



Neighbor to Neighbor

Published by Anne M. Paquin Since 1983

64 Hardy St., Dunstable, MA 01827

(978) 419-1914

E-mail: anne@neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com

Celebrating 33 Years of Service!

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WELL ADULT CLINIC

Nashoba Associated Boards of Health, in conjunction with the **Dunstable** Board of Health announces that an adult clinic will be held free of charge **for the general public** on **Wednesday, December 28th from 11:00 am –12:00 noon at the Town Library, 588 Main Street.**

Drop in for one-on-one consultation with a nurse and blood pressure screening. No appointment is necessary. For further information, please contact Nashoba Associated Boards of Health at 978-772-3335 or 1-800-427-9762 ext 340 or visit us at www.nashoba.org.

TOWN CLERK NEWS

There was an 85% voter turnout at the State Election. There were 2,305 ballots cast including military and residents residing overseas. This election typically has an 85% turnout so there were no surprises there. As of this writing, the results are unofficial but they will be certified by November 18. New with this election was the introduction of Early Voting. There were 431 Early Voting ballots but it did not change the typical 85% voter turnout. This year Massachusetts became the 33rd state to offer Early Voting. The next Election it will be used in, is the State Election, November 2018.

Carol A. Skerrett, Town Clerk CMMC 978-649-4514 x222 CSkerrett@dunstable-ma.gov The Clerk's Office is open Monday evening from 6:00 pm – 8:00 pm (except in May and July); Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm. Hours may vary due to holidays, workshops and elections. There are times the office is closed during these posted hours and extended hours for voter registration and absentee voting, please feel free to call ahead. Marriage licenses are by appointment only.

It's time once again to reserve your personal dog tag number for 2017! Do you have a special number you'd like for your dog – maybe a lucky number, your dog's birthday, your house number, badge number? If so, you can reserve it by completing this form OR emailing to CSkerrett@dunstable-ma.gov. You must license your dog by January 30 or you will lose the number. The deadline to submit your request is December 8, 2016. 2017 tags are purple.

REQUEST FOR DOG TAG NUMBER

Note: This is not a dog license application

Name: _____
Phone #: _____
Dog's Name: _____
Requested Dog Tag #: _____

Do not send a fee with this form. You must still complete a dog license application. In the event of multiple requests for this number, a drawing will be held by the Dog Officer. Requests must be in by 12/08/16. No number higher than 600.

IN MEMORY OF

Maryanne McMahon Mungovan
Richard E. Luce
Blanche Eleanor Gonder Russell
Walter F. Bayliss Jr.
Eric C. Gremm
George Georges

DUNSTABLE VETERAN SERVICES OFFICE

I first want to thank everyone who supported the open house on Veterans Day at the office in the Highway Department building, especially Mrs. Hamel's class at Swallow Union School. The letters the children wrote for the Vets were wonderful and everyone greatly appreciated them. Additionally, "Pepperell Beverage donated two dozen delicious cupcakes. Thank you all.

As Christmas approaches please remember our Vets overseas insuring our freedom while being separated from their loved ones anyway you can.

As always for the Vets out there, if you, your spouse or any other Vet or widow of a Vet you know is in need of assistance of any kind, please leave me a message at 978-649-3919 or send me an email at Dunstable.vso@verizon.net or veterans@dunstable-am.gov to make an appointment. I am here to help you.

Joe Dean (Former USMC Sgt, Retired USAF Capt.)
Dunstable Veteran Services Officer
Proudly serving those who have served

DUNSTABLE GARDEN GROUP

Will hold their annual swag workshop at the home of Aina Pallis. 224 High St. on Thursday, December 8th at 6:30p.m. Dig will provide an assortment of greens and ribbon and the help with putting your swag together. This is FREE for members but \$10.00 for non-members. Get your home ready for the holidays. Refreshments will be served. RSVP by Dec. 5. email sjt0213@verizon.net or sign-up at the library.

ANNUAL COMMUNITY COOKIE SWAP

Join us on **Saturday December 17** at 1:00p.m. in the lower hall of the Dunstable Town hall. Families and friends gather to share their talents of cookie baking. Bring **3 dozen one kind of cookie** with recipe and an empty container to put your swapped cookies in. We will swap cookies and everyone goes home with a great selection of delicious homemade cookies. You will be ready for your holiday entertaining. Last year we had 25 cookie swappers. We'd love to have more this year. We will be giving away lots of holiday door prizes too. for more info email sjt0213@verizon.net



*Merry Christmas
&
Happy New Year!*

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STE JEANNE D'ARC SCHOOL

Ste Jeanne d'Arc School in Lowell is accepting applications for the 2017-2018 school year. Inquire or apply online at www.sjdarc.org. You may also contact our Admissions Office at 978.453.4114 to request an admissions package.

Come visit us. We have open houses scheduled for

January 18th from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

January 29th from 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

February 13th 9:00- 10:30 a.m.

March 1st 12:00 - 1:00 p.m.

Tours and shadow days are also available by appointment. We welcome the opportunity to share with you the many advantages of a Ste Jeanne d'Arc School education.

Ste Jeanne d'Arc School is a Pre K (K1) - 8 Catholic, independent school offering classes in Religion, Math, Language Arts, Science, Social Studies, K1-8 French, Art, Music, Computers, Physical Education as well as accelerated classes. The school and classrooms are outfitted with state of the art technology, iPads provided to students in grades 5-8, extensive athletic programs, extra-curricular activities including our LEGO Robotics Club, Destination Imagination and an Extended Day Care Program. Financial aid is available.

Consistently recognized as a school of excellence, Ste Jeanne d'Arc School has been named a 2010 National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education for our students' superior academic performance, a Bright Spots School and National Beta Club School of Distinction. Our school is also fully accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges.

Start your journey today! *"We ignite a passion for learning and compassionate living"*

A GROCER, A BAKER, A CANDLESTICK MAKER DUNSTABLE 2.0?

This is your town, and the Dunstable Master Plan Committee wants your input and involvement in crafting the vision and refining the directions we should consider for laying the groundwork to a vibrant community and sustained economic growth. To recap recent activity:

In September, residents were asked to weigh in on land use, housing and economic development for the town at the second public input session. Details are posted on the town's Master Plan Committee web page under Additional Links (http://www.dunstable-ma.gov/Pages/DunstableMA_Bcomm/Master%20Plan/Index).

Some highlights from the discussion:

Easing restrictions in our business, historic, and housing zoning bylaws Augmenting our agriculture base with a business model that supports our farms and capitalizes on our agrarian landscape Attracting new businesses and services such as a year-round store or co-op that sells local products; a coffee house; an artists' loft.

In early October, a survey was made available to all residents as a way to further reach and collect input for the town Master Plan. Survey input was due November 23rd and will be available early next year.

In November, the monthly meeting discussion centered on the necessity/viability of sidewalks and the town's agricultural land uses. The meeting minutes are titled "Master Plan Minutes 2016-10-18" and are posted here: http://dunstable-ma.gov/pages/DunstableMA_MasterPlanMin/2016/.

Whether or not you participated in the survey or have attended past meetings, your attendance and involvement is always welcome at the monthly Master Plan Committee meetings usually held on the third Tuesday of the month at 7 pm in Town Hall. Meeting notices are posted the second week of the month. Visit the town website at www.dunstable-ma.gov or contact Tracey Hutton, Town Administrator at thutton@dunstable-ma.gov or (978) 649-4514 x224.

We look forward to seeing you! *Respectfully, Kathy Sniezek At Large Designee, Dunstable Master Plan Committee*



Happy Holiday season Neighbors

As we are now in the midst of our very busy holiday season we wanted to remind you all to please keep your eyes open for BOX TOPS as we cook, host and entertain throughout this busy time of year. Some common household items that might be used during this time of year that contain box tops are Reynolds Baking pans and cups, Ziploc storage bags and containers, Hefty tableware and waste bags and don't forget to check those Land O' Lakes margarine and butter boxes and containers and Pillsbury Ready to Bake cookies.

We are very excited to report that through the first two months of the school year, students and staff at Swallow Union along with the help of our Dunstable community, we have collected 19,521 box tops inching our way towards our goal of 50,000 for this school year. Since our last update we are excited to report that we had a lucky family at Swallow Union win one of the 50 Market Basket box top sweepstakes which awarded 5,000 box tops (or \$500 to Swallow Union Elementary school) this fall. Thank you to all of you who helped fill out the Market Basket sweepstakes entry forms to help give us a better chance at winning one of these 50 prizes.

