



Volume 45

Issue 10

Established 1975

THE Rowe Goal Post

October 2026



photo by Donna Butzke

Town Clerk News

Submitted by Meg Pallotta

Thank you very much to everyone who turned out to vote at the State Primary, and to all the election workers who helped manage the polls. The General Election will be held on Tuesday, November 3rd from 7am to 8pm at the Rowe Elementary School.

Vote-by-mail cards have been mailed to those who have not already submitted a request to vote by mail for the November election. You may still vote in person if you would like to, and there is no obligation to do so by mail. Ballots should be coming by mid-October if not sooner. The deadline to apply for a vote-by-mail ballot is 5:00 PM on Tuesday, October 27th. The last day to register to vote in this election is Saturday October 24th by 5:00 pm.

In-Person Early Voting will be held at the Town Hall on the following dates and times:

Saturday, October 17th:	8:00 am – 12:00 pm
Monday, October 19th:	8:00 am – 12:00 pm
Thursday, October 22nd:	5:00 pm – 7:00 pm
Saturday, October 24th :	8:00 am – 12:00 pm
Monday, October 26th :	8:00 am – 12:00 pm
Thursday, October 29th:	5:00 pm – 7:00 pm

Last minute vote by mail ballots need to be delivered to the drop box at the entrance to Town Hall by 7:45 pm to allow enough time to be delivered to the close of the polls at 8:00 pm on election day.

AI-Free Zone

As the Editor of the Goalpost and from several residents mentioning their concerns, The Goalpost will NOT publish AI images in future issues.

As one resident mentioned...

“I would love the goalpost to remain a means for people/groups of Rowe to share events and town happenings rather than a conglomeration of computer-made content.”

Out of the POTS and into the Fiber

I haven't posted anything in the Goal Post for a while because everything's been going smoothly with our Broadband system. Since we completed the redundant backhaul, which gives our town three separate physical connections to the Internet, we have not had any town-wide outages even in big storms. The great majority of the town now enjoys fast, reliable, reasonably priced Broadband internet service.

Verizon has recently notified customers that they plan to terminate copper line POTS (plain old telephone service). So, the few of you who still have wired (not cellular) telephone service through Verizon may be looking for alternatives soon.

We offer two levels of internet service available: Standard 1 Gig (1,000Mbps) service for \$75/mo.; and Economy 25Mbps service for \$59/mo. Either of those can have Ooma VOIP telephone service added on for \$19.99/mo (plus mandatory fees and taxes). Or, for those who don't need internet, there is phone-only service for \$49/mo. I believe that's much less than Verizon charges. You would be able to keep your existing phone number. If you already have a cell phone, you may be able to configure it to call and text over wifi, which would require Internet service but not the Ooma plan. The customer service representatives at Whip City Fiber can help figure out which option is best for you.

One thing to consider is that in a power outage, the network equipment in your home would require backup power, either a battery backup or generator, to keep you connected to the Internet and keep your phone service working during the power outage. Also, in order for the 911 emergency system to know your location, you will have to use the website or customer service to associate your address with your phone number. That is not automatic with VOIP (voice over internet) phone systems such as our Ooma service. While it's not perfect, the phone service has been pretty reliable, though occasional restarting helps to solve problems that crop up, and it takes a bit more technical ability to make full use of the voicemail, call blocking, and other features.

For more information or to sign up, visit <https://wiredwest.net> or <https://www.whipcityfiber.com/rowe/>, or call customer service at: 1-833-991-9378.

David Dvore, Manager, Gwyn Arney-Sutherland, Deputy Manager, Rowe MLP



Chief Annear Retires and Chief Goodhind is Hired

Fire Chief Dennis Annear retired from his position in Rowe and Charlemont in July 2026. Chief Annear started as the Town Chief in 2016 and remained Fire Chief for Rowe and Charlemont. Chief Annear was celebrated with a retirement party on July 12th.

