



Neighbor to Neighbor

Published by Anne M. Paquin Since 1983

64 Hardy St., Dunstable, MA 01827

(978) 419-1914

E-mail: anne@neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com

www.neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com

Celebrating 34 Years of Service!

Issue # 366 • December 2017

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COMMUNITY COOKIE SWAP

Wednesday, December 20th at 6:30pm this will be held at **Dunstable Town Hall, Main St.** Annual Holiday Event...Families and friends gather to share their talents of cookie baking. Bring 3 dozen of one kind of cookie with the recipe. We will swap cookies and a little history of the chosen cookie. Bring an empty tin to take all your cookies home in.

For more info email sjt0213@verizon.net

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: **January 24th from 11am-12 noon at the Library, 588 Main Street, Dunstable.** Meet with the nurse for a wellness check including blood pressure/pulse monitoring, blood sugar screening, general health counseling, and further assessments with referrals as needed. 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. **The nurse will not be visiting in December.**

TOWN CLERK NEWS

The Special Town Meeting has not yet been certified as of this writing but there were 82 voters in attendance. Thank you to John Callahan who served as the acting temporary Town Clerk as I was out on medical leave.

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

HOURS: The Clerk's Office is open Monday evening from 3:00 pm – 7:30 pm; Tuesday and Thursday 9:00 am – 2:00 pm. Wednesday 9:00 am – 2:30 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 to submit your request if you'd like to reserve a personal dog tag number for your dog. You have to apply annually for the number, it does not remain with you for the life of the dog. People are very creative, using their house number, badge number, etc. If you reserve a number, the dog must be licensed by January 31 or it goes back to the general public.

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 12/07/17. No number higher than 600.

IN MEMORY OF

James R. Sheehan
Judith W. Randall Debrececi
Captain Edward A. Cossette
Juanita Sargent Morton
Isabel Rita Stagnone Smith
Col. Robert J. Irzyk US Air Force Retired
William J. Cormier
Frederick a. Jollimore
Geraldine M. Treworgy Shaughnessey

On October 14, Dr Michael Nelson, Psychiatrist, of Concord and Dunstable, passed away after a very long illness. He is mourned by his children Adam and Anna and their families, as well as his brother David.



CONGRATULATIONS TO TIM CRANDALL, EAGLE SCOUT

Recently Tim's Court of Honor for his Eagle Scout Ceremony was held at the Dunstable Evangelical Congregational Church. During the ceremony Scoutmaster, Sarath Krishnaswamy administered the Eagle Scout Oath, while Tim's parents Patti and Jon Crandall and sister, Shannon shared the wonderful event. Tim was presented with a proclamation from Middlesex Sheriff, Peter Koutoujian.

Jim Shea was Tim's Eagle Scout Advisor. His project was seal coating the parking lot behind the Swallow Union elementary School in Dunstable Center. The lot was then painted with a huge checkerboard, two four-square courts, two hop scotch games and two tic-tac-toe games.

DUNSTABLE THEATER COLLABORATIVE PRESENTS BAREFOOT IN THE PARK

Join Dunstable Theater Collaborative for our group's inaugural performance of Neil Simon's *Barefoot in the Park* at **Dunstable Town Hall on January 12 & 13 at 8pm**, and on **January 14th at 2pm**. Neil Simon's *Barefoot in the Park* is a romantic comedy focusing on a pair of newlyweds, Corie and Paul Bratter, as they begin married life in a tiny, 5th-floor walkup apartment in a Greenwich Village brownstone. Paul is a strait-laced attorney; Corie has a far more spontaneous, free spirit. As the young couple contend with a lack of heat, a skylight that leaks snow, several long flights of stairs, oddball neighbor Victor Velasco, and Corie's well-meaning mother Ethel Banks, they must also reconcile their own personal differences in how they approach life's challenges. Adjusting to married life isn't so easy!

Tickets are \$12 General Admission, \$10 Students & Seniors. Tickets will be available online and at the door. Seating is limited, so buy your tickets today at: www.dunstabletheater.org/product-category/tickets

There are still opportunities to be involved in this production, as well! If you would like to help with ushering or stage crew, please email us at info@dunstabletheater.org
We hope to see you there!

DUNSTABLE RURAL LAND TRUST

2018 CALENDAR

This year's calendar features DRLT Director, Anne Davis' dramatic black and white photos of Dunstable.

The Calendar is available for \$12.00 a piece at the Dunstable Library, The General Store, The Rose of Sharon at Blossom Hill, The Farmhouse Café and from the DRLT Directors.

All proceeds from the Calendar sales go to the DRLT to protect the open space and to preserve the rural character of Dunstable. Call Elaine at 978-649-9236 or Anne at 978-649-7243 for more information.

DUNSTABLE RURAL LAND TRUST WINTERFEST 2018

Our 22nd Winterfest is scheduled for Sunday, January 28th, from 11am to 3pm. We are hoping for the weather to be just right this year! As you might remember, last year's event was canceled due to no ice and snow! That was only the 6th time in 21 years that we had to cancel.

Please join us this year at the Dunstable Rural Land Trust property at 1074 Main Street on Sunday, January 28th, 2018! Watch for more details in January issue.

**Christmas Trees • Wreaths
Roping • Decorations**



LAWNDALE FARM
91 FROST ROAD TYNGSBORO, MA
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**On December 9th and 10th, from 10am to 4pm,
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DUNSTABLE

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e-mail: nicolwoodworks@mac.com

The deadline is December 10th for the January issue.

Have events coming up in? Send an email to me
anne@NeighborToNeighborNewsLetter.com or by mail to
Neighbor to Neighbor, 64 Hardy St., Dunstable, MA 01827.

News is placed on a first come, first served basis.

Need details about advertising your business?

You may reach me at **978-419-1914** or send me an email.

Tyngsborough printed issues circulation is 5011 and

Dunstable printed issues circulation is 1299.

Issues available at www.neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com

DUNSTABLE SENIORS

We are a peer group for those over 60. Seniors now meet in the community room of the library every Wednesday 10:30 - 11:30 Bone Builders, dominos 10:30 - noon, lunch at noon. First Wednesday at 12:30 **BINGO for cash**. Last Wednesday of the month, **POKENO**, bring your pennies. **SCRABBLE** group every Wednesday 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.

On **December 13** the Dunstable Library staff will be sponsoring the lunch, **The Traveling Chef Program** provided by Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley will cater the **December 20th** lunch and will be sponsored by Denise and Ken Tully. It will be a delicious Holiday Feast of Roast Beef, potatoes, vegetable and dessert. RSVP by Dec 13th. This will also be our holiday Yankee Swap. Lunches are \$3.00 per person. **NO LUNCH ON DEC. 27 or JANUARY 3**. On January 10 will kick off the New Year with our annual New Year's Pot Luck. We would love to see more seniors at our lunches.

Yankee Swap Party We will be holding our annual Yankee Swap on **Wednesday, December 20** following lunch. Everyone is asked to bring a CONSUMABLE gift. Be creative! Suggested amount \$10.00.

Indian Hill Music, Bach Lunch is on **Thursday, December 21st**. There are **TWO PERFORMANCES: 11:00 am and 1:30 pm** at Indian Hill Music, 36 King Street, Littleton MA. The performance will feature the Justin Meyer jazz quartet. Light refreshments are served but you are welcome to bring your own lunch.