As exciting as it is that we have collected 19,521 box tops thus far, the sad news is we have also collected 760 box tops that we could not submit because they were either expired, the expiration date on the bottom was ripped off or the code in the upper left hand corner was ripped and couldn't be read. So again please clip carefully and don't be afraid to drop them off at our drop boxes often. Dec 31, 2016 is another common expiration date. There are the bright yellow BOX TOP FOR EDUCATION drop boxes located inside the side door of the Dunstable post office, on the 2nd floor of the Dunstable town hall near the table as soon as you walk up the stairs, inside the front door of the Dunstable library, a box located inside the first main door as you enter Swallow Union elementary school and a collection basket at West Auto Repair in the office as well.

Thanks for clipping and be sure to check out BTFE.com and select Swallow Union as your school of choice for coupons and bonus box top offers!

Wishing you and yours the happiest of holiday seasons.
Jen West & Cristina Agraz Box Top for Education co-chairs for Swallow Union Elementary School www.swallowunionapt.org
aptswallowunion@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/SwallowUnionAPT

SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH

80 Champney St., Groton, MA 01450 (978) 540-0768

<http://www.sov-lc.org>

Pastor Rev. Susan Gaeta

Shepherd of the Valley will host the 2nd Annual 'Follow the Star' program at the Grange which will be held from 2 to 4 PM on **Sunday, December 4th.**

The Wednesday evening (7:30 PM) Advent Services will continue on **December 7th, 14th and 21st.**

On **Saturday, December 24th**, Shepherd of the Valley will have a **Christmas Eve Candlelight Service**. This service will begin at 5 PM preceded by a half hour of caroling beginning at 4:30. Please come and join in song and celebration.

SOV will have a **Christmas Day Service on Sunday, December 25th** at the usual worship time of **10:15 AM.**

**When you call a business listed here,
please tell them you've seen their ad in
Neighbor to Neighbor.**

They would like to know. Thank you, Anne

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GROTON DUNSTABLE REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT CHILD FIND NOTICE

In accordance with the Federal and State laws, the Groton-Dunstable Regional School District provides special education services to all eligible students with disabilities between the ages of 3 and 22 who are residents of Groton or Dunstable. A student may be referred for an evaluation to determine eligibility for special education services by a parent or any person in a care giving or professional position concerned with the student's development.

Referrals for screening of three and four year old children should be directed to the Early Childhood Center at Boutwell School at 978-448-2297.

Referrals for school-age children, including students not presently attending District schools, should be directed to Pupil Personnel Services, at 978-448-5505 X 211.

Further information on the eligibility process is available at the District's Pupil Personnel Services Office by calling the above number or visiting us at 145 Main Street Groton, room 301.

SEPAC

(Special Education Parent
Advisory Council)

GD SEPAC OFFICERS 2016-17:

Chair: Melissa Padera – mpadera@yahoo.com
Secretary: Marla Haddad – mhaddad2@verizon.net
Treasurer: Katie Leonard – kcleonard@gmail.com

SCHOOL PARENT LIAISONS:

Boutwell: Liz Podsiadlo – lizpod72@yahoo.com
Florence Roche: Mary Garcia – franana527@gmail.com
Katie Leonard – kcleonard@gmail.com
Swallow Union: Dawn Priest – dmpriest5623@gmail.com
Middle School: Marla Haddad – mhaddad2@verizon.net
High School: Gail Sun – somerssun4@gmail.com
Out-of-District: Gail Sun – somerssun4@gmail.com
SEPAC at gdsepac2@gmail.com.



THIS EVENT HAS BEEN CANCELLED

An Evening with Susan Senator December 8, 2016, 6 – 8 pm
Groton Dunstable High School Blackbox Theatre

•• January 11, 2017, 6 – 8 PM GDRSD High School Library
Massachusetts Families Organizing for Change (MFOFC)
Sophia Johansson The mission of MFOFC is to provide sustained advocacy and leadership training in pursuit of high quality, individualized community support and service options, including family support, for people with disabilities and their families. Learn about ways to help your loved one live an enviable life!

TRANSFER STATION RATES

JULY 1, 2016-JUNE 30, 2017

Residents may purchase new permits on Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. and on Monday evenings from 6:00-8:00 p.m. in the town hall upper level

Regular Permits -	\$300.00 with 110 bag tags
Senior Permits – (65 and over)	\$200.00 with 55 bag tags
Recycling Permits only	\$ 10.00

Please bring a copy of your registration (up to 2) of the vehicle(s) using the transfer station. You may also purchase permits through the mail by mailing a check for the appropriate amount made payable to the Town of Dunstable, copies of up to two vehicle registrations and 5 -1st class stamps for regular permits and 4- 1st class stamps for seniors; to the Dunstable Board of Health, P. O. Box 268, Dunstable, MA 01827. Recycling permits only require a copy of your registration (up to 2) and one first class stamp.

TRANSFER STATION PERMIT DECAL AFFIXED TO THEIR DRIVER SIDE WINDOW AND BAG TAGS MUST BE ON ALL BAGS BEFORE ENTERING THE TRANSFER STATION.

If you have any further questions, please call us at 978-649-4514 Ext. 229 or email us at jferrari@dunstable-ma.gov

ADDITIONAL RECYCLING EFFORTS AT THE TRANSFER STATION

All items will be taken to local non-profit organizations or sold on line to defray the cost of Second Hand, Inc. and to grow their reuse operations. **Please remember that books, games and media items are the only things allowed in the Second Hand, Inc. Box.**

DUNSTABLE TOWN HALL DIRECTORY

Town Hall (978) 649-4514. The departmental extensions are as follows:
221 Accountant, 222 Town Clerk 223 Council on Aging
224 Board of Selectmen Also for Animal Control Officer, After hours call Police at 978-649-8891. If emergency call 911
225 Assistant Assessor 226 Building Inspector
227 Assessors, Highway, Electrical, Gas, Plumbing, & Building Inspector's Secretary
228 Collector/Treasurer 229 Board of Health
230 Conservation/Planning Board/Water Commission
Veteran's Officer 978-649-3919

POLICE NON-EMERGENCY 978-649-7445 POLICE & EMT 911

FIRE DEPT. TELEPHONE NUMBERS TO REPORT A FIRE CALL 911

Business Line.....978-649-6661 FAX.....978-649-6072

Alarm System* 978-448-6666 * can be used to call in a fire from a cell phone

GROTON DUNSTABLE REGIONAL SCHOOLS

Swallow Union School: 978-649-7281 978-649-9412

FAX 978-649-5078 Message Line: 978-649-5078

Website: www.gdrsd.org (follow links to S/U)

Calendar for GDRSD is on website under Parents & Students

Supt. Office: 978-448-5505

Peter Twomey Youth Center 978-448-8459

Florence Roche School 978-448-6665

Prescott School 978-448-0380

Middle School 978-448-6155

GD Regional High School 978-448-6362

Boutwell Early Childhood Center 978-448-2297

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Our local Toys for Tots collection drive is in full swing. Thank you to everyone, young and old who have stopped by West Auto Repair (located at 30 Pleasant St. (a/k/a Rt. 113) in Dunstable, MA) for dropping off a new UNWRAPPED gift - as the gifts are resorted by age and type prior to distribution. The collection drive will continue until Friday, Dec 23rd. Please feel free to stop by West Auto Repair and leave a gift in the box located inside the office. The garage is open Monday-Friday 8am til 5pm. Please keep in mind toys for all age groups are welcome but historically there has been a shortage of toys for children ages 8+.

Should you have any questions regarding the Toys for Tots Dunstable campaign please feel free to reach out to Maureen Amaral - Realtor, who is our local Toys for Tots coordinator. She can be reached at Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage at 773-599-3257. From our families to yours wishing you and yours the happiest of holiday seasons. *Thank you for your continued support of our toy drive. The West Family and Maureen Amaral*

Neighbor to Neighbor

Published by Anne Paquin Since 1983

64 Hardy St., Dunstable, MA 01827-1403 Tel. 978-419-1914

E-mail: anne@neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com

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DUNSTABLE GRANGE #31

Meetings are held each month at Dunstable Town Hall at 8 p.m. See date below.

Call for more information 978-649-3934.

Come join Grange!

All are welcome!!! Refreshments will be served.



