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October 6, 2025

News and Updates from the Town of Concord

Please send your comments and feedback to publicinfo@concordma.gov.

Regional Climate Resilience Grant

The Town of Concord, in partnership with OARS 3 Rivers and the Metropolitan Area Planning Council (MAPC), has been awarded a \$450,000 state grant to launch a Regional Climate Collaborative. The two-year initiative will focus on enhancing climate resilience for the entire Sudbury, Assabet, and Concord (SuAsCo) Rivers watershed.

The first year of the initiative will focus on laying the groundwork for this

The Town of Concord, OARS 3 Rivers, and the MAPC are the recipients of a \$450,000 MVP grant for climate preparedness

Regional SuAsCo River
CLIMATE RESILIENCE
Climate Collaborative

 A green graphic with a circular image of a river and trees. The text reads "Regional SuAsCo River CLIMATE RESILIENCE Climate Collaborative". Below the image are three logos: the Town of Concord seal, the OARS logo ("FOR THE OARS: ASSABET & CONCORD RIVERS"), and the MAPC logo ("METROPOLITAN AREA PLANNING COUNCIL").

[Read more about the grant](#)

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collaboration, including stakeholder outreach to municipal and community partners and establishing the Collaborative's governance framework.

MCI Concord Update



League of Women Voters First Friday

Did you miss the latest update on the **MCI Concord redevelopment**? The League of Women Voters' First Fridays series hosted a session featuring the **MCI Concord Advisory Board** (John Boynton, Dan Gainsboro, Peter Lowitt, and Mark Howell) and **Concord Public Works Director** Alan Cathcart.

Roughly 75 residents attended in person and on Zoom to hear about the community outreach effort that shaped the final [Vision Plan](#) by Agency Landscape + Planning. Attendees also got an overview of the three potential development scenarios outlined in the plan.

What's Next? The Advisory Board will be submitting its final recommendation to the Select Board over the next few months.

Don't wait to catch up! You can find the entire Vision Plan at [MCI-Concord.org](https://mci-concord.org). A recording of the event will also be available for viewing on the [MMN YouTube channel](#)

[Vision Plan](#)

Fire Department

Staff Recognition

Emerson Hospital Acknowledgement

The CFD would like to congratulate firefighters Ian Ford and Paul Armann for being recognized by Emerson Hospital for their key role in the early recognition of a patient exhibiting signs and symptoms of a stroke.

As stated by Emerson Hospital, "Because of their fast action and the expert care of the Emerson Health ED team, treatment began right away – meeting the door-to-treatment goal that leads to better results for stroke patients".



Pictured is FF Ford being presented with a pin from Emerson Hospital by Fire Chief Brian Whitney.

Ilene Beal Legacy Leadership Award

Lieutenant Lindsay McGloughlin was honored with the **Ilene Beal Legacy of Leadership Award** at the 19th Annual *Runway to Recovery* show, on October 3 at the Westin Seaport Hotel in Boston.

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A two-time breast cancer survivor,

Lindsay was first diagnosed approximately 12 years ago, and again five years later. After her recovery, she was inspired to give back, supporting others facing similar challenges, just as her own family and friends had supported her.

She became actively involved with *Runway for Recovery*, an organization dedicated to helping families navigate the breast cancer journey with compassion and community.



Congratulations to Lindsay on this well-deserved recognition and for her inspiring leadership both in and beyond the fire service.

Paramedic Training and National Certification Exam

Firefighter Jeffrey Lex joins Firefighter Timothy Lilley as the first two employees in our department to achieve paramedic status through training supported by a FEMA Training Grant. This milestone marks an important step in our initiative to enhance emergency medical services.

The department is currently training additional employees to become paramedics, with the goal of transitioning our ambulance service from a basic level to a paramedic level. At present, paramedic services are provided by an outside vendor. Once training is complete, the department



will be able to deliver its own paramedic-level care, strengthening our ability to serve the community.

Congratulations to Jeff and all our newly certified paramedics and to all those working toward this important advancement!

Health Division

Opioid Funds Survey

The Health Division is working with Olivia Dufour, Regional Substance use prevention coordinator, to disseminate a survey for all town employees, residents and businesses regarding how the opioid settlement monies should be spent. Please consider completing this short survey- your input is important!

