Dear Ashland Residents & Friends:

First, I want to wish all of you a Happy Passover and a wonderful Easter Sunday coming up. Like you, this year's festivities to celebrate the holidays have been somewhat muted by Coronavirus. Traditional Seders have been replaced with "Zeders", and I am going to miss our traditional Easter Egg hunt with our neighbors this Sunday.

This doesn't mean that we can't find other ways to enjoy Ashland and the spirit cultivated here. As mentioned last week, we have been hard at work developing activities that you can do for entertainment and learning, while still practicing social distancing. And I'm proud to present this new round of activities for your enjoyment. Please take a moment to let me know what programs you like and what programs you would like to see at mherbert@ashlandmass.com

It is my hope that these activities can make these unsure times a little easier in fun. Please like the Town of Ashland Facebook page and follow me on Twitter, @AshlandTwnMgr for more real-time updates and events. I hope you all stay safe and healthy.

Michael Herbert
Town Manager

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**Activities for All Ages**
(while still practicing social/physical distancing)

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**Around the Clock Ashland Style**
by ARC

This week, between April 10th and 17th, go for a drive around Ashland and count how many CLOCKS you can find! Actual clocks and pictures of clocks included. The clocks can
Calling all Clockers

ASHLAND CLOCK CHALLENGE

Go for a drive around Ashland and count how many CLOCKS you can find! Actual clocks and pictures of clocks included.

Print off your own Clocker coloring sheet or pick up a coloring sheet from the green bin on the bench next to the Senior Center entrance.

Boredom Busters Bin at the Community Center

Swap with us! Take a drive to see what we have to help keep you occupied. Outside the front doors of the Community Center you will find bins with:
- Material and Instructions for making masks
- Puzzle Exchange: take one, leave one
- Yarn and Needles

Please take precautions when taking or donating items!

Puzzle Challenge

Complete a puzzle! How long does it take you or your family to complete a puzzle? Time yourself/selves completing different piece puzzles.

Post your results and times in the Facebook Events comment Section!

Share a family story with Ashland is United

Ashland is United is collecting and sharing family stories on their website as a way to help people feel connected.

Ashland is United is inviting you to gather around - albeit
online - and share inspiring stories from your "Grandmother’s Basket." Socially distant as we are, this project offers an opportunity to stay connected with each other and remind us of the community of which we are all a part.

They are looking for contributions that help us navigate through difficult times and that say something about your culture or that have been handed down through oral traditions. Learn More

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**Ashland Emergency Fund and Front Steps Project Fundraiser**

In support of the Ashland Emergency Fund, two Ashland photographers, Candi Wilson (C WKids Photography) and Jeff Troutman have offered their services as part of the Front Steps Project.

The Front Steps Project was started by Needham photographer Cara Soulia, to take a quick family pictures outside of people's homes, while practicing plenty of social distancing. Photographers around the country have been offering their services without charge, with an honor-system donation to the local charity supporting their town through this crisis. It's also been a great way to lift people's spirits during this crisis and bring a community together (virtually of course).

If you are interested in getting more information about participating in this fundraiser, please reach out to Candi at cwkidsphoto@gmail.com or Jeff via text at 617-943-2425.

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**Stay at Home Reading Challenge by Ashland Public Library**

Are you staying at home doing lots of reading? We have a new online reading challenge - the Stay-At-Home Challenge - for you to join! No Library card needed!

If you used Beanstack for the 2019 Summer Reading program you can use the account(s) you've already set up. If you are new to Beanstack, you can set up your own account! The library will post updates every week on their Facebook Page and website, so we can all see how the community is doing.

Let's see how many minutes the Ashland community can read while we are all staying home and staying safe! Have fun reading!

Learn more about this program

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BINGO Live on Facebook with ARC Staff

We will be giving away some ARC swag....water
bottles, t-shirts, lunch bags, drawstring bags and maybe even a beach towel! Swing by the Community Center to pick up a sheet of BINGO cards or download one at home. **BINGO sheets are in a green bin on the bench next to the Senior Center entrance**, there are plenty, please take only what you need. Use coins or game pieces to play and you can use the same card over and over again. CLICK HERE for information.

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**Activities for Adults**
*(while still practicing social/physical distancing)*

**Work out with Empowered by Meg**
Miss your Senior Center Workouts? Exercise with Meg's Free Facebook Videos. Senior Sweat is live Wednesday mornings at 10 am. There are also fun workouts for all adults on her page as well.

Learn More

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**Phone Pals**
Ashland Human Services announces a new program. No need for a paper and pen, get to know a new friend by picking up your phone!

If you would like to get a friendly phone call and participate in this program, dial 508-532-7955.

Leave your name and number and Staff will connect you to a new phone pal!

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**VIRTUAL Book Chat**
Meet with other avid readers in the community to discuss books! Discuss something you've recently read, your absolute favorite book, or just join us to hear book recommendations from your neighbors! Click here for updates.

On **April 22nd at 8 pm** join the live Zoom Meeting: [https://zoom.us/j/251590911](https://zoom.us/j/251590911)
Meeting ID: 251 590 911 (This link will not work before this day/time).

Contact Ashley if you have questions call 508-532-7935 or email.
Activities for Children
(while still practicing social/physical distancing)

Nature Bingo
Ashland Conservation Agent, Maeghan, found engaging nature themed bingo cards from Mass Audubon society. On the Mass Audubon website, they also have activity sheets and more activities for Young Explorers.

Learn More

Ashland Public Library Activities
Ashland Public Library Staff now offers Story time and Lap sit sessions online. There will be stories for older kids too. Everyone is welcome to join - please spread the word!

To comply with copyright restrictions the Library will be posting Story Times videos in a private Facebook group. You need to ask to join if you'd like to view these Story Times. If you need assistance accessing this Facebook Group content click here.

Ashland Public Library staff is posting additional online resources on their website.

Community Kangaroo
Stay busy and find more virtual events in our surrounding communities here.

Stay Informed

Town Manager's Newsletter
Updates will be shared primarily through this medium (email newsletter), so please sign up for updates and encourage your friends and neighbors to do so as well.

Follow us on Social Media
@ashlandmass and @AshlandTwnMgr
@TownofAshlandMA

COVID-19 Updates
Hotline: 508-532-7900 | Email | Website
Watch Town Manager's Facebook Live Updates
The mission of the Economic Development department is to encourage, promote, and support growth and development within the town.

Town of Ashland