- **December 9th** Christmas Party.
Short business meeting followed by a Pot Luck Supper. Call 978-649-3934 for more info.
Yankee Swap and Card Exchange
- **January 13th** Happy New Year!
Bring non-perishable items for the food pantry.
Pizza Party.

ST MARY MAGDALEN PARISH

95 Lakeview Ave., Tyngsboro, MA 978-649-7315

Weekend Mass Schedule: Saturday 4PM. Sunday 7:30AM, 10AM

Greetings from our Pastor, Fr. Richard Clancy

COME JOIN US, ALL ARE WELCOME!

****Christmas Eve Mass 4pm and 6pm**

****Christmas Day Mass 7:30am and 10am**

Weekday Mass: Monday, Thursday & Friday at 9AM.

No Mass on Tuesday and Wednesday

- **Reconciliation** every Saturday from 3 to 3:40PM or by appointment.
- **View our bulletin** on line at www.stmarymagdalenparish.com.
- Join us on **Facebook!** Search "Saint Mary Magdalen Parish Tyngsboro" and like our page to see daily meditations and events.
- **FIRST FRIDAY ADORATIONS** are held on the first Fridays of the month at the Church and will consist of Holy Hour with closing Benediction from **9:30AM – 12pm**.
- **The St. Vincent De Paul Society** operates a monthly food pantry out of the rectory in addition to providing holiday meals to those in need. We can be reached at 978-844-2365.
- **Prayer Line** – *Do you know of someone needing prayers?* Call Helen (978) 649-7927 or Carol (978) 649-6717. (Submit only first name of one to be prayed for)
- **MEN OF ST. JOSEPH** - The Men of St. Joseph in the Greater Lowell area meet on the Second Saturday of every month. Each monthly meeting includes prayer, food, and faith-building fellowship. **All meetings will begin at 7:00am and end no later than 9:00am.** Newcomers, father/son (Confirmation age) teams, and friends from other parishes are always welcome! To find out more, please come and check us out! Held at St. Rita's Church, Mammoth Rd. Lowell
- **CRAFT & CRIBBAGE NIGHT** Every 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month from **6–8:00pm** at the Parish Center

GALLERY 529, AN ARTISTS' COOPERATIVE

Juried show to benefit the MSPCA – Nevins Farm.

This is the third year Gallery 529 has sponsored a show to benefit the MSPCA, raising over \$700 for the organization in the last two years. The theme of the show is "Love the Animals" based on Fyodor Dostoyevsky's quote "Love the animals: God has given them the rudiments of thought and joy untroubled." The show will be available for viewing, by the public, free of charge, from December through mid-January. Gallery 529 opened two years ago, and is the home to over 30 local artists. One can choose that perfect gift for someone special, options include jewelry, silver, paintings, photography, ceramics, pottery, glass, and so much more! All the items are made by your neighbors, friends and family from the area. Gallery 529 also has a new art show every two months. Currently, the show on exhibit is "miniatures" featuring affordable artwork, all less than 14 inches. Any artist can enter our shows, one does not need to be a member of the cooperative. Gallery 529 shares a rambling old farmhouse in the heart of Littleton with the Gallery Café, a new art themed restaurant. For more information about Gallery 529 or the Café, contact Virginia Wood at vwood@gallery529.com or call 978-486-0187

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My experience with Lynda McQuade was simply outstanding. My wife and I were looking for houses for over a year with a different realtor and then found Lynda at an open house and from that point she started helping us purchase the house. We were picky in what we wanted in a house and Lynda made that possible for us just after seeing couple of houses in this tough market. Lynda is awesome as a person and is an extremely knowledgeable in what she does. She would always show up on short notice and have always been our guidance where ever we needed. We simply could have not done this without her. If you want to purchase or sell a house, Lynda is the person that you are looking for. *Atit and Tosha Talati*

WEST CHELMSFORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

242 Main Street North Chelmsford, MA 01863

Phone : **1-978-251-4834** Website www.wcumc.us

Worship: 9:30AM and 11:00AM Professional child care provided
Sunday school for all ages: 9:30 AM Coffee Fellowship: 10:30 AM

All are welcome to our Sunday School classes and worship! We will be exploring Advent in our Sunday School classes. Come to our services to share in the joy and anticipation of the Advent season! Our choir will perform a cantata on the Sunday before Christmas.

We will have a full schedule of Christmas Eve services. The early service is our family service, with singing and handbell ringing by our children's and youth choirs. The later services feature special music. Please check the website for the specific times.

We hope to see you soon! We are on 242 Main Street in North Chelmsford, right on the Westford/Chelmsford line. From Route 3, take the Route 40 exit to Chelmsford, take a sharp right onto Main Street Chelmsford right after the variety store and follow Main Street until you see the church on the left.

The next deadline is December 10th for the January issue of Neighbor to Neighbor.

Call (978) 419-1914 or E-mail: anne@neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com

I look forward to hearing from you, Anne

FREE LITERACY PROGRAM IN PEPPERELL

FREE Playgroup/Storytime/Craft Time with Miss Jana every Monday at 9:30 am-11am. Come to the Peter Fitzpatrick Administration Building, 45 Main Street, Pepperell for a free literacy program for young children and their families or caregivers. Everyone is welcome to this fun free activity! I invite young children to join me for playtime and music and movement followed by a story and a related craft! This is sponsored by a grant from the Mass. Dept. of Early Education and Care which follows the school year calendar. Contact Jana Harrison at: jharrison@awrsd.org or 978-874-7312.

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MESSAGE FROM

THE DUNSTABLE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

In May of 2001 the Town established an Affordable Housing Trust Fund Board of Trustees. Currently there is a volunteer from the Community Preservation Committee to serve as a representative and the Chair of the Board of Selectmen will serve as well. This is a 5 member board that is appointed by the Board of Selectmen so three more volunteers are needed. If you have any interest please contact my office, thutton@dunstable-ma.gov or (978) 649-4514 ext. 224.

There are also other Boards and Committees also in need of members, for more information contact the Town Hall.

The tax maps and Assessor's data are now available on the Town website. You may access them under the Quick Links on the left hand side of the website.

Building/Gas/Plumbing/Electrical permitting can now be done on-line. On-line payment is coming soon. If you fill out a permit application on the Town website at home feel free to just put your permit fee in the mail to 511 Main Street, Dunstable, MA 01827; Attn.: Jake. **If you have questions or concerns feel free to call Jake at (978) 649-4514 ext. 224 or his office is located upstairs in Town Hall.**

GRACE LUTHERAN CHURCH

130 Spit Brook Road, Nashua, NH 03062

Pastor: Mick Meyer Ministry Coordinator: Sharlene Peterson

Youth Director: Alison Efstathiou 603-888-7579 www.glcmshn.org

DIRECTOR OF THE COUNCIL ON AGING

Anne Fenochetti Email: afennochetti@dunstable-ma.gov
Hours at Town Hall: **Tuesday** from 9-2 and **Wednesday** from 8:30-11:30. You can reach Anne at 978-649-4514 ext. 223 at the Town Hall or by appointment.

• **WELL ADULT CLINIC** Next well adult clinic will be held on **Wednesday, December 28th at the Library from 11 to noon.**

• **FUEL ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS ARE NOW AVAILABLE**
Please call Anne for more details.

• **DO YOU NEED A HANDICAP PARKING SIGN FOR YOUR VEHICLE?** If so, applications are available from Anne, give her a call to see what is involved with obtaining one.

• **BROWN BAG PROGRAM** Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley, Inc. and the Greater Boston Food Bank have joined forces to offer an Elder Brown Bag Program for income eligible residents 60 years and older in the Merrimack Valley. Eligible elders will receive a free bag of groceries once a month. Pick-up is at the Tyngsboro Senior Center 169 Westford Rd. Applications are now being accepted and are available through Anne.

• **ARE YOU IN NEED OF MEDICAL EQUIPMENT?** There are items available for you to use free of charge. They include: canes, crutches, commodes, walkers, wheelchairs (older, heavy ones), bed bars and shower chairs. If you need something different, please call to see if we have it. These are loaned to you and should be returned when no longer needed.

• **Meals On Wheels** If you are interested in having some meals delivered, please contact Anne to find out more information.

• If you have concerns or questions about **Medicare** please call **Elder Services at 1-800-892-0890.**

• **Prescription Advantage** now has a continuous "open enrollment". Applications are available through Anne.

