

The first sprouts of my window sill seedlings
popping through the soil,

The ability to provide my family with a healthy
home cooked dinner,

The POP when opening a fresh jar of Claussen
Pickles...



The boys (Victor and Vlad) enjoying the snow, Rowe Highlands Farm

photo by Nan Williams

If you've been by the Town Hall lately you may have noticed the Free Eggs cooler... A local family in Rowe has been so generous in sharing with us their abundance of eggs. If the cooler is outside you're welcome to grab a dozen. First come first serve... Thank you for your generosity!!!!



Spring has Sprung, although at times it doesn't look like it or feel it with a few snow showers floating around and cool temperatures. However, it's never too early to begin cleaning the winter debris along our roadways to help beautify our town. As I walk along the lake, I've spotted coffee cups, plastic containers, and other items that have been carelessly tossed from passing vehicles. Let's all pitch in and help clear our property lines and more and declare April, Rowe Clean up month. Thanks to all of you.

Submitted by Cyndie Stetson

April Birthdays

- 2 - Dohn Sherman
- 5 - Christina Lively
- 6 - Carrie Silva
- 7 - Nancy Cascone
- 7 - Dawn Valitsky-Beaumier
- 7 - Jeffrey Bailey
- 10 - Billy Hardison
- 13 - Mackenzi Coulombe
- 13 - Wendy Temple
- 14 - Rick Williams
- 14 - William Belval
- 15 - Douglas Acuff
- 16 - Rebecca Bradley
- 19 - Beth Balawick
- 20 - Kevin Balawick
- 20 - John-Paul Shattuck
- 20 - David Decker
- 22 - Parker Sullivan
- 23 - John Demech
- 24 - James Shulda
- 24 - Anna Humbert
- 25 - Anne Lively
- 26 - Reese Danek
- 26 - Lucas Hyytinen
- 27 - Selmi Hyytinen
- 27 - Matthew Stine
- 28 - Bruce Cowie
- 29 - Robert Silva
- 29 - Douglas Upton
- 30 - Paul Mclatchy Jr.

If you would like to add or remove a name from this list, please contact me at:
GoalPostEditor@gmail.com

Town Departments

The Town Hall is Open Monday-Thursday 8:00am-4:00pm (413) 339-5520

Position/Dept.	Ext #	Email Address	Hours
Town Administrator	100	townadmin@rowe-ma.gov	Mon-Thurs 9am-4pm
Admin Assistant	101	adminasst@rowe-ma.gov	Mon-Thurs 9am-4pm
Town Accountant	102	accountant@rowe-ma.gov	By Appointment Only
Town Clerk	103	townclerk@rowe-ma.gov	Tuesday's 6:00pm-8:00pm
Board of Assessors	104	assessor@rowe-ma.gov	Tues-Thurs 8am-1pm
Board of Health	105	boh@rowe-ma.gov	Tues-Thurs 8am-1pm
Treasurer	106	treasurer@rowe-ma.gov	Mon, Wed, Thurs 9am-4pm
Tax Collector	106	collector@rowe-ma.gov	Mon, Wed, Thurs 9am-4pm
Town Nurse	107	nurse@rowe-ma.gov	Mon, Wed, Thurs 8am-4pm
DPW	111	dpwhighway@rowe-ma.gov	Monday – Friday 6:30a-2:30p
Fitness Center	149		Mon, Wed 9am-11am/4pm-6pm

Emergency Services

Position/Dept.	Ext #	Email Address	Hours
Fire Chief	112	firechief@rowe-ma.gov	Thursday's 2pm-8pm
EMD	112	firechief@rowe-ma.gov	Thursday's 2pm-8pm
Police Chief	113	policechief@rowe-ma.gov	Wednesday's 5pm-8pm

Town Library (413) 339-4761
rowelibrary@gmail.com

Days	Hours
Tuesday	10am-5pm
Wednesday	12pm-8pm
Thursday	3pm-7pm
Saturday	10am-3pm

Transfer Station (413) 339-0216
boh@rowe-ma.gov

Days	Hours
Wednesday	7am-10am & 4pm-7pm
Saturday	8am-2pm
Sunday	8am-Noon

Elementary School (413) 512-5100

Name/Position	Ext. #	Email
Principal, Bill Knittle	1	wknittle@roweschool.org
Secretary, Laurie Laffond	2	llaffond@roweschool.org
Nurse, Lydia Brisson	3	lbrisson@roweschool.org

The Rowe Goal Post
P.O. Box 462
Rowe, Massachusetts 01367

The Rowe Goal Post

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Any articles received after this time cannot be guaranteed that
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GoalPostEditor@gmail.com

Please send only high resolution images (do not resize).

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please contact the Town Administrator at:
(413) 339-5520 x100
admin@rowe-ma.gov

Seasonal residents MUST notify the Administrator of any change in address.