



Neighbor to Neighbor

Published by Anne M. Paquin Since 1983

64 Hardy St., Dunstable, MA 01827

(978) 419-1914

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www.neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com

Celebrating 33 Years of Service!

Issue # 359 • April 2017

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TOWN CLERK NEWS

I'm happy to tell you my medical leave is over and I'm back to work, thank you for all the well wishes! I want to thank Melissa Belanger for covering while I was out.

•**Town Meeting is Monday, May 8.** •**The Annual Town Election is Monday, May 15.** As of this writing, we have some elected positions for which we have no nominations. One is Town Moderator and another is a 3-year position for the Advisory Board. If you think you may be interested in any of these positions, please consider a write in campaign. As I'm writing this, today is the deadline for the return of the papers, and if all are certified with a minimum 20 signatures then we will have a contested race for Selectman, Park Commissioner, Groton-Dunstable Regional School Committee, 2 year Road Commissioner and 1 year Planning Board.

•**The deadline to register to vote for the Annual Town Meeting and Annual Town Election is Wednesday, April 19.** You can register online as long as you have a valid Massachusetts driver's license or Massachusetts state issued ID. Visit www.sec.state.ma.us/ovr/

•**There is no Early Voting for the Annual Town Election but there is Absentee Voting.** The deadline to file an application is Friday, May 12. All 2016 Absentee Applications expired December 31, 2016.

•**The Annual Street Listing (aka the town census) has been mailed to every household.** In case you are new to Massachusetts, this is a legal document required by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and you must return it to remain on the active voter list. Failure to return the annual street listing will designate to you inactive voter status and may result in your name being removed from the voter list. Please call me if you did not receive one.

Carol A. Skerrett, Town Clerk CMMC 978-649-4514 x222
CSkerrett@dunstable-ma.gov

•**NEW HOURS:** The Clerk's Office is open **Monday** evening from **3:00pm-7:30pm**; **Tuesday and Thursday 9:00am-2:00pm.** **Wednesday 9:00am-2:30pm.** 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.



THE DUNSTABLE CONSERVATION COMMISSION

is looking for interested residents who would like to volunteer as **Associate Members** of the Commission. An Associate Member is an unofficial non-voting member willing to learn about conservation, activities the Commission gets involved in, and provides a pool of future members. The Commission may be able to reimburse you for taking the Fundamentals of Conservation Commissions classes. The Commission generally meets the 2nd and 4th Monday of the month at 6:30pm. If you are interested, please contact the office at: 978-649-4514 x230 or CMann@dunstable-ma.gov

IN MEMORY OF

Doris M. Delong Driscoll
Bryon W. LeMay
Thomas A. Vaillancourt
Donald M. Ferchak, Sr.

GRANGE EARTH DAY CLEANUP

This year Dunstable Grange is again sponsoring the program.
Help us clean up the roadsides from April 17th-24th

The bags are now available at the Town Hall and in the lobby of the Dunstable Library. If everyone does just a little bit we can make a BIG difference to our roadways. If you can't do a street, cleaning in front of your own home is a great help. The Highway Dept. will pick up the bags if they are left on the side the road. *Thank you.*

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, April 26th from 11am – 12 noon at the Library, 588 Main Street, Dunstable.** Drop in for blood pressure, pulse screening and diet teaching. 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.

DUNSTABLE BOARD OF HEALTH PERMIT FEE FOR THE TRANSFER STATION & STICKERS RECEIVED

The regular fee is \$300.00. The fee for Senior Citizens is \$200.00. When you purchase your permit, determines the quantity of stickers you will receive. In April, Regular 40 stickers and Seniors 20 stickers. In May Regular 30 stickers and Seniors 15 stickers. In June, Regular 20 stickers and Seniors 10 stickers.

BULKY ITEM DROP OFF

This will be held at the Town Transfer Station on Depot Street, on the last 3 Saturdays in April. The dates are **April 15th, 22nd and 29th.** Please use the tags for this year. For more details about the items accepted, and the number of tags required for disposing of each item, please go to the town website www.dunstable-ma.gov

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE DAY

Will be held on **Saturday, May, 20th from 9am to 1pm** at the Tyngsborough Highway Dept. Garage located at 87 Kendall Rd., (Rte 113) in Tyngsborough. Proof of Residency is required. (Driver's license or current utility bill)

In the May issue of Neighbor to Neighbor there will be a green page with the details of this drop off program.

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

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BOOK CLUB

Friday, April 21 at 11:30 at the Dunstable Library. Discussing, **The Last Patriot** by Brad Thor. Summary: Brad Thor, master of suspense and #1 *New York Times* bestselling author is back with his highest-voltage thriller to date. Scot Harvath must race to locate an ancient secret that has the power to stop militant Islam dead in its tracks. Copies are available at the library. New members welcome. **Book Delivery** to shut-ins is available through the Dunstable Library. Just contact Sue Tully at sjt0213@verizon.net, or 978-649-6750 if you or someone else needs books or audio material.

DUNSTABLE GARDEN GROUP

DIG will meet on **Thursday, April 20 at 6:30** in the community room of the library. We will continue with our seed exchange project. Email sjt0213@verizon.net for more info.

FROM THE WATER DEPARTMENT

The Dunstable Water Department would like to remind the residents of Dunstable that are on town water of the following policy in our Schedule of Rates & Fees (revised September 15, 2015) and Section I.E.4 of our Rules and Regulations (revised 2008):

"If any service charge, fee or bill for water used, is not paid within 30 days of issuance, the BWC may file a lien on the property in accordance with M.G.L. Ch. 40 or terminate service to the property."

Any customer that is in arrears in April will be sent a **Shut Off Notice** by certified mail. Payment is due in our office within 15 days of that notice. If payment in full is not received, a 2nd and **Final Shut Off Notice** will be issued and delivered by the Constable. The water customer has 7 days to pay the bill in full. If payment is not received, **WATER WILL BE SHUT OFF**. Outstanding charges along with shut-off and re-establishment of service charges will be assessed and must be paid in full before water is turned back on. If you have any questions regarding this matter, please call the Water Dept. office at 978-649-4514 x230.

Per Order Dunstable Water Commissioners

FLAG DONATION PROJECT

This Memorial Day 50 flags will welcome commuters to our town center. With the generous support of many families in the past, the town was able to replace worn flags that needed to be retired.

The town is looking to replace flags as they wear and become unfit for display. The cost to replace them is \$30.00 per flag. As with the original project, flags may be purchased in someone's memory or honor. Should you wish to donate a flag, checks should be made payable to the: Town of Dunstable and either mailed to Dunstable Town Hall, 511 Main St. Dunstable, MA 01827 or brought into town hall. Please submit the following information when you send in your payment. Donation from: In Memory of: Or In Honor of: as well as the Total donation amount:

Should you have questions or need further information please contact the Selectmen by email, select-board@dunstable-ma.gov.

Thank you for your donation.

DUNSTABLE VETERAN SERVICES OFFICE

We have two great organizations for vets in Pepperell and Tyngsboro who have regular free breakfast and dinners for the local vets to help them get to meet and know other vets and share their experiences. They are the Pepperell VFW and the Tyngsboro American Legion. Tyngsboro Senior Center at 160 Westford Road is having a special free senior/Veterans breakfast on Thursday, April 20, at 8:30 (RSVP by 12 April) I encourage you to check them out and enjoy.

As always, if anyone in town knows of a Vet, their spouse or widow, 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. I am here to help you.

Joe Dean (Former USMC Sgt, Retired USAF Capt.)

Dunstable Veteran Services Officer

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DOWN TO EARTH HOUSE CLEANING

Weekly/Bi-Weekly/Monthly. Personalized jobs, floors woodwork, vacuum & dusting. Much more. If you want your house cleaned with a personal touch it's time to call

MARLA at 978-649-9824. Free estimates. References.