Book Club will meet on **Saturday, December 16** and every third Saturday at 10:30a.m. We will be discussing *The Rosie Effect* by Graeme Simsion. This is a sequel to *The Rosie Project*. The library supplies the books Order yours at the circulation desk

Rivercourt Residence in West Groton invites Dunstable seniors for lunches on the third Tuesday of each month. Next lunch will be **Tuesday, December 19** at 12:30. **RSVP by Dec 12th**. Rivercourt does this as a community out-reach program. This will be our last lunch until March. We appreciate Rivercourt's continued support. They will be holding their annual Holiday Fair on Sunday December 3 from Noon- 3:00. Always a great place to shop.

• **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.

• **Line Dancing Class** Classes are held on Mondays at 9:45a.m. for one hour in the lower hall of the Dunstable town hall. Space still available, beginners welcome. Cost is \$3.00 per session. 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** Meets on Mondays from 7:00 – 8:30 at Swallow Union

DUNSTABLE BOY SCOUTS

Boy Scout Troop 28 Dunstable meetings are held at the Dunstable Congregational Church. This is for boys in grades 6-12.

Boy Scouting is a great way to build self-confidence, character, and leadership while having fun, making friends, going on adventures, and serving your community. Troop 28 does all sorts of activities including kayak trips, day hikes, camping trips from 1-5 nights, bike trips, cooking competitions, shooting sports, trampoline jumping nights, and more. We serve our community with conservation projects, citizenship work, and service to our seniors and veterans. All activities are completely voluntary and Scouting is easy to fit around sports and other activities.

Our Troop has a great history of developing young men into self-confident leaders, including many Eagle Scouts. If you are interested in joining, please call Scoutmaster Sarath Krishnaswamy at 978-846-0120 or sarath@alum.mit.edu if you'd like to learn more.

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.

WELL ADULT CLINIC Are held on the fourth Wednesday of every month in the community room of the Dunstable Library. Nurse will provide wellness check, blood pressure/pulse monitoring, blood sugar screening. **The nurse will be available on Wednesday, January 24, 11:00a.m. - noon** at the Dunstable Public Library.

There will not be a nurse available in December.

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

VAN SERVICE is available for medical appointments and grocery shopping. Cost is \$5.00 for local trips, Lowell, Chelmsford, Nashua, Tyngsboro, Westford, Ayer, Groton & Pepperell. \$10.00 for others. **Call Anne as soon as possible to make sure a ride is available.**

FUEL ASSISTANCE and Food Stamps Applications now available. Check to see if you are eligible.

Prescription Advantage Now has a continuous open enrollment. Applications available.

MEDICARE QUESTIONS Call Elder Services at 1-800-892-0890

MEALS ON WHEELS Do you or someone you know need the services of Meals on Wheels? Receive a hot nutritious lunch delivered M-F at around 11:30 a.m. as well as monthly special meals and holiday meals. For more info check with Anne. Drivers needed.

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. **Application for RMV Handicap placards**

MESSAGE FROM THE FIRE CHIEF The Chief is available to check your smoke detectors you just need to set up an appointment. 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

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 on the fourth Tuesday of the month. Pick up at the Tyngsboro Senior Center. Applications are now being accepted and are available through Anne at the Dunstable COA office.

DURABLE MEDICAL EQUIPMENT Try us FREE before you buy. Check out the COA's inventory. We have a variety of good, gently used walkers, wheelchairs, canes, commodes and much more that people have generously donated. These are on loan and need to be returned when not in use. PLEASE call first before you drop off items. Accepted items should be brought to the Town Hall only.

CARE GUIDES AVAILABLE FOR FAMILIES OF PEOPLE WITH ALZHEIMER'S Disease. FREE The Alzheimer's Disease Assoc. Ma/NH Chapter has a array of resources for families and individuals at each stage of Alzheimer's Disease. These comprehensive guides allow families to address specific issues they are currently experiencing. If you are not sure what guide is best for you call 800-272-3900. To download guide go to: www.alzmass.org/care-guides.html. The Alzheimer's Assn. home page is located at www.alz.org/manh
FILES OF LIFE POUCHES ARE 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 10-4.

Dunstable Council on Aging: Mary Moeller, Chairperson; Brian O'Donnell, Secretary; Danice Palumbo; Donald Pottle; Mary Dow; Ruth Tully; and Nancy Novak. Many thanks to Marilyn Sheridan for her service to the Council on Aging.

EXTRA HANDS AND PAWS

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YANKEE DOODLE DOLLERS DOLL CLUB

We are a group of adult doll collectors. **Meetings are the second Tuesday of each month, from 6:30 to 9:30 in Acton, MA.** Want more information? Call Rosemary 978-534-0365 (leave a message) Or call Diane 978-448-2893

We are a member of the United Federation of Doll Clubs

MORE NEWS FROM

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.

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.

Document shredding We are looking into finding a local company that will shred personal documents. Would like to know how many senior would be interested in using this service. Contact COA office.

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.

Volunteers needed to deliver Meals on Wheels to shut-ins. To lead an activity or craft

Nashoba Nursing Service and Hospice: For information on home health, flu clinics, nursing availability, or hospice - call 1-800-698-3307.

MEDICAID PLANNING WITH CAREGIVER CONTRACTS

By Edward H. Adamsky

One option when someone needs care, is for a family member to provide that assistance. Most folks do it for free without any thought for the legal, emotional and financial consequences of that decision. Some elders promise an extra inheritance or perhaps a house in exchange for the care. These are reasonable options that can work, but the rules of Medicaid may stop you from doing what you thought was right. You need to plan ahead with an understanding of the Medicaid rules.

One of the best options is to use a caregiver contract (sometimes called a personal care agreement). A written contract has many benefits. It details the compensation the family member will get for doing the work. It will alleviate tension between family members by making the terms of the arrangement clear and specific. It can be a be a vital part of Medicaid planning, by engaging in a spend-down of assets so the elder will eventually qualify for Medicaid long-term care coverage.

You should meet with an Elder Law Attorney and perhaps your Accountant to discuss the terms and issues of the care contract. If Medicaid Planning is the goal, the contract has to be written very carefully. You should detail the caregiver's duties which might include driving to doctors and grocery shopping as well as personal services like medicine management, bathing and dressing. The contract can be modified over time if necessary, but you want to cover of all the essentials so no one is short-changed.

The terms of payment must be considered. Will it be a lump-sum up front or a periodic payment? The payment must be reasonable and in line with the services to be provided. A lump sum payment must be calculated carefully if future Medicaid eligibility is at issue. You also need to think about taxes and insurance. The elder may well be considered an "employer" under state law and will need to withhold taxes and Medicare and carry worker's compensation insurance. You do not want your family member to run afoul of state labor laws. The caregiver may have to report income (whether as an employee or an independent contractor) and properly pay taxes on the income. In some cases, a room and board agreement may only cover shared housing expenses of a family member and may not be taxable income. You will want to consult your tax professional on those issues.

If you have a loved-one who needs care, and that care will be provided at home by a family member, then your family should consider using a written agreement to detail the terms of the arrangement. See your Elder Law Attorney today!



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DUNSTABLE GRANGE #31

CELEBRATING 150 YEARS

Meetings are held each month at Dunstable Town Hall at 8 p.m. unless otherwise noted. See below. Call for more information 978-649-3934. Come join Grange!

All are welcome!!! Refreshments will be served.



December 8th - Christmas Party. Meeting at 7PM followed by Pot-Luck supper, card exchange and Yankee swap. Call Charlie at 978-649-3934 for details.

January 12th - Youth Program. Bring a \$5 McDonald's Gift Card for Foster Care.