• **VAN SERVICE** Alternative Transportation is for **medical appointments and grocery shopping. There is a charge of \$5 for local trips.** Towns considered local include: Nashua, Tyngsborough, Lowell, Chelmsford, Westford, Ayer, Groton and Pepperell. **For trips to out of the area towns the charge will be \$10.** Once you know when your appointment is please call Anne at (978)649-4514 ext. 223. If Anne is not available please leave a message on 978-649-4514 ext. 223 to make arrangements for a ride.

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Library Hours 588 Main St. 978-649-7830

Tuesday 3-8 Wednesday 10-2

Thursday 10-8 Friday 10-2 Closed Saturday

For more library information go to

www.dunstable-ma.gov click on library

Mary Beth Pallis – Director – mpallis@mvlc.org

Karen Debrececi – Children's Librarian – kdebrececi@mvlc.org

Like us on FACEBOOK to receive program updates!

www.facebook.com/pages/Dunstable-Public-Library/219991908117595

December Featured Display The Community Room Artist will be you! Thank you for coming in and picking up a wreath to decorate. These family wreaths will be on display throughout December and for many Decembers to come..!

Display Case Do you have anything interesting to display at the Library? We are looking for any kind of collections to put in our display cases. Anything from rock collections to unique purses are welcomed.

Library Passes Available Take advantage of these great passes: Boston Museum of Fine Arts, One Stop Fun, US Constitution Museum in Charlestown, and a pass to 50 Massachusetts State parks. New Discount Pass – Salem Witch Museum and Merrimack Repertory Theatre, Edaville Railroad discount is also available.

Knitting and Crochet Class under the direction of Donna Acquaviva. The class will be held on Monday nights at Swallow Union School from 6:30 – 8:00.

Quilter's Group They meet from 6:00 -8:00 p.m., the first and third Tuesday of the month. If you are interested in learning to quilt or would like to join other quilters, this could be the perfect opportunity for you.

Preschool Story Hour Please come in with your 3, 4 or 5 year old for story hour. Story hour is held on Thursdays and Fridays. We meet from 10:30 – 11:30. The program includes stories, songs and a craft or activity. Come in and join the fun!

Afternoon Story Hour This will be for older children who have ½ days in kindergarten. We will meet on Thursdays at 1pm. We will still do a craft, so please wear clothes that can get messy.

Attention Baby Sitters We have compiled a list of local babysitters. If you would like to be on the list, please contact the library. If you are looking for a babysitter, come into the library for the list.

Children's Movie Night Come and join Mrs. D. for a special movie time on December 6th at 6:00pm. We will watch a Christmas movie and enjoy popcorn together. Please sign up at the library or email Mrs. D. at kdebrececi@mvlc.org

Children's Craft Come and join Mrs. D. for a special craft time on December 13th at 6:00pm. We will be making holiday gingerbread houses. Please bring in a bag of candy to share. Please sign up at the library or email Mrs. D. at kdebrececi@mvlc.org

Holiday Workshop! Have your children come in to make gifts for their family members. This will happen on December 20th at 4:00pm. Come in and join in the holiday fun. Please sign up at the library or email Mrs. D. kdebrececi@mvlc.org so we have enough supplies.

Gardening Club also know as DIG They will be meeting on Thursday, December 15th at 6:30pm. New members are welcome!

Cookbook Book Club The library has a cookbook book club! We will have a cookbook displayed each month and you can select and make a recipe from the monthly selection. Then we will get together on the last Friday of the month at 12:00pm. Signup sheet will be at the desk. This month, we will meet on December 30th. Please join in on the fun.

Homework Club The library is offering homework help every Tuesday night from 6:00 – 7:00 for the school year. This is a free service for children from Kindergarten to High School. Honor Students from local high schools are available to help the children. These students help children understand their math homework and more. If your child is attending, please call by 5:30 so we can be sure a student will be here for your child.

Adult Reading Group It has been decided that there will be no Book Group meeting in December. Check in at the Library for future meetings.



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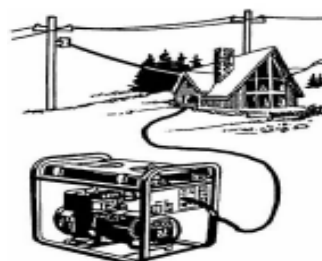
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DUNSTABLE SENIORS

We are a peer group for those over 60. Seniors meet in the community room of the library every Wednesday except the first Wednesday of the month. 10:30 - 11:30 Bone Builders, dominos 10:30 - noon, noon, lunch. Second Wednesday at 12:30 BINGO for cash. Last Wednesday of the month, POKENO. SCRABBLE group Wednesdays at 12:30.

The Mission of the Dunstable Council on Aging is to serve as a supportive family resource as emerging needs of Dunstable residents become more complex; and to advocate for and provide, in a cost-effective manner, a safe, congenial environment where seniors may participate in social, educational, and cultural programs reflective of their needs.

Meet, Greet & Eat Our annual **Holiday Christmas Party** will be held on **Wed. Dec. 7 at the Dunstable Town Hall**. The meal will be prepared and served by the students from Greater Lowell Tech. We will hold a Yankee Swap following lunch. Bring an edible or drinkable gift or gift card to exchange suggested value \$10.00. Coffee will now be ready at 10:00a.m. Come and play dominoes, scrabble or other games. Meet friends make new ones. Cost for lunch is \$3.00 per person. RSVP was by Nov 30.

Holiday Christmas Party & Lunch We will be joining with Tyngsboro seniors on **Friday, December 16 at 11:30** for a combined Christmas party and lunch at the Tyngsboro Senior Center, 169 Westford Rd. There will be lots of good food, music and loads of fun. The cost is only \$5.00 per person. *Please sign up and pay by December 9 with either Sue or Anne.*

Rivercourt Residence in West Groton invites Dunstable seniors for lunches on **Tuesday, December 20 at 12:30**. RSVP with either Sue or Anne. Rivercourt does this as a community out-reach program. It would be nice if more people took advantage of it.

Bone Builders Program is held on Wednesdays and Fridays in the community room of the library from 10:30 - 11:30a.m. Through a grant from Tufts Health and CTI senior Corp. Volunteer leaders run the program. Bone Builders is a fun low- impact strength training and balance exercise program. Each class runs for 60 min. FREE to all seniors, space is available. Talk with Marilyn Sheridan.

Indian Hill Music, Bach Lunch Thursday Nov. 17. *presenting*

Well Adult Clinics Are held on the fourth Wednesday of every month in the community room of the Dunstable Library. The next clinic will be **December 28** at the library from 11:00a.m. - noon

Book Delivery to shut-ins is available through the Dunstable Library. Just let Sue know if you or someone you know needs books or audio material. ***There is no book club meeting in December***

Sand Delivery Winter is coming and the 8th grade football team is also willing to deliver 5gal pails of sand to any senior. Keep your steps safe. They are doing this as a community service project. Let Anne or Sue know if you are interested and we will arrange to have some delivered.

Line Dancing Class Classes are underway and are held on Mondays at 9:45a.m. for one hour in the lower hall of the Dunstable town hall. Space still available. For more information contact Holly Pottle at 978-649-3192

FREE Quilting Class under the direction of **Robin Murch** will be offered on the first and third Tuesday from 6:00 - 7:45 at the Dunstable Library. Just drop in and she will let you know what you will need to get started.

Knitting, Crochet, Rug Hooking This group meets at Swallow Union Monday nights 7:00- 8:30p.m. Knitting & crochet under the direction of Donna Acquaviva and rug hooking under the direction of Donna Tully. Beginners welcome.

Files of Life pouches are still available to **all** seniors. These pouches will contain pertinent information about you that can be left in a visible location, home/car to be used in cases of emergency. Contact Sgt. Darrell Gilmore or Fire Chief Rich for more information.

Elder Hotline Provides seniors and their families with information related to elder issues. Call 1-888-243-5337 Monday-Friday 10 - 4.

DUNSTABLE COUNCIL ON AGING. Brian O'Donnell: chairman; Marilyn Sheridan, secretary; Mary Moeller, treasurer; Danice Palumbo, Donald Pottle, Mary Dow and Ruth Tully.

Director of the Council on Aging Anne Fenochetti 978-649-4514 x 223 afenochetti@dunstable-ma.gov Tues 9-2 & Wed 8:30-11:30

Program Coordinator Susan Tully 978-649-6750 or Email at sjt0213@verizon.net

THE DUNSTABLE RURAL LAND TRUST 2017 CALENDAR IS STILL AVAILABLE

This year's calendar features the beautiful original artwork of pastel artist, Christine A. Chisholm. Chris is a Tyngsborough resident and a member of the DRLT.

