



Pine Echoes



Over 80 Years of Communication
August 30th, 2024

2024 | Issue 16 | Asbury Grove Newsletter

South Hamilton, Massachusetts

End of Season Calendar

- August 31 Cottage Owners Meeting 10am
Bon Fire and Sing Along 7pm
- September 1 Vespers 4pm with Chaplain Bruce Arbour
Closing Program in the Chapel, 7 pm
- September 2 Cookout 12 noon
Last day of the Pool - Hours 1p-5p
- September 3 Last Ice Cream Shop of the Season 6 - 7:30
- September 14 Croc Walk 8am
Slide Show and Covered Dish Supper 6pm

Chili Cook Off 2024 Judges



Chili Cook Off 2024

Winners

- First Place—Richard Langlais
- Second Place—
Rosalind Erikson
- Third Place —Katrina Holland
- Firebreather Award —
Beth Cook
- Funky Flavor Fusion Award—
Meg Greenfield
- Exceptional Enthusiasm
Award— Ilyana Medina



Spicy Success:

Richard Langlais Wins Big at Last Saturday's Chili Cook-Off

by Paula Ricci

Last Saturday's chili cook-off was a resounding success, drawing together 13 talented chefs, 3 discerning judges, and several enthusiastic volunteers. With six categories of winners, the event celebrated diverse and delicious chili creations, with Richard Langlais emerging as the first-place champion. The perfect weather complemented the flavorful dishes, making for a delightful evening of

community togetherness. Attendees enjoyed an array of savory chilis, fostering a warm and festive atmosphere. The event not only showcased culinary skill but also strengthened local bonds, leaving everyone eagerly anticipating the next flavorful gathering.

A big thanks to Paula Ricci and her team for organizing this year's event.

Worship News

Join us for a meaningful day of worship on Sunday, September 1. At 4 PM, Chaplain Bruce Arbour will lead Vespers outdoors in the circle, offering a time of reflection and fellowship in the open air. Please note that Sunday School is over for the summer, but children are warmly invited to the service.

Later that evening, our traditional Closing Program will take place at 7 PM in the Tabernacle. The program will conclude with a candlelight gathering in the circle, led by Matt Holland and his guitar.

All are welcome to join daily morning prayer at 9 AM in the chapel, where a group of 10-11 people gathers for quiet reflection.

Library News

Regular hours at the library end this weekend (8/31). It will still be open occasionally. Watch for the open sign. Please return all books & videos to the return box on the porch.

Thanks to Meg Greenfield, Kathy Kirlis, Melissa & Simon Nystadt & Aimee & Moses Otto for opening the library each week through summer. Also thanks to Leo Kulhavy for spending hours power washing the front walk & stairs. There was a lot of moss on that walk and it looks so much better.

Thank You to the Youth Program

Special appreciation for an outstanding Youth Chapel program goes to Leader Beth Cook and assistant Michelle Ortolani. With an average daily attendance of 15, the children ages 8 – 13 were busy every morning with Scripture reading and memorization, as well as writing in their journals. Crafts, singing and games rounded out the morning. Beth and her husband Phil spent many hours with our kids at the pool, doing afternoon crafts, and spending Wednesday evenings with the older teens. Several volunteers were involved this summer, helping the young people to build connections with the community. Many thanks to Phil Cook and Mike Binns, who spent several mornings each week with the program. Other faithful volunteers include Jess Binns, Tristan Parady, Susan Normand, and Mary Yetts. Joyce Wendling, Steve Walsh, Roger Perham, Ilyana Medina, Michael Koeber and Rob Parady dropped by to share their special interests and talents. The Chapel program wrapped up with a trip to Canobie Lake Park, paid for by fundraising throughout the summer, including the well-attended turkey sandwich dinner during Christmas in July. The program is supervised by Sunday School Superintendent Kathy Kirlis, in conjunction with the Worship Committee.



Recreation Committee News

Campfire Sing-a-Long! Saturday, August 31, 7:00 PM at the Ball Field Bring a lawn chair and join us for a night of singing under the stars! Marshmallows and S'MORES will be provided. Everyone is welcome!

Pool Clean Up Team Needed

Labor Day Pool Cleanup Help Needed We are looking for volunteers to help put away chairs and other items at the pool on Labor Day, around 4:30 PM. Your assistance would be greatly appreciated!

Recreation Committee Outreach

The Recreation Committee is soliciting ideas for next year's program. Any thoughts on youth or adult concerts, events, and programs are welcome. We are also looking for help in creating a pickleball program. If you have any ideas, please contact Brad Tilley at mrfunn10@gmail.com, Linda Young, or any member of the committee.

The Magic of Katherine DeSilva

Sometimes, hidden talents are tucked away in the most unexpected places, and there's often more to people than meets the eye. Take our very own Katherine DeSilva, for example—a beloved local author, dedicated teacher, and active community member—who quietly infuses magic into everything she does. With six delightful books to her name, she's captured the imaginations of both children and adults alike. Her stories often weave together themes that touch the heart, such as the tender tales of moms and dads with Multiple Sclerosis, and the surprising adventures of a local, often-misunderstood insect: the greenhead fly.

The greenhead, known to many as a pesky beach invader, takes center stage in several of Katherine's whimsical works. Through her vivid storytelling, she reveals the secret life of this much-maligned creature. Far from being just an itchy annoyance, the greenhead is, in fact, a vital part of the local ecosystem. These flies are pollinators, helping flowers bloom and ensuring the cycle of life continues in the coastal dunes. Their larvae also play a crucial role, acting as natural pest controllers by feeding on other insects that could otherwise overrun the area.

Katherine's portrayal of the greenhead, Kelly, is

nothing short of enchanting. She gives the fly a voice, a personality, and a mission: to show the world that even the smallest creatures have their place and purpose. In her tale, the young greenhead simply wants to make friends, but her mother—a typical greenhead—is more focused on getting her next meal of blood. It's a charming twist that adds humor and heart to the story, making the greenhead more than just an annoying pest.

Beyond her writing, Katherine is a devoted teacher at Peabody Public Schools, where she works with students with emotional or behavioral disabilities. She is also a Member in Discernment at her church, on a path to becoming an ordained minister. She serves as the Publisher of the Grove's Pine Echoes, putting in tremendous effort to keep residents informed about events, happenings, and the people of the Grove. Katherine's daughter, Zetta, shares her passion for the environment, urging people to care for the natural world, respect family bonds, and empower women.

With a sprinkle of humor and a dash of whimsy, Katherine's stories encourage us all to see the beauty and importance in understanding diseases and appreciating the gifts they bring. Her tales invite us to find joy in the unexpected and to embrace the quirks of life with open arms. Katherine's dedication to her community and her unique storytelling reminds us that every challenge and every creature, no matter how small or seemingly bothersome, holds a special place in our world. Thank you, Katherine, for your hard work and dedication to the Grove and the North Shore community. Silent contributions like yours may go unnoticed, but their impact is profound and lasting. *Katherine's Books can be purchased on Amazon.*

- In the Light of a Greenhead Mom
- Every Critter is Part of the Plan
- Kelly the Greenhead
- The Great Neck Mermaid
- Dancing Together – Dads Get MS Too
- Flutter on My Cheeks: Mummy, Me & Multiple Sclerosis





Lobster Bake Corn Cooking - Provided by Carolyn Walth

FLASHBACK! - This was the last year the lobsters and corn were cooked in trash barrels in cement fireplaces built new each year down beside the tennis court. Front row is Steve Farley, Jeff Walsh, Jake Farley, Mike Viggiano; back row Oakie Lockard, Matt Walsh, Rich Walsh, Mike Teal (friend of Walshes) The barrels would be loaded on the back of the Grove truck and driven to the side of the dining hall amid tooting of the horn and cheers from the crowd. Wood for the fires is seen at the lower right. They were all a lot younger then!

Summer 2024 Monday Night Run



Music, Community, Summer!



Youth making S'Mores at the 2023 End of Season Bonfire



The Watchful Eye

Proper Waste Disposal:
Please ensure all household trash, recycling, and compost are placed in the appropriate containers. Large items and hazardous materials must be disposed of properly, as per the Town of Hamilton's guidelines.

Request for Submissions

The Pine Echoes Editor asks that all submissions for the Thursday printing be in by Monday. Please make sure to mark your calendars and get submissions in!
pineeoesnewsletter@gmail.com

The Pine Echoes is a volunteer newsletter, put out each week by Katherine DeSilva, Paula Ricci and other contributors.

Game Night 2024

www.PineEchoes.info