Again this year West Auto Repair, Inc. has teamed up with Maureen Amaral, Realtor from Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage, who is our town's Toys for Tots coordinator, to collect toys for local families in our area. The Toys for Tots collection box is set up in the office of West Auto Repair located at 30 Pleasant St. (a/k/a Route 113) in Dunstable, MA. The office is open Monday - Friday 8AM til 5PM. No appointment is needed, please just stop by and leave any toys in the collection box. Historically there has been a shortage of donations for children in their pre-teen years so please keep that in mind when considering what toys you might donate to this program. Toys for Tots accepts NEW items and they do not need to be gift wrapped. This allows the parents to see what will be given to their children.

We look forward to seeing you all during this upcoming holiday season and we thank you in advance for your support. Should you have any questions relating to the Toys for Tots program please feel free to contact Maureen at [773-599-3257](tel:773-599-3257) and she can answer any questions you might have.

From our families to yours ... wishing you the happiest of holiday seasons and thank you for your generosity. *The West Family & Maureen Amaral*

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)

Supt. Office: 978-448-5505

Peter Twomey Youth Center 978-448-8459

Florence Roche School 978-448-6665

Middle School 978-448-6155

GD Regional High School 978-448-6362

Boutwell Early Childhood Center 978-448-2297

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Free Estimates

GROTON DUNSTABLE SPEDPAC

January 25, 2018 7-9 pm

GDRSD High School Library, 703 Chicopee Row,
Groton, MA 01450

RSVP Requested: gdsepac2@gmail.com

Ellen Chambers founder of SpedWatch will be presenting Basic Rights Workshop

Come learn about your child's educational rights under MA and Federal laws. *Funded in part by the Groton Commissioners of Trust Funds Lecture Funds and the Groton Dunstable Educational Foundation*

GROTON DUNSTABLE SPEDPAC

CONTACT OFFICERS AND LIAISON 2017-2018

Co-Chairs: Melissa Padera – mpadera@yahoo.com

Jennifer Bonenfant – jenniferbonenfant@gmail.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

Swallow Union Melissa Padera – mpadera@yahoo.com

Middle School Marla Haddad – mhaddad2@verizon.net

High School Susan Lopez – susanlopez24@gmail.com

Out-of-District Nancy Beshansky – nancybeshansky@hotmail.com

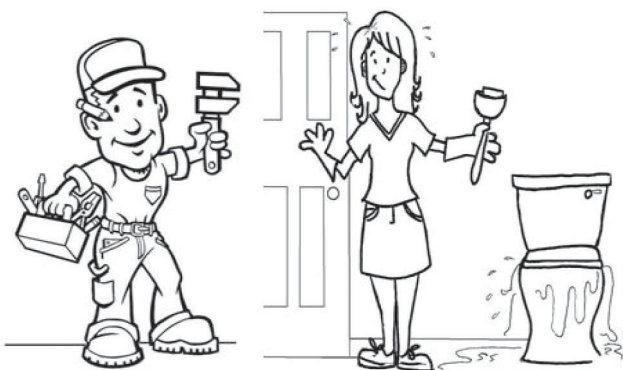
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We are an egalitarian community of learners doing Torah Lishma, "study for it's own sake." We study the Hebrew Bible and the classic texts of rabbinic Judaism. We are open to classical modes of study, drawing from the millennia of wisdom of classical 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/>

BEAVER BROOK NATURE CENTER HOLLIS, NH

• BEAVER BROOK 5K TRAIL RUN DEC 17

Beaver Brook Nature Center, 117 Ridge Road, Hollis NH

The Beaver Brook almost 5K Race is running the old fashioned way with a great off road course, great competition, unique T-Shirts and useful awards (pint glasses). Colorful Beaver Brook 5K T-Shirts guaranteed to the first 100 runners!

Beaver Brook 5K Pint Glasses to top 3 Male and Female Overall and top 2 Male & Female in 7 Age Groups Hugh raffle including : Hanteens, Strap Lights, RoadID Kits, & more. Goodie Bags to all runners! * The races are actually 4.5K, but it will FEEL like 5K Preregister online: [\\$20](https://g2racereg.webconnex.com/bbwinter5k17)

REGISTER FOR GIRL SCOUTS

All girls in grades K-12 are invited to participate in Girl Scouts. As a scout, each girl will have a supportive network to try new things, which helps to develop confidence, courage and character. You can get more information and register your daughter at GSEMA.org (Girl Scouts of Eastern Mass.). Girl membership is just \$40 per year. Adult volunteers are welcome too. For questions, contact Stephanie at sgeiser@gsema.org.

DUNSTABLE BOARD OF HEALTH

TRANSFER STATION RATES JULY 1, 2017-JUNE 30, 2018 PERMIT FEE FOR THE TRANSFER STATION & STICKERS RECEIVED

Residents may purchase new permits on Monday-Friday from 9:00 a.m. – 4:00 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 first class stamps for regular permits and 4 first class stamps for senior permits to the Dunstable Board of Health, P. O. Box 268, Dunstable, MA 01827. Recycling permits only require a copy of your registration and one first class stamp.

PLEASE REMEMBER THAT ALL VEHICLES MUST HAVE A 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



NO JOB IS TOO SMALL!

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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 – kdebreceni@mvlc.org

Like us on FACEBOOK to receive program updates!

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

Featured Display If you would like to display your artwork or photographs in the community room, we would love to host you. Please contact Karen at kdebreceni@dunstablepl.org.

This month's display is from Joanna Reagan. She will be showcasing her collection of teapots.

Community Room Artist Check out the wonderful new artwork done by several Dunstable Artists. Check out the past years Christmas Wreaths made by Library families throughout the Library

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.

Adult Reading Group There will be an Adult Reading Group on **Saturday, December 16th at 10:30 am**. The Rosie Effect by Graeme Simsion. This is a sequel to the Rosie Project. New members are always welcome. Books available at the Library.

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.

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 (Friday **December 29th**) at 12:00pm to enjoy the dishes. Signup sheet will be at the desk. This month meet.

Knitting and Crochet Class under the direction of Donna Acquaviva. Held Monday nights at Swallow Union School from 6:30 – 8:00.

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.

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 **December 19th 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 kdebreceni@mvlc.org

Come and join the girlscouts for a special craft time on **December 16th at 11:00am**. They will be making holiday crafts. Please sign up at the library or email Mrs. D. at kdebreceni@mvlc.org

Holiday Workshop! Have your children come in to make gifts for their family members. This will happen on **December 12th at 4:00pm**. Come in and join in the holiday fun. Please sign up at the library or email Mrs. D. (kdebreceni@mvlc.org) so we have enough supplies.

Holiday Wreath Display Please come in and pick up a wreath during this month. Bring it home and decorate it based on your favorite book or movie (Or any creative way you would like). Then bring your completed wreath back to the library and we will display it for the month of December and for many Decembers following. This is a great family activity!

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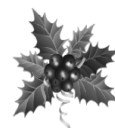
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Homework Club The library is offering homework help every Tuesday night from 6:00 – 7:00 for the school year. This is a free service for children from Kindergarten to High School. Honor Students from local high schools are available to help the children. 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.

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.



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FROM THE TOWN ADMINISTRATOR

There are several significant projects with financial impact facing the town of Dunstable. These projects include improving the water infrastructure, the mixed use district (MUD), reconstruction of Main Street and a new Public Safety building. Although it may seem like things are coming up suddenly and simultaneously, all of these projects have been under consideration for several years and will likely come to realization at different times. Here is an update and some background, as well as an attempt to show how they all fit together and are manageable, both financially and from a project management perspective.