The calendars will be available for \$12.00 a piece at the Dunstable Library, the General Store, SeasonS at Calmore, Rose of Sharon at Blossom Hill and from the DRLT Directors.

All proceeds from the calendar sales go to the DRLT to protect the open space and preserve the rural character of Dunstable. Call Elaine at 978-649-9236 or Judy at 978-649-9010 for your calendar or for more information.

SPECIAL NEEDS TRUSTS AND PUBLIC HOUSING SUBSIDIES

By Edward H. Adamsky

One of the ways to provide funds for the needs of a person with a disability is a Special Needs Trust (sometimes called a Supplemental Needs Trust or SNT). SNTs can be funded with assets from a parent's or other relative's Estate, and they can be funded by life insurance proceeds. When the trust is funded with someone else's money it's called a "third-party trust." An SNT can also be funded with the assets of the individual with a disability, such as the proceeds of a lawsuit for injuries. When the SNT is funded with these assets it is called a "first-party trust."

A major benefit to an SNT is that the assets in the trust are not counted as assets for benefits programs like Medicaid or housing subsidies. The trust assets can help an individual while also allowing that person to get benefits from government programs for similarly situated individuals. There is clear public policy behind allowing this even though it means some people with substantial assets available to them will get benefits intended primarily for those with low assets.

The existence of an SNT, particularly one with a lot of assets, can cause tension with those administering government benefit programs. The New Hampshire DHHS has rules counting most distributions from SNTs as income of the individual with a disability. This can impact benefits. This is an ongoing struggle between Elder & Disability Attorneys and NH DHHS, and is not yet settled.

Subsidized housing is a great benefit for those with low income and especially those with disabilities who cannot engage in meaningful employment. Most subsidized housing requires the tenant to pay 30% of income as rent, and the relevant housing authority pays the rest of the market-rate rent. This allows those with low income to live in relatively good situations at a price they can afford.

The Brookline Housing Authority runs a subsidized housing program. They determined that certain distributions from the SNT of a tenant would count as income, thus making her ineligible to continue in the subsidized program. She sued and took the case to Federal Court where the District Court ruled against her [*DeCambre v. BHA*]. She appealed and Members of the Massachusetts Chapter of the National Academy of Elder Law Attorneys filed a brief in favor of the tenant's position, and the Appeals Court ruled in favor of the Tenant.

The decision makes sense as the rules do not count a lump-sum received as settlement for a lawsuit as income, and this is what funded the SNT in this case. If the lump sum wouldn't have counted if it went to the individual and would not be counted as she later withdrew it from a bank account (for instance) why would it be counted when put in a trust and later distributed from that trust? The only difference was the vehicle for holding the asset, a bank account or a trust.

So, unless this case is overruled by the Supreme Court, the law stands that distributions of assets from an SNT do not count as income for rent determinations in subsidized housing. This case was a first-party trust, and it's not for sure that the same rule will apply to a third-party trust, but for now we have some certainty with the use of first-party trusts and continued eligibility for housing subsidies.

If you have a family-member with a disability, and want to learn more about Special Needs Trusts, please contact your local Elder Law Attorney.

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The deadline for the next *Neighbor to Neighbor* is December 10th for the January issue.

If you have events coming up please send
the information to me via email at

anne@NeighborToNeighborNewsletter.com or by mail to
Neighbor to Neighbor, 64 Hardy St., Dunstable, MA 01827.
News placed on first come, first served basis as space allows.

If you would like details about advertising your business
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or email me at the above address.

I look forward to hearing from you, Anne

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Thursday 10-8 Friday 10-2 Closed Saturday

For more library information go to

www.dunstable-ma.gov click on library

Mary Beth Pallis – Director – mpallis@mvlc.org

Karen Debrececi – Children's Librarian – kdebrececi@mvlc.org

Like us on FACEBOOK to receive program updates!

www.facebook.com/pages/Dunstable-Public-Library/219991908117595

On Going Book Sale Is in the Community Room at the library. ***Is there a book you have been wanting to read?*** Are you traveling this winter? Come in and check out the selections that are here. Hard Covers are \$1.00, Paperbacks are 5 for \$1.00, DVD's are \$2.00 and CD's are \$1.00. What a bargain! If you would like to donate to the ongoing book sale, please bring current books (not older than 2 years) or any children's books in good condition. . Please bring your donations inside, instead of leaving them at the door. We cannot accept magazines, older books, or textbooks.

THE MARBLE COLLECTION

Groton-Dunstable Regional High School alum Mathilde Betant-Rasmussen to be Published in The Marble Collection: Massachusetts High School Magazine of the Arts, Winter 2016 Edition. Boston, Mass. November 8th, 2016— Mathilde Betant-Rasmussen's creative nonfiction piece "Because I am a Girl" was selected for publication in The Marble Collection: Massachusetts High School Magazine of the Arts, the only statewide print and online magazine of the arts featuring jury-selected artwork, photography, poetry and creative writing by students in grades 8 to 12. Mathilde Betant-Rasmussen graduated from Groton-Dunstable Regional High School in 2016.

"Because I am a Girl" was selected from works submitted by teens from 200 schools and community organizations across Massachusetts. All published works are juror-selected to ensure artistic excellence. Through this selective process, The Marble Collection strives to publish the most diverse and acclaimed collection of work. "Because I am a Girl" explores the social implications of being female-identified in contemporary American society. From makeup, to mini skirts, to educational exclusion, Betant-Rasmussen's piece covers a plethora of the concerns that American women deal with over the course of their lives. This piece not only serves to affirm the beliefs of feminists, but also to accessibly explain them to outsiders of the movement as well. "Because I am a Girl" is a passionate but calculated calling-out that deserves to be read by all who are interested in feminism.

According to Betant-Rasmussen, "All of my work is inspired by my experiences. I tend to draw most of my inspiration from all that surrounds me – because where else would I get my ideas? I write about things that I've experienced myself, but my writing can also be triggered by a sentence I've heard in the street, a story told by a friend, a headline in a newspaper, [or] a word in a book."

After being selected, Giulia participated in TMC's Mentoring for Publication Workshop, in which she was paired one-to-one with a college student mentor who helped her refine her voice and guide her work to publication for real-world audiences.

Betant-Rasmussen's mentor Elise Grenier, a senior English major at Lesley University, adds that "working with Mathilde has been such a pleasure. Her passions for language and sociopolitical involvement are incredibly strong, and I wish her the best of luck in pursuing her journalism career aspirations—I have no doubt she will excel." The Marble Collection: Massachusetts High School Magazine of the Arts is set for release in December, and can be purchased online at www.themarblecollection.org/subscribe.

About The Marble Collection [TMC] The Marble Collection, Inc. [TMC], a 501 (C)(3) nonprofit organization, publishes the only Massachusetts statewide print and online magazine of the arts featuring jury-selected artwork, photography, poetry and creative writing by students in grades 8 to 12. TMC also offers Mentoring for Publication Workshops in which teen writers and artists are partnered with college student mentors who help them refine their voices and guide their work to publication.

LOWELL GENERAL HOSPITAL

Community Health and Wellness Programs

December 2016

New Moms Support Group

Tuesdays, 10:00am-12:00pm, FREE

A drop-in support group for new mothers and their babies. This group, led by Registered Nurses/Lactation Consultants of Lowell General Hospital, provides a place to come with your questions and concerns or just to meet other new mothers. It is open to all mothers and their babies regardless of feeding preference.

Boot Camp for New Dads

Saturday, December 3

9:00am-12:00pm, \$25

This nationally-recognized workshop is taught by fathers and is for men only. Rookie dads (men expecting their first baby) are oriented to the joys and challenges of fatherhood with the help of a coach and veteran dads with their newborns.

Infant Massage

Tuesday, December 6

12:30-1:30pm, FREE

Infant massage is a centuries-old tradition that offers benefits such as bonding, better sleep, improved colic, relaxation and better digestion.

Breastfeeding Class

Wednesday, December 14, 6:00 - 8:00pm or

Saturday, December 17, 12:30 - 2:30pm, FREE

Learn the art of breastfeeding. Discover the benefits for mom and baby, valuable tips and more.