HELP WANTED

Dunstable farm and greenhouse business needs dependable, responsible, hard-working individual for greenhouse and farm work. Ideal for older student. *Sat. and Sun. until end of school. Full time summer.*

Call Joan at 978-649-9713.

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Any other needs? **Please call Diane Nilsen at 978-649-8786**

or email dianeinilsen@gmail.com.

THE DUNSTABLE FY2018 BUDGET ISSUES

Submitted by: Tracey Hutton and Christine Muir

Free Cash is neither free nor cash. So what is this "free cash" that the Advisory Board talks about during the budget process? The easiest way to think about free cash is as the leftovers from the previous budget year. What it really comes from is a community's remaining, unrestricted funds from its operations of the previous fiscal year based on the balance sheet as of June 30th. It typically includes actual receipts in excess of revenue estimates and unspent amounts in departmental budget line items for the year just ended, plus unexpended free cash from the previous year. Free cash is also offset by property tax receivables and certain deficits and can be a negative number.

Every fall, the free cash amount from the previous fiscal year is certified by the Department of Revenue. These funds, which we raised from taxes in the previous year, can be spent by authorization at Town Meeting up to June 30th of the current fiscal year.

Free cash is a non-recurring revenue source and should be restricted to paying one-time expenditures, funding capital projects, or replenishing other reserves. It is not advisable for a community to incorporate free cash into revenue source projections for next year's operational expenses (as Dunstable had been doing for the past several years). Dunstable's Advisory Board is working towards weaning the community off this ill-advised practice. The current projections for FY2018 are that less than half of the free cash that was necessary to balance FY2017 will be needed to balance the budget of FY2018.

Another issue facing Dunstable's budget in FY2018 is the changes in school enrollment. For the upcoming school year, the Dunstable student enrollment is increasing by 13 students, while Groton's is down 8 students. This shift in the foundation enrollment results in a change to the required minimum contribution. The trend that Town officials are seeing is the sale of existing housing stock to younger families with small children. While the student numbers may seem small, this little number shifts Dunstable's contribution up \$128,168 and Groton's down \$23,083.

On the Town Meeting warrant, you will notice a warrant article to approve changes to the regional agreement between Dunstable and Groton that regulates how the school district operates, including how the assessments are calculated. This agreement will change the assessment to the student option to a five year rolling average of the student population. This will help smooth out changes in the enrollment and prevent significant spikes in the assessment.

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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

COMMUNITY PIE BAKE OFF

This was held on Sat., March 19th with 22 entries. Top winners were Shannon McDonald, with her "take 5 pie", Meredith Vartabedian, apple pie and Denise Tucker 3rd, also apple pie.

Youth winners, Sophia & Emma West, 1st for a peanut butter pie, Emily DeNyse, blueberry pie and Naomi Young for a chocolate pie. It was a great turn out and all the pies were delicious!

OPEN BURNING SEASON

Dunstable Fire Chief, Brian Rich announced that **Open Burning season will end on Monday, May 1st**. Permits are available daily from 9:30am to 12:30pm at the Fire Station on Pleasant St. Permits cost \$10 and are free to "over 65".



You must follow all the rules and regulations.
Detailed information is posted on the town website. If you have other questions regarding burning, please call Fire Chief Brian Rich at 978-649-6661.

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.

- **April 7** Please note date changed
Degree Night with Official Visitation.
Refreshments: All members; Hostess Ruth
- **May 12 Memorial Day** and what that means to us. Penny Sale
Refreshments: Susan and Virginia



HAPPY SPRING NEIGHBORS

Our year end goal is in sight and we are now marching our way towards our record breaking goal of collecting 50,000 box tops for our elementary school, Swallow Union. Through the end of February we, the Swallow Union and greater Dunstable community have joined forces and we have clipped and collected over 35,244 box tops. With a few more months to go until we reach the end of our school year we think with our combined efforts we can collect an additional 15,000 box tops and hit that 50,000 mark.

Last month we spoke to you about our state rankings for the BOX TOP FOR EDUCATION collection efforts. What we thought might be a short lived ranking for our small school and community to be in; the 3rd spot for the entire state, we are happy to report that as of the time of this writing our small but strong Dunstable and Swallow Union school community is still holding our ground in 3rd place for the entire state and inching our way closer towards that top spot in the state. Out of the 1,991 schools in the state of Massachusetts who participate in the BOX TOP FOR EDUCATION program we are within 3,800 box tops of knocking our neighborhood rival Tyngsborough Elementary school out of 1st place in the state.

Remember please continue to clip your box tops and turn them into the yellow boxes scattered around town at the Dunstable Library, the Dunstable Town Hall, the Dunstable Post Office, inside the front door at Swallow Union elementary school and at West Auto Repair.

Thank you again and remember KEEP ON CLIPPING!
Jen West jend5375@aol.com Cristina Agraz cmd2983@yahoo.com
www.swallowunionapt.org aptswallowunion@gmail.com
www.facebook.com/SwallowUnionAPT

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Published by Anne Paquin Since 1983
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DIRECTOR OF THE COUNCIL ON AGING

Anne Fenochetti Email: afenochetti@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.

- **MEET, GREET & EAT** at the town hall. The first Wednesday of the month. Cost for lunch is \$3.00 per person.
- **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, April 26th from 11am – 12 noon at the Library, 588 Main Street, Dunstable.** Drop in for blood pressure, pulse screening and diet teaching. 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.
- **FIRE CHIEF RICH** is available to check your smoke detectors. Please contact Anne or Sue Tully to get on the schedule, this is a great preventive measure.
- **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.
- **FUEL ASSISTANCE APPLICATIONS ARE NOW AVAILABLE** Please call Anne for more details.
- **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. **We are in need of lightweight wheelchairs.**
- **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.

Friendly Phone Calls Aren't able to get out as much as you would like? Would you like to receive a "Friendly Phone Call"? If you think you would benefit from or enjoy an occasional friendly phone call contact Anne our COA director.

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. You can 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 10:00 - 4:00.

• **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.

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

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Library Hours: 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

Featured Display Will Kindler displays his collection of Titanic memorabilia to commemorate the 105th anniversary of this tragic event. If you would like to display your artwork or photographs in the community room, we would love to host you. Please contact Karen at kdebrececi@mvlc.org.

Community Room Artist wonderful paintings by Alice Sneizek.

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.

Adult Reading Group There will be an Adult Reading Group on **Friday, April 21st at 11:45am**. New members are always welcome.

Quilter's Group They meet from 6:00 -8:00 p.m., the first and third Tuesday of the month. Join us if you are interested in learning to quilt or would like to join other quilters.

Cook Book Club The library has a cookbook 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 to enjoy the dishes. **Signup** sheet will be at the desk. This month, we will **meet on April 28th**. Please join in on the fun.

Gardening Club also know as DIG They will be meeting on **Thursday, April 20th at 6:30pm**. New members are welcome!

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 1:30 pm. We will still do a craft, so please wear clothes that can get messy.

Children's Craft Come and join Mrs. D. for a special craft time on Tuesday, April 11th at 4:00pm. We will be making a variety of Easter projects. Please sign up at the library or email Mrs. D. at kdebrececi@mvlc.org

On Going Book Sale Is in the Community Room at the library. 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. 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.

Egg Hunt This will be happening at the Library on Thursday, **April 6th at 6:00pm**. All age children are welcome. Girl Scout Troop No.75025 will be hosting this fun event. There will be activities, crafts and of course an egg hunt in the library. Each child needs to bring their own basket to collect the eggs

Homework Club The library is offering homework help every Tuesday night from 6:00 – 7:30 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.

Homework Help will now be from 6:00-6:45pm. A new program will begin each Tuesday from 6:45-7:30. Catherine DeGroot will be teaching and reinforcing basic **Spanish** skills for all ages. Take advantage of this great opportunity for your child.

Mrs. D is looking for item's for the Summer Reading Program New or nearly new toys, games & books. Please give items to Mrs. D at the library (No Large items please). Thank you very much.