The water infrastructure has been struggling for years. You can read more about the current infrastructure online at http://www.dunstable-ma.gov/Pages/DunstableMA_Water/profile.pdf. The town administrator has been working extensively with the Water Department to get guidance and recommendations from the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) in order to ensure a successful plan and bid. Many of you will remember that this project has come before the town for financial support and failed twice. Involving DEP gives us a stronger, better plan that is likely to meet the town's current needs as well as future growth. The goal is to have bid-ready plans and project cost estimates for the Annual Town Meeting, May 2018. You may recall that the last time the project went to Town Meeting, it was with conceptual estimates in 2014 dollars. This time we will have more precise and up-to-date estimates, which makes for better financial planning and decision-making.

The proposed MUD is located behind the post office on Pleasant Street. An Affordable Housing committee has been meeting for the past two years to define the goals of this space and to create a preliminary blueprint. The proposed MUD would include 40 units, some rental some owned. The rental units would be age restricted, but not the two-family resident owned units. This project can go out to bid once we have secured funding for the water project. The RFP would likely ask the developer of the space to finance the cost of laying larger pipes for water service from Pond Street to the post office. Developing this space requires no financial input from the town beyond Community Preservation Funds.

The town is also looking at moving Fire and Police services into a Public Safety building, which puts all first responders in one location and offers more room for training those responders as needed. The walls of the current fire station building are bowing and are not providing adequate support. There is also insufficient space for supplies, especially as more supplies are needed to keep up with demands on fire departments. The Police department has lacked storage space for years and has no space for onsite training. The Public Safety building is also designed to include a Community Room, which would provide space for community training and events, such as scout meetings and senior luncheons. This building also requires the upgrade to the water infrastructure. At this time, estimates on the cost of the building are extremely preliminary and have many variables such as site costs and building design/construction. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the Town Administrator's Office at 978-649-4514 X224. Not all of these events will occur simultaneously. The water need is most urgent and town officials hope to begin that project after Annual Town Meeting in May 2018. The financial impact would hit residents in FY2020. Plans for the MUD are already drawn up so the bid can go out once the water infrastructure project is approved. The Public Safety building is a few years out – the land is expected to be accepted as a donation this fall, the next step will be to approve design funding. Much of the town's current debt is scheduled to end by 2022, making these projects more feasible from a financial perspective.

Currently engineering is underway on the Rt. 113 (Main Street) Reconstruction Project. Please contact the Board of Read Commissioners at 978-649-4514 X227 for more information.

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December is always such a busy but joyous time. Shepherd of the Valley has many activities planned as well. On December 2nd the annual "Follow the Christmas Star" Pageant was held from 10 AM to Noon. On **December 8th** the Valley Girls will be having an evening of relaxation beginning at 6 PM. On **December 9th** the youth will gather at Janet Vesper's house from 10 AM to 1 PM to make the soup jars they will sell to help out with the expenses of the Mission Trip next summer.

The **Christmas Eve Service on December 24th** will be held at 5 PM with a half hour of Christmas Caroling preceding it which will begin at 4:30 PM. The **Christmas Day Service** will be held at 10:15 on Monday, December 25th. Merry Christmas to all!!

LOCAL YOUTH TO PERFORM IN A CHRISTMAS CAROL

AT THE PALACE THEATRE

(MANCHESTER, NH) -- The Palace Theatre in downtown Manchester, NH is proud to present its annual production of Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*, a heartwarming tale of Ebenezer Scrooge and Tiny Tim told with festive holiday songs and lively dance performed by a cast of professional actors from across the country and children throughout New England. Ghostly visitors from Christmases past, present and future bring the true meaning of Christmas to the **Palace Theatre stage December 1st through 23rd** creating a family memory you'll cherish forever.

This year, over 140 local youth actors will appear in the 22 performances of the production. **Of the local youth chosen, 2 are from right here in Dunstable MA!** Proudly representing their home town are Kevin and Kyle Bowman. Break a leg gentlemen!

Don't miss this annual Holiday extravaganza generously sponsored by Bellwether Community Credit Union, Fratello's Italian Grille and NHPBS. Tickets for *A Christmas Carol* may be purchased by calling the Palace Theatre Box Office at 603-668-5588 or online at PalaceTheatre.org. Tickets range from \$25-\$46. Season subscriptions, Flex Tickets and a variety of Group Rates are available. Tickets are on sale now so reserve your seats today!

About the Palace Theatre The Palace Theatre is a nonprofit performing arts center that hosts its own professional company, youth and teen program and presenting acts. It is committed to achieving its mission through preserving the historic facilities of the theater, responding creatively to the cultural and entertainment needs of the community, and governing in a fiscally responsible and strategic manner. For information about pricing, visit the Palace Theatre's website at www.palacetheatre.org.

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You can contact me via email for info jenandgeoff@gmail.com or stop in at West Auto on Main Street to order a book. Books are \$35 each and a portion of the sale will go to Maple Village Preschool. Thank you!! **Note: Orders are due 12/8.**

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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 refrigerated 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 neighbors, we have collected 11,131 box tops inching our way towards our goal of 50,000 for this school year. The bad news though is that Market Basket did not run their sweepstakes this fall where we had a lucky family from town win 5,000 box tops last year so we are running about 8,000 box tops behind when we compare this years results to what we collected for the first two months of last school year.

If you haven't done so already please download the Box Tops for Education app to your smartphone. There are great opportunities on this app to earn extra box tops. The LYSOL promotion is just an example. Purchase any 5 LYSOL products on one grocery receipt, scan the receipt into the app, select the LYSOL promotion and wa-la Swallow Union Elementary school can earn 100 box tops via the app.

Please keep in mind December 31, 2017 is another common expiration date for box tops so please clip your box tops and turn them in now. There are the bright yellow BOX TOP FOR EDUCATION drop boxes located inside the side door of the Dunstable post office, the front door of the Dunstable library, a box located inside the first main door as you enter Swallow Union elementary school, at the Dunstable transfer station and a collection basket is 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

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aptsallowunion@gmail.com

www.facebook.com/SwallowUnionAPT

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Holiday Open Studios at Western Avenue (December 10, and 11 from noon-5PM) is far more than shopping...it is an adventure that features art and artisanal pieces in every imaginable medium; glass, painting, pottery, sculpture, textiles, jewelry, woodworking, metal working, found object art, and more. In addition, at the **Winter Lights** show, The Loading Dock Gallery is chock full of new items created especially for gift giving. Bring your list and bring a friend!

There is free parking on site as well a free shuttle bus that runs to off site parking 3 minutes away and guides at the entry doors to help you with your visit. The buildings are handicap accessible.

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will be held at the Little Rd Schoolhouse on **Sunday, December 10th from 6 to 8pm**. For more information call Lynda at 978-587-8423.

The Tyngsborough Dunstable Historical society is a non-profit membership organization, open to everyone who is interested in learning more about local history. Join today by calling Lynda at 978-587-8423 or see membership form on our website.

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Christmas Mass Schedule

CHRISTMAS EVE Sunday December 24th - 4PM & 6PM

CHRISTMAS DAY Monday December 25th - 7:30AM & 9:30AM

• **FIRST FRIDAY ADORATIONS** are held on the first Fridays of the month after the 9AM Mass 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** Ste. Marguerite, St. Mary Magdalen, & St. Rita Parishes are pleased to announce we have a "Men of St. Joseph" chapter. The "Men of St. Joseph" is an established and successful ministry, whose principle mission is to call men to become the strong and faith-filled husbands, fathers, and leaders, whom God has created us to be. **We 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. The meetings are being held at Ste. Marguerite d'Youville Church, 1340 Lakeview Ave., Dracut thru 6/9/2018.** To find out more, please come and check us out! Rosary starts promptly at 7:15 in the Church.

