



# Ashland Directions

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A Green Community

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October 2015

Volume 43 Edition 2

## Happy Halloween

### Business Notes

-- Now Open! --

#### Hahna Nails & Spa

12A West Union Street  
(next to Wine Empire)

-- On The Move --

#### Mexico City Taqueria

1 West Union Street  
Is moving to the former Corner Pub space

-- Look For --

#### Hamburgs & Fries

1 West Union Street  
(next to Mexico City Taqueria)

-- Coming Soon --

#### A & D Landscape

155 Butterfield Drive

#### Orifice Recycling

157 Butterfield Drive

#### Silton Glass

60 Pleasant Street - Suite #7  
508.881.1003  
(in the United Home Experts building)

#### JD Millwork

60 Pleasant Street  
(in the United Home Experts building)

#### Nokona Athletic Club

60 Pleasant Street  
(in the United Home Experts building)

#### Los Cabos Mexican Bar and Grille

300 Eliot Street  
(formerly Nello's)



Columbus Day -  
Monday, October 12th

Important Insert This Month:  
Decisions At Every Turn Newsletter  
The Homes Connection  
Pizza Bella Menu

Congratulations Go To Ashland Day's  
Grand Marshall - Ashland Farmers Market  
and  
Citizen of the Year - Lou Mancini

Ad Deadline for  
November 2015  
Edition is October 15th

Ashland Garden Club  
Presents: ORCHIDS 101

A Free program presented by an expert  
from the Massachusetts Orchid Society

Saturday, October 10th  
Time: 10 - 11:30am

At the Ashland Public Library  
Front Street

Refreshments provided

For more info go to:  
[AshlandGardenClub.org](http://AshlandGardenClub.org)

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2015 Merry Christmas,  
Happy Hanukkah &  
Happy Kwanzaa  
Holiday Card

To add your signature to the  
card, please sign your name  
in **BLACK INK** in the box  
below **WITHOUT touching**  
**the lines** and send it with  
your check for **\$5 (no later**  
**than November 13th)** to:  
**Ashland Directions**  
**P.O. Box 2**  
**Ashland MA 01721**



Through The Eyes Of...  
By Neha Shabeer  
“Sleepy”

I’m writing this while I’m half-asleep.

As most of you know, I started high school this year. Yes, it is hard. But, I’m not intimidated. And yes, I’m sleep-deprived.

I’m taking all Honors classes and band as my elective as a freshman and it is a lot! Middle school teachers gave us fair warning that in the first few weeks, Teachers in Honors classes are going to try to scare us by the amount of the work to do and make us drop down to a CP2 class. Frankly speaking, I think that is wrong. They should want kids to try to take these higher level classes, learn and achieve more because we worked hard for the last few years to get placed into them. I understand that they’re trying to weed out the “weak”, but if they really want to be there, and think they can handle it - they should be there. The push by not giving you a chance to improve and making you decide within the first two weeks of classes is unreasonable. Honors and AP classes get you ready for the college load, if you’ll ever be and those are the classes everyone should strive to be in!

An unfortunate side effect of teachers not being on teams (like the middle school) and not working together is that all assignments are usually due on the same day creating a huge mound of work for students to accomplish on top of clubs, sports, and family! For the first time, I’ve had to start saying “no” to party invitations because I have too much homework. Due to piles of homework, pace of the classes, and number of assessments, many of my friends have dropped down to CP2 classes. I find that quite disappointing at times because I think many of them could have persevered in these Honors classes. Although, I have a respect towards people who know their limits. I’m one of those people who cannot quit until I’ve tried my very best and even then it’s very hard - I always like to think I can have it all! Sometimes that’s an advantage and sometimes it’s a disadvantage. As I’m growing up, I realize I can’t always have it all and I need to build priorities.

The amount of work and not the work itself that bothers me. We have sports, clubs, and many other commitments after school and many of us are only able to start our homework late! I think the schools should have pushed harder to get school to start at a later time. Sports and activities could also start a bit earlier for high school kids, as many of the time slots for more advanced teams and classes are later at night. High schoolers are truly the ones who need sleep and time to get work done, not the six year old learning how to multiply! Teenagers naturally stay up late and we can function well in the late hours. If we went to bed at midnight and school started at 8, that would provide at least a good 7 hours of sleep that we could function with. Additionally, our brains work in the first period. First period proves completely irrelevant as we are all half-asleep with an unamused teacher trying to make our sleepy brains work and participate.

Also, I think we should stop the culture of sports being more important than other clubs. Our school is definitely trying to improve that, but why are the sports player’s initials the only one’s written on the windows down the hallway? That needs to change.

After all my negativity, I do have to be positive! I love being a high schooler. It was really easy to figure the way around the school and the upperclassmen were very helpful and welcoming! It was incredible to join all these great clubs to see what different people are passionate about. High school is really the time you start to see people slowly blossoming into who they truly are - a leader, comedian, hard worker, artist, and more. I’ve learned so much in the last few weeks and feel like I am evolving as a person. I hope to continue my involvement in clubs in my future years, hold leadership position in some of them. I also enjoy that there is such a push to know about current events at the high school. It really creates more well-informed members of the community that can think and form their own opinions for themselves

Neha continued in next column >

Neha continued from previous column

instead of following the herd. The printing parties of Academic Decathlon and the mock debates “Why Donald Trump should win” at the debate club sound nerdy, but is a lot of fun!

How’s that for some Clocker pride? For more about the world through my eyes, keep reading my monthly column :)



Ashland Education Foundation  
Receives \$3,500 from Needham Bank

Ashland Education Foundation, Inc has received a \$3,500 grant from Needham Bank in support of their Innovation Campaign “*Chromebooks for Classrooms*” at the Ashland Middle School. The AEFI goal is to raise money to purchase 180 Chromebooks to support academic teams teaching in four major subject areas: ELA, math, science, and social studies.

Needham bank opened a branch in Ashland this past June. For more information please visit their website at [www.needhambank.com](http://www.needhambank.com).

The Ashland Education Foundation is a community-based organization dedicated to providing enhanced educational opportunities for students in the Ashland Public Schools. AEFI does this through competitive teacher grants and capital campaigns. Since 2010, the AEFI has raised over \$340,000 towards funding innovative projects within the Ashland Public Schools.

Second Annual Casino Night

Join the Ashland Education Foundation on Friday, November 13th for Casino Night! The event will be held at Kelly’s Restaurant, 28 Front Street, Ashland at 7pm. Gather your friends and neighbors for a fun evening playing Blackjack, Craps, Texas Hold’em and Roulette to raise money for the AEFI Teacher Grant awards. There are only 150 tickets available for this event, which can be purchased online at our website <http://www.AshlandEducationFoundation.org/casino-night>. Tickets will sell fast so be sure to purchase yours soon!

AEFI Planning for 13th Annual Gala

The Ashland Education Foundation, Inc. (AEFI) will hold its 13th Annual Gala and Teacher Grant Awards Ceremony on April 1, 2016 at the Sheraton Framingham. Last year’s event achieved record attendance and raised \$44,000 to help fund the Teacher Grant Program.

The first meeting to plan the event will be held on Wednesday, September 30th at 7pm in the Ashland Middle School. The event committee is looking for people to help in the areas of: silent auction, corporate sponsorships, raffles, the neighborhood campaign, decorations and publicity. Many volunteer opportunities available do not require a significant time commitment. If you cannot make the first meeting but would like to get involved, please contact: [deborah.kriegsman@gmail.com](mailto:deborah.kriegsman@gmail.com). Find out more about past Galas and the Ashland Education Foundation on our website [www.AshlandEducation.org](http://www.AshlandEducation.org).



Ashland Pack 1 Cub Scouts

The Ashland Pack 1 Cub Scouts welcomed several new boys at their first Pack Meeting in September at the site of a roaring campfire, complete with skits and yummy roasted marshmallows! It’s not too late to join the fun! There will be a Parent Orientation meeting at the Warren School on September 30th, 6:30pm.

Questions? [JoinUs@Pack1-AshlandMa.org](mailto:JoinUs@Pack1-AshlandMa.org).

Meat Shoots  
Saturday’s 3:00 – 5:00 pm  
Great prizes and raffles  
American Legion  
40 Summer Street  
Ashland MA

Run by the American Legion, Legion Auxiliary, Sons of the American Legion and the Greater Ashland Lions Club

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