PET SITTING AND HOUSE SITTING

Going away on vacation?

I will take care of your pets in your home. Call now to make arrangements. Reasonable rates.

Please contact Rebecca at 978-761-6044.

SCOUT SKILLS EVENT ON THE COMMON

Dunstable Boy Scout Troop 28 is holding a Scout skills event on the Dunstable Town Common between 10 AM and 2 PM on Saturday April 8. You can drop in any time and anyone can come see, although in particular we're looking for boys in grades 5 and up who may want to join Scouts (especially boys grades 5-7).

We will be demonstrating / teaching / sharing Scout-y things, like: fire building, woodsman skills, First aid skills, knots and lashing - making a working (hopefully) trebuchet, Scout games, Camp cooking (the troop is actually quite good at this, fear not!)

Scouting is a great opportunity to learn useful skills, develop character and personal fitness, build citizenship, and most importantly have a lot of fun with old and new friends. Our Boy Scout troop in particular serves boys entering grades 6-12 in September, but we're glad to help you find Scouting opportunities for any child. There is no specific time commitment: Scouting can easily coexist with sports or other activities and is a tremendous way for your child to develop self-confidence and independence.

The Dunstable Troop goes on a lot of outings (camping, day trips, fun events) and performs a lot of service projects in the Town and the nearby communities, serving our environment, our seniors, our veterans, and our community in general. We have had a tremendous number of scouts go on to earn their Eagle award while executing major community service projects on the way.

Signing up now is also a great way to set up for a week in Summer Camp in New Hampshire!

If you know a boy who might be interested in building fires, using a pocketknife, camping outside, or just having fun - stop by with him and check us out! And check out our website at <https://dunstable28.mytroop.us> to contact us if you feel like RSVP'ing, or can't make it but want more info, or just have questions about scouting in general. *Thanks, and Be Prepared! Sarath Krishnaswamy, Scoutmaster, BSA Troop 28 Dunstable*

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• **April 9th** Palm Sunday Cantata at 9:30 and 11:00 AM

• **April 13th** Holy Thursday and **April 14th** Good Friday services at 7:30 PM. A meatless supper will be held before the Good Friday service at 6:30 PM

• **April 16th** Easter Sunday Services at 6:30 AM (sunrise service), 8:00 AM, 9:45 AM, and 11:15 AM An Easter egg hunt will be held after the 8:00 AM service.

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.



LEMONADE STAND MAY 7TH

Sunday, May 7th at 10AM, a lemonade stand will be held at West Auto Repair, Inc. at 30 Pleasant St. (Rt. 113) in Dunstable, MA. All proceeds from the stand will benefit Reid's Crew and Great Strides for Cystic Fibrosis. We look forward to seeing you and thank you in advance for your support.

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The deadline for the next *Neighbor to Neighbor* is April 10th for the May 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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I look forward to hearing from you, Anne



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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. ***If there is no school because of snow, there will be NO senior meeting.***

Meet, Greet & Eat at the town hall will. Coffee will 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.

Next lunch May 3 lunch will be provided by the students from Greater Lowell Tech. ***Make reservations by April 26.***

The Traveling Chef Program provided by Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley will cater the **April 12** lunch at noon in the Community Room of the library. It will be a grilled panini either chicken or vegetarian on foccaccia bread and soup and dessert. Cost will be \$3.00 per person. RSVP by April 4. We will be using this service once a month at the library. We hope more seniors take advantage of this lunch. **Next lunch will be May 17.** They will be serving baked ham, with potatoes and vegetable and delicious dessert.

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.

Rivercourt Residence in West Groton invites Dunstable seniors for lunches on the third Tuesday of each month. Next lunch will be Tuesday, April 18 at 12:30. RSVP with either Sue or Anne. Rivercourt does this as a community out-reach program.

Pot Luck Lunch Our popular quarterly pot luck will be held on **Wednesday April 19** at noon. Bring a small serving of an appetizer, salad, main course or dessert. Always a surprise, always delicious.

Senior/ Veterans Breakfast First **FREE** breakfast of the season will be held on **Thursday, April 20** at 8:30 at the Tyngsboro Senior Center 160 Westford Rd. RSVP with Sue by April 12.

Indian Hill Music, Bach Lunch Thursday April 20 presenting a string trio performing works of Mendelssohn, Schoenfield and Piazzolla. There are **TWO PERFORMANCES: 11:00 am and 1:30 pm** at Indian Hill Music, 36 King Street, Littleton MA. Light refreshments are served but you are welcome to bring your own lunch.

Dutch Treat Lunch Friday On **Friday April 28** at noon we will be going to Valentino's in Hudson, N.H. RSVP by April 25 with Sue

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.

Groton Memory Cafe Thursday, April 27 and every 4th Thursday from 10:00 - noon at the Groton COA 163 W Main St, West Groton, Ma. Coffee and conversation for individuals and families living with memory changes. FREE, call 781-863-1166 ext 104 for more info.

Message from the Fire Chief If you need the assistance of the fire department for a non emergency situation and you've called the fire station and no one was there. **Please call 978-448-6666 (Fire/ Police/ems Dispatch)** they will notify the proper person or service to assist you. **Office 978-649-6661**

Thank You to the Dunstable Fire Association for a generous supply of paper products and to the Dunstable Police Association for their support of the March Traveling Chef lunch. To Marion Taylor, Ruth Tuly and Danice Palumbo for providing March 1st desserts.

Wish List Volunteers needed to: Deliver meals on wheels to shut-ins, Lead an activity or a craft, **Supply:** prizes for bingo, wrapped candies (mints, Hershey kisses) paper napkins, plates & cups, sodas, & snacks.

THE MASSACHUSETTS ESTATE TAX

By Edward H. Adamsky

The majority of people have estates under the Federal \$5.4 million Estate Tax exemption. But the Massachusetts exemption amount is only \$1 million. More people have enough assets to be subject to that tax. So, it makes sense to plan for it if you have to. My first planning tip for is to consider moving out of Massachusetts to New Hampshire or any other State that does not have its own Estate-Tax. Many older folks are thinking about downsizing so if you are selling your house and moving, it isn't much harder to move a few more miles away to New Hampshire (at least for folks in this area).

The next planning tool we explore is the use of life insurance. If you can calculate the amount of tax your estate might owe, it's easy to replace that amount by purchasing life insurance. This can be done outright (although it would increase the size of your estate and the tax due) or through an Irrevocable Life Insurance Trust (ILIT) which will keep the value of the policy out of your taxable estate. Another interesting tool is the use of lifetime giving. If you are ready to give away assets you can give each recipient up to \$14,000 per year without using up any of your lifetime exemption. With enough family members and enough time you may be able to reduce your estate below the \$1 million threshold.

If you don't have enough family members or time, then there is another interesting twist to use. The Federal Estate-Tax is tied into the Federal Gift-Tax system. If you give more than the yearly exemption to someone, you use up some of your lifetime exemption. If you give away large amounts of money you have less of the exemption to use and might still owe tax when you die even though your estate is then below the total exemption amount.

But, the amount of tax due to Massachusetts is the allowable deduction for amounts paid to a State. This is calculated using the taxable estate but does not take into account lifetime gifts. The threshold for filing the tax return takes this into account, but not the calculation of the tax due.

So, you can make large lifetime gifts and reduce the size of your estate for Massachusetts Estate-Tax purposes. You may still have to file and pay some tax (even if in the end you have less than \$1 million), but the tax will only be based on what you have at death while ignoring those large lifetime gifts. This can work well for some people, but as usual it's not for everyone.

This is a quick summary of a complex issue, so don't act without good advice. If you have an estate that is larger than the State exemption amount, then you should see your Estate Planning Attorney and figure out which planning tools that are right for you.