• **CRAFT & CRIBBAGE NIGHT** Every 2nd & 4th Tuesday of the month from **6–8:00pm** at the Parish Center.



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Off of Plain Street in Lowell.

No appointment needed, but call first if there is a snow storm or if donation days fall on a holiday. **866-947-4360**

We are in need of Diapers size 4,5,6. Winter coats all sizes. Men's size 3X winter coats, warm clothing of all types and sizes, including coats. We are also in need of many blankets for so many refugees coming from mild climates. Love seats, small kitchen tables, twin box springs, adj. metal bed frames, toddler beds, sauce pans, sharp knives, utensils, new boys XL underwear, boys XL/size 14-18 jeans or sweats, men's long sleeve shirts, small and medium, men's jeans/sweats/sports pants waist 28-31, men's gloves and hats, new women's size small/4-6 underwear, male/female razors, deodorant and shaving cream.

Please give to our Hope for the Homeless appeal to support The Wish Project's mission of helping the homeless and providing Hope for those in need. The Wish Project provides Hope. We can provide a child with clothing, diapers, and a bed. We can provide a family with dishes, furniture, plates, glasses and all the basics for a new apartment. The family will have a chance for a new beginning, to have Hope for a brighter tomorrow - all thanks to the Wish Project.

IF IT'S THURSDAY OUR THRIFT SHOP IS OPEN 5:30-8PM.

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. The Wish Project, 1 A Foundry Street, Lowell, MA 01852

• **About Us** 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 **866-947-4360**.

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. **866-947-4360** Website www.TheWishProject.org



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Sherburne Nature Center trails are open daily, dawn to dusk, for the residents of Tyngsboro and neighboring towns. 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. No reservations or fees required. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

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HAVE YOU NOT READ?

By Nathan Combs

On four separate occasions Jesus answered the questions and accusations of His opponents with an intriguing counter-question: "Have you not read?" (Matthew 12.3, 5; 19.4; 22.31; Mark 12.10). The question implies Jesus' disappointment and surprise at the immature Biblical understanding displayed by the reputed experts of the law. Not only did Jesus assume his fellow Jews would have a thorough knowledge of what Scripture said, He also expected they could connect dots together to make thoughtful inferences. Let's briefly explore an occasion in which Jesus asks this question and be challenged to understand our Bibles more deeply.

In Matthew 22.23-33, Jesus faced a verbal attack from the Sadducees, an upper-class Jewish religious sect which did not believe in the resurrection. They asked Jesus to untangle a ridiculous thought-experiment, in which a woman marries seven brothers in succession after each one dies without offspring. "Whose wife will she be in the resurrection?" they impudently inquired. In Jesus' masterly response, He directed their minds back to Exodus 3.6 (the Sadducees only accepted the first five books of Moses as God's inspired Scripture) to prove that there will be a resurrection. "And as for the resurrection of the dead, have you not read what was said to you by God: 'I am the God of Abraham, and the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob'? He is not God of the dead, but of the living" (Matthew 22.31-32). Jesus quoted from a passage in which God appeared to Moses in a burning bush and commissioned the reluctant shepherd as the Exodus leader. Since God identified Himself as the God of three patriarchs from Genesis, He implied that although their bodies died, they're still alive with Him and awaiting their resurrection.

It is easy to scoff at the Scriptural blindness of the Sadducees, but put yourself in their place. Without the benefit of Jesus' explanation, would you have understood that resurrection is a valid inference from Exodus 3? Yet He expected them to have already grasped this point without His commentary! How many of us feel that we've mined all there is know about a particular Scripture after a cursory glance? How many of us immediately read over the Old Testament quotations in the New Testament, not bothering to go back and understand the whole context of the brief snippet the writer is bringing into his inspired message? How many of us breeze through our Bible readings but fail to meditate for any length of time on the significance and meaning of what we've just read? How many of us forget that the Bible wasn't written to us, but to different kinds of audiences over the span of thousands of years? I am personally guilty of every problem I've just identified. Let's resolve to be better Bible students. No doubt the Sadducees had read Exodus 3 many times before their conversation with Jesus, yet He incredulously asked, "Have you not read...?"



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ADVENT CONFESSION SCHEDULE

St Mary: Saturdays at 11:00 am-12 noon; Monday evenings
 (December 4th, 11th and 18th) 6:30 – 8:00 pm

St. John: Saturdays at 3:00 – 3:45 pm; Wednesday evenings
 (December 6th, 13th and 20th) 6:30 – 8:00 pm

CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE

St. Mary: 25 North Road, Chelmsford

Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24th... 4:00 pm, 6:00 pm,
 Midnight (preceded by St. Mary Choir at 11:30 pm)

Christmas Day, Monday, December 25th... 7:00 am, 9:00 am, 11:00
 am (no 6:00 pm Mass on Christmas Day)

St. John the Evangelist: 115 Middlesex St, North Chelmsford

Christmas Eve, Sunday, December 24th... 4:00 pm, 10:00 pm
 Christmas Day, Monday, December 25th... 8:30 am and 10:30 am
 (no 5:00 pm Mass on Christmas Day)

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 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 BUSINESS(978) 251-8571; www.saintjohnchelmsford.
 org **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 **DAILY MASS**

SCHEDULE: In addition to regular Mass schedule (listed above)...

St. Mary will be offering Wednesday evening Mass at 6:00 PM

LEARNING IN RETIREMENT ASSOCIATION AT UMASS LOWELL WINTER INTERSESSION 2018

The Learning in Retirement Association (LIRA) is an organiza-
 tion of people curious about the world around them and who share
 an interest in lifelong learning. The 2018 Winter Intersession, given
 between the fall and spring semesters, offers a sample of LIRA's
 almost year – round program to retirees and those semi-retired.
 Many of the classes are presented by UMass Lowell professors or
 provided by LIRA members and friends themselves.

Some of the topics for the Intersession classes 2018 are:
 Discussions with authors of their books, real estate topics, lecture
 on autism, philosophy, being transgender and astronomy. We will
 also be visiting the Boston Public Library to learn of the art and
 architecture of this beautiful building.

The general public is invited to all intersession programs at no
 cost, except for the field trip. **All programs are held during Janu-
 ary and February on Wednesday mornings from 10:00 a.m. to
 12:00 p.m.**

For more information, dates and locations for the classes please
 see our website. www.uml.edu/Community/LIRA/

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We opened our new Family Dental office 'Tyngsboro Dental
 Care' at the Flints corner plaza (intersection of Westford Rd and
 Dunstable Rd) in Tyngsborough and are really excited to share the
 news with all our neighbors.

With more than 10yrs of experience, it has been a lifelong dream
 of mine to open a Dental Clinic and serve the neighborhood with
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 advanced, so personalized and so gentle and we want everyone to
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THIS HOLIDAY SEASON IF YOU CATCH A BUZZ, CATCH A RIDE *Designate a Sober Driver Before Every Holiday Party*

The holiday season is supposed to be a time for family, friends, and festive celebrations, but it is unfortunately also a time when there is a tragic jump in the number of alcohol-related highway fatalities each year between Thanksgiving and New Year's.