Big Brother & Sister Sibling Class

Thursday, December 15

12:00-1:00pm, \$10

Children ages 3-6 will explore their feelings concerning the arrival of a new baby. They will read a story, do an art project and tour the Birthplace.

Babysitting Basics plus CPR

Saturday, December 17

9:00am-1:00pm, \$60

Boys and girls ages 10 and older will learn babysitting skills, CPR and receive a CPR Anytime Kit to practice at home.

Prenatal Yoga

Sundays, January 8-February 12

1:00-2:15pm, \$60

This series is designated to help pregnant women strengthen and stretch with a focus on connecting to their changing bodies, their growing babies and a community of moms.



Lowell General Hospital offers a variety of classes to help you prepare for the birth of your child, including our weekend or six-week prepared childbirth classes, online childbirth class, and hypno-birthing class. We also run regular tours of The Birthplace. Space is limited and registration is required. Call 1-877-LGH-WELL or visit lowellgeneral.org/health for full descriptions.

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Fri, 9:00 am – 3:00 pm

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Confession: Saturdays; 3:00 – 3:45 pm or by appointment

• **December 24th Christmas Eve Mass: 4pm and 10 pm**

• **December 25th Christmas Day Mass: 8:30 and 10:30 am**

St. Mary Church, 25 North Road, Chelmsford. Daily Mass: Mon – Fri at 7:00 am; Sat at 9am. Weekend Liturgy: Sat at 4:00 pm; Sun at 7:00, 9 and 11 am and 6pm Confession: Saturdays; 11:00 am – 12 noon or by appointment

• **December 24th Christmas Eve Mass: 4pm, 6pm and Midnight**

• **December 25th Christmas Day Mass: 7am, 9am and 11am**



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The Loading Dock Gallery is a part of Loading Dock Arts. Open Wed-Sat, 12 to 5:30pm, Thurs till 8:30pm, Sun, 12 to 4pm. For information, call 978-656-1687, or visit theloadingdockgallery.com.

Winter Lights: Gifts for the Holidays Through December 24

This year's show includes: • Crazy Cosmic Coasters and tiles under glass by Deb Arsenault • Hand-woven scarves, table runners, trivets, and towels by Tarja Cockell • Adorable felt ornaments and hand-painted marble tiles by Linda Dunn • Cast-paper ornaments and animal-themed pillows by Barbara Fletcher • Pottery mugs, angels, and bowls that blend of imagination and practicality, by Lisa Hertel • Nature-themed art and jewelry, from materials old and new, by Heidi Jackson, • Fused glass jewelry, candles, serveware, and ornaments by Joe and Ivy Pompei • Miniature paintings, jewelry, and embellished stones by Denise Rainis

The Loading Dock Gallery, along with the Western Avenue artist studios and lofts, will be open for Holiday Open Studios continues Saturday and Sunday, December 10 and 11, noon-5pm.

DUNSTABLE TYNGSBOUGH LIONS CLUB



"We Serve" The Lions Club is a non-profit organization of men and women dedicated to helping the community through donations raised by volunteers.

• Officers for the 2015-2016 Lions Year

President: Gerry Roth, Secretary/Treasurer: Bob Reich, Membership Chairman: Ed Majewski, 1st Vice President: Mike Roth, Tail Twister/Lion Tamer: Mark Alexander

• Anyone who would like to join the Lions is asked to call Ed Majewski at 978-649-6204 or Mark Alexander at 978-649-9124. Our Regular Meetings are held at Angelas on the first Tuesday of the month starting at 6:30 pm.

YOU CAN HELP BY DONATING THE FOLLOWING:

• **USED EYEGLASSES** are collected for refurbishment and distribution to less advantaged people around the world. *We thank all who have donated glasses.*

• **CAN TABS (in sealed bags)** are also collected for kidney dialysis time through the Shriners Hospital.

Lion's collection boxes for eyeglasses and tabs (in sealed bags) are located at the Tyngsborough Post Office, American Legion Post 247 at 90 Pawtucket Blvd., Tyngsborough Council on Aging Center, 169 Westford Rd., Tyngsborough and Dunstable Town Hall, Post Office and Library.

EVANGELICAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF TYNGSBOROUGH

Route 113, 23 Kendall Rd., Tyngsborough, MA

Pastor Denis Frediani 1-603-579-0904

www.tyngsborocongregational.org

If you have questions or need information, please call our Office 978-649-2261 or email: ecctsec@outlook.com.

Our Mission: Glorify God by encouraging all people to follow Jesus together in faith, love and service

- The **CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE**, Saturday, December 24th will be at 7PM
- There will be a service on **Christmas Day, December 25th** at 10AM, however there will be no Child Care or Sunday School.

SUNDAY MORNING SCHEDULE

Worship Service at 10:00am • A nursery is provided.

Followed by Fellowship and Refreshments

• Children attend the Worship Service with parents and are dismissed after Opening to age related Sunday School classes. (K-12)

11:15 a.m. - Fellowship and Refreshments

• **Tuesday** 9:30 - 11:30 a.m. -Women's. Bible Study. (Old Testament Women) All Welcome

• **Evenings:** Boards and Committee meetings

• **Wednesday.** 10:00 a.m. Worship/Music Team Practice

• **Thursday and Saturday** - Thrift Shop Open from 10:00 - 3:00

• **Friday Evenings.** - Youth Groups as scheduled. (Joy at 978-649-6142) High School (Joan at 978-649-2590). Middle School

• **THE 150th Anniversary Committee** of the church is meeting regularly now to plan events for the historic celebration in 2018. *The 150th Anniversary Celebration Comm. is meeting regularly to discuss plans for the Big Day in 2018.*

• **THE THRIFT SHOP** Located next to the Church, it is open to the public on **Thursdays and Saturdays from 10:00 a.m.- 3:00 p.m.** We offer an assortment of clothing and shoes, handbags, baby items, books, small appliances, dishes, glassware, decorative items, and craft items, ETC. We welcome your patronage and donations. **Please do not drop off large furniture, TV's, Computers or Bikes.** Thanks so much for understanding, we haven't means by which to dispose of them without incurring costs.

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Rotary Motto: Service Above Self Theme: Rotary Serving Humanity

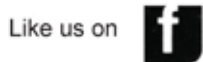
ABOUT ROTARY The Rotary Club of Tyngsboro/Dunstable has been serving the Tyngsboro and Dunstable area for 42 years. Rotary is a global network of community volunteers with a passion to help others. Rotary club members are business, professional, and community volunteers in your locality who meet regularly to plan and implement community service activities and network with other professionals.

For more information, visit the Rotary website at www.rotary.org If you are interested in membership, please call **Bob Guernsey** at (508)380-4351, or come to one of our meetings. Our meetings are held on the second and fourth Thursdays of each month at the Tyngsboro Sports Center, 18 Progress Ave., Tyngsboro at 5:30 pm. If you would like to help us with ideas for projects, please contact us at tdrotary@verizon.net.



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Neighbor to Neighbor

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E-mail: anne@neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com

As another year comes to an end I want to thank all of the business owners who have chosen to advertise in Neighbor to Neighbor. I hope you do consider calling on them when you are in need of services.

Thank you to all who submit news and informative articles. I know it always seems that time flies when there is a deadline. I appreciate your dedication!

I hope you all have a very Merry Christmas, enjoy celebrating Chanukah, or the winter season.

I wish you all happiness, and good health through the coming year. *I look forward to hearing from you, Anne*

***The next deadline is December 10th
for the January issue.***

Let Neighbor to Neighbor help spread the word!

DUNSTABLE EVANGELICAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

518 Main St, Dunstable, MA 01827
Dunstablechurch.org 978-649-6251

Pastor Bobby Ross pastorbobby@dunstablechurch.org
DECC is a welcoming church at the heart of the Dunstable community. "We gather to glorify God, to grow in Christ and to live the gospel in the world."

SUNDAY WORSHIP: Worship Service is held at 10:00 am each Sunday. Child care is available during the service for infants through kindergarten age. Our worship services feature a wide variety of music, scripture readings, corporate prayer and spoken messages and with Communion (the Lord's Supper) served on the first Sunday of every month. An informal time of fellowship with coffee, tea and refreshments takes place after worship to which all are welcome.

SANCTUARY CHOIR and PRAISE TEAM rehearsals at 7:00 pm on Tuesdays and Thursdays respectively.