CARE GIVER WORKSHOP

Director of Community Outreach, Kathi Crowley of Rivercourt Residences in West Groton is offering this **FREE workshop on Thursday, April 27 at 6:30** in the community room of the Dunstable library. Learn tips on caring for a loved one with memory loss. Participants will hear the difference between normal age related changes and disease processes. How is Alzheimer's diagnosed. Why someone with memory loss behaves the way they do. Safety being the main goal. Most important, how to manage caregiver stress. Co-sponsored by the Dunstable Council of Aging. RSVP with Anne Fenochetti or Sue Tully.

GROTON GRANGE #7

TOWN WIDE LITTER CLEAN UP (TLC)

Join your friends at Groton Grange #7 on **Saturday, April 22, 9:00 - 4:00 and Sunday, April 23, 12:00 - 4:00** as we celebrate Earth Day with our Annual Town Wide Litter Cleanup (TLC) and Bike drive. Meet at Prescott School, Main Street, Groton, MA for gloves, trash bags and to choose a street to clean. Return bags to Dumpsters located at Prescott School parking lot. Refreshments available.

'**Bikes not Bombs**' will be accepting **your old bikes** to be recycled and kept out of the trash stream. <https://bikesnotbombs.org/bike-drive/1358>

Friends of the Trees will be in attendance for information on Groton's Arbor Day celebration.

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Neighbor to Neighbor

Published by Anne M. Paquin
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 64 Hardy St., Dunstable, MA 01827
(978) 419-1914
E-mail: anne@neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com

If your organization or non profit group has a special event coming up in **May** please send the info in by **April 10th**. Articles are placed on a first come, first served basis. Call or email me if you have further questions about submitting news. News can be sent in a word file or in the body of an email.

If you have a local business, or your organization would like to have a display ad not just a paragraph, email me and I will forward the rate sheet to you.

Total circulation each month for Dunstable and Tyngsborough is 6,129 issues.

Issues are now available online at
www.neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com
The next deadline is April 10th for the May issue.

Let Neighbor to Neighbor help spread the word!
I look forward to hearing from you,
Anne

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, Electrical, Gas, Plumbing, & Building Inspector's Secretary. 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	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
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Pastor Rev. Susan Gaeta

Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran will continue with mid-week prayer services at 7 PM. During Lent, the Holden Evening Prayer service will be used.

EASTER EGG HUNT, Saturday, April 8th, 2017. Rain or Shine. Come Hear the Easter Story! Plastic Bunny Race! Sing-along: 10:15, Program: 10:30 Third grade and younger(flexible) To sign-up, please call or email Margaret Doyle, 978-772-7095, margaret@ayerdoyles.org. Please include: Your name, Your child(ren)'s name(s) and age(s) Your phone number and/or email. There is no charge for this community event. You may bring your baskets or use ours! REFRESHMENTS will be served.

On **April 9th a Palm Sunday service** will begin with special music by the choir. During Holy Week a **Seder** will be held at **6 PM on Thursday, April 13th** where we will read through the Haggadah and end with a sharing of bread and wine before a meal is shared with all. If you would like to attend please call Janet Vesper at 978-597-8605.

On **April 14th the Good Friday Service and Easter Vigil will be held at 7:30 at the Grange.** The **Easter Sunday Service will be at 10:15 on April 16th at the Grange as well.** Both the Good Friday and Easter services will have special music by the choir.

The **Annual Spaghetti Supper will be held on Saturday, April 29th from 4:30 to 6:30 PM** at the Senior Center in Groton. Tickets are \$8 per person or \$25 for a family. This fundraiser supports the youth and their mission trips which occur in the summer. Please come and join in the fun!

An early Heads Up...**VBS (Bible School)** will be held at the Grange during the week of **July 24th through the 28th.** The theme this year is Cave Quest Adventures. Children ages 4 through 4th graders are invited to attend. If you would like to register your children, please call Margaret Doyle at 978-772-7095 or register at www.sov-lc.org.

GROTON-DUNSTABLE SUPERINTENDENT SEARCH SCREENING COMMITTEE

During the months of February and March the Screening Committee met on several occasions to review applications and to interview candidates for the position of Superintendent of Schools. Applicants represented a wide range of experiences and backgrounds. We thank all those who expressed an interest in becoming our next school district leader.

The Screening Committee reviewed all of the applications and subsequently selected a number of candidates who were invited to meet with the Screening Committee for a preliminary interview. We enjoyed our conversations with each of the candidates. Following the preliminary interviews and after much discussion and consideration, the Screening Committee, during its meeting on March 23, 2017, voted to recommend three candidates for further consideration by the Groton-Dunstable School Committee. *One has withdrawn. The two candidates, listed in alphabetical order, are:*

- Dr. Laura Chesson, currently Assistant Superintendent, Arlington Public Schools
- Dr. Jodi Fortuna, currently Superintendent, Hudson Public Schools

On behalf of the School Committee and the Towns of Groton-Dunstable, I would like to thank the members of the Screening Committee for the many hours they devoted to reviewing applications, interviewing candidates and deliberating during the preliminary selection process. The conversations were lively, insightful and courteous. It was a pleasure to work with this group of truly dedicated school community members.

Respectfully submitted, Marlena Gilbert
 Superintendent Screen Committee Chair
 Groton-Dunstable Regional School Committee Member

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Students from AIEP Host Families that are studying at the Academy of Notre Dame in Tyngsboro, MA recently volunteered their time at The Wish Project.

Recently AIEP students spent time at The Wish Project in Lowell, MA organizing toiletries and prepared them to be distributed to families in need. The Wish Project provides people and families in need with basic household goods, furnishings and also baby goods.

AIEP students perform community service twice during the academic school year; once in the Fall and then again in the Spring. AIEP is a firm believer in giving back to the community while at the same time teaching students not only the value of helping others but also the importance of teamwork.

About AIEP (Apex International Education Partners) AIEP (Apex International Education Partners) is located in Watertown, CT and is an international student and host family recruiting agency. AIEP was established to assist U.S. secondary educational institutions with the recruiting and hosting of international students from Asia. To learn more about becoming a host parent to an international student, visit www.aiepusa.com, or call us at 203.992. AIEP.



46 Coburn Road
Tyngsboro

EARTH DAY CELEBRATION! SATURDAY, APRIL 23RD AT 1PM – 4PM

Join the family fun 1pm-4pm during the annual Earth Day Celebration at the Sherburne Nature Center located at 46 Coburn Road, Tyngsboro, MA. There will be educational booths and exhibits to raise conservation awareness brought to you by the Nature Walks Conservation Society (NatureWalksCS.org). Activities led by local volunteers include a Wetlands Interpretive Nature Walk at 2pm hosted by lifelong Naturalist & Conservation advocate **Mark Fraser (host of "NatureWalks" seen on PBS)**. A special **"Eyes On Owls"** program at 3pm will feature live owls from New England and beyond. **All are welcome and there is absolutely no charge!**

For further information contact Robert Sherburne
rwsherb@hotmail.com

Sherburne Nature Center trails are open daily, dawn to dusk, for the residents of Tyngsboro and neighboring towns. Traverse several woodland streams, go bird-watching, try to catch a glimpse of a beaver, and observe meadow wildflowers and butterflies. It's a great place for outdoor exercise and to enjoy nature close to home.

DINING FOR A CAUSE SUPPORTING HABITAT FOR HUMANITY

Please join Habitat for Humanity of Greater Lowell (HFHGL) for an all-day 'Dining for Dollars' Fundraiser at Bertucci's Restaurant in Chelmsford with proceeds supporting upcoming affordable home build & critical home repair projects in Lowell, Tewksbury, and Westford in 2017. Why not order some takeout, enjoy a delicious lunch or dinner, or place a delivery order for your business and help build homes in Greater Lowell community at the same time! **'Dining for Dollars with Habitat' Fundraiser**. Location: **Bertucci's**, 14 Littleton Rd, Chelmsford, Date: **Thurs, April 20, 2017**, Time: **11 am – 9 pm** (All Day & Night!) **Download your flyer at** <http://bit.ly/BertuccisHFHGLApr20> Present printed flyer OR just mention that you're supporting Habitat for Humanity of Greater Lowell. 15% of all sales throughout the day/night will be donated to our mission.