Fire Chief Chris Goodhind has been hired and will serve as Fire Chief for the Town of Rowe and Charlemont moving forward. Chief Goodhind comes to us from the Amherst Fire Department. We are very fortunate to have such a dedicated and passionate Chief.

photo by Donna Butzke

Rowe Historical Society Presents

VI WALKER

And the

THE AMAZING SWEET SAW CONCERT

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 25

3-5pm

KEMP-McCARTHY MUSEUM

FOR ALL AGES

Violet believes beautiful music is made with whatever you have. The carpenter saw is an old time instrument that produces beautiful, ethereal songs. Children and adults will have fun. Have you ever heard of a nose flute? Come and see!

submitted by Wayne Zavotka

MUSHROOM HUNT AT SHANTIGAR

The Shantigar Foundation is hosting its annual Mushroom Hunt on Saturday, October 17th from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm. Local expert John Wheeler will present his informative slide-show and lead an easy woodland hike. Shantigar is located at 63 Davenport Road in Rowe.

The Mushroom Hunt is open to all with a fee of \$20 for one person and \$30 for two people. Space is limited and pre-registration is required: <https://www.shantigar.org/mushroom-hunt>

Learn how mushrooms bond with specific trees and pick up the tell-tale signs separating edible mushrooms from poisonous look-alikes. John will also talk about the health benefits of fungi and share his delicious recipe for Mushroom Spread. Whether you're new to mushroom hunting or a seasoned forager, you'll see the forest floor in an entirely new way

John Wheeler, co-founder of the Berkshire Mycological Society, has been foraging for more than 35 years. His enthusiasm is contagious: *"When I go out mushrooming, it's like an Easter egg hunt for adults."*

What to Bring: Brown paper bag or woven basket, knife, water, bug repellent, and sturdy shoes.

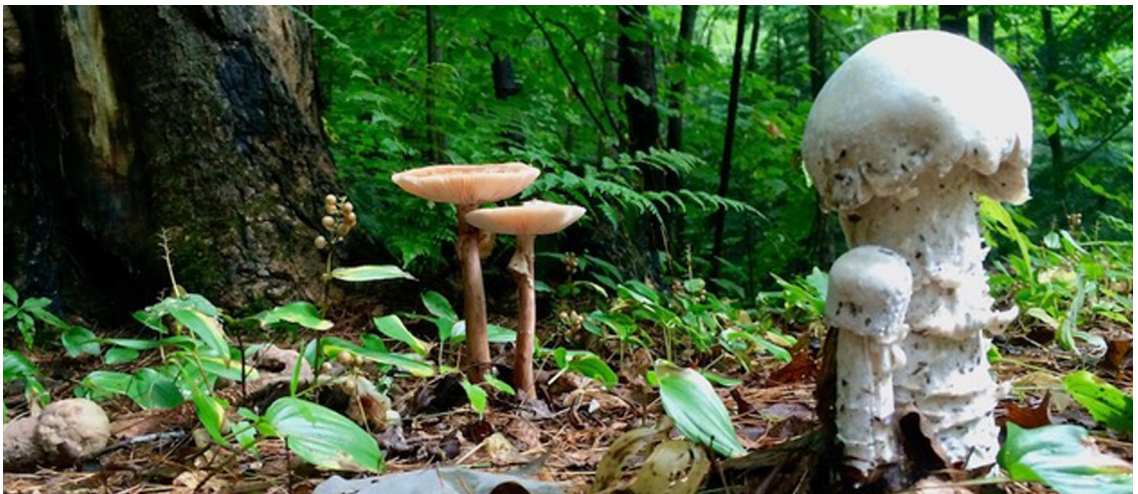
WHEN: Saturday, October 17th from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

WHERE: Shantigar Foundation, 63 Davenport Road, Rowe, MA

FEE: \$20/person and \$30 for 2 people

REGISTRATION: <https://www.shantigar.org/mushroom-hunt>

The Shantigar Foundation, on a former dairy farm in the rolling hills of Rowe, MA, offers workshops and events that blend the arts, meditation, and nature. Our programs inspire people to engage with the world from a more creative and profound place. www.shantigar.org





Rowe Town Library News
Submitted by Molly Lane,
Library Director

HOURS:
Tuesday 10-5
Wednesday 12-8
Thursday 3-7
Saturday 10-3

UNDER CONSTRUCTION- LIBRARY ADDITION & RENOVATION UPDATE

Excavation continues. Many Many loads of large boulders and soil have been hauled away. The ledge has been exposed and we hope will be excavated soon. Stop by and view the progress. The back windows have a great view point of the excavator hard at work.

