

# Neighbor to Neighbor

Published by Anne M. Paquin Since 198364 Hardy St., Dunstable, MA 01827

(978) 419-1914

E-mail: anne@neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com <u>www.neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com</u> *Celebrating 38 Years of Service!* 

**Issue # 410 • December 2021** 

POSTAL PATRON DUNSTABLE, MA 01827 CARRIER ROUTE STANDARD U.S. POSTAGE PAID DUNSTABLE, MA 01827 PERMIT NO. 5

#### Dunstable

#### Volunteer Firefighters Association

The Christmas Party will not be held this year, because of the uncertainties of COVID. However, we do hope to see you out along the parade route!



### SANTA PARADE Sunday, December 12, 2021

#### Inclement Weather Date: Sunday, December 19

Parade starts at 11:45AM. Parade Route: Starting at Dunstable Fire Dept., L. on Pleasant St., L. on Pond St., R. on Parkhurst St., L. on Pond St., L. on Pleasant St., L. on Cross St., L. Groton St., L. on Hall St., R. on School St., L. on Groton St., R. on Kemp St., R. on Adam St., L. on Route 113 in Pepperell, R. on East St., in Pepperell, Continue onto river St., R. on Hollis St., L. on Fletcher St., L. on Main St., R. on Century Way, Back to Main St., L. on Main St., L. on Main St., L. on High St., R. on Thorndike St., L. on Depot St., R. on Main St., L. on High St., R. on Thorndike St., R. on Forest St., across Route 113 to middle section of Forest St. across Lowell St. to Forest St. (up the hill), at the end of Forest St., Turn around at Valley St., L. on Lowell St., Merge onto Main St., L. on Pleasant St. and L. into Dunstable Fire Department.

#### **DUNSTABLE TOWN CLERK**

• The Annual Street listing will be mailed the first week of January 2022. It will include a dog license application.

Are you interested in running for a town board position? A list of open offices will be certified and published after the New Year. The legislature still has not approved the switch from elected to appointed for the Town Clerk but this bill is moving along and we're hopeful it will be resolved before the registrars certify vacancies for 2022.

**Town Clerk Office Hours** – Monday, Tuesday and Thursdays from 9:00 am – 1:00 pm and working remote one day, usually Wednesday, depending on what deadlines, etc., I'm working with that particular week. It's best to call ahead. Carol A. Skerrett, Town Clerk CMMC 978-649-4514 x222 <u>CSkerrett@dunstable-ma.gov</u>

	REQUEST FOR DOG TAG NUMBER  Note: This is not a dog license application		
	Name:		
ı	Phone #:		
•	Dog's Name:		
1	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 the number, a drawing will be held by the Dog Officer. Requests must be in by 12/15/21. No number higher than 600.			

Send completed form to:

Town Clerk, Town Hall, 511 Main St., Dunstable, MA 01827

#### IN MEMORY OF

Frederick G. Wiggins Christopher La-Mar Ferguson James Roberts Sr.

#### A CHRISTMAS CAROL: THE (ONE-MAN) RADIO SHOW - DECEMBER 11 & 12

Dunstable Theater Collaborative is proud to present "A Christmas Carol: The Radio Show" by David Alberts. This one-man radio show features DTC's own Jon Swift, and will be Dunstable Theater's first live show in 2 years! We hope to make this show a holiday tradition in Dunstable for years to come.

Synopsis - It's Christmas Eve, and with the actors snowed in and unable to make it to the studios of WXMS for the live radio performance of A Christmas Carol, the sound effects person decides to take the audience through the classic tale himself. In an impressive and amusing feat, this telling is performed as a 1940's radio play with one person providing all of the characters' voices and sound effects. This rollicking, creative adaptation of Dickens' classic work is sure to warm the hearts of even the chilliest audience members.

There will only be 2 performances of this holiday classic at Dunstable Town Hall on December 11 & 12 at 2:30PM, so get your tickets while they are still available - only \$10! www.dunstabletheater.org/product-category/tickets

#### **ALSO ON DECEMBER 11TH**

**4:00-7:00PM CHRISTMAS CAROLS** sung by the Groton-Dunstable school children (outside Town Hall) – Refreshments served **4:00-7:00PM CRAFT FAIR AND 350**<sup>TH</sup> **COMMITTEE** (lower level of Town Hall) Seeking additional Crafters, \$10 donation per table contact jon.hughes480@gmail.com

#### ANNUAL JOURNEY TO BETHLEHEM

Saturday, December 11th, walks between 5:00 and 7:00 PM on the Town Common, across from the Dunstable Town Hall (snow date Sunday December 12th) This will be a night to remember! Our sixth year. Bring the family! - kids will enjoy the sheep, goats, pigs, cows, and alpacas! (and if he's behaving, the donkey!)

Join us for an outdoor guided walk to Bethlehem. Guides will lead you as you trace the steps of Mary and Joseph as you walk down the candlelit paths through Nazareth and Bethlehem, meet the Shepherds, and Wisemen, and see if there is room in the Inn. Enjoy traditional Christmas songs, view the barnyard animals, and warm yourselves by the fires as you journey to the manger. Come anytime between 5:00 and 7:00 PM; each walk is approximately 20 minutes. Donations will be accepted to help the CROP hunger walk; a non-profit organization whose mission is to alleviate hunger and poverty with 1/3 donated locally, 1/3 nationally, and 1/3 internationally. This is a Covid-safe outdoor event; dress appropriately. Handicap parking provided.





# With the landing of the Pilgrims at Plymouth in 1620, New England's history begins.

As the region grew more and more populous, one new group of adventurers turned to the valleys of the Nashua and Merrimack rivers.

Thus, on October 15, 1673, Jonathan Tyng and 25 other petitioners were granted a "plantation" by the General Court of Boston upon condition that the Grantees "settle" the area with 20 or more families, develop a farm for the use of the colony, procure a minister, and erect a Meeting House.

Covering more than 200 square miles,
Dunstable Plantation incorporated parts or all of the communities we now know as Nashua,
Hudson, Hollis, Tyngsboro,
Amherst, Milford,
Merrimack, Litchfield,
Londonderry, Pelham,
Brookline, Pepperell,
Townsend, Dracut,
and Groton.

#### An Open Letter to Our Local Businesses and Organizations

With an Opportunity to Boost Your Visibility and Support Your Community

In 2023, Dunstable will celebrate its 350th anniversary of incorporation. Our committee of volunteers, appointed by the Dunstable Board of Selectmen, plans to extend the celebration over a full year, beginning October 15, 2022, and culminating with a grand celebration on October 15, 2023. The year will offer many and varied opportunities for families, schoolchildren, young adults and elders, newcomers, and long-timers to recognize the origins of our beloved township, savor our history, and come together as a community after the isolation of the pandemic.

We are considering a wide selection of events, many of which would provide you or your organization the opportunity to increase awareness of your value to our community with your sponsorship or donation.

Planning is underway for activities and events that include a grand parade, fireworks, family barn dance and bonfire, road and bicycle races, a fireworks and food truck festival, a cornhole tournament, home/garden and Christmas light tours, a town-wide yard sale, an auction of locally sourced goods and services, a bake-off, and a celebratory gala.

We are seeking sponsorships and donations at this time to help fund these community events, and we would very much appreciate your participation in choosing a tier listed below that you or your organization would be most comfortable with. Should you choose to support a particular event, your sponsorship will be broadly publicized in advance, during the event, and throughout the celebratory year, unless you request anonymity. Thank you for your time and consideration.

#### Sincerely,

The Dunstable 350th Anniversary Celebration Committee

#### Celebration Sponsorship and Donation Tiers

Tier	Amount Range	Tier	Amount Range
Diamond	\$5,000 and up	Bronze	\$1,000 - \$1,999
Platinum	\$4,000 - \$4,999	Supporter	\$500 - \$999
Gold	\$3,000 - \$3,999	Contributor	\$100 - \$499
Silver	\$2,000 - \$2,999	Friend	\$0 - \$99

Your support for one or more Dunstable 350th Anniversary Celebration activities will provide opportunities to boost your visibility throughout our community.