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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.

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This website contains a wealth of information about the Post.

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

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- 11:15 a.m. - Fellowship and Refreshments**

EASTER SERVICES ARE AS FOLLOWS:

GOOD FRIDAY, April 14th, SERVICE: 7:00 p.m.

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICES April 16th

Sunrise Service. 6:00. a.m.

Worship Service. 10:00. a.m. (No Sunday School)

- **Sunday Evenings:** All Church Bible Study 6:30-8pm "How to recognize god's voice (and respond in obedience)" Study books are available for \$10. **Open to the community.**
- **Tuesday** 9:30 - 11:30 am -Women's Bible Study. (Old Testament Women) All women invited
- **Tuesday Evenings:** Boards and Committee meetings
- **Thursday and Saturday** - Thrift Shop Open from 10am-3pm
- **Friday:** Youth Group meets. Call Joy at 978-649-6142) High School and Joan at 978-649-2590) for Middle School.

• **THE 150th Anniversary Committee** of the church is meeting regularly now to plan events for the historic celebration 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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No appointment needed, **but call first if there is a snow storm.**

WISH LIST

- Coffee makers, Toaster Ovens, irons, Can Openers, Hand Mixers Baking Pans, cookie sheets, Spatulas, Dish detergent, Large Stock Pots, Large Frying Pans, Medium Sauce Pots, Steak Knives, Mixing Bowls, Soup bowls, drinking glasses, mugs, dish cloths, hand towels
- Microwaves, Vacuums, Reusable Bags
- Lamps (Table or floor) Small Kitchen tables, Sofas, Love Seats, Dressers, XL Twin bed frames, Twin Mattress sets, full size mattress sets, Zip up Mattress Covers adjustable metal bed frames, Toddler beds, queen size bed frames, Bed risers, bed pillows, blankets, curtains, box springs, shower curtain liners
- Infant play mats, Infant towels, Crib Mattresses, Crib sheets, Diapers all sizes, Infant car seats, infant bath tubs, Potty Seats, changing Tables, Infant Swings, Infant Walkers
- Baby Wipes, High Chairs, Baby slings/carriers, Baby Monitors
- 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,
- Toiletries, Fairy Godmother's Good Nite bags

WE WOULD LIKE TO INVITE YOU TO JOIN US AT THE WISH PROJECTS 6TH ANNUAL GOLF CLASSIC.

This year's event will be held at Andover Country Club on **Monday, May 15th**. It will be a great time for a great cause! For over a decade, it has been the mission of The Wish Project to serve the needs of homeless and at-risk families in the Greater Lowell area, helping them get back on their feet. We rely on the generous support of donors to fulfill our mission. We hope you will help us by supporting our golf tournament, one of our biggest fundraisers of the year. Register online at 6th Annual Golf Classic.

News from the warehouse - Jill said housing money has hit and whole apartment wishes are pouring in. We are thrilled for our clients getting their own apartments. What that means for us is we need many more dressers, kitchen tables, twin mattress sets, adjustable metal bed frames and lamps to accommodate all the families that will be needing our help. If you have any of these very basic items that every family needs we would really appreciate any and all donations.

GoodNite Bag made by Your Fairy Godmothers for every child that gets his first big boy or girl bed. The bag contains a hand knit blanket, a stuffed friend, a pair of pjs and a storybook. **BITS Bag** project to help fill this important need. If you can help with any of these items please contact Jill at Jill@thewishproject.org **Birthday bags** and extra supplies and **Newborn Baskets**. If you have any questions contact Jill by email Jill@thewishproject.org. We can only give out what we have and we depend on our generous donors and supporters to keep our warehouse stocked with items that our struggling clients need! Thank you for your continued support.

The Mission of The Wish Project is to help families in need in Merrimack Valley. Find out more on our website www.thewishproject.org or call us at 978-441-9474.

Hours to drop off donations: Tue/Wed/Fri and Sat 9am-2pm No appointment needed but call first if it is snowing or near a holiday. Foundry Industrial Park Lowell, MA 01852 Off of Plain Street in Lowell.

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. **978-441-9474** Website www.TheWishProject.org

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. **FOLLOW US ON FACEBOOK**



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AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 247

90 Pawtucket Blvd. Tyngsborough, MA 01879

Meetings are held the first Thursday of each month at 7pm.

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 and Maureen Harris

• The Auxiliary Unit 247 will be holding a **"Meat Shoot" Saturday, May 15th, 2017 at 7pm** in the Post Members Lounge.

• The Auxiliary unit 247 is offering a **"Fish Fry" on Good Friday beginning at 12:noon** price \$10.00 proceeds to help towards funding the paving of the American Legion Post 247 Parking Lot.

• **Auxiliary Unit 247 hosted** the American Legion Auxiliary District Five Luncheon Meeting & Memorial Service to honor all Auxiliary Members within District Five who passed on during this past year. (19) people were remembered in this service. Three from our very own Unit 247. Carol Quigley, Blanche Russell and Ellen Lehan.

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.

AMVETS POST #247 ROBERT D. PELLETIER



90 Pawtucket Blvd. Tyngsborough, MA

We hold our meetings on the **1st Tuesday** of the month at **7 p.m.** all veterans are welcome with 180 days or more of active duty. Come down and join us for a meeting.
God Bless America.

Officers: Commander: William Beaton Sr.; 1st Vice: John McDermott; 2nd Vice: David Coles; finance officer: Theodore Thing; Judge Advocate: Roland Milliard; Adjutant: John Cogan; Chaplain: Rodney Wood; Trustees: Claire Beaton and Marty Bloomgren.

"ALWAYS READY TO SERVE OUR VETERANS"

AMVETS National Website: <http://www.amvets.org/>

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.

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TYNGSBOROUGH DUNSTABLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY



Events listed will be held at the Little Red Schoolhouse which is located on Route 113, near the Tyngsborough Dunstable Town Line.

• Saturday, April 22nd, 9AM

Spring Clean-up at the Little Red Schoolhouse

Help make the place shine for our upcoming events.

For more information call Billy Psaledakis 508-254-5621

• Sunday, May 7th beginning at daybreak

41st Annual Steam and Gas Engine Meet

Come early to see the antique engines and farm equipment. Items old and new for sale.

Coffee, donuts, hamburgers & hot dogs will be available.

For information Judy Larter 978-649-9010.

• Friday, May 12th at 7pm

South from Nashua: The Railroads of Tyngsborough, Dunstable, and Vicinity

By Historian and Author Ronald Dale Karr

Bring your memorabilia. For info Call Dianna Dalida 978-649-5699

The **Tyngsborough Dunstable Historical Society** is a non-profit membership organization. Please don't confuse us with your town's Historic Commission although our interests do overlap. Our membership is open to all who are interested in promoting the study of our local history... no election required! Our group dates back to 1939 and was formally incorporated in 1967. One of our goals recently achieved is our website. We thank Webmaster Sue Wright for getting us set up and continuing to monitor the site for us. Check out the website for membership information, upcoming meetings, events and much more at www.tdhistoricalsociety.org. Sincerely, Dianna Dalida, Membership Secretary.



Opening Day – April 8th

April 2017 Hours:

Monday- Friday 3-9 pm

Saturday and Sunday 1-9 pm

April Vacation Week: 1-9 pm

Check out our corn box & cow train!

Coming May 2017: Tully Farms Dairy will be selling farm fresh milk, butter and local products at the Farm Store at Goss Farm.