We are still open. Stop by and visit.

Upcoming Events:

Make a Scarecrow for the Town Common After School - Thursday, October 8th @ 3:45pm

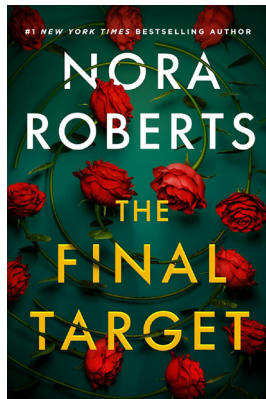
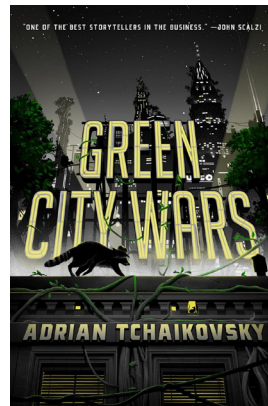
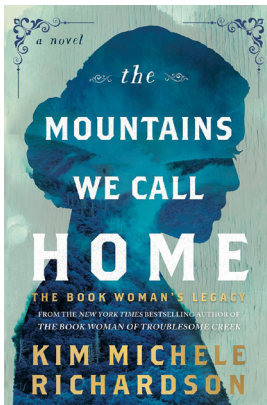
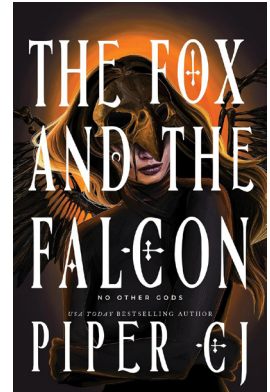
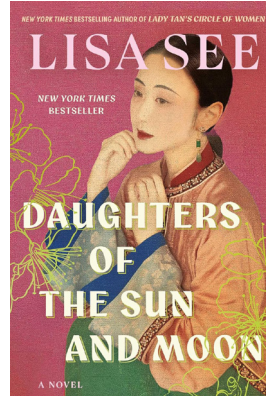
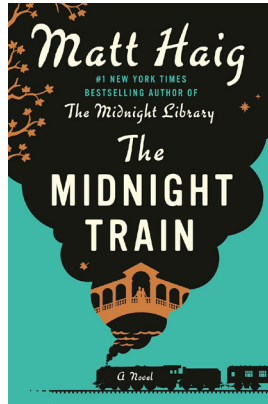
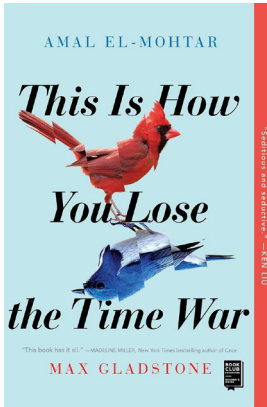
Book Chat: "Boys in the Boat" by Daniel James Brown - Thursday, October 15th @ 5:30pm come grab a copy and join the conversation

Patrick Gonder presents "History of Halloween" - Wednesday, October 21st @ 6pm

Fallapalooza: Presentation by Davis Bates and "Kites and Things" with Dr. Bill - Sunday, October 25th @ 12pm-2pm

Some New Books at the Library

Adult Fiction:



Kids Graphic:



DVD:





It has been a busy and exciting month at Rowe School since classes began on August 27th! Students have been reconnecting with friends from last year and making new ones, exploring our library's wonderful collection, enjoying P.E., music, Spanish, and art, and diving into their core subjects: Math, Reading, Writing, Social Studies, and Science, all while building a welcoming classroom community.

Students have been learning and growing in many ways. From practicing counting, one-to-one correspondence, listening to stories, letter identification and learning to read in the Preschool/Kinder-garten. The 4th graders have been exploring the literal and figurative meanings of the heart through literature, informational texts, and art while sixth graders are stepping into leadership roles through the Rising Phoenix Crew, completing and planning service projects.

All students have enjoyed school-wide gatherings, chorus, a Community Lunch, and weekly art, music, Spanish, and P.E. lessons. Classes spend time every morning building social competence and every other week we come together as a school community to celebrate successes and share ideas for continued growth, ensuring that everyone feels welcome and supported.