SUNDAY SCHOOL CLASSES for children in Ages 4-12. Children will attend the regular service with parents for the first 15 minutes of worship before leaving to attend Sunday School class for the remainder of the hour. Older children and teenagers remain with their parents for the entire worship service. Angels ages 4 and up will sing in the Annual Children's Christmas Pageant which will take place during the worship service on Sunday, Dec 4th at 10 am. Please come.

DECC YOUTH GROUP: Participated in the Nashua Corp Hunger Walk and helped to raise nearly \$30,000 to help to fill the void for local, national and international hungry homes. Anyone in grades 6-12 is welcome. Usually meet 4-6pm on Sundays. Come check it out! Questions? Call (978-649-8554). Sat, Dec 10, 5PM – 9M Outreach Service – Living Nativity on the town common, Sun, Dec 18, Christmas party! Sun, Dec 25, No Youth Group – enjoy Christmas with your family! Christmas Vacation Week 7-9 PM, date TBD Karaoke blast! Youth Group, family and community event. Sun, Jan 8, Regular meeting: Christian topic study and discussion. Games, snacks, fellowship. Sunday, Jan 15 Bowling night. Saturday, Jan 21 Outreach Service – Living Waters; serve breakfast and sing songs. Sunday, Jan 29 Regular meeting: Christian topic study and discussion. Games, snacks, fellowship. Sunday, Feb 5 Sledding afternoon, bonfire and hot chocolate at Larter Field. Indoor miniature golf if no snow.

MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) at Dunstable Church. Next meetings are Dec. 16, Jan 6 & 20, Feb 3 & 17. It's a well-established, popular program that will be a blessing to our community. Moms and preschoolers had a wonderful social and sharing time together. Additional child caretakers are needed. MOPS will be meeting 9-11 am on Fridays, twice a month. If you're interested or know someone, please contact Shelly Ross at shellyannross@gmail.com.

SECOND ANNUAL LIVING NATIVITY Saturday, December 10 on the Dunstable Common Walks between **5 and 7 PM**

This will be a night to remember! Join us for an outdoor guided "Walk to Bethlehem". Trace the steps of Mary and Joseph as you walk down the candlelit path and meet the shepherds and wise men. Enjoy the Christmas music and view the animals (sheep, goat, cow, llama, donkey!) as you journey to see the baby Christ. Come anytime between 5 and 7 pm; each walk is about 20 minutes. After the walk, join us for refreshments. Snow/rain date: Sunday, December 11th. Contact Jon Hughes (978-393-7708), Linda McDonald (978-549-6750) or Joka Quigley (978-337-1151) with any questions.

Dec 24th Family Candlelight Service Christmas Eve 6:00 pm

Dec 25th Christmas Day Sunday Service 10:00 am.

For more information about any of these events, contact the church office 978-649-6251 or email info@dunstablechurch.org.



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EVENTS AT BEAVER BROOK

Fall & Winter Programs at Beaver Brook Nature Center Hollis NH
Register at www.beaverbrook.org

Orienteering—Map & Compass

• **Sat. Dec 10, 10-1 pm Brown Lane Barn, 52 Brown Lane, Hollis**
Join Up North Orienteering to learn about orienteering and try it out or to get really competitive and race through the forest. You choose your level of difficulty. Orienteering is a sport where participants use a map and compass to find markers in the woods. Courses range from staying on trails (beginners) to exploring the forests of Beaver Brook. This event is open to all. Instruction and compasses are provided. A small fee, \$5 for beginners, is charged. Registration and starts will be from 10am-1pm. Please contact Pete or Lex at (603) 465-3142 or at unofam@aol.com for more information.

• **Fri Dec 30 2016 Annual Nashua-Hollis Christmas Bird Count**
If you are familiar with bird identification and would like to participate, either in the field or at home as a counter, join us for this traditional event. Individuals or groups will be assigned specific areas to count. We will be counting birds by day and optionally tallying our sightings over dinner at 5 pm at the Lawrence Barn in Hollis. \$5 for dinner. For more information about CBC see www.nhauadubon.org/birding/christmas-bird-count



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Meetings are held the first Thursday of each month.

Auxiliary Unit Officers for 2016-2017

President: Diane Dileo; Sr. Vice: Kathleen Oljey; Jr. Vice: Annette Coles; Treasurer: Frances Radgowski; Secretary: Josephine Beauregard; and SGT-At-Arms: Mary Dupras. Executive Committee: Mary Hanley, Maureen Harris and Sandra Desrosiers

The next Unit General Meeting will be Thursday evening January 5th, 2017, 7PM in the Post Function Room. Unit 247 was sad to have lost a long time Auxiliary Member Blanche Russell on November 14th, 2016.

For information on the Auxiliary Unit meetings, or functions contact Unit President Diane Dileo at 978-204-9329 or Unit Secretary Josephine Beauregard 978-459-7015.

Yours In Auxiliary, Unit Secretary, Josephine Beauregard

THE UNIT IS STILL COLLECTING can pull tabs drop off at Post and earmark for Auxiliary. **We also would Welcome New Auxiliary Members** 18 and older. Contact Unit President or Treasurer.

... **The Unit Jr. Auxiliary is accepting new Jr. members.**
Contact 978-649-7540 if interested in joining.



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Active duty military and veterans always welcome to join. For further information call 978-649-7540. Remember to attend the committee meetings on the first Thursday with your input and ideas.

The public is invited to get involved in all events of the post. The veterans monthly dinners will continue on the first Wednesday of the month. We are always looking for help to serve the veterans. **Keno and Scratch Tickets are available at the Post.** There is an ATM in the Post for your convenience.

OFFICERS: Commander: Theodore Thing; 1st Vice: Martin Hanley; 2nd Vice: John McDermott; Adjutant: James Blake; Judge Advocate: Roland Milliard; Chaplain: Nelson Blake; Finance: David Coles; E-Board: Robert Desrosiers; Robin Dion

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Visit our website, www.tyngsboroughlegion247.org
This website contains a wealth of information about the Post.

Please remember to be safe & keep our troops in your prayers.

EVENTS AT POST 247

Dec 6 AMVETs meeting 7 PM

Dec 7 Vet's Meal 6 PM also **Son's** meeting 7 PM

Dec 16 Post Christmas party 7-11 PM

Dec 17 The Children's Christmas Party will be held in the Post Function Hall noon to 4pm. Any child or grandchild of a post member is eligible. There will be food, games, gifts, entertainment and lots of extras. Also Santa Claus will visit. You must register to participate. Please call the post at 978-649-7540.

*** **FOOD DONATIONS** are still being accepted at the Post for Holiday Baskets. Non-perishable food can be dropped off at the American Legion Post 247, 90 Pawtucket Blvd., Tyngsborough, MA from 11:30 am to 9 PM, daily.

Jan 21, The Sons Meat Shoot from 7-9 pm

**PET HEALTH
DUNSTABLE ANIMAL CLINIC
HONEYBEES**

**by Tara M. Sacramone, DVM
and Molly L. Sacramone**



Tara M. Sacramone, DVM, Starting in 2017 Honeybees are going to be considered food-producing animals by the Food and Drug Administration. This is not a big deal to most people, but anyone that currently keeps bees will no longer be able to get antibiotics over the counter for their colonies. This means that they will need a prescription from a veterinarian, hence why I decided I could write this article. Also, the main journal for veterinary medicine had an article about bees this month, *and* a client came in and told us a story about a bear that just ravaged the standing hives that they had in their yard. *And* since I'm always looking for ideas for these articles *and* my eight year old daughter had to come to the clinic yesterday I decided to put her to work typing Honeybee facts into the computer for me. Keep kid busy + get some of my article done = Win Win.

Honeybees are the only insect that produces food for humans. A Honeybee colony may contain 40,000 to 60,000 bees during the late spring or early summer.

To make 1 pound of honey the bees in the colony must visit 2 million flowers and fly over 55,000 miles. It will be the lifetime work of approximately 768 bees.

A typical beehive can make up to 400 pounds of honey per year. Honeybees are also responsible for the pollination of at least \$15 billion in agriculture crops in the U.S. annually.

Honeybees are prone to 18 infectious diseases, including one common disease that responds to antibiotics. However, the biggest threat to honeybees is a mite called *Varroa destructor*, which is not treated with antibiotics. In Europe it is actually illegal to treat honeybees with antibiotics. The FDA is taking a bigger role in trying to prevent antibiotic resistances in humans by monitoring the use of antibiotics in animals.