Check us out on Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/GossFarmDunstable>

<https://www.facebook.com/TullyFarmsDairy>



MOO-VING MORE LOCAL: GOSS FARM ICE CREAM AND TULLY FARMS DAIRY

Goss Farm is opening for the 2017 season on April 8th at 1 pm. This year, we are excited to provide the same great homemade ice cream, now even more local! In collaboration with Tully Farms Dairy, we are proud to announce our own ice cream recipe using Tully Farm fresh milk. The Tully family has been milking cows in Dunstable since 1872. We are bringing to our customers a local product with the best tasting and freshest ingredients. We have worked with a local ice cream mix-maker to develop a unique taste that is exclusive to us. You'll have to come try it for yourself!

And there is more! Coming soon, Tully Farms Dairy will have local, farm fresh milk, butter and other local products for sale at the farm store at Goss Farm. Tully Farm is dedicated to providing you with the best quality, freshest milk and dairy products. Their milk is pasteurized using a process called vat pasteurization that uses a lower temperature for a longer time – this ensures and preserves the quality and taste of the milk.



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Massachusetts Detachment, Squadron 247 Robert D. Pelletier
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• **SAL Detachment 247 now meets on the first Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. at Post 247.**

• **SAL Officers:** Commander: Brian Laplante; Sr. Vice Commander: Steve Harris; Jr. Vice Commander and Chaplin:

Adjutant/Treasury: James Blake; E- Board: David Boyle

We are always welcoming new members. Drop in or call 978-649-7540. **Anyone interested** in becoming a member of the Sons of the American Legion is welcome to attend our monthly meeting. **Applications are available at the Post at any time.**

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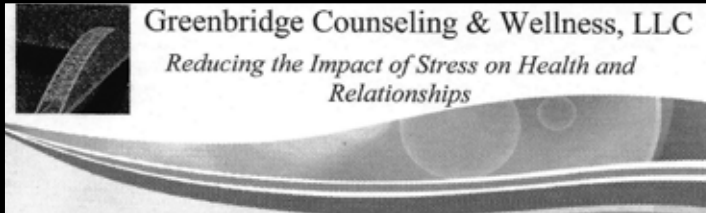
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GIVE US A KING

By Nathan Combs

The time of Judges was a dark chapter in Israel's history. The people fell into a cyclical pattern of chasing idolatry, experiencing punishment through foreign oppression, crying out to God for deliverance, and receiving salvation through a military leader. With each deliverance, however, the people exposed their wicked hearts and went back to their idols. When the last judge, the prophet Samuel, had become old, the Israelites gathered to the city of Ramah and demanded that Samuel appoint a king to rule Israel (1 Samuel 8). Although the Lord noted their rejection of Him, He instructed Samuel to fulfill their demand. What led the people to this moment?

1. Instead of driving out the Canaanite nations as they were divinely commanded, the Israelites became Canaanite themselves.

Before the people had entered the land of Canaan in the days of Joshua, they were instructed by the Lord to rid the land of the corrupt native inhabitants and their gods (Numbers 33:50-56). Disobedience would mean perpetual trouble for the Israelites and their eventual destruction. Sure enough, when Israel failed to fully eradicating the Canaanites, God's people began to take on their characteristics (Judges 2:11-12). Therefore, their eventual call for a king was the direct result of long study of and infatuation with the neighboring peoples. We would do well to drive out unholy desires from our hearts and make a study of our Lord instead of our culture.

2. Israel had a generational habit of doing "what was right in [their] own eyes" (Judges 17:6, 21:25).

The horrific accounts in the book of Judges of Israelites embracing idolatry, rape, slaughter, and civil war can be traced back to this crooked compass and explains the actions of Israel's elders in 1 Samuel 8. Shockingly, when they approached Samuel, the Lord was completely absent from their words. Instead of humbly requesting knowledge of God's will in the matter of Israel's leadership, they came barking orders like pragmatic Canaanite warlords. By contrast, "Samuel prayed to the Lord" (1 Samuel 8:6). American culture preaches looking inside yourself to find your true compass. The Old Testament, however, reveals a spiritual graveyard of mistaken people who lived by the same motto.

3. Israel had a deep-seated desire for prestige and sophistication in the eyes of others.

This is revealed in their repeated desire to "be like all the nations" and their second demand for someone to "judge us and go out before us and fight our battles" (1 Samuel 8:5, 20). This is interesting, since plenty of men in previous generations had already led the people to military victory when the need arose. Israel already had situational battle fighters and judges. However, they didn't have the cultural prestige of a man who ruled from a palace, kept a litany of wives and servants, ordered soldiers around, and had authority to rule with absolute power. This craving led to rejecting the King they already had. May we not spurn our heavenly ruler for paltry substitutes like they did!

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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."

PASTOR BOBBY ROSS has established office hours. Call the office at 978-649-6251 or email administrator@dunstablechurch.org, or pastorbobby@dunstablechurch.org to schedule a time for an appointment that is convenient for you.

DECC YOUTH GROUP: On the weekend of March 3-5, six members joined about 200 others for an incredible experience at an "encounter" weekend retreat at Mt Monadnock Bible Camp. They deepened their spiritual walk, confronted personal obstacles and learned how to help each other grow closer to Christ. They also had a chance to really build a special bond with each other and had a blast with all the activities at the camp despite the bone chilling temperature! All came back exhausted but filled with great memories and a freshened faith in Jesus. Coming up... Sharing a meal, Serving breakfast at Living Waters, Movie Night, Game Night, Discussions. Usual meetings are held at the church 4-6pm on Sundays unless otherwise noted. Anyone in grades 6-12 is welcome. Come check it out! Questions? Call Jon Hughes (978-649-8554).

CHOIR REHEARSALS Until further notice, rehearsals will be on the last two Tuesdays of the month. The choir will participate in the morning service on the first Sunday of April plus Palm Sunday and Easter. **We continue our search for a new Pianist/Accompanist** for the church. Qualified candidates are welcome call the church for more information at 978-649-6251 or send any questions or resume to administrator@dunstablechurch.org. Please pass the word along if you know someone who might be interested in the position.

EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE will be held at 7am on **April 16th**. Breakfast will follow at 8:00 am in the Fellowship Hall, served by the Men's Group and the Youth Group. The regular Easter Sunday Service is at 10:00am.

MOPS (Mothers of Preschoolers) at Dunstable Church. Next meetings are Apr 7th, May 5th & 19th., and June 2nd. It's a well-established, popular program that will be a blessing to our community. Moms and preschoolers have a wonderful social and sharing time together. MOPS meet 9-11 am on Fridays, twice a month. If you're interested, contact Shelly Ross at shellyannross@gmail.com.

FREE WOMEN'S SELF DEFENSE CLASS FOR BEGINNERS

April 22nd from 3-4:30 at the Dunstable Evangelical Congregational Church there will be a free women's self defense class. The class will be taught by four instructors, all skilled in Shaolin Kempo, ranging from 7th degree to 2nd degree black belts. This class is aimed towards women who have no prior experience in any self defense and would like to learn. If interested or you have any questions, please email administrator@dunstablechurch.org.

FREE BULLY BUSTING CLASS FOR CHILDREN (HOW TO AVOID CONFLICT) **April 29th** from 3-4:30 at the Dunstable Evangelical Congregational Church there will be a free bully busting class. The class will be taught by four instructors, all skilled in Shaolin Kempo, ranging from 7th degree to 2nd degree black belts. This class is aimed towards children of all ages who have no prior experience in any self defense or ways to avoid conflict and would like to learn. If interested or you have any questions, please email administrator@dunstablechurch.org

MOTHER'S DAY TEA **May 13th** 11:00-1:00 pm at Dunstable Church Fellowship Hall. Sheryl Faye will present "Women in Flight, Amelia Earhart." Free Program sponsored by the Sunshine Girls *This program is supported in part by a grant from the Dunstable Cultural Council, a local agency which is supported by the Massachusetts Cultural Council, a state agency.* Dunstable Cultural Council Grant.