October should be busy as well. In addition to the ongoing work in the classrooms, the entire school will take part in an Exploration Day across the street at Pelham Lake Park. This should be an exciting day for all. Our next Community Lunch will be Wednesday, October 21st from 11:45-12:30 and Trunk or Treat is scheduled later that week on Friday, October 23rd in the school parking lot. Thank you to the PTP for help with the organization.

There will be a Flu and COVID Vaccine Clinic on Tuesday, October 16th from 1-4 (see flyer). This will take place in the Rowe School Gym. There will be Flu vaccines for those ages 5+ and Covid vaccines for those age 12+. Sign-up or inquire with Rachel, the Town Nurse, at (413)339-5520 ext 107 or via email at nurse@rowe-ma.gov. Pre-registration is not required but recommended.

Our After School Activities program, with a group of students hiking with Mrs. P. and Nurse Lydia, will also run through October. More after-school activities are coming later in the Fall. We have volunteer opportunities in the school on a regular basis. If you feel you could commit to regular, weekly volunteer time, just want to help out occasionally, or know someone who can, please let me know.

On Friday, September 18th, the school was honored to unveil its new "Buddy Bench". This was graciously donated by the Rowe School PTP to honor William "Bill" Knittle's legacy here at Rowe School. He devoted 14 years to this school and made a lasting difference in the lives of countless children, families, and staff members. Throughout his time here, he always put children first. He believed every student deserved to feel welcomed, included, valued, and cared for. This bench represents kindness, friendship, inclusion, and the simple act of noticing when someone may need a friend, all values that Bill demonstrated throughout his life and leadership.

submitted by Jon Friedman



New Story Walk at Pelham Lake Park

The fifth and sixth grade classroom has set up a new story walk along the Babbling Brook Trail. We hope you'll head out to the trail this fall to check out our poetry and art inspired by sitting and listening closely to the woods!

submitted by Emily Cross



* ***Council on Aging –Strengthening, Stamping, and Socializing****

In September, the COA got back into the groove with our Third Thursday coffee morning that involved a self-guided stamping activity, baked goods, coffee and socializing. Also in the beginning of September, residents were able to join Charles from BCBS/Medicare who educated us on the advantages and disadvantages of the Medicare supplement and Medicare advantage plans. Wow that was a lot of information to take in! Please let us know if our programming is educational and pertinent to you OR if you have any specific requests for programming you would like to see offered!

UPCOMING ACTIVITIES

WALKING CLUB: Due to the falling numbers in our beloved program, walking club will be put on hold for the time being and possibly start back later in the year or early next Spring .

Strong Bones Exercise Class with Kate Peppard: FREE to Rowe residents. Join us on zoom for an extension of this offering to experience acclaimed Kate Peppard's 'Strong Bones' class. A class that was developed by a physical therapist during the Covid-19 lockdown to help people maintain their muscle mass and bone strength. The class involves stretching, hand weights, and leg weights in seated and standing exercises. Balance work is also incorporated.

The class will run on ZOOM on *TUESDAYS 9/29 and 10/6 from 8:30am- 9:30am AND IN-PERSON on TUESDAY 10/13 from 9:30-10:30 in the Town Hall exercise room (All participants on 10/13 are encouraged to bring their own weights to the in-person offering to ensure enough for all).* Please see Town website under COA page for zoom link or email/call Donna or Rachel at the Town Hall for more information and to receive the zoom link. Please feel free to utilize the exercise room in the town hall for this weekly class. *The TV in the fitness room is up and running- residents have been utilizing the TV for this class (dumbbells and ankle weights are also available to use)*

Participants will need/are encouraged to have: 1 ankle weight- 1-5lbs (or an adjustable ankle weight would be best) and 1-2 sets of light dumbbells (2-5lbs)

BOWLING RETURNS!- For all you avid bowlers out there- BOWLING IS BACK! Please contact Steve Lattanzi at pickleballstefano23@gmail.com for more information on when and where

October Third Thursday Coffee Morning: The October coffee morning will be held Thursday, October 15th from 10-12 at the Town Hall. Presenter Randy Prostack will be educating us about a range of Invasive Species! (And don't forget the goodies and coffee)

DECEMBER LUNCHEON SAVE THE DATE- Time flies so save the date for our annual holiday luncheon on December 4th from 12-2 at the Rowe Camp and Conference Center!