I'd like to ask everyone this holiday season to always designate a sober driver before each holiday party or event involving alcohol. Nationally, nearly 17,000 people died in alcohol-related highway crashes during 2005. Every 30 minutes, nearly 50 times a day, someone in America dies in an alcohol-related crash. Hundreds of thousands more are injured each year. According to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration (NHTSA), about three in every ten Americans will be involved in an alcohol-related crash at some point in their lives.

Remembering to designate a sober driver before the party begins is just one of several, simple steps to help avoid a tragic crash or an arrest for impaired driving during the holiday season. Other reminders include:

- Never get behind the wheel of your vehicle if you've been out drinking;
- If impaired, call a taxi – use mass transit if available – or call a sober friend or family member to come and get you;
- Or, just stay where you are and sleep it off until you are sober;
- If you are hosting a party this holiday season, remind your guests to always plan ahead to designate a sober driver, always offer alcohol-free beverages during the event, and make sure all of your guests leave with a sober driver; and
- *Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk.* Take the keys and never let a friend leave your sight if you think they are about to drive while impaired.

Since 1981, every President of the United States has proclaimed December "National Drunk and Drugged Driving (3D) Prevention Month" to help underscore the public's commitment to preventing impaired driving and promoting the use of designated drivers and sober ride programs. The month of December and the New Year's Eve holiday are also often highlighted by significant increases in state and local law enforcement efforts to combat impaired driving such as the use of sobriety checkpoints and saturation patrols. Driving impaired or riding with someone who is impaired is simply not worth the risk. The consequences are serious and real. Not only do you risk killing yourself or someone else, but the trauma and financial costs of a crash or an arrest for driving while impaired can be really significant and not the way you want to spend your holiday season.

So remember, this holiday season, if you catch a buzz, catch a ride. For additional information about teenage driving, impaired driving or Stop-N-Go Driving Academy, call 978-649-4966 or visit us on the web at www.sngda.com

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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 2017-2018

President: Mark Alexander, Secretary/Treasurer: Bob Reich, Membership Chairman: Ed Majewski, 1st vice President: Mike Roth, Tail Twister/Lion Tamer: J.J. Ward.

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. Meetings are on the first Tuesday of the month starting at 6:30 pm. Please call a member listed here for details and meeting place.

Event:

**The lions donated a boy's and a girl's gift to Toys For Tots
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 Senior Center, 169 Westford Rd., Tyngsborough and Dunstable Town Hall, Post Office and Library.

**When you contact a business,
or organization,
please tell them you've seen their ad
or news in Neighbor to Neighbor.
They would like to know. Thank you, Anne**

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."

Pastor Bobby Ross and his family have brought new life to our church. We invite you to visit and meet them anytime at our 10:00 am service. **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. Everyone is welcome to an informal time of fellowship with coffee, tea and refreshments that takes place after worship. A group of six attendees were recently welcomed into membership.

ADULT STUDY CLASS is held 8:30-9:30 am in the Rm 2 classroom. **CHILDREN'S SUNDAY SCHOOL** is held at 10:00 am. Children in Ages 4-12 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.

DECC YOUTH GROUP DECC has a great youth program and welcomes any area youth currently in 6th to 12th grade to join for any events! Regular meetings are held on Sundays from 4:00-6:00 PM but special events may be held at other times. All are welcome for a single event or to become a regular member. Please contact Jon Hughes at 978-393-7708 if interested and to confirm location and time of meeting.

POPs (Parents of Preschoolers) meets in the Fellowship Hall twice a month on Fridays, 9:00-11:00 am. Child care is available. Next meetings are 12/8, 1/12 & 1/26. Contact Shellyannross@gmail.com with questions.

CELEBRATE ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS AT DECC! JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM

Join us on a free 20-minute presentation of a walk to Bethlehem. Trace the steps of Mary and Joseph on candlelit 'streets' as we visit shepherds with live animals, give directions to wise men following a star, and listen to an angelic chorus. Enjoy refreshments in the church after your trip.

Saturday, December 9, 2017, 6:00-8:00 pm

**DUNSTABLE TOWN COMMON
518 Main St, Dunstable MA 01827**

Would you like to participate? We have singing and non-singing roles. Memorizing is optional. Contact (Kathrynmackel@aol.com) to join the fun.

Advent and Christmas worship services:

Sunday morning services during the Advent season - 10:00am
Dec. 24th Christmas Eve Morning Worship - 10:00am
Dec. 24th Christmas Eve Family Candlelight Service 6:30pm
Dec. 25th Christmas Day Service (Contemplative) 10:00am
Dec. 31st Service of Lessons and Carols - 10:00am

Come visit your community's church. For more information about any of these events, contact the Church office 978-649-6251 or email info@dunstablechurch.org.

USED CLOTHING DROP-OFF SHED

To benefit: Dunstable Evangelical Congregational Church
Location: Rear Parking lot, 518 Main St., Dunstable, MA 01827

Items accepted: All clothing, shoes sneakers, belts, purses, blankets, sheets, pillowcases, drapes and stuffed toys. (Your donations will not be cut up or shredded.) **(Please... No rags, fabric scraps, pillows, toys or household goods; please understand that the above unwanted items are a hardship and expense to dispose of.)**

Send clothing to people who can use it all over the US and World while helping the environment. Receive a tax deduction for your donation. Receipts are on the shed. ****Help us keep your donation clean and dry.**** Please put in tied or closed bags.

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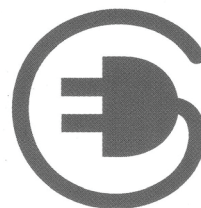
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Winter Lights: Gifts for the Holidays Through December 31, 2017

A galaxy of delight shines at the Loading Dock Gallery this December. **Winter Lights: Gifts for the Holidays** offers gifts that range from scented soap to sophisticated furniture. Each item is hand-made by a local artist.

Bring your list. Bring a friend. The child-at-heart will love a sock doll. Someone special deserves jewelry. Wool and silk accessories ward off winter with style. Attending a party? Give the host a serving tray of wood or glass. Light up a home with art. Hand-painted pillows brighten the sofa. Pottery mugs warm the table.

Winter Lights: Gifts for the Holidays runs through December 31 at Loading Dock Gallery, 122 Western Avenue, Lowell, MA. The Loading Dock's **Back Door Gallery** features the art of Heidi Jackson.

Extra holiday hours: Loading Dock Gallery is open Wednesday through Saturday, noon to 5:30 PM, and Sunday, noon to 4 PM. In addition, In December, the Gallery opens Monday through Saturday, noon to 5 PM, and Sunday, noon to 4 PM, and is open Thursdays until 8 PM.

Thursday, December 14, Loading Dock Gallery joins local artists for **Handmade Holiday Night** on the A-Mill Loading Dock of Western Avenue Studios, 5 to 9 PM. Light refreshments will be available, to benefit the Miracle Providers.

Loading Dock Gallery is a program of Loading Dock Arts, Inc., a 501c. For more information, call 978-596-1576, or visit theloadockingallery.com.



Evangelical Congregational Church of Tyngsboro Est. 1868

Route 113, 23 Kendall Rd. Tyngsboro, MA 01879



For questions or more information,
please call our office 978-649-2262
Pastor Denis Frediani 1-603-579-0904
www.tyngsborocongregational.org
E-mail ecctsec@outlook.com

JOIN US FOR SUNDAY MORNING WORSHIP

Our Mission: Glorify God by encouraging all people to know Jesus together in Faith, Love and Service. Worship Service at 10:00 a.m. Nursery available. Followed by Fellowship and Refreshments. Children attend Worship service with parents and are dismissed at 10:15 a.m. for Sunday school.