[Take the Survey](#)

We want to hear from you! - Take the survey on the use of opioid monies

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU! [TAKE THE SURVEY](#)

1,63 FATAL OVERDOSES OCCURRED IN MASSACHUSETTS LAST YEAR

267

MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE
CONCORD HEALTH DIVISION
TOWN OF CONCORD MASSACHUSETTS

Emergency Preparedness

On Monday, Sept. 22, 2025 the Health Division, Central Middlesex MRC and the Concord Fire Department presented on emergency preparedness in the Goodwin Forum. Lois Luniewicz, the MRC regional coordinator for Concord reviewed preparedness for emergencies, how to prepare a go-bag, and what to expect if you needed to evacuate and



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cook shelter. The Fire Department provided some real life examples as well

as directions of general fire safety and preparedness. Find more emergency preparedness tips on www.mass.gov/emergency-preparedness-month



Permitting

The Health Division is working with the Best Western Hotel, located at 740 Elm Street to reopen as a hotel after serving as an emergency shelter from spring 2023 to August 2025. Food permits were issued earlier this month for Starbucks, Chipotle and Eva’s Little Kitchen.

Planning

Planning Board

At the September 30 meeting, the Board reviewed a draft Zoning Bylaw amendment for Section 4.2.3 Combined Business/Residence and discussed options for amendments to the MBTA Communities Overlay District map to address comments from the State. The Board heard a presentation for the proposed 2-lot Garrison Road Definitive Subdivision Plan and the proposed 4-lot Barrett’s Mill Road Definitive Subdivision Plan. The Board also finalized their update to the Envision Concord Action Items Matrix.

[Planning Board Materials](#)

Economic Vitality

Third Thursdays in Concord Center

The air is crisp, the leaves are turning, and the days are getting shorter—but the fun is just **starting!**

Don't let the cooler weather slow you down. **Third Thursdays** is back on **Thursday, October 16th** to kickstart your weekend early!

Join us in **Concord Center** for an evening of extended hours, exclusive **specials**, exciting **activities**, and live **entertainment** from your favorite local businesses.



- **Make it a date night!**
- **Meet up with friends and neighbors!**
- **Start the weekend celebration early!**

Mark your calendar now—we can't wait to see you there!

Concord Cultural Council Grant Applications - Deadline Oct. 16, 2025

The Concord Cultural Council (CCC) has announced the availability of online applications for grants to support programs in the arts for all age groups. The applications will be found at

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must be submitted by October 16 for consideration.

Programs in music, dance, visual arts, poetry, literature, drama, the humanities and scientific interpretation will be considered. Applicants must specify a venue for their activity and a specific date or on-going timeline. The CCC has approximately \$10,000 in allocated funds to distribute and awarded grants typically range from \$150-\$500. The CCC does not fully fund any project. Preference is given to applicants who live or work in Concord and who offer fully accessible programs and presentations that specifically benefit a wide range of audiences in Concord. Applicants must demonstrate a record of engagement in the type of activity for which the funds are requested.



Applicants are notified by the end of December and programs submitted cannot be modified without CCC review and approval.

There is an optional online training program on September 9 at 6:00 pm. The session will review the application process and the MCC staff will respond to any questions. The training is free, but pre-registration is required. Once registered attendees will be sent the Zoom link. The link to register is at <https://massculturalcouncil.org/event/local-cultural-council-grants-info-session-2/>

CCC Grant Application

The list of past recipients is on the Concord Cultural Council's website <https://www.concordma.gov/1074/Concord-Council>. On this same page you will find the list of guidelines and priorities for applications.

Recreation

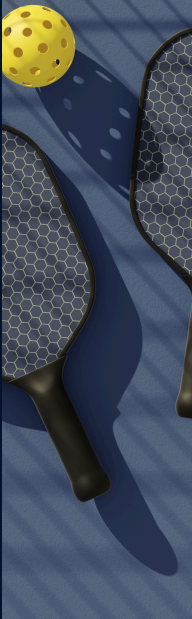
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Town of Concord
Recreation Department

The Recreation Commission welcomes you to our
Public Meeting

October 21st
6:30 PM

Harvey Wheeler
Auditorium

In the late summer of 2026 the Concord Recreation Department plans to resurface the courts (tennis/pickleball and basketball) at Rideout Park. As part of this project the Recreation Commission is considering whether or not to convert some or all of the tennis courts to dedicated pickleball courts.

Please join us to give your opinion and let your voice be heard!

If you would like to see the three options under consideration before the meeting, please scan this QR code or visit our website.



Human Resources

Going the Extra Mile Letter (G.E.M) Award Winner

CONGRATULATIONS

AUGUST G.E.M. WINNER!

Pranvera Hoxha

For going above and beyond your duties and responsibilities. Your dependability, collaboration, and positive attitude helped keep the Health Division moving forward.

THANK YOU

for
Going the Extra Mile

Personnel Updates



September Personnel Updates

Welcome to Concord!

Please join us in welcoming our newest team members! We're excited to have them on board and look forward to their contributions. Be sure to say hello and introduce yourself as they get settled into their new roles. Welcome to the team!



Anthony Ventresca
Finance Specialist
Finance Treasury



Jennifer Clougherty
Customer Service Manager
CMLP



Jeffrey Weiner
Chief Information Officer
IT



Andrew Awada
Police Officer
Police



Declan O'Connor
Police Officer
Police

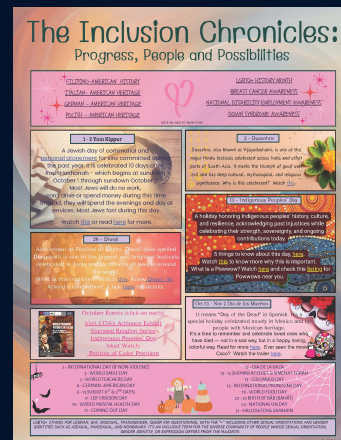


Inclusion Chronicles

October is bursting with heritage and inclusion celebrations!

The Hispanic Heritage Month maybe ending (October 15) but this month brings us the start of Italian American Heritage Month, Filipino American History Month, Polish American Heritage Month and German American Heritage Month, it's a time to spotlight the many cultures that enrich our communities.

We also pause to honor important moments like Indigenous Peoples' Day, celebrate belonging with LGBTQ+ History Month, recognize access and



It's a month full of reminders that diversity isn't just something we acknowledge—it's something we celebrate, together.

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...opportunity during National Disability Employment Awareness Month, raise awareness and solidarity during Breast Cancer Awareness Month, reflect on well-being for World Mental Health Day, and mark Yom Kippur, a sacred day of reflection, atonement, and renewal in the Jewish faith.

May the spirit of this season inspire us all to build understanding, connection, and compassion.

October Inclusion Chronicles Newsletter

Council on Aging

COA welcomes a new van!

Fantastic news for the COA and the community! The arrival of the 2026 Ford "Phoenix" van marks a meaningful upgrade in accessibility and comfort for senior residents.

With space for up to 14 passengers and wheelchair accommodations, the COA is committed to inclusive, reliable transportation.

Kudos to driver Marty Burque, COA director Dan Petitt, and driver Dave Barry for ushering in this new chapter. Whether it's trips to appointments, social outings, or daily errands, this van will make a real difference in keeping seniors connected and mobile.



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The Concord Council on Aging (COA) is pleased to announce extended Thursday hours beginning **October 2, 2025**. To better serve Concord residents aged 60 and older whose schedules require more flexibility, the COA will now remain open until **7:00 PM every Thursday**. This expansion reflects the COA's commitment to inclusivity, accessibility, and community engagement. With the new hours come an exciting lineup of fresh programs designed to inspire, connect, and energize.

"We're so excited to welcome the community during these new evening hours," says Dan Petitt, COA Director. "Whether you're working, care giving, or just enjoy getting out later in the day, we hope you'll join us. Our programs are designed to bring people together, celebrate creativity, and make sure everyone feels included. There's something here for everyone, and we can't wait to see you."

Tales of You: Write Your Story – A four-session guided storytelling and memoir-writing workshop to help participants preserve their personal histories. A complimentary meal will be served at each session thanks to a grant from Emerson Hospital. This event will be held in the mezzanine of the Concord Market and transportation is available. Hours are 5:00 PM – 6:30 PM.

Weekly Mahjong Group – A fun and social way to sharpen the mind and make new friends. Arrive as an experienced player or with a few games under your belt. Hours are 4:30 PM– 6:30 PM.

Hula Hoop Exercise with Ellen – A fun movement class that blends fitness with classic rock dance moves. Stretch and move at your comfort level to enhance your core strength and balance while having a good time. No experience needed. Hours are 5:30 PM – 6:30 PM.

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LGBTQ+ Social Group - A welcoming space for connection, conversation, and community, meeting monthly on the last Thursday of each month. Open to all Concord older adults, the gatherings will offer food, entertainment, and activities.

Story Telling Workshop - “My Grandmother’s Legacy - Like Water for Chocolate”

On a cozy Tuesday afternoon, the COA welcomed professional storyteller Karina Liendo for a special workshop titled “My Grandmother’s Legacy – Like Water for Chocolate.”

Karina engaged the audience with heartfelt stories of her beloved Abuela Angela, whose legacy of love, wisdom, and cherished recipes continues to inspire.

Participants were invited to reflect on their own family histories and the memories of grandparents with the traditions that shaped them. The program concluded with a delicious treat from Abuela Angela’s recipe collection prepared in Karina’s kitchen.

The COA is proud to host programs that celebrate culture and connection.



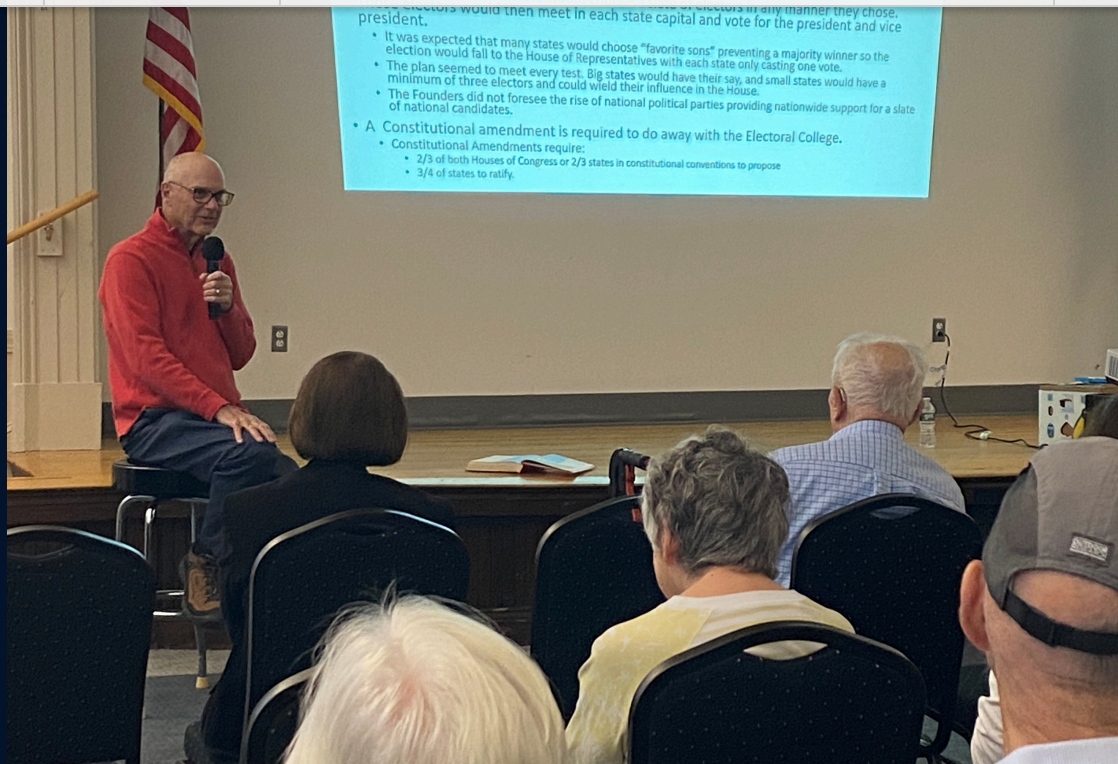
Karina Liendo, Professional Storyteller

U.S. Constitution Series with John Gardella

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The COA is pleased to host a popular six-part course led by former CCHS teacher, historian, and lecturer John Gardella. With a compelling central question—*Is the U.S. Constitution still effective in protecting the rights and liberties of citizens in the 21st Century?*—this series invites participants to dive deep into the foundations of American democracy. Gardella’s dynamic teaching style encourages critical thinking and participation making this course an outstanding offering for those interested in history, law, and civic engagement.

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NEW EPISODE!
civic concord

Addressing Cell Service Gaps
Megan Zammuto, Deputy Town Manager
and Jason Bulger, Director, CMLP

7

Join Megan Zammuto, Deputy Town Manager and Jason Bulger, Director, CMLP for an informative discussion of the challenges and opportunities in addressing the cell service gaps in Concord.

Civic Concord Podcast



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