Please bring a non-perishable food item to be donated to a local food pantry. RSVP by May 5th to Sue Metzler at susan.metzler@hotmail.com or 978-649-7737. For more information about any of these events, contact the church office 978-649-6251 or email info@dunstablechurch.org.



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ALTRUSA CLUB OF MERRIMACK VALLEY

ALTRUSA is a non-profit community service organization dedicated to improving the lives of those in need in our community. With the start of a new year, Altrusa is recruiting new members to help with our projects. To learn more about Altrusa visit at www.altrusa.org or email altrusamv@gmail.com.



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Who needs orthotics? Orthotics can benefit people with foot, knee, hip and/or back pain.

Can you wear the orthotics during all daily activities? People who stand or walk all day will benefit from orthotics. If you suffer from pain during any form of sporting exercise then orthotics can reduce the pain associated with your condition. For overweight individuals, orthotics will help to counteract the extra stress being placed on the feet.

What specific conditions may be helped? Achilles Tendonitis, Corns, Metatarsalgia, Sesamoiditis, Ankle Sprains, Flat Feet, Neuroma, Tendonitis, Arch Pain, Heel Pain, Pronation, Top of the foot pain, Bunions, Knee Pain, Shin Pain, Toe Pain, Hip and Low Back Pain.

Do I need a physician's prescription to get custom orthotics? No. Some insurance plans will cover the cost of custom orthotics. We stock basic orthotics that can provide similar benefits at a fraction of the cost of custom orthotics. We also have a variety of sandals that have built-in arch support! Spenco Sandals are designed with orthotic quality arch and heel support and are available in many sizes and colors.

Why do I need orthotics? Imbalances of the bones of the feet can result in abnormal foot motion (over pronation). This can impair foot function which can result in abnormal rotation of the legs and sometimes affects the knees, hips or back. If we combine these tremendous forces with the need for precise balance, we can see how small structural changes in the foot can make significant differences. Orthotics help to improve those structural changes.

How long will my Foot Orthotic Last? Usually between 12 to 18 months.

Does it take time to get used to orthotics? Your feet need time to adjust to the correct biomechanical (walking) position. Orthotics should be gradually used to begin with. During the first 48 hours of use, use the orthotics for approximately 3-4 hours. After this period of time it is recommended you use the orthotics for 6-8 hours. In the second week of use the orthotics can be utilized all day.

Sponsored by Perras Chiropractic, 404 Middlesex Rd., #3, Tyngsboro, MA. perraschiropractic.com (978) 649-5777.

NEW ENGLAND VOICES IN HARMONY

The Nashua based women's a cappella chorus, New England Voices in Harmony, invites ambitious female singers to attend *rehearsals every Tuesday evening beginning at 6:30 pm* at our rehearsal space: the Nashua Senior Center, second floor, 70 Temple St., Nashua. New England Voices in Harmony is a chapter of Harmony, Inc. an international non-profit, educational group which promotes singing in the barbershop style. Rita Ralston at rralston10@aol.com for more information. www.newenglandvoicesinharmony.org

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clubs. Rotary builds international understanding through scholar-
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... 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 or schedule a tour. 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 are provided to students in grades 4-8, 20+ athletic programs, extra-curricular activities including LEGO Robotics Club and Destination Imagination. Extended Day Care Program is available.

Consistently recognized as a school of excellence, this year Ste Jeanne d'Arc School students rank #1 in the Archdiocese of Boston for high achievement on the NWEA standardized test. We are also 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.

We welcome the opportunity to share the many advantages of a Ste Jeanne d'Arc School education. Come visit and let us show you all we have to offer.

"We ignite a passion for learning and compassionate living"

PLEASURES FROM THE PARLOR

Music in Victorian America

The **Nashua Historical Society** is pleased to present Pleasures from the Parlor: Playlists from a Victor iPod on **Tuesday, April 18, 2017 at 7:30 p.m.** at the **Speare Museum at 5 Abbott Street, Nashua**. Pleasures of the Parlor is an entertaining examination of musical life in Victorian America, illustrated with paintings, readings and beautiful singing by Miss Marya Danihel. For more information, please visit our website <http://www.nashuahistoricalsociety.org/index.html>. This program is **free and open to the public** through a grant from the NH Humanities' Humanities to Go! Speaker's Bureau.

BEAVER BROOK NATURE CENTER

• Staying Found with Search and Rescue Dogs

April 22 9:30-11:30 Beaver Brook Brown Lane Barn 52 Brown Lane Hollis NH Co-sponsored by Beaver Brook, the Appalachian Mountain Club and NE K-9 Search and Rescue. Focus is to teach children how not to get lost, and how to stay safe if separated from their group. For kids aged 4-10. Free! See search and rescue dogs in action! The workshop will start at 9:30am and run for 1.5-2 hours. Pre-registration required. These workshops sometimes fill up, so register early Register online at www.beaverbrook.org

• REDUCE-REUSE-RECYCLE-REPURPOSE!

Drop off your "still good" items: Friday, **April 14:** 10am-2pm, Saturday, **April 15th:** 10am-2pm, Monday, **April 17th:** 10am-2pm, Tuesday, **April 18th:** 10am-2pm and 7-9 pm. **ACCEPTABLE ITEMS:** Small Kitchen Appliances and Utensils, Tools, Baskets, Non-Upholstered Furniture, Dishes, Household items, Lamps, Toys, Jewelry, Handbags, Holiday Decorations, **Books:** Novels, childrens', nonfiction, photo CDs and DVDS **UNACCEPTABLE ITEMS:** Magazines, Encyclopedias, Computers, Printers, Monitors. VCR Tapes, Large Exercise Equipment, Cribs, Televisions, Skis, Mattresses (including bedding), Vacuum Cleaners Opened Toiletries, Hygiene items.

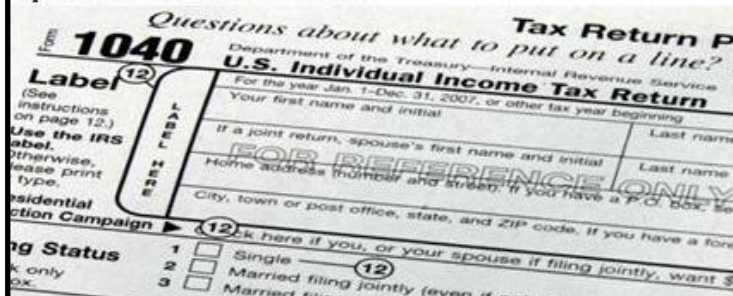
• **BEAVER BROOK EARTH DAY BARN SALE Sat. April 22, 8am –noon Maple Hill Farm, 117 Ridge Road, Hollis NH** A fundraiser for Beaver Brook trails and programs. An entire barn full of household items, tools, antiques, toys, lawn and garden implements, jewelry, and surprises for great prices. Rain or shine: It's indoors!

• **Wednesday Wildflower Walks, April 19-June 21 10 am –noon.** Beaver Brook Nature Center Trails The traditional Wednesday Wildflower walks lead you through the trails of Beaver Brook in search of each week's blooming wildflowers. Join the knowledgeable BBA instructor Rivka Schwartz on these walks. Walks take place each Wednesday through June 21st. Call or check location on website each week to make sure you are at the right trailhead. 603-465-7787. \$5 per person/ Free to BBA Members. Register at www.beaverbrook.org Wildflower Bloom Book of Beaver Brook by Joan Bonnette available for sale \$10.

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CAT FOOD DONATIONS NEEDED

to feed a colony of feral and homeless kitties. Please call me at **978-799-9715** for the drop-off location on the Dunstable/Tyngsboro line. Don Gaudette. **Volunteers to help with the feeding are also needed.** Associated with Kitty Angels www.kittyangels.org Kitty Angels is An All-Volunteer, Non-Profit Shelter for Needy Cats

SPRING PLANT SALE MIDDLESEX CONSERVATION DISTRICT



The Middlesex Conservation District will be holding its annual Spring Plant Sale on **Friday, April 21 from 3-6pm and Saturday, April 22 from 8am to 12 noon.**

The Sale will be held at the 4H Fairgrounds, 51 South Chelmsford Road in Westford, MA. *All items that were pre-ordered through March 31 should be picked up on the sale days.*

We will also be selling excess first quality stock, *on these dates on a first come, first served basis.* Items may include tree and shrub seedlings, perennials, fruits, groundcovers, and garden supplies (rain barrels, Tick Tubes, cow manure, fertilizers).

The Middlesex Conservation District is a not-for-profit environmental agency whose purpose is conservation of natural resources in Middlesex County. Proceeds from our biannual plant sales provide programs to improve water quality and quantity, for preservation of open space and erosion control and provide environmental education. For more information about our sale or programs please visit www.middlesexconservation.org.



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ST. MARY CHURCH: 25 North Road, Chelmsford Daily Mass

Schedule: Monday – Friday 7:00 AM; Saturday 9:00 AM

Weekend Mass Schedule: Saturday 4:00PM; Sunday 7:00AM,

9:00AM, 11:00AM and 6:00PM Reconciliation: Saturdays 11:00 – 12:00 NOON, or by appointment

ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST CHURCH: 115 Middlesex Street,

North Chelmsford Daily Mass Schedule: Monday –Saturday... 9:00

AM Weekend Mass Schedule: Saturday... 4:00 PM; Sunday... 8:30

AM, 10:30 AM and 5:00 PM Reconciliation: Saturdays... 3:00 – 3:45

PM, or by appointment Lenten Season Offerings March 1 – April 12

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE: In addition to regular Mass schedule (listed above)... St. Mary will be offering Wednesday evening Mass at 6:00 PM

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Fridays of Lent... Soup at 6:00 PM, followed by Stations at 7:00 PM... both parishes.

PALM SUNDAY PANCAKE BREAKFAST St. Mary... Sunday, April 9th... 8:00 -11:00 AM Palm Sunday is the final Sunday of Lent, the beginning of Holy Week, and commemorates the triumphant arrival of Christ in Jerusalem, days before he was crucified. As is states in the Gospels, which we will hear at Mass on this day, Jesus entered Jerusalem riding a young donkey, and to the praise of the townspeople who threw clothes, or possibly palms or small branches, in front of him as a sign of homage. Let us enter into Holy Week with a celebration of fellowship around the table, and a spirit of gratitude for all that Christ is about to do for us this coming week. Tickets are \$10 per person/ \$25 per family. All proceeds from this celebratory breakfast will support our collaborative Youth Ministry activities.

Triduum/ Easter Sunday Schedule **HOLY THURSDAY, April 13th**

9:00 AM: Morning Prayer at St. John

7:00 PM: Mass of the Lord's Supper at St. Mary

GOOD FRIDAY, April 14th 9:00 AM: Morning Prayer at St. John

3:00 PM: Teen-led Stations of the Cross at St. John

7:00 PM: Passion of Our Lord Jesus Christ at St. Mary

HOLY SATURDAY, April 15th 9:00 AM: Morning Prayer at St. Mary

8:30 PM: The Great Easter Vigil Mass at St. John

EASTER SUNDAY, April 16th 8:30 and 10:30 AM Masses at St.

John. 7:00, 9:00 and 11:00 AM Masses at St. Mary



46 Coburn Road
Tyngsboro

Earth Day Celebration

Saturday, April 22, 2017, 1-4 PM

at 46 Coburn Road, Tyngsboro, MA (Sherburne Nature Center & Trails) Join the family fun 1pm-4pm during the annual Earth Day Celebration at the Sherburne Nature Center located at 46 Coburn Road, Tyngsboro, MA. There will be educational booths and exhibits to raise conservation awareness brought to you by the Nature Walks Conservation Society (NatureWalksCS.org). Activities led by local volunteers include a Wetlands Interpretive Nature Walk at 2pm hosted by lifelong Naturalist & Conservation advocate Mark Fraser (host of "NatureWalks" seen on PBS). All are welcome and there is absolutely no charge!

Sherburne Nature Center trails are open daily, dawn to dusk, for the residents of Tyngsboro and neighboring towns. Traverse several woodland streams, go bird-watching, try to catch a glimpse of a beaver, and observe meadow wildflowers and butterflies. It's a great place for outdoor exercise and to enjoy nature close to home. Sherburne Nature Center and Trails activities are open to all who are interested. Activities go rain or shine. In extreme weather conditions, activities are cancelled. No reservations or fees required. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

PET HEALTH DUNSTABLE ANIMAL CLINIC DNA, the future of Veterinary Medicine?

by Tara M. Sacramone, DVM



Some day in the not too distant future we may be using your pet's blood to routinely screen not only for heartworm, tick borne diseases and metabolic health, but also his/her DNA for genetic mutations and whether s/he is prone to certain medical disorders turning up in the future. Just like with human medicine there is a lot of research going on in veterinary medicine to help us unlock your pets genes to not only tell us what breeds they are, but also how related they are to one another, and whether they carry certain mutations and also whether certain diseases will likely show up in their lifetime.

Currently the most common use for DNA testing is to determine which breeds make up mixed breed dogs. My little rescue dog Ajax looks like a Chihuahua Terrier mix, but he turned out to be ½ Mini Poodle, ¼ Yorkie and ¼ Mutt. The test currently goes back 3 generations, so sometimes the results are not very helpful. Not only is it nice to know which breeds make up your mixed breed dog, but it can actually be helpful so that you can be on the watch for certain disorders more prone in certain breeds.

Another current use of DNA screening in dogs is testing for two specific genetic disorders. One involving a mutation causing multiple drug sensitivities and the other mutation involves exercise-induced collapse. More and more genetic markers are being discovered every day in this fast developing technology.

There is now a DNA test available for cats as well. It checks for genetic markers associated with various disorders and also has information about coat color and length.

Another current use for DNA testing is aimed specifically at breeders. It can tell you how genetically related two dogs are to each other and to the breed as a whole before breeding. In this way, it is hoped to reduce and may be even eliminate genetic disorders.

If you want to do some research on pet genetics the two companies leading the way are Mars Veterinary which offers the Wisdom Panel and Embark Veterinary Inc., which works with Cornell University.

These are exciting times in veterinary medicine. Even though I ask my patients every day what seems to be bothering them, none of my patients have actually answered me, maybe soon their genes will.



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LOWELL GENERAL HOSPITAL

Community Health and Wellness Programs

April 2017



Teddy Bear Clinic Saturday, April 22 12:00-3:00pm, FREE

Pheasant Lane mall

310 Daniel Webster Highway, Nashua, NH

Located between Macy's and Dick's Sporting Goods.

Lowell General Hospital and the Pheasant Lane Mall are teaming up to offer a FREE Teddy Bear Clinic!

Kids, bring your favorite stuffed animal or doll to the Pheasant Lane Mall for a checkup, to learn tips to stay healthy, participate in fun activities and learn valuable health information for the whole family.

ABCs of Babies for New Parents

Tuesday, May 2, 7:00pm-9:00pm, FREE

Get started as a parent with everything you need to know about infant care, feeding, development and achieving good sleep.

Basics for Babies

Tuesday, April 25, 6:30pm-8:30pm, FREE

New and expectant parents and grandparents will learn about feeding, sleep and behavioral issues as well as immunizations.

Boot Camp for New Dads®

Saturday, April 29, 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.

Breastfeeding Class

Monthly classes, Times vary, FREE

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

Prenatal Wellness Package

\$149.99/6-week session, 3 days per week

Develop and strengthen your body for the changes it will experience during pregnancy through yoga and strength training. Presented in partnership with SLS Fitness in Lowell.

Prenatal Yoga

Sundays, April 30-June 11*, 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. **No class on May 28*

Registration required!

Call 1-877-LGH-WELL (1-877-544-9355)
or visit www.lowellgeneral.org/health