- Your name, logo, and links in event materials and social media posts
- A table and/or space to hang a banner at a sponsored event, based on sponsorship level
- A speaking opportunity at a sponsored event, based on sponsorship level
- Complimentary tickets to a sponsored event, based on sponsorship level

Please make your check payable to **Town of Dunstable** with **Dunstable 350th Anniversary Committee** in the Memo, and mail it to the following address: Dunstable 350th Anniversary Celebration, P.O. Box 1, Dunstable, MA 01827. For more information, please contact us at dunstable350@gmail.com.

#### MORE UPCOMING EVENTS IN TOWN

Holiday Centerpiece Workshop Make your own Holiday Centerpiece on Wednesday, December 15 at 1:00pm at the Dunstable Library. We will be using fresh holly, flowers and cranberries. You will need to provide a shallow, clear glass bowl. It will be a quick, very easy and a beautiful centerpiece. This is a Free work- shop but you must register by Dec. 10.

**BOOK GROUP** Our group will meet at 10:30, on December 18th in the community room of the Dunstable church. We will be discussing A Fatal Grace a Three Pines Mystery by Louise Penny. Summary: Sent to a village south of Montreal to investigate the death of CC de Poitiers, an extremely unpopular woman apparently killed in an electrical accident, Armand Gamache of the Surete du Quebec finds that nearly everyone in town had a motive to kill her. Everyone is responsible for getting their own book but can be ordered thru the

NEW ENGLAND VOICES IN HARMONY Saturday, December 18th 6:00 pm at Dunstable Congregational Church Limited seating, reservations a MUST. RSVP sjt0213@verizon.net This is a FREE concert sponsored by the Dunstable Summer Concerts and the Dunstable Cultural Council. New England Voices in Harmony, an a cappella women's chorus, based in Nashua, NH, has members from all over southern NH and northern Massachusetts. Founded in January of 2000, New England Voices in Harmony is a chapter of Harmony, Inc., an international, non-profit, educational and singing organization for women. The chorus has won First place at both the 2014 and 2018 International Convention and Contests, competing against choruses from Canada and the US. ANNUAL HOLIDAY COMMUNITY COOKIE SWAP Saturday, DEC. 18 AT 1:00P.M. DUNSTABLE TOWN HALL It's Back! Annual Holiday Event Families and friends gather to share their talents in cookie baking. Bring 3 doz. one kind of cookie (recipe optional). 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 sit0213@verizon.net. Masks required in the Town Hall.

#### WELL ADULT CLINIC

The clinic will be held December 22 in the Dunstable library from 11:00 - noon. Maureen Scott, our new nurse will bring flu vaccine to this clinic to give shots to any senior that needs one. These clinics allow for personalized, one on one attention from a nurse. Offered services include blood pressure and blood sugar screening, diet and nutrition information and teaching, medication review and assistance with identifying and coordinating community resources and referrals. Be prepared to wear a mask since it is required for all municipal buildings. Contact Nashoba Board of Health at 978-772-3335 ext.340 or www.nashoba.org if you have any questions or are in need of their services.

#### HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF GREATER LOWELL CRITICAL HOME REPAIR PROGRAM

Are you a Dunstable senior or veteran whose home is in need of a critical repair? Did you know that Habitat for Humanity of Greater Lowell does more than just build homes for local families?

In an ongoing effort to meet the Habitat mission that everyone should have a decent and affordable place to live in dignity and safety, Habitat Lowell also offers a Critical Home Repair Program for income qualified seniors and veterans with homes in need of a critical repair. Repairs focus on safety, accessibility, code enforcement and weatherization and energy efficiency so that seniors and veterans can remain safely in their homes.

To find out more, please visit https://lowellhabitat.org/what-wedo/critical-home-repairs/ or contact Habitat Lowell Critical Repairs Coordinator, Kim Raymond at 978-692-0927 option 4 or criticalrepairs@lowellhabitat.org.

#### SCOUTS BSA DUNSTABLE

If you are interested in learning more about the Boy Scout Troop T28B Or Girl Scout Troop T28G, we have a contact page set up on our website: https://dunstable28.mytroop.us/contact

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## Neighbor to Neighbor

Published by Anne Paquin Since 1983 64 Hardy St., Dunstable, MA 01827-1403 Tel. 978-419-1914

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Home centers sell them for DYI installs, but a water heater is no bucket of paint. There are serious risks to people and property to consider. Read on for some key reasons to hire a pro when in need of a new water heater.

**Ensures Safety.** Water heaters can be dangerous. If not wired correctly, or not connected to the gas, or flue properly, you and your family could be at risk. A professional will know how to install your water heater while keeping residents and homes safe.

**Local Law Compliance.** It can be a code violation to try install a water heater yourself. If you hire a professional, you will not have to worry about permits, or about accidentally violating local codes.

Warranty. The new water heater's warranty might not be valid anymore if it is not professionally installed. Meaning you might have to pay for repairs or replacement if something goes wrong with your unit, even if the issue is not your fault. Ouch!

Until next month, stay comfortable. Matt

Got a question? Drop me a note! matt@denommeeplumbing.com



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#### **DUNSTABLE FREE PUBLIC LIBRARY**

588 Main St. 978-649-7830 For more library information go to www.dunstable-ma.gov click on library

Mary Beth Pallis - Director – <u>mpallis@dunstablepl.org</u> Karen Debreceni - Children's Librarian <u>kdebreceni@dunstablepl.org</u> Like us on FACEBOOK to receive program updates!

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

NEW Library Hours: Tues 3pm-8pm; Wed 10am-2pm, Thurs 10am-6pm, Fri 10am-2pm; Sat 10am-2pm

- Closed 12/24 & 12/25 for Christmas
- Closed 12/31 & 1/1 for New Years

<u>ADULT PROGRAM: Christmas Centerpiece</u> Bring in a shallow glass bowl and we will provide the holly and greens to make a beautiful centerpiece. *Wednesday 12/15 at 1:00 pm*. Sign up at the Library. Masks required.

**ADULT BOOK CLUB** Our group will meet at **10:30 on Saturday Dec 18**<sup>th</sup> at the Dunstable church. We will be discussing "A Fatal Grace" by Louise Penny.

**BONE BUILDERS PROGRAM** Classes are on **Wednesdays and Fridays at 10:30.** This is a free, low impact, balance and strength training exercise program.

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.

<u>Preschool Story Hour</u> 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! Please check on the dpl facebook page for additional information.

<u>Chapter Book Reading</u> Mrs. D will be reading from a chapter book each **Tuesday night at 5:30 pm**. Please join her on dpl facebook live to listen to the story. Any suggestions for favorite chapter books will be appreciated.

<u>Children's Program: Gingerbread houses</u> Come into the library and decorate your own gingerbread house. Please bring a bag of candy to share. **Tuesday 12/21 at 4:00 pm.** Sign up at the Library <u>Take and Make for December</u> Come to the library to pick up materials to make a holiday project at home. All the directions and supplies are included. No sign ups are needed. Supplies are limited. **December 9th - Make a decorative ornament.** 

#### **DUNSTABLE RURAL LAND TRUST**

**Our Calendar:** We are sorry to announce that there will be no DRLT calendar for 2022 due to national supply chain constraints. The DRLT looks forward to the 2023 calendar!

At this time the Town Hall is closed on Fridays

#### **DUNSTABLE TOWN HALL DIRECTORY**

Town Hall (978) 649-4514. *The departmental extensions are as follows:* 221 Town Accountant 222 Town Clerk 223 Council on Aging

224 Selectmen (handles many depts.) Also for Animal Control Officer. After hours call Police at 978-649-8891. If emergency call 911

226 Building Inspector

227 Road Commission

228 Tax Collector/Treasurer

229 Board of Health

230 Conservation/Planning Board 249 Assessors, Water Dept
Please dial 0 if you need assistance.

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

Visit www.dunstable-ma.gov for contact info, news & updates

#### DOWN TO EARTH HOUSE CLEANING

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#### **GROTON FOOD PROJECT**

The Groton Neighborhood Food Project (GNFP) is a non-profit organization that helps families in our community by organizing neighborhoods to collect food and other grocery items. You fill a bag and it will be picked up. Please join our growing network of neighborhood volunteers – it is fun & rewarding for the whole family!

On Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/GrotonFoodProject/ you would like to learn more about the GNFP, and how you can help, please go to https://grotonfoodproject.com

The upcoming food collections are on December 11th, and February 12, 2022.



### WHAT TO DO WHEN A LOVED ONE PASSES AWAY

By Edward H. Adamsky

It is a shame that paperwork often takes precedent over emotions. If you have just lost a loved-one, you are suffering trauma, sadness, and a bewildering array of other feelings and confusion. If your loved-one went through a prolonged period of illness you may feel a sense of relief that they finally passed, with a corresponding feeling of guilt that you feel that way. This is normal, and you should seek whatever help and counseling you may need to get through

But you will almost immediately be bombarded by legal issues and paperwork that you have to deal with. You can put some of it off, but there are some tasks that you cannot delay. The Funeral Director will prepare a death certificate and will need to know vital statistics about your loved-one such as date and place of birth, education level, the names, and places of birth of the parents of the deceased, and some other facts. It would be best if your loved-one had written these out or left you a copy of a birth certificate, but that's not always the case.

You will then need to deal with the assets and bills. If you are named as the Executor or Personal Representative in the Will of the deceased, then you will have to prepare the proper paperwork and file it with the Probate Court to be officially named to handle that task. Keep in mind that a Will only "nominates" you as Representative of the Estate, you have to get officially appointed by the Probate Court.

You may need to (even before officially appointed) secure the home of the deceased to make sure their possessions don't disappear. You will need to deal with pets, house plants, and also make sure the heat and lights stay on (especially in Winter). But you can probably wait a little while to deal with most bills, especially since you cannot do much until you are appointed by the Court. If necessary, you may have to use your own funds to pay a heat or light bill. You can be reimbursed later by the Estate.

When you are ready, you should meet with an attorney to review the steps necessary to administer the will. While the exact rules differ from state to state, the key actions include Filing the Will and a Petition for Probate with the Probate Court, collecting the assets and making an Inventory of them, paying all bills, and filing all tax returns and paying any tax due. Keep in mind if there is an Estate-Tax return required, it is due within nine months of the date of death. After the bills are all paid and the assets assembled, then you can distribute those assets to the rightful heirs of the Estate (as named in the Will or by law if there is no Will). You may need to prepare a Final Accounting to show to the heirs to explain how you determined their shares.

Your loved-one may have used a Trust that might avoid some of the above steps, but many of them will be required no matter what. It will really help if everyone sees their Estate-Planning attorney and gets their planning and affairs in order well in advance of a death.

#### PIANO LESSONS

Given by Catherine O'Malley

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#### **DUNSTABLE VETERAN AGENT**

For you veterans out there who were affected during the Pursian Gulf wars, the VA has extended the "Presumptive period to Dec 31 2026 for qualifying chronic disabilities rated 10% or more resulting from undiagnosed illnesses in the Persian Gulf Wars". These illnesses actually include many things, such as joint pain, headaches, skin conditions, and many others. If you are having any issues that you believe are not normal please contact me and I will do what I can to insure go the right place to get some help or at least an increase in your benefits.

The Dunstable Veterans I would like to honor who were born in December but have since passed away that are currently in our database are the following:

Clifton Davis - 5 Dec - Navy - Korea

Howard Day - 22 Dec - Navy - WWII

Peter Georges - 17 Dec - Army - Other

Clifton Laporte – 26 Dec – Army – WWII Norman Lambordi – 23 –Dec – Air Force - Korea

Our many thanks to those who went the extra step to serve their

As always, if you know of any Veteran or family member of any veteran who might need assistance, please contact me. My hours when I am normally available from 10:00AM to 2:00PM on Mondays almost every week. You can also call or text on my cell and leave a message 978-496-0985 or send me an email anytime at VSO@ <u>Dunstable-ma.gov</u>.

**Dunstable Veteran Services Officer** 

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

Proudly serving those who have served

#### WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS STEWARDSHIP **COUNCIL ANNOUNCES** 2022 COMMUNITY GRANTS AVAILABLE

The Nashua, Squannacook, and Nissitissit Rivers Wild and Scenic Stewardship Council announces the second year of their Community Grants program. The program aims to engage municipalities and local organizations in protecting the rivers' resources and building strong local stewardship of the rivers.

Applications will be accepted from the communities along the Wild and Scenic designated rivers (in MA: Ayer, Bolton, Dunstable, Groton, Harvard, Lancaster, Pepperell, Shirley, and Townsend; in NH: Brookline and Hollis). Applications are due by February 1, 2022 with awards announced in March, 2022.

Projects funded in the 2021 program included signs for Ayer's waterways and ponds, a connecting trail in Bolton, riverside tree planting in Brookline, a management plan and training on invasive plants in Pepperell, riverbank stabilization in Townsend, and support for restoring a historical cooperage in Townsend.

A Request for Proposals and Grant Application for the 2022 program are available at www.wildandscenicnashuarivers.org



Again this year West Auto Repair, Inc. has teamed up with Maureen Amaral, Realtor from Coldwell Banker Realty, who is our towns 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 unwrapped 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. 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 978-502-6161 and she can answer any questions you might have. Wishing you and yours the happiest of holidays. Stay well! The West Family

# ATTENTION 2022 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES RESIDING IN DUNSTABLE

Congratulations on your pending graduation!

We are delighted to announce the availability of the <u>Helene</u> <u>Morgan Babcock and Alfred Babcock Memorial Scholarship</u>, and invite you to apply for these generous funds as you continue your education.

During the winter of 1923, the home of the Morgan family here in town caught fire and was largely destroyed. The citizens of our community responded to the crisis by taking in the children (all 17 of them!), keeping the family together and aiding in the reconstruction of their home. One of the children, Helene Morgan Babcock, remembered the words of her mother, "Never forget the kindness of the people of Dunstable," and so established a scholarship fund to be made available to the graduating students of Dunstable as they continue their education.

The amounts of these grants are substantial, with one of the Babcock Scholars receiving \$4,000 each year for up to four years. A number of additional \$2,000 scholarships are granted to other students on a one-time basis.

Additionally, Dunstable's Commissioners of Trust Funds authorized the Babcock Scholarship Committee to award the Russell G. and Shirley L. Tobey Scholarship, which is a one-time award of \$1,000. Applicants applying for the Babcock Scholarship will be automatically considered for the Tobey Scholarship; there is no additional application required. The Tobey Scholarship recipient will be chosen using the Babcock Scholarship selection criteria.

Scholarships may be applied to expenses incurred in the pursuit of advanced education beyond the secondary level in two or four year institutions, vocational education institutions, or formalized apprenticeship programs (the main scholarship for 4 year full time only).

Starting February 3, 2022, applications will be available at the town hall, library, your school guidance office, or by emailing <a href="mailto:babcockscholarshipfund@gmail.com">babcockscholarshipfund@gmail.com</a>. Completed applications can be submitted electronically to the above email, or to the PO Box

listed below no later than Wednesday, March 16, 2022.

**Questions** regarding the application process can be sent to <a href="mailto:babcockscholarshipfund@gmail.com">babcockscholarshipfund@gmail.com</a>. We hope you take advantage of this wonderful opportunity.

Babcock Scholarship Trustees, P.O. Box 24, Dunstable, MA 01827



# TOWN OF DUNSTABLE BOARD OF HEALTH TRASH & RECYCLING PICKUP PROGRAM

The Town offers a trash & recycling pickup program for all residents. The fee is \$300.00 per year valid July through June of each year. The fee drops by \$25.00 each month. As an example, if you join in August the yearly fee will be \$275.00. All subscriptions expire on June 30<sup>th</sup> each year. The subscription includes a 35-gallon trash container and a 64-gallon recycling container.

We also offer overflow bags for sale for \$3.00 each in rolls of 5 for \$15.00 for those weeks that you cannot fit all your trash in the grey trash container. Our pickup day is every week on Thursday. There are 6 holidays that will change that date to Friday. That list will be given to you when you sign up. On occasion the weather might also change that day to a Friday. That announcement will appear on the town website cover page under news.

If you would like to sign up for pickup you may do so at <a href="www.dunstable-ma.gov">www.dunstable-ma.gov</a> and go to online payments. Scroll down halfway down the page for Board of Health – trash. You may also purchase overflow bags at the same website by filling in the amount and we will recognize the amount is for bags. You will have to pick them up at the town hall Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m. Please bring your confirmation sheet with you. You may also sign up for trash pickup or purchase bags at the town hall Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. -4:00 p.m. and pay by cash or check.

Any further questions should be forwarded to <a href="maigov">jferrari@dunstable-ma.gov</a> or call 978-649-4514, Ext. 229. and leave a message. All inquiries are usually answered in a timely manner.





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#### The deadline is December 10th for the January issue.

Please send in your news or articles to <a href="mailto:anne@neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com">anne@neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com</a>.

If you have a business and you would like more information about advertising, please call **978-419-1914 or email me.**I will get back to you as soon as possible.

Thank you, Anne

#### **DUNSTABLE SENIORS**

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

**Dunstable Seniors** ......we are a peer group for those over 60. HAPPY BIRTHDAY to all who are celebrating this month!

MEETINGS are now held on Wednesday at the Dunstable Library

We will have access to the community room from 10 - 2.

You are more than welcome to take part in....cribbage, dominos, and scrabble groups that will be on hand. Masks will be required except while eating.

#### **SENIOR ACTIVITIES**

**GOOD NEWS** For December we will be able to offer meals. On the first Wednesday we celebrated those with December birthdays. On December 15<sup>th</sup> we will have *chicken scampi over rotini and broccoli*. The meals are provided by Elder Services of Merrimack Valley. Cost is \$3.00

DECEMBER 22<sup>ND</sup> CHRISTMAS PARTY AND YANKEE SWAP.

Please join us for a delicious lunch of roast beef, mashed potatoes, winter squash and dessert provided by Charlotte's Cozy Kitchen. 
The Dunstable Police Union will be sponsoring this FREE meal. 
Following lunch, we will hold a Yankee Swap. We ask that you bring a \$10.00 consumable gift. Reservation for all meals is required one week prior to each meal. You are more than welcome to bring your own and take part in, cribbage, dominos, and scrabble groups that will be on hand. Masks will be required except while eating HOLIDAY CENTERPIECE WORKSHOP Make your own Holiday Centerpiece on Wednesday, December 15 at 1:00pm at Dunsgable Library. We will be using fresh holly, flowers and cranberries. You will need to provide a shallow, clear glass bowl. It will be a quick, very easy and a beautiful centerpiece. This is a Free work-shop but you must register by Dec. 10.

**BOOK GROUP** Our group will meet at **10:30**, **on December 18**<sup>th</sup> in the community room of the Dunstable church. We will be discussing *A Fatal Grace* a Three Pines Mystery by Louise Penny. Summary: Sent to a village south of Montreal to investigate the death of CC de Poitiers, an extremely unpopular woman apparently killed in an electrical accident, Armand Gamache of the Surete du Quebec finds that nearly everyone in town had a motive to kill her. Everyone is responsible for getting their own book but can be ordered thru the Dunstable library.

NEW ENGLAND VOICES IN HARMONY Saturday, December 18th 6:00 pm at Dunstable Congregational Church Limited seating, reservations a MUST RSVP sjt0213@verizon.net This is a FREE concert sponsored by the Dunstable Summer Concerts and the Dunstable Cultural Council. New England Voices in Harmony, an a cappella women's chorus, based in Nashua, NH, has members from all over southern NH and northern Massachusetts. Founded in January of 2000, New England Voices in Harmony is a chapter of Harmony, Inc., an international, non-profit, educational and singing organization for women. The chorus has won First place at both the 2014 and 2018 International Convention and Contests, competing against choruses from Canada and the US.

ANNUAL HOLIDAY COMMUNITY COOKIE SWAP Saturday, DEC. 18 AT 1:00P.M. DUNSTABLE TOWN HALL It's Back! Annual Holiday Event Families and friends gather to share their talents in cookie baking. Bring 3 doz. one kind of cookie (recipe optional). 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 sit0213@verizon.net. Masks required in the Town Hall.

#### LOAVES AND FISHES

DRIVE-THRU PANTRY SCHEDULE

Open 9:00am to 12:00pm on the following days: December 8, 10, 15, 18, \*20, 22, 29

\*Special Event: **Holiday Dinner** Distribution~December 20 10am-1pm and 4pm-6pm

Are you choosing between heating your home, buying medications or feeding yourself and your family? We can help! Loaves & Fishes' mission is to provide nutritious food, in an atmosphere of kindness and respect, to individuals in need who reside in Ayer, Devens, Dunstable, Groton, Harvard, Littleton and Shirley. Follow us on Facebook or call us at 978-772-4627.

#### **DUNSTABLE COUNCIL ON AGING**

DIRECTOR OF THE COUNCIL ON AGING
Anne Fenochetti Email: afenochetti@dunstable-ma.gov
978-649-4514 ext. 223 Hours: Tues 8-12, Wed 8-11

<u>DUNSTABLE COUNCIL ON AGING</u> Barbara Martin, chairman; Mary Dow, secretary; Donald Pottle and Joan Simmons. 
<u>The Mission of the Dunstable Council on Aging</u> 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. *Feel free to give us your ideas.* 

The Council on Aging Board is looking for someone willing to serve on this 5 member board.

Meetings are held once a month, September - June. We need your help, we need your ideas, we need your support.

\*\*\*\* Bone Builders Program Are you ready to start exercising again? Brian O'Donnell has resumed classes on **Wednesdays** and Fridays at 10:30 at the Dunstable library. Bone Builders is a FREE, low impact, balance and strength training exercise program. Please drop in if you are interested in joining.

\*\*\*\*Sand Delivery Snow and ice is here and the Dunstable Highway Dept. wants to help keep you safe. If you would like a bucket of sand for your sidewalk/stairs contact Kristina at ext. 227(town hall)978-649-4514 to get on the list.

\*\*\*\*Alzheimer Support is a free service that assists Dunstable families who have loved ones with Alzheimer's disease or dementia. Through our free search tool and database of Alzheimer's care facilities, families in need of care for their loved ones can locate licensed care homes and communities in the Dunstable area that are best equipped to provide care for their loved ones. Go to <a href="https://www.alzheimersupport.com/memory-care/massachusetts/">www.alzheimersupport.com/memory-care/massachusetts/</a>

\*\*\*\* Fabulous Feet by Diane Diane Stanley, a foot care specialist nurse, is now available to do home visits. She will check feet, trim nail, treat ingrown nails, corns and calluses. Experience with diabetics. Home visit is \$60.00 for a 1hour visit. Call 978-667-0644 to make an appointment.

\*\*\*\*\* Brown Bag Food Program This program offers a FREE bag of groceries the 4th Tuesday of each month. Each bag contains a variety of basic healthy foods. Bags need to be picked up at the Tyngsboro Senior Center. Call Laura Marsan 978-946-1303 for more information.

\*\*\*\*Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry Open to Dunstable residents providing food and support. You may pick-up in your own car on the following days: December 8, 10, 15, 18, \*20, 22, 29 from 9:00 a.m. - noon \*Special Events:Holiday Dinner Distribution December 20 – 10am-1pm and 4pm-6:00 call us at 978-772-4627 for more information

\*\*\*\* Walking Group Walking group meets on Wed. at 9:30 at Larter Field. Walk the track as many times as you feel comfortable. Thanks to the Dunstable Recreation Dept. benches have been installed around the track for rest spots. If this time and day aren't good for you feel free to work with the group on finding a more suitable time.

\*\*\*\*Well Adult Clinic December 22 in the Dunstable library from 11:00 – noon. Maureen Scott, our new nurse will bring flu vaccine to this clinic to give shots to any senior that needs one. These clinics allow for personalized, one on one attention from the nurse. Offered services include blood pressure and blood sugar screening, diet and nutrition information and teaching, medication review and assistance with identifying and coordinating community resources and referrals.

I'm in the Donut Hole What Can I Do? If you have reached or are about to reach that gap in your part D plan, the Commonwealth's Prescription Advantage program can help. For individuals with an annual income of less than \$38,640 or \$52,260 married. Prescription Advantage can help lower your co- payments while in this gap. Call for more information at 1-800-243-4636 or go online at <a href="https://www.prescriptionadvantage.org">www.prescriptionadvantage.org</a>

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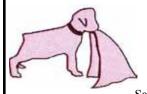
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#### **DUNSTABLE COUNCIL ON AGING Continued**

<u>Medicare</u> Remember if you are turning 65 you should contact Social Security to enroll in Medicare. Medicare has no connection to your eligibility for social security benefits. **If you have questions call Elder Services at 1-800-892-0890.** 

SHINE PROGRAM Medicare counseling. What is SHINE???? Serving the health insurance needs of everyone on or eligible for medicare. •The enrollment process and timeline for medicare related programs •Navigating your way through the complex medicare health insurance process •Medicare options and what is best for you •How to compare your cost and benefit options •Medicare savings programs to assist with medicare costs and premiums. For information and assistance with enrolling in a Medicare Advantage, Medigap, or Prescription Drug plan, contact the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services at 1-800-633-4227.

\*\*\*\*Book Delivery is available through the Dunstable Library on Thursdays. Just let Anne know if you or someone you know needs books or audio material. Call 978-649-7830

\*\*\*\*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 any other. Check with Anne Fenochetti as soon as you know when your appointment is to make sure a ride is available.

\*\*\*\*PACH Food Pantry in Pepperell Is open to Dunstable residents. Anyone in need should contact them at 978-925-9770 or www.pachoutreach.org PACH is located at 66Hollis St. Pepperell. Hour of operation Tues 5-7pm, and Thurs. 2 – 4 & 5 – 7pm. If you would like to donate items a collection box is located at West's Auto. \*\*\*\*Meals on Wheels Do you or someone you know need the services of Meals on Wheels? This service is now being merged with Tyngsboro's MOW. For more information contact Merrimack Valley Elder Services 1-800-892-0890

\*\*\*\*We have applications for RMV handicap placards\*\*\*\*

PENSION ACTION CENTER Free legal counseling for workers and retirees who live or work in New England. Legal help line 1-888-425-6067.

Elder Hotline Finding the answer to questions about issues can sometimes be confusing. The Attorney General's Office has a statewide, toll-free telephone hotline to assist individuals on a wide range of elder issues. The number is 1-888-243-5337 (TTY: 617-727-4765) Monday thru Friday 10:00 am– 4:00 pm This elderly hotline provides a valuable service to Massachusetts' senior citizens, their families, and other information about elder related issues and programs throughout the commonwealth.

\*\*\*\*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, transport chairs, 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 stop by.

#### **CONGRATULATIONS TO GLEN D. HALL**

Badger Funeral Homes of Littleton and Groton is proud to announce that Glen D. Hall, our Registered Apprentice, has recently become a licensed Funeral Director and Embalmer. We take this opportunity to congratulate him and celebrate his achievement. Glen's hard work, dedication, and caring has proven invaluable to us and the families we serve. He has worked as a registered apprentice for the Concord Funeral Home since 2013 and with the Badger Funeral Homes since October 2016. In August of 2021, Glen graduated Magna Cum Laude from the McAllister Institute of Funeral Service in New York City. He also attended the University of New Hampshire, graduating in 2005. A dedicated funeral director, Glen assists with the daily operations of the funeral homes. His primary role is team-leader with the creation and design of Life Celebration photo displays, and all community outreach programs. In 2016, following a four-year battle with HCM and congestive heart failure, Glen successfully received a heart transplant at Brigham and Women's Hospital. His story is an inspiration to many. Glen resides at the residence located above the Littleton funeral home location and enjoys, hiking, skiing, and riding his motorcycle.

Badger Funeral Homes of Littleton and Groton https://www.badgerfuneral.com/

# THE FRIENDS OF THE TYNGSBORO ELDERLY, INC.

The Friends of the Tyngsboro Elderly, Inc, (originally Friends of the Council on Aging, established in 1984), is a 501 C3 Non Profit Organization whose purpose is to help fund the needs, activities, and programs for the seniors at the senior center. The Board meets once a month to plan activities that will bring seniors together. Recent gatherings include the Meet & Greet Luncheon in the summer, and the Fall Festival Luncheon in September.

Plans are underway for future gatherings which will include 50/50 Raffle, Silent Auction, and Raffle Baskets as well as a lunch. Board Members include: Joe Jacoppi: President, Carol Sides: Treasurer, Elaine Rivard: Clerk, and Board Members: Lee Poirier, Elaine Franks, Joanne Jean, and Mary Basiliere.

Membership is well over one hundred seniors from the senior center. Become a member and support the efforts of this non-profit organization. *Please call Elaine Rivard 978-649-7689 for a Membership Form.* 

# DUNSTABLE EVANGELICAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

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

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

- Sunday Morning worship service begins at 10:30 AM. Masks are optional. Social distancing is according to your comfort level. You may also continue to worship online via our Facebook live stream.
- Adult Bible Study. This 9:00 AM Sunday morning class meets in Fellowship Hall and on zoom. This series will study the book of Hebrews.
- Sunday School/Nursery. Nursery/Sunday School classes have begun during our 10:30 AM worship service. Care is provided for infants through preschool
- Tuesday evening Community Group. With a goal of strengthening community among us, a gathering is held from 7:00-8:30 PM three times monthly on Zoom and once a month in person for dinner in local homes. All are invited. We use a variety of ways to share and grow in faith. Join us at the Zoom link on our website at 7:00 PM on Tuesdays to check it out with no commitment required.
- So you know what went on. Saturday, December 4<sup>th</sup>, 10:00 AM 4:00 PM Day Long Food Drive-thru. at 6:00 pm Community Christmas Carol Sing on the Common! We will be collecting non-perishable food items all day for PACH (pachoutreach.org) as you drive thru the parking lot. At 6:00 PM the Dunstable Church and local musician Valerie Callahan are hosting Carols on the Common. All are welcome to join us to sing and present Christmas Carols and other holiday favorites. If you'd like to dust off an instrument that's been in your closet, we'd love you to play along! Please contact Valerie at <a href="mailto:vmcallahan@gmail.com">vmcallahan@gmail.com</a> for information or to volunteer your talents. We look forward to celebrating the beginning of the season by sharing holiday music with our community. No talent is necessary for singing along -- just a festive spirit! Lyrics will be provided.
- Friday, December 24th, Christmas Eve Service will be held at 6:30 PM.
- Saturday, December 25th, Christmas Day Service will be held at 10:00 AM.
- Sunday, December 26th, our regular Sunday morning Service at 10:30 AM.

May the blessings of Christmas surround you with joy and peace.

Come visit your community church. Streaming is still available on our website, www.dunstablechurch.org.

May the Lord walk between us while we are absent, one from another.

#### Do you need assistance with your high tech devices?

Windows computer setup and repair, Chromebooks, TVs, home networks, wireless routers, cell phones, Amazon Echo (Alexa), etc. I can help you with all your devices!

Reasonable rates and Senior discounts. Dunstable, MA Dean, <u>HighTechGadgetMan@gmail.com</u>, 781-367-4791

# JOB OPPORTUNITY FOR DISTRIBUTION OPERATOR

The **Tyngsborough Water District** is seeking candidates for the position of Distribution Operator. This position requires a D1 & T1 or be able to obtain a D1 & T1 MA Drinking Water License within 1 year of hire and a clean driver's license. Must be able to respond within 30 minutes. Salary depends on experience and licenses held \$50,000 - \$63,654.

For a full job description & application please email us at <a href="mailto:info@tyngsboroughwater.org">info@tyngsboroughwater.org</a>. The Tyngsborough Water District is an equal opportunity employer.

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#### CAT FOOD DONATIONS NEEDED

to feed a colony of feral and homeless kitties. Please call Don Gaudette 978-799-9715 for the drop-off location on the Dunstable/Tyngsboro line.

Associated with Kitty Angels www.kittyangels.org Kitty Angels is An All-Volunteer, Non-Profit Shelter for Needy Cats

#### THE WISH PROJECT

166 Middlesex St. North Chelmsford, MA 01863 This is behind Hertz Car Rental thewishproject.org



For information email: info@thewishproject.org

If you are donating CLOTHING we are open to accept those donations Tues-Fri, 9-2:45pm and Sat, 9-12:45pm no appointment necessary. If you are donating HOUSEWARES AND FURNITURE we will continue to schedule those drop offs through our email donategoods@thewishproject.org.

#### THE WISH PROJECT SUPPLYING THE BASICS

Our goal is to provide our local people in need with basic furniture, home goods and baby goods, while helping the planet by recycling used goods. Only when people have their basic needs met can they move forward and out of the social services sustem.

- We accept a range of items including: Clothing, Childcare Items, Furniture, Beds, Kitchen Items and Household Linen. Current Needs: Often specific needs arise in the community. If you are looking to donate goods, please reference our Current Needs list. It is always updating based on the needs of our clients.
- Magic of Christmas October December Deadline for dropping off items 12/5/21 Goal: Bring magic to a family's Christmas by getting involved in this project and provide gifts for both families in need and the many that are forgotten during the holidays: mentally challenged adults, home bound senior citizens and street homeless adults. Sponsor one person or a whole family for gifts. How can you help: • Apply to sponsor a family by completing the form below • Guilt free re-gifting – donate new items that you cannot use or are not to your taste. We won't tell! We welcome almost anything new as a gift. • Hold a Collection of toys or other gifts: hand tools, flash lights, diapers/baby wipes, jewelry, hats, gloves (home made are very welcome), pis, headphones, board games for older kids, dolls, Legos, Matchbox cars, personal care items for teenage boys and girls (body wash, perfume, aftershave), makeup kits, gift certificates, basketballs, baseballs, or footballs. We always especially need items for teens. • Shop from home by purchasing items from our Amazon Wish list. Gift Guidelines: We respect families of all kinds and sizes. We believe in a gift for everyone in the family, not just the children. That way, we help the whole family to have a Happy Holiday. All items must be new for this project. Think practical: Crafts supplies like markers; paper and Play Dough are always popular. Casual clothing items (fleece pullovers and hooded sweatshirts) are popular with teens and adults. Gifts should be seasonally appropriate: but not too seasonal please. Eg. Santa sweaters get old in March. Think Healthy: No highly allergenic items (scratchy sweaters or fragrant perfumes). Food items should be avoided. No pets, plants or anything else that requires tending No PlayStation/Nintendo games, etc. Board games, hand held games, and learning toys should be substituted.

All unwrapped gifts, price tags removed, packed in a heavy duty black trash bag labeled with the Family ID Code assigned to you for your sponsored family. If there is more than one bag per family, please make sure each bag is properly labeled, 1 of 2, 2 of 2, etc. This makes sure we keep all gifts for a family together.

•Guidelines for Ages Children & Babies: 3 gifts each: one toy (valued at ~\$30), clothing (valued at ~\$30), and craft/school supplies/ diapers (valued at ~\$15). **Babies:** Other items might be sleepers, baby toys, and board books. Adults: Adults should also get something for under the tree (valued at ~\$25). Gift cards to grocery stores or department stores are welcomed! Teens: Gift ideas: makeup, jewelry, clothes, fast food or department store gift cards, perfume/aftershave/body wash, scarf/glove sets or fleece. Children 18 and over receive a \$25 adult gift.

THE THRIFT SHOP AT THE WISH is open Tuesday-Friday from 9 to 2:45 and Saturday from 9 to 12:45. We accept cash and Credit card payments. \*\*Be sure to follow The Wish Project Thrift Shop page on Facebook\*\* • About Us: The mission of The Wish Project is to help families in need in the Merrimack Valley. Find out more on our website www,TheWishProject.org or call us at (866) 947-4360. Our mailing address is: The Wish Project, PO Box 8693, Lowell, MA 01853.

### LOADING DOCK GALLERY 122 WESTERN AVENUE • LOWELL, MA

**Show: Winter Lights** 

Show dates: December 1 - December 31, 2021 (except Dec. 25-26)

December is a festive time at The Loading Dock Gallery, and we invite you to partake in the celebration of the seasons. Winter Lights has become an annual local tradition of holiday shoppers as a source of unique, handcrafted, giftable art and holiday decorations presented by more than 30 of our LDG members and participating artists and artisans from Western Avenue Studios.

Browse our three rooms of beautiful artwork, and drink in the spirit of the season. Winter Lights showcases a juried selection of work by local artists making it easy and convenient to Shop Local and Shop Small while giving our patrons the opportunity to find that unique and extraordinary gift that will make this holiday memorable.

Winter Lights runs December 1 through December 31 (except Dec. 25-26) will be open 12 PM-5:30pm Monday-Saturday and 12-4pm Sundays. Western Avenue Studios will be holding their Holiday Open Studios again on Saturday, December 11 from 12-4pm - tour the artists' lofts and studios during your visit to the Gallery.

Loading Dock Gallery is part of Loading Dock Arts, Inc., a 501c3. Winter Lights runs December 1 through December 31, except December 25-26, at Loading Dock Gallery, 122 Western Avenue, in Lowell, MA. For more information, call 978.985.0695 or visit www.theloadingdockgallery.com.



#### THE HOPE AND HEALING ADULT GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

LAST SATURDAY OF EACH MONTH-10:30 a.m.-12:00 p.m. ST. JOHN THE EVANGELIST OLD PARISH HALL 115 MIDDLESEX ROAD, N. CHELMSFORD, MA

WHEN SOMEONE IN YOUR LIFE DIES When someone close to you dies everything changes in your family, in your life, and your dreams. Often this can turn your life upside down. Know you are not alone in your grief and loneliness. The Hope and Healing Adult Grief Support Group meets on the last Saturday of each month.

All are welcome to a safe place to share your story, find comfort, hope and encouragement, as you continue a new path in life. Registration is not required.

#### TYNGSBOROUGH-DUNSTABLE



The Rotary Club of Tyngsboro/Dunstable Rotary Club has been serving the Tyngsborough and Dunstable area for 41 years.

Rotary is a global network of community volunteers. Rotary club members are business, professional, and community volunteers in your locality who meet regularly to plan and implement community service activities and network with other professionals. For those interested, members can also choose to become involved in international humanitarian service efforts. More than 1.2 million men and women in over 200 countries and geographical areas belong to over 33,000 Rotary clubs.

Rotary builds international understanding through scholarships, exchange programs, and humanitarian grants. Throughout the world. Rotary clubs participate in a broad range of educational. intercultural, and humanitarian activities designed to improve the lives of others.

If you are interested in membership, please call Bob Guernsey at (508)380-4351 or Ron Keohane at (508)517-3895.

Feel free to join in our weekly Zoom meetings held on Thursdays at noon.

Contact either member listed above to find out how to join in.

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#### www.beaverbrook.org

Please read all details about what to bring or wear for weather and for COVID-19 protocol.

December Full Moon Hike, 12/18/2021 - 12/18/2021, 6:00 PM - 8:00 PM, Maple Hill Farm- Spear Room, Ages 14-99

Join BBA Naturalists Kat Dickau for a Full Moon Night Hike around the trails of Beaver Brook. You will be so happy to get outside on a fall night! It's a great experience. Dress in Layers. December full moon is commonly known in the Northern Hemisphere as the Full Long Nights Moon. It takes its name from the winter solstice, which has the longest night in the year.

After the hike you will return to Maple Hill Farm for warm beverages and provisions. BBA Member Per Person:\$13.50 Non-Member Per Person: \$15.00

## Winter Solstice Family Event, 12/19/2021 - 12/19/2021, 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM, Cow Lane Kiosk

For us on the northern part of Earth, the shortest day comes at the solstice. Regardless of what the weather is doing outside your window, the solstice marks the official start of winter. After the winter solstice, the days get longer, and the nights shorter. It's a seasonal shift that nearly everyone notices. Join us as we celebrate this event and "move into the light".

Follow our self-guided marked trail with a nature story about how Winter Solstice came to be and will get a chance to learn about the tradition of the "Yule" log.

Dress for being in the outdoors, wear sturdy shoes and dress in layers. Groups of up to 16 people will be paced on the trails every 15 mins. (8 Different slots)

\*BE SURE TO NOTE YOUR SCHEDULED TIME SLOT\*
.We love dogs but please do not bring them to this event.

### **4 KEY QUESTIONS ABOUT DOWN PAYMENTS**

Sponsored by Carrie Best Cyr

Down payments can be a challenge to navigate, even for experienced homebuyers. How much do you need to put down? Do current market conditions change anything for you? Even the most basic questions aren't always easy to answer.

Whether you're thinking of buying soon or planning ahead for a purchase in 2022, now is a good time to clear up any uncertainties and come up with the right strategy for your household.

Take a look at these frequently asked questions, and reach out if you need a helping hand.

How much should your down payment be?

The minimum down payment depends on what type of mortgage loan you're getting. Some loans (conventional and FHA mortgages) require 3 to 3.5%, while others (VA and USDA loans) require zero. Your credit score will also play a role in some cases.

Is a large down payment always better?

It depends on your budget and goals. A big down payment will mean a smaller monthly payment and fewer interest costs in the long run. If it eats into your emergency savings or puts you in dire financial straits, though, it's probably not the best move.

 What should you consider when setting your goal amount?

You'll want to look at the price range you're shopping in, your budget and the types of loans you're eligible for. Talking to an experienced loan officer can help you get an accurate idea of what to expect

• Do you have to come up with all of it on your own? Many loan programs allow "gift" funds, which means money given to you by your parents or another family member. You'll just need a letter stating that the funds are a gift, not a loan, before you can use them.

#### STITCHERS AT TYNGSBOROUGH SENIOR CENTER

Masked, distancing, and still stitching, the group is in full swing getting knitwear ready for the cold months. The Stitchers meet every Monday at 10:00AM in the Arts & Crafts Room at the Tyngsboro Senior Center, Westford Rd., Tyngsborough.

After many months of stitching, our Senior Instructor, Yolanda Carmona, has completed a full size afghan which will be raffled off. Raffle tickets will be sold at all the major events at the center. Please call Coordinator, Jean Jacoppi, (978-649-9076) for information or just join us.

#### **BONE BUILDERS**

Did you just have a Bone Density Test that was not favorable? Maybe Osteopenia? Or worse, Osteoporosis? Tufts University Research on Aging is the model used in the Bone Builders Class at the Tyngsboro Senior Center, 169 Westford Rd. The gentle exercises, using weights of various sizes, build bones and help with balance. Men as well as women benefit from this class. For additional information, please call Jean Jacoppi, 978-649-

#### **AMVETS POST #247 ROBERT D. PELLETIER**



90 Pawtucket Blvd. Tyngsborough, MA

OFFICERS: Commander: William A. Beaton, Sr.; 1st Vice: Jan Dombrowski; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice: Steve Harris; Adjutant: John Cogan; Finance Officer: David Coles; Judge Advocate: Roland Milliard; . E-Board: Clare Beaton, Marty Bloomgren and Rod Wood.

> "ALWAYS READY TO SERVE OUR VETERANS" AMVETS National Website: http://www.amvets.org/

Saturday, December 11th, MEAT SHOOT at 7pm at Post #247, 90 Pawtucket Blvd., Tyngsborough. A fundraiser for the Post. Stop by to see what this is all about.

### **DUNSTABLE TYNGSBOROUGH** LIONS CLUB



"We Serve" The Lions Club is a non-profit organization of men and women dedicated to serving communities locally and globally giving hope and impacting lives through humanitarian service projects and raising donations to support areas of need.

Officers for the 2019-2020 Lions Year

President: Mark Alexander, 1st Vice President/Membership Chair: Joseph Ward, Treasurer: Bob Reich, Secretary: Laura Ward, Tail Twister: Meghan DeMonico.

Anyone interested in joining the lions is asked to contact Joseph Ward at 978-930-1153. We will let you know where, and when meetings will take place.

#### YOU CAN HELP BY DONATING THE FOLLOWING:

- Used Eyeglasses are collected for refurbishment and distribu tion to less advantaged individuals around the world.
- Used Hearing Aids are collected refurbished or repaired and distributed to those individuals in need with limited ability to pay.
- Can tabs please place into bags before putting in the boxes. Lion's collection boxes for eyeglasses and hearing aids and can tabs are located at the Tyngsborough Post Office, American Legion Post 247 at 90 Pawtucket Blvd., Multi-Service Center at 180 Lakeview Ave, Dunstable Town Hall, Post Office and Library. Pennies for Sight: "Your change- changes people's lives" See a Lion cannister around please consider donating. Every Penny Counts!



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#### AMERICAN LEGION POST 247 INC. 90 PAWTUCKET BLVD. TYNGSBOROUGH. MA

Much renovating, sanitizing, and improvements have been made. We look forward to seeing you.CDC protocols for Covid-19 followed. Hours are Tues. Wed. Thurs & Sunday 12pm to 8pm and Friday and Saturday 12pm to 11pm. Closed Monday. Stop in we'd love to see you. Please be well. If you are interest in joining, or want more info about what is happening at the Post, please get in touch with the person noted for each organization or call the Post at 978-649-7540.

#### ROBERT D. PELLETIER AMERICAN LEGION POST #247. INC

90 Pawtucket Blvd. Tyngsborough, MA 01879

Active duty military and veterans always welcome to join. First Year FREE for new Legion members. For further information call 978-649-7540 or email: legionpost247@gmail.com

Elected Post 247 Officers serving for 2019-2021 Commander: Matt DeLucia; Sr. Vice Commander: David Simpson; Jr. Vice Commander. Executive Board: Joe Conlin, Ray Hamelin and John Burke. Bartenders Matt, Linda, Judi, Michelle and Pat.



#### AMERICAN LEGION **AUXILIARY UNIT 247**

90 Pawtucket Blvd. Tyngsborough, MA 01879

Auxiliary Unit 247 Officers for 2019-2021:

President: Linda Small; Sr. Vice: Ann Thellen; Jr. Vice: Joyce Ferreira; Secretary: Pat Modrich; Treasurer: Diane Dileo; Sgt-At-Arms: Deb St. Peters. Trustees: Michelle Lambert, Kathleen Oljey and Josephine Beauregard.

For information on the Auxiliary Unit contact Unit President Linda Small.

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Confessions St. John: Mon. 4:30-5:30pm & Sat. 3-3:45 pm St. Margaret: Tues. 4:30-5:30pm & Sat.1-2 pm

St. Mary: Wed. 4:30-5:30pm & Sat. 11am -12 noon
• WEEKEND MASS SCHEDULE

St. Mary: 4pm on Saturday, 7am and 11am on Sunday St. John: 4pm on Saturday, 9:30am and 6pm on Sunday Also 12pm African Liturgy (2nd, 3rd and 4th Sundays) St. Margaret of Scotland: 4pm on Saturday and 7:30 and 10am on

• DAILY MASS SCHEDULE Monday thru Friday

St. Mary at 7am • St. Margaret of Scotland 8am • St. John at 9am

### **CHRISTMAS MASS SCHEDULE**

Christmas Eve Friday, December 24 St. John: 3pm & 10pm

St. Mary: 4pm, 6pm & Midnight

St Margaret: 5pm & 8pm

#### Christmas Day, Saturday, December 25

St John: 9:30am (no 6pm Mass)

St. Mary: 7am & 11am

St. Margaret: 7:30am & 10am

#### The Holy Family, Sunday, December 26

Regular Sunday Mass Schedule

You may view all masses and events on LIVEVIEW for St. John and St. Mary. Not available at this time for St. Margaret. Just go to the website and click on Watch LIVEVIEW, then choose which one you want to view.

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www.tyngsborocongregational.org
Pastor Denis Frediani

• At this time, we invite you to attend our Annual Christmas Eve Candle Light Service (December 24th at 7:00 p.m.)

A beautiful and meaningful service filled with music and prayer to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ!

#### Worship 10AM at the church.

If you prefer to stay home, Services are available on line.
• TO WATCH LIVE SERVICES

Log on directly to facebook and go to Ecct Church. You may also log in at any time and watch the recorded services.

- **SERMONS ON-LINE:** Weekly sermons by Pastor Frediani: **1**. Log onto the church website <a href="http://www.tyngsborocongregational.org">http://www.tyngsborocongregational.org</a> **2**. Click once on the word "SERMONS" **3.** Sermons listed by date, passage, sermon title. You may click on "Jump to the Current Sermon. To find the most recent.
- •LADIES BIBLE STUDY Tuesday, 9:30 am 11:30 am. Again, call and leave a message or stop by to sign up. We will be studying the Book of Esther.
- YOUTH BIBLE STUDY Friday, 6-8PM Follows school year schedule
- · All Executive Boards now meeting.

#### THRIFT STORE

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Masks will not be required for outside sales, but masks are still required for inside sales. It is such a tight space inside the building. Check us out on facebook.com Ecct Church for updates.

NOTE: THRIFT STORE CLOSED
CLOSED Saturday, December 25th (Christmas Holiday)

HAPPY HOLIDAY'S and stay safe during the upcoming Holiday Season. Remember: "GOD LOVES YOU"!!!

### TYNGSBOROUGH DUNSTABLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY



#### The Little Red Schoolhouse,

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Thank you for your support this past year. We appreciate every single way you have helped - from your encouragement in the form of membership, attending events, working behind the scenes, baking, grilling, yardwork, hulling, serving, etc. - everything you have done to aid in our mission to celebrate our past and preserve it for the future.

We hope you have enjoyed the programs we presented this year and encourage you to suggest new ones for 2022.

For more information, please contact Lynda Justice at 978 587-8423 or lyndajustice@verizon.net

Thank you to those who have renewed their membership and made donations so far this year! We appreciate your kind support.

Membership forms and more info is available at www.tdhistoricalsociety.org
Email address: tyngsboroughdunstablehs@gmail.com

HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

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#### **BUDGET BUDDIES**

#### Expanding to Meet the Need

Hi there, we have been busy this fall with 15+ financial wellness programs running or planned for women and girls living on low incomes. We are continuously grateful to work with our partners. This fall we are also appreciative of our Program Team for offering a rolling enrollment for virtual programs that Budget Buddies is now able to run independently. Women and girls have been reaching out to us directly through our website registration page. We have been excited by the way our Girls LIFE program has been transitioned to the virtual platform.

We're so thankful to our volunteers who meet the demand for the financial wellness workshops and 1:1 financial coaching that we offer, as we expect to nearly double the number of women and girls we reach this fiscal year.

We would also like to thank our supporters, team members, and participants for making our community of women supporting women possible.

Equity & Inclusion Matters Budget Buddies signed onto the Boston Women's Workforce Council's 100% Talent Compact. Gender and racial pay equity is a critical part of ensuring financial sustainability for the women in the Budget Buddies financial wellness programs. We're working to ensure women who are living on low incomes have the knowledge, tools, resources, support and confidence to feel empowered and in control of their financial futures. However, individual empowerment and knowledge can only do so much when there are so many systemic barriers that prevent women, especially women of color, from advancing economically.

We cannot continue to expect women to budget their way out of poverty while ignoring all of the external hurdles that prevent economic stability. Inequitable pay prevents women from being able to save and create a financial safety net to help them from being able to weather financial emergencies. We see this lack of a financial cushion push women into poverty and transitional housing far too often. Addressing the pay gap is the best way to advance financial independence and security for women and their families.

Through our participation in the 100% Talent Compact, we hope to be able to elevate the voices of the women in our financial wellness programs to highlight how this persistent systemic issue continues to play out in the lives of women across Boston, and the entire Commonwealth. We're excited to see Boston taking a leading role in doing this important research and data collection to raise awareness about this important issue and we're excited to support it in any way we can.

Budget Buddies learns about gender equality, inclusion, and being an active bystander.

Budget Buddies engaged <u>Training Active Bystanders</u> to empower our team and program leaders to with the competencies needed to take action if witnessing something we feel is unfair, or wrong, or troubling. A photo from this training is pictured above! Working with <u>their collective</u> helped provide insights and clarity to the work we do at Budget Buddies as a women-serving organization. They helped us define who we serve and trained our team on the vital topic of trans inclusion. This provided us with concrete takeaways that we will be implementing into ensuring we are being inclusive and welcoming toward **all women**.



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

# Catie's Closet END OF YEAR GIVING 2021: A CHILD IN YOUR COMMUNITY IS IN NEED by Amanda Harvey

Nearly a quarter of all children in the communities we serve currently live in poverty and lack access to critical items that are essential to their physical and emotional well-being.

The need has never been more dire and widespread than at this time in our world when no community, regardless of how affluent, is left without families who face a world of challenges meeting their children's most basic and essential needs.

As we approach the end of year, we're preparing to serve more students and families who desperately need immediate support. The late fall and winter season is most challenging for our students and for our organization.

The late fall and winter months create the most hardship for our students as cold temperatures increase their need for specific winter gear, schools close for breaks causing a nine-day loss in supportive resources, and they lack a warm place to go.

From November through at least March, so many students are up against extremely cold weather and snow without warm clothing or a safe place to turn. In the area we serve, there are over 28,000 homeless students that will be experiencing a winter without proper gear.

This has a huge impact on their physical, mental, and emotional well-being. Without essential winter items, they are more likely to miss school. This school year is vital to protecting our students' educational futures.

Students across our local districts are experiencing a major loss in their educational progress due to last year's school closures and transition to remote learning. They need support to get them back on track.

For students in poverty, school performance has always been more challenging when compared to their more affluent peers. It's critical that they have access to the items they need so they can get to school and participate confidently.

Our students' growing needs, as well as our expansion into new schools and communities, increases our demand for winter coats, hats and gloves, boots, and socks substantially.

How can you help? As we approach the end of 2021, there are several ways you can help students in need this winter and well into 2022. Support Catie's Closet.

- Make a monetary donation to fund the urgent and immediate needs of students. Your \$50 donation will grant two kids unlimited access to Catie's Closet for the rest of the school year.
- Purchase and donate a Market Basket or Target gift card to help teens experiencing homelessness in your community buy the items they desperately need while schools are closed for winter break.
   You can also make a donation and we will purchase the gift card on your behalf.
- Host a Giving Drive with your company or at your next family gathering.
- Shop our Amazon Wish Lists to purchase and donate new items.
- Clean out your kids' closet to donate their gently-used clothing and drop your donations off at either one of our Distribution Centers.

For more details on clothing and toiletries that are accepted, and to sign up to donate your time, or make a monetary donation, please visit the website <a href="https://www.catiescloset.org">www.catiescloset.org</a>

Or make an impact from wherever you are with the new Catie's Closet app. Now available on