We invite you to join us for:

- **SUNDAY EVENING – Adult Bible Study**, 6:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. **"HOW TO UNDERSTAND YOUR BIBLE"**
- **TUESDAY MORNING – Ladies Bible Study** 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m. **"PROVERBS" - "LEARNING TO LIVE WISELY"**

The Thrift Shop: Located next to the church is open to the public on **Thursdays and Saturdays from 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m.** We offer an assortment of clothing, shoes, handbags, baby items, books, small appliances, dishes, glassware, jewelry, etc. Pleased to not drop off large furniture items such as TV's, computers or printers since we do not have the means to store or dispose of these items. **NOTE: Thrift Shop will be closed:** December 23 (Christmas weekend), and December 30 (New Year's weekend)

SUNDAY - December 24

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service at 7:00 p.m.

We would like to thank all those who attended our Soup, Salad & Southern Gospel Concert at the Old Town Hall on October 28th! It was a great success! Special thanks to our vocal artists "A New Beginning" (Barry & Debbie Shirk) and their good friend, Big Al (Alan Frink). The music was amazing! Also thank you to Lenzi's Restaurant for catering the delicious soups and salads. Check out the Tyngsboro local cable station to see highlights of the concert.

A very special **"Happy Birthday"** to **Barbara Magoon** who is turning 101 on December 13th. If you would like to send a card: P.O. Box 153, Tyngsboro, MA 01879.

Another person to celebrate is **Sarah Dixon Stecchi** who was 14 when she joined our church on December 12th, 1948. We are delighted that she has been a member of the church for 70 years and has also been a member of our choir since then!!! Congratulations Sarah!

• **THE 150th Anniversary Committee** of the church is meeting regularly now to plan events for the historic celebration in 2018. If anyone has photos or information of the church through the years please notify Joy at 978-649-6142 or Jill at 978- 649-3301.

COMING UP AT INDIAN HILL

FAMILY HOLIDAY SING-ALONG: Indian Hill Music School's Early Childhood Department presents its annual Holiday Sing-Along for young families: **Saturday, December 16, 10:00am - noon** at 36 King Street (Rte. 495/Exit 30), Littleton, MA. All ages are invited to sing, dance, and play instruments. Special appearance by Santa and Mrs. Claus! FREE admission. (Bring a food donation for Loaves & Fishes.) Learn more at (978) 486-9524 or www.indianhillmusic.org.

MUSIC LESSONS & CLASSES: Ongoing registration for private lessons, classes, and ensembles for all ages and levels at Indian Hill Music School, 36 King Street, Littleton, MA. Instruments include, piano, strings, flute, guitar, ukulele, recorder, harp, voice, and drums; Youth Orchestras, Music for Aardvarks, and more, in classical, jazz, folk, rock, and pop styles. Learn more: (978) 486-9524 or www.indianhillmusic.org.

WEST CHELMSFORD UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

242 Main Street North Chelmsford, MA 01863
Phone : 1-978-251-4834 Website www.wcumc.us
Worship: 9:30 AM Professional child care provided
Sunday school for pre-K – High School: 10:00 AM
Coffee Fellowship: 10:30 AM

Sunday, December 17th at 9:30 am – Choral Cantata - "Ceremony of Candles" by Joseph Martin will be presented by the Senior Choir. – Child care available

Christmas Eve Services – 6:00, 8:00, and 10:00p.m. The 6:00pm service features our youth and children's vocal and bell choirs with candlelight. Child care is available. The 8:00 and 10:00pm services feature our adult vocal and bell choirs and a brass ensemble with candlelight. Please visit our web site at www.wcumc.us for more information on our services and missions.

Winter Epiphany Festival and Potluck Dinner at West Chelmsford United Methodist Church

Mark your calendars for January 6th when we will celebrate the winter season and the start of Epiphany. Starting at 4:00pm we will have some outside activities including snowmen building, sledding (snow permitting) and time by the fire! Then we will move indoors for some Epiphany activities and a potluck dinner. The Christian Education Committee will be providing hot dogs to roast over the fire so we ask attendees to bring a side dish to share. At the end of the evening, about 6:00pm we will share in worship around the bonfire.

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.



SONS OF THE AMERICAN LEGION

Massachusetts Detachment, Squadron 247 Robert D. Pelletier
Post 247, 90 Pawtucket Blvd, Tyngsboro

• **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; Sgt at Arms: Mark Myers; Adjutant: Roger Daigle, Treasurer: Gerald Richall.

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.**

MERRIMACK VALLEY HOUSING PARTNERSHIP

Project Genesis Home Buyer Training classes - Topics include an overview of the home buying process, the mortgage application process, legal aspects, home inspections, household budgeting and down payment assistance programs. The fee is \$125.00 includes all materials and 4 sessions. Learn about the home buying process. **A series (4 classes) January 2, 3 & 9, 10 (Tues & Wed Night) from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. The next session will be held on January 23, 24 & 30, 31. Classes are held at Middlesex Community College, 67 Middle St., Classroom 405, Downtown Lowell. Register online at www.mvhp.org or call 978-459-8490. Online classes are also available.**

**When you contact a business,
please tell them you've seen their ad in
Neighbor to Neighbor.
They would like to know. Thank you, Anne**

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MIDDLESEX SHERIFF'S OFFICE WARNS OF ONGOING TELEPHONE SCAMS

MEDFORD, Mass. – The Middlesex Sheriff's Office (MSO) is today warning residents of ongoing telephone scams in which perpetrators are posing as MSO employees.

The warning is being issued in response to recent incidents in which local residents reported calls from individuals falsely claiming to work for the Middlesex Sheriff's Office. In multiple calls, scammers alleged those receiving them had missed jury duty and were subject to arrest unless they immediately paid a fine using gift cards.

"Under no circumstances will our deputies ever threaten arrest over the phone or demand individuals pay a fine or debt using pre-paid debit or gift cards," said Middlesex Sheriff Peter J. Koutoujian.

Anyone who may have received similar calls is encouraged to report them to their local police department and the MSO Digital Forensics Unit at 978-932-3292. Individuals with questions regarding jury duty can contact the Office of Jury Commissioner at 1-800-843-5879.

DRACUT COMMUNITY BAND

Dracut Community Band will hold *Rehearsals* every Thursday evening from 6-7:15PM at the Christ United Church in Dracut. You do not have to be a Dracut Resident. We are welcoming all instrumentalists to our group, 18 years and older. Please join us for a fun time!

Call Johnson Music at 978 454 0055 for more info.



Neighbor to Neighbor

Published by Anne M. Paquin

Since 1983

64 Hardy St., Dunstable, MA 01827

(978) 419-1914

E-mail: anne@neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com

www.neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com

Well another year is coming to an end. The months just fly by. I know for those of you who send in the news, articles and ads it seems it is always deadline time. Believe me sometimes I don't know what month *I am really* in.

I just want you to know that I truly appreciate your continued support of *Neighbor to Neighbor*. I am truly thankful for the continuing loyalty of the local businesses. Many have been in the newsletter for several years.

Things have certainly changed since 1983 when I used to type and do paste ups to get the issue together. But the purpose of the *Neighbor to Neighbor* continues to be to give you some news, interesting and informative articles and a place to find local stores and a varied group of businesses within the community to help you in your every day life.

**Of course I have to mention that
the next deadline is
December 10th for the January issue.**
I look forward to hearing from you.

*I wish you all a very Merry Christmas, Happy
Chanukah, and a Happy New Year!*

Anne



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 A. Beaton; 1st Vice: John McDermott; Adjutant: John Cogan; Finance: David Coles; Judge Advocate: Roland Milliard; Provos Marshal: Roland Russell; Chaplain: Rod Woods. E-Board: Steven Harris, John Dombrowski, Ron Russell.

"ALWAYS READY TO SERVE OUR VETERANS"

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

AMERICAN LEGION POST 247 ACTIVITIES

- Dec 5 Vet Meal 6pm, Christmas Dinner SAL's Meeting 7pm
- Dec 9 Adult, Post 247 Christmas Party 12-4pm Yankee Swap Gift \$10 value.
- Sunday, Dec. 10th, Legion Children's Christmas Party, Sign up required.



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 2017-2018 President: Diane Dileo; Sr. Vice: open; Jr. Vice: Maureen Harris, Treasurer: Josephine Beauregard, Secretary: Patricia Modrich, Chaplain: Rebecca Modrich, Historian: Open, Sergeant -At-Arms: Mary Dupras, Executive Committee: Kathleen Olje, Annette Coles and Janice Dombrowski

REMINDER FOR MEMBERS *Please send in your Membership*

Dues. Mail to: Josephine Beauregard Unit Treasurer, 70 Pawtucket Drive, Lowell, MA. 01854.

NEXT MEETING The Auxiliary meeting will be on **Thursday** evening **January 4th, 2018 at 7pm.**

For information on the Auxiliary Unit meetings, or functions contact Unit President Diane Dileo at 978-204-9329

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.



ST KATHRYN CHURCH *Coming Home to Catholicism*

is a program run by St Kathryn Parish, 4 Dracut Rd, Hudson, NH as a **one Day Retreat on Saturday, December 9th from 8 AM to 4 PM.** The program is for those who have left the Catholic Church, for any reason, and might be feeling the calling to return. *All of the Team members have left the Church at one time and have returned, providing a comfortable and understanding atmosphere for others looking to return.*

The program is designed to answer most of the questions returning Catholics might have and some discussion to address any individual concerns (don't worry, participants can share as little or as much as they'd like). **Anyone interested can contact the parish office at 603-882-7793 or simply attend on December 9th at 8:00 AM. Feel free to bring a friend.**

CANDY CANE HUNT & HOLIDAY FAIR IN WESTFORD, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 9

Free event will have 30+ vendors, free activities for kids, a scavenger hunt, and raffles to benefit St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital and Westford Family FunFest

Local parents looking for family holiday activities will find plenty to do at Lowell Macaroni Kid's Candy Cane Hunt & Holiday Fair at the Westford Regency Inn & Conference Center on Saturday, December 9, from 10 AM to 1 PM. Admission is free, and there will be free activities and crafts for the kids, with prizes!

Be sure to visit the Ballroom, where 30+ vendors and sponsors will be set up with handmade crafts and jewelry, artisan chocolates, and popular vendor items. There will be free crafts and activities and visits with Santa in the Ballroom foyer, including ornament-making, letters to Santa, and reindeer food. For a small donation, children can decorate an angel ornament for the Lowell Macaroni Kid holiday tree, which will be auctioned off to benefit St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital. There will also be over 30 raffle items, including a week of summer camp at Summer at Lawrence Academy in Groton, beautiful jewelry, toys, and other holiday items. Raffle proceeds benefit St. Jude's and Westford Family FunFest.

Visitors can also enjoy the Westford FunFest's Festival of Trees, Wreaths & Gingerbread Creations, on display at the Westford Regency from December 8 to 17. The Candy Cane Hunt will feature a special scavenger hunt so children can find certain items among the tree, wreath & gingerbread displays. Find all the items and be entered to win a birthday party courtesy of Jam Time in Maynard!

Thank you to our generous sponsors, Summer at Lawrence Academy in Groton, Code Wiz in Westford, Jam Time in Maynard, The Self-Defense Institute in Tewksbury, Dana Wallboard Supply, Inc. in Tyngsboro, and Westford Family FunFest for their support of this free event and providing raffle items to benefit St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital.

More information about the Candy Cane Hunt can be found at <http://lowell.macaronikid.com> or by emailing barbarae@macaronikid.com.

INNOVATION ACADEMY HIGH SCHOOL

Exhibition Night

Tuesday, December 19th • 6-8:30pm

72 Tyng Road, Tyngsboro

(enter thru the glass hallway across from the flag pole)

FREE & Open to the Community

At IACS Exhibition Nights, the hallways and classrooms of IACS are transformed into a museum of student work, with all students contributing at least one piece of academic work of their choosing in the subjects of English, Science and Music. The atmosphere is relaxed as students, families and community members peruse the exhibits at their own pace. Expect to see students on hand to answer questions about their projects or conducting a short presentation. Join us as we end the evening with a performance by our Choral and Chorale classes. This is a great way to see the project-based work that our students create during the school year. Community members are needed to observe, comment & inspire our students.

Questions? Contact Crystal McKiel at 978-649-0432 x2004
cmckiel@innovationcharter.org www.innovationcharter.org

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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



Altrusa is a non-profit, worldwide association, which encourages volunteerism to make a difference in our communities. Founded in Nashville, TN in 1917, Altrusa is celebrating its 100th birthday, and each Altrusa member was challenged to mark the milestone by performing 100 hours of volunteer service.

For more information about Altrusa and its service in the community, please email altrusamv@gmail.com.



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"HOW I GOT THE SHOT"

by Nick DePasquale

Many of my best photos have been taken just after sunset during the "Blue Hour" when the camera sees an incredible range of colors. The Blue Hour starts about 10 minutes after sunset and lasts about 30 – 40 minutes, until the sky goes dark. The photo that I took of Il Duomo – the cathedral in Florence, Italy – was taken during the Blue Hour. Please visit my website for the full-color version.



Joyce and I traveled to Tuscany in early autumn 2014. Before leaving home, I had researched the best locations to shoot in Florence (very important), which directed us to Piazzale Michelangelo, a hill to the east of the historic center. So late one afternoon on an unseasonably warm day, we trekked from the rear of Il Duomo through crowds and many squares, over the Ponte Vecchio, and then through backstreets until we arrived at the base of the Piazzale. Carrying some of my gear as she always does, Joyce jack-rabbit up the long steep hill, leaving me gasping for breath at the bottom. I finally made it to the top and was blown away by the panoramic view. It was now about 90 minutes before sunset (very important to arrive early) so there was plenty of time to get my bearings, find the perfect spot, and shoot test shots to determine the best composition. Here are three rules I've developed for myself that contributed to the excellent result:

1. I always shoot this time of the day using a tripod with a cable release; this eliminates any chance of a blurry image.
2. I always shoot on manual mode and use settings that will provide the sharpest image for the camera and lens that I am using. In this case I was using my Canon 7D with a 24mm – 105mm lens set to ISO 100 and F11.
3. I always bracket my shots: shoot one image lighter and one image darker than what the camera is telling me. The resulting exposure was 10 seconds. The best starting point to determine the correct exposure is the sky around your subject.

Once I got my shots, I noticed that a photographer next to me did not have a tripod. We learned that he and his wife were newlyweds on their honeymoon, a long way from Singapore. I offered to lend him my tripod, which he accepted. His wife offered us an apple, which we accepted, and he got his shots of a lifetime. Then Joyce and I trekked back down the hill and had dinner at one of the little restaurants that we had passed on the way up. Fabulous pasta and a fabulous bottle of wine. The walk back was much more relaxed than the walk out and I had gotten a great shot. Join me for a class or a couple of hours of one-on-one tutoring.

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