Maintaining the health of honeybees is crucial to the planet and now veterinarians will play an important role in that maintenance. And I would like to thank Molly for helping with this month's article and if there are any typos, spelling or grammatical mistakes – she did it.



ALTRUSA CLUB OF MERRIMACK VALLEY

ALTRUSA is an international association of professional men and women, who volunteer their time, energy and expertise in projects dedicated to community betterment. Altrusa's global priorities include literacy, children with AIDs, and the environment. However, each local Altrusa club operates autonomously and develops its own community service initiatives.

Altrusa Club of Merrimack Valley supports family shelters and food pantries in both Greater Lowell and Nashua, NH. In addition, Altrusans continue their monthly visits to honor the veterans at the Veterans Community Care Center (VCCC) in Lowell. Altrusans are grateful to these men and women, who sacrificed so much to keep us safe.

ALTRUSA members will be gift wrapping purchases at the Barnes and Noble Store in Nashua, NH on the following dates to raise money for its literacy and service projects. Please stop by, say hello and have your books and other gifts beautifully packaged. Saturday, 12/17, 1-5 p.m. & Sunday, 12/18, 1-5 p.m. Tuesday, 12/20, 1-5 p.m. & Thursday, 12/22, 5-10 p.m.

Altrusa offers the opportunity to use your time and talent to work within a group on service projects, which impact the lives of those less fortunate. For more information, please contact altrusamv@gmail.com. The Altrusa Club meets the 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month at 6:30 p.m. at Brookdale, 4 Technology Drive, North Chelmsford, MA. Guests are always welcome.

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**MERRIMACK VALLEY JEWISH
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We are an egalitarian community of learners doing Torah Lishma, "study for its own sake." We study the Hebrew Bible and the classic texts of rabbinic Judaism. We are open to classical modes of study, drawing from the millennia of wisdom of classical rabbinic commentators, as well as modern modes of learning from non-Orthodox scholars. This is a family-friendly, safe-space to study Jewish texts. Always looking for new, friendly faces to learn & have coffee with us. We meet at Temple Beth Abraham in Nashua, on most Tues & Thurs, 5:15-6:15pm. (see FB page for specific dates. Email for details.) <https://www.facebook.com/groups/1618060978426822/>

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- Infant play mats, Infant towels, Crib Mattresses, Double Strollers, Diapers all sizes, Infant car seats with or without attachable stroller,, infant bath tubs, Potty Seats, Baby Wipes, High Chairs, Baby slings/ carriers
- New Toys for Birthday Bags 1-3 yr olds & 6-8 yr old girls, crayons
- New children's underwear and socks, Women's socks, Hats/ Gloves, Mens & Womens Coats, Boots/Sneakers, winter boots, Winter Coats, toiletries

THE MAGIC OF CHRISTMAS is well underway. Many more family or individual sponsors are needed. If your organization, business or family want to get involved in this feel good holiday activity contact June as soon as possible at june@thewishproject.org to let her know how you can help. There are many ways to get involved, June will get back to you with all the details.

Drop off donations: Tue/Wed/Fri and Sat 9am-2pm
Foundry Industrial Park Lowell, MA 01852
Off of Plain Street in Lowell.

No appointment needed, but call first if there is a snow storm.

About Us Our mission is to provide basic goods to help local poor families move out of homelessness permanently. We do this primarily through recycling useful things to fill wish orders placed by clients. Call us at 978-441-9474. **FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK**

The Wish Project provides furniture, home, and baby Goods-Bank to more than 27,000 needy people each year. All clients are referred through social service agencies, and are financially qualified. A 501C3 tax deductible charity For more information visit <http://www.irs.gov> 1 A Foundry St. 495 to Lowell Connector to Exit 4 Plain St., Lowell, MA 01852 Turn Right on Plain St., go 0.3 miles, Turn Right on Foundry. Call **978-441-9474**, or find out more on our website www.TheWishProject.org/press/

CATIE'S CLOSET

"How am I going to eat when school closes for break?" Over 1,000 low income or homeless students in our local communities will have to consider this question when schools close for winter break. Catie's Closet believes that every child's holiday season should be filled with joy and celebration, instead of fear. We are seeking donation of \$25 gift cards from Market Basket and CVS. The gift cards will be distributed to students in-need in order to give them the opportunity to purchase what they need while schools are not in session. Imagine, giving the gift of security and stability to a child in your community that desperately deserves it. *Catie's Closet improves attendance at local public schools by providing clothing and basic necessities to students living in poverty. Our goal is to end the social stigma of poverty and create an environment that will allow students of different backgrounds to succeed in the classroom. We build free "stores" in public schools so that students can access what they need, when they need it right where they are.* THERE IS AN URGENT NEED FOR: Youth boys and girls (size 4-16), Jeans, sweatpants, T-shirts, Long Sleeve Tops, Hoodies/Sweatshirts, Shampoo, Toothpaste, Deodorant, Toothbrushes, Underwear- Size 4 -20 Boys & Girls and Teen Boys & Girls (Small - XXL), Socks (All Sizes). **Donation drop-off: 19 School Street, Dracut, MA 01826** First and Third Saturday of each month from 9 AM to 12 PM or otherwise by appointment. Please visit catiescloset.org or call (978)-957-2200 for more information about donations or other ways to support Catie's Closet.

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Evangelist: Nathan Combs 1-978-703-4741

Web Site: www.tyngsborochurchofchrist.org

Email: thechristians@juno.com

Home bible studies in Nashua, Tyngsboro, Dracut, and Lowell.

THE MOST HIGH RULES THE KINGDOMS OF MEN

By Nathan Combs

Imagine for a moment that you're the Old Testament prophet Daniel. You're born into a crumbling nation that reeks of corruption and idolatry. Under normal circumstances, your intelligence and noble birth would guarantee a quiet, luxurious life. Instead, at an early age you're rounded up by soldiers of a foreign king, transported to a faraway country, and force-fed the mythologies and scholarship of your country's conqueror. After you're taken away, your people are slaughtered and your nation is completely destroyed, including the majestic temple that King Solomon built. You will never see your homeland again and you'll spend the rest of your life serving a long succession of pagan rulers.

If you're Daniel, does it look like God rules the kingdoms of men? Yet, that is one of the main messages of the book of Daniel. When the powerful Babylonian king Nebuchadnezzar took personal credit for everything his rule had accomplished, the Almighty God of a conquered people transformed him into a clawed, hairy, grass-eating, beast-like creature until he learned his true position (Daniel 4.17, 25, 32). When the last Babylonian king Belshazzar flouted God by bringing the vessels of the temple to his banqueting table to toast his gods, God reminded the king through Daniel of what happened to his forefather and Belshazzar was killed that very night (Daniel 5.21). Even in the very beginning of the book, the conquest of God's people is phrased in the text as "God gave Jehoiakim king of Judah into his [Nebuchadnezzar's] hand..." (Daniel 1.2). Daniel saw empires collapse and rise before His eyes, but despite the upheaval in his life, he never forgot the One in ultimate control of the world.

Regardless of your political persuasion, you probably agree that our nation's recent presidential race was the most divisive and disturbing election cycle in recent memory. For more than a year, social media and news corporations have bombarded us with sound-bites and opinions laced with dire tones of urgency, designed to whip us into a frenzy and capture our vote. Regardless of whether you're disappointed or satisfied with the outcome of the race, do not make the mistake of thinking that a human being controls the world. Do not allow your peace of mind to be determined by who's occupying the Oval Office (or some other governmental position). As the dust settles and we move on with our lives, recognize that presidents and nations come and go, but the world has a kingdom which will never be destroyed. Long after the United States of America is no more, the crucified and risen King of glory will still securely sit on His throne, ruling His people in peace and justice throughout eternity. Plant this thought deeply within your heart, bend your mind to His will, humble yourself before Him, and resolve to devote your short life to His everlasting cause!

NOW FORMING "NEW HORIZONS" DRACUT COMMUNITY BAND

We are recruiting members to play in a Dracut Community Band. It is open to all musicians 18 years or older who are residents of Dracut and from surrounding communities. No audition is required but Band members should have some playing and music reading experience. It will be lots of fun! **We will be rehearsing on Thursday nights at Christ Church United in Dracut Center from 6PM-8PM**

Please call Maureen Johnson 978-454-0055 for more information or if you'd like to join. We will be having an organizational meeting soon--We will notify players of date and time for meeting and start of rehearsal. Any donations of used instruments would be greatly appreciated especially a concert bass drum and stand.

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