Memory Café and Caregivers Support Group: The Shelburne Senior Center is offering two helpful resources for residents who are caring for seniors. The Memory Café is held on the third Friday of each month from 12 to 2, and offers a healthy lunch, a speaker or entertainment, and camaraderie for seniors and their caregivers. Also, the center offers a Caregiver Support Group on the first Monday of

the Month, at 2 p.m. Both these resources are offered for free, and the center requests that you sign up a day or two ahead of time by calling 625-2502.



Walking club members, Davis Mine Rd.

submitted by Rachel Lewis

Flu & Covid Vaccine Clinic

When: Friday, October 16th from 1-4pm

Where: Rowe Elementary School Gym

What: Flu vaccines for those ages 5+ and Covid vaccines for those age 12+

How: Sign-up or enquire with Rachel, the Town Nurse, at (413)339-5520 ext 107 or via email at nurse@rowe-ma.gov

*Pre-registration is **NOT** required, but is recommended*

EXERCISE FOR ALL

The Council on Aging is inviting residents of ALL ages to participate in a new exercise program offering- '**Stretch & Strengthen**' is a class series that will start at the beginning of November and continue for 6 weeks. The class will utilize weightlifting elements along with weight bearing stretching to enhance flexibility, muscle/bone strength, and balance. This class series is offered FREE for all ROWE RESIDENTS (\$5 for non-Rowe residents).

The class will be held on Zoom on Tuesdays from 8:30am-9:30am starting Tuesday, November 3rd. Please contact Donna or Rachel at the Town Hall for more information!

BEING PREPARED- File of Life

A *File of Life* is a simple, yet crucial document, that can be placed on your fridge next to your MOLST/DNR form (if you have one). It provides first responders important information regarding your health, your medications, your emergency contacts when/if they need to respond to an emergency at your home. Recently, the File of Life document was mailed to your home. If you have not already done so, please fill it out and put it on your fridge- this will be helpful to first responders and ultimately could help save your life!

What is included in a File of Life?

- ☐ **Medical history:** new/chronic health conditions, allergies, blood type.
- ☐ **Medications:** a list of all prescription medications and over-the-counter medications.
- ☐ **Emergency contacts:** names and phone numbers for those who you would like to be contacted in the event of an emergency.
- ☐ **Other vital information:** Preferred hospital, primary physician, existence of a DNR/MOLST form.

How it helps?

- ☐ **Provides critical information:** It gives first responders immediate access to your medical history, which is vital if you are unconscious or unable to speak.
- ☐ **Speeds up treatment:** This information can help them start treatment faster and more effectively.
- ☐ **Ensures proper notification:** It provides the necessary contact information for family and medical professionals to be notified quickly.

How to use it?

- ☐ **Contact** your Town Nurse or Public Safety Office to obtain the File of Life document/fridge sleeve. File of Life sleeves and forms are also located inside the Town Hall entrance.
- ☐ **Fill it out:** Complete the card with up-to-date information.
- ☐ **Place it visibly:** Place the completed card inside the magnetic sleeve and attach it to the outside of your refrigerator door.
- ☐ **Keep it current:** Regularly review and update the information to ensure it is always accurate

Town of Rowe Emergency Information



Emergency Information

Name _____ Phone _____

DOB _____ Street Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Emergency Contacts

Name _____ Phone _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Name _____ Phone _____

ALLERGIES

Severity Key: Mild=1, Moderate=2, Severe (Anaphylaxis)= 3

Drug	Food	Insect	Other

Medical Data

Last updated: Month _____ Year _____ Preferred Hospital _____

Blood Type _____ Doctor _____ Phone # _____

FILE OF LIFE®

FLU VACCINES available in-office or at Flu/Covid clinic- please contact Town Nurse Rachel for more information*

submitted by Rachel Lewis



The Town Mosaic is now complete! Stop by Town Hall, or drive by, to see this beautiful artwork created with care by many residents. Thank you to everyone who helped bring it to life.



COME AND JOIN US IN OUR

FALL-A-PALOOZA

12:00 PM
SUNDAY OCTOBER 25

AT THE STONE CHURCH

SPAGHETTI LUNCH SERVED BY THE ROWE FIRE
DEPARTMENT
(donations encouraged)

SCARECROW CONTEST ON THE COMMON

PUMPKIN CARVING HOSTED BY THE ROWE PARK
DEPARTMENT

GAMES, ACTIVITIES, SONGS AND STORIES

THIS YEAR'S COOKING CONTEST - DESSERT PIES



Dear Friends and Community Members,

On behalf of the **Town of Rowe Open Space and Recreation Committee**, you are warmly invited to attend a public dedication ceremony at the Tunnel Road Land Acquisition Property.

Date: Tuesday, October 6, 2026

Time: 10:00 AM – 12:30 PM

Location: Tunnel Road Land Acquisition Property Trailhead, Tunnel Road, Rowe, MA
<https://maps.app.goo.gl/ugnY96W3qF9pyMXs8>

The Town purchased this property to expand and protect public recreation land for its residents. We will officially unveil the new dedication sign, celebrate the completion and protection of the property, and recognize Dave Rothstein and his family. Dave was a Land Protection Specialist from the Audubon Society and was instrumental in helping the Town prepare for its acquisition of the property. He made outstanding contributions to conservation environmental stewardship and outdoor recreation,

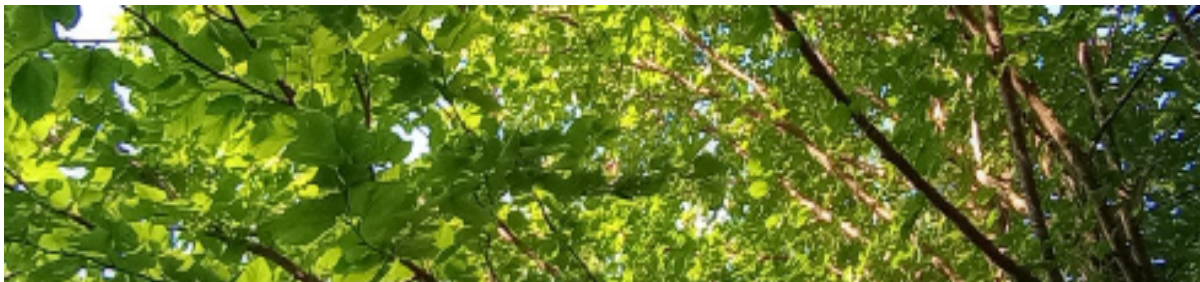
Event Highlights:

- 10:00 AM: Formal Dedication Ceremony & Remarks from Town Leadership and Project Partners
- Presentation of a commemorative plaque to the Rothstein Family
- Optional guided walk on the newly established Trail
- Apple cider and cookies following the walk

Warm clothing and suitable footwear for a light outdoor walk are recommended. We also recommend attendees carpool from the Town Hall to reduce parking congestion on site. Please feel free to contact us if you have any questions.

Warm regards,

v/r Teresa A., Amy T., Justine K., Aaron P., and Jocelyn B-H
Open Space & Recreation Committee
Town of Rowe, MA



It's hard to believe October is already here! Fall is a fantastic time to plant and prune trees and shrubs—the fading leaves give us a clear view of all the branches, and we get to work without throngs of mosquitoes and gnats.

My big project this fall is a town-wide inventory of trees that are declining or dead. This comprehensive dataset will allow us to develop Rowe's first Public Shade Tree Action Plan for next year and help inform the Select Board on our most pressing roadside tree projects.

This first year, we'll build a "Top 100" list covering all of town, including many trees you've already pointed out to me over the last several months. We'll focus on trees that pose the greatest risk, as well as areas where strategic pruning can extend a tree's lifespan. With the Emerald Ash Borer moving through the region, ash tree removal will make up a large portion of our work, though we'll have plenty of maples and pines to round things out.

Because ash trees break apart easily and can fall unpredictably during removal, many of these complex jobs require specialized equipment that our Town Highway department simply doesn't have. With limited funds, we'll need to get creative about how, where, and by whom these projects get done. Here's how we're approaching it:

Utility Collaboration: We'll coordinate with National Grid on trees near electric lines so they can incorporate them into their multi-year vegetation management plans.

Patience and Persistence: The scale of our roadside tree issues are simply daunting and it will take time to "plan the work, and work the plan".

Private Property: If a tree threatening a road sits outside the town right-of-way, we'll reach out to notify the property owner of the hazard.

Long-Term Planning: A good plan always evolves! We'll turn this initial inventory into an annual process that balances critical safety needs with our available budget.

While I'll be out and about scouting around town, please don't hesitate to drop me a line if you have a tree concern you'd like me to check out. You can reach me directly at rowetreewarden@gmail.com.



submitted by Connie Englert, Tree Warden

"Do you have a skill, talent, or event you would like to share with the Rowe community in 2027? The Rowe Cultural Council is accepting grant submissions through October 16, 2026. Go to massculturalcouncil.org and click on the Grants Portal at the top of the page.

The process is quite simple and anyone on the committee would be happy to walk you through it or answer questions you may have. Check in with Thom Chiofalo, Felicity Pickett, Jane Kaufman, Caitlyn Semanie, or Susan Tomlinson.

Also consider joining this fun, interesting, and efficient team, who meet 3 or 4 times a year, and award grant monies annually. Anyone is welcome to sit in on our October and/or November meetings.

Keep an eye on our FB page (You can search "Rowe Cultural Council" or head to this direct link - <https://www.facebook.com/share/1KRBGsXJdP/>) to see the 2027 grantees! We invite you to attend the events supported by the RCC and let us know what you think.

submitted by Caitlyn Semanie

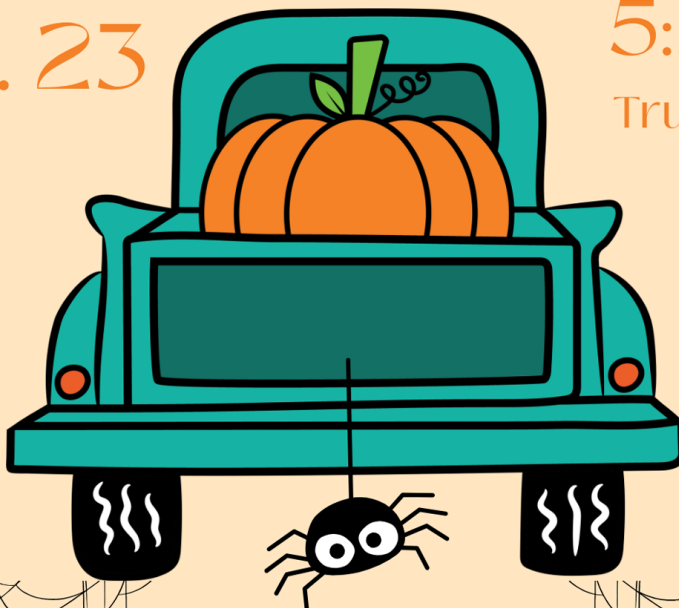
Trunk or Treat

Organized by the Rowe PTP

Friday
Oct. 23

All are welcome!

Start:
5:30pm
Trunk set up:
5 pm



Rowe Elementary School
86 Pond Rd. Rowe, MA



Community potluck to follow in the
cafeteria. Bring a dish to share!

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	Mon 8-12, Thur 5pm-7pm, & by Appt
Board of Assessors	104	assessor@rowe-ma.gov	Wed-Thurs 8am-1pm
Board of Health	105	boh@rowe-ma.gov	Tues-Thurs 8am-1pm
Treasurer	106	treasurer@rowe-ma.gov	Tues/Wed 2-4pm, Thur 10-12pm
Tax Collector	106	collector@rowe-ma.gov	Tues/Wed 2-4pm, Thur 10-12pm
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	by Appointment Only
Public Safety Adm	115	publicsafetyadmin@rowe-ma.gov	M&W 3pm-9pm; Fri 7:30-3:30

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

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

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

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

Elementary School (413) 512-5100

Name/Position	Ext. #	Email
Principal, Jon Friedman	1	jfriedman@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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All submissions for the next issue are due by the 25th.
Any articles received after this time cannot be guaranteed that
they will appear in the next issue.

Please e-mail all items to:
GoalPostEditor@gmail.com

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

If you have a question about your subscription or want to make a change to the mailing list,
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.