

Dear Friends and Neighbors of Ashippun,

Ashippun is more than the place I live—it is the place I love. It is where our families gather, where our history lives, and where we have the responsibility to care for the land and community entrusted to us.

Serving on the Ashippun Town Board over the past two terms has been a true honor. As the first woman to serve on the Town Board since Ashippun's founding in 1844, I have learned a great deal about the importance of thoughtful leadership, responsible stewardship of our budget, and preserving the character of the place we call home.

One of my greatest passions is enhancing the beauty and pride of our town. That vision led me to establish Ashippun the Beautiful, a 501(c)(3) organization dedicated to raising funds for projects that improve our parks, support the restoration of historic buildings, and celebrate the unique charm of our community. Through these efforts, I was proud to help support the process of placing the Maple Inn on the Wisconsin state historical register, securing a \$1,000 grant for the Fire Department and to begin projects that will help preserve Ashippun's heritage for generations to come.

My desire to start Ashippun the Beautiful began with another idea close to my heart—creating a lasting community tradition through our town's tree lighting. Bringing people together to celebrate the season reminded me how powerful a community can be when we work together toward something meaningful.

One of the most important responsibilities of the Town Board is evaluating development proposals and considering how they will shape the future of Ashippun. Over the past year, our town has seen proposals ranging from a golf course development to potential large-scale solar installations. These discussions have sparked strong opinions across our community, and I appreciate how deeply residents care about the future of Ashippun.

My approach has always been to evaluate each proposal on its own merits and ask a simple question: Does this enhance the beauty, character, and long-term value of our town? In my view, developments that preserve open space and add beauty—such as a thoughtfully designed golf course—can be an asset to a community like ours. At the same time, other large-scale projects may significantly change the landscape in ways that deserve careful consideration and community discussion.

As additional development proposals continue to emerge, I believe it is important that we remain thoughtful and intentional in the choices we make. The decisions we

make today will shape what Ashippun looks like for generations to come. I believe development should enhance Ashippun, not change the very landscape that makes our town special.

Positive change matters. Growth matters. But it must be the kind of growth that strengthens our town while preserving what makes it unique.

I am running for Town Supervisor again because I care deeply about Ashippun, its people, and its future. I want to continue working together to protect our history, enhance our beauty, steward our budget responsibly, and build traditions that bring our community together.

It would be an honor to continue serving the town I love.

Sincerely,

Athena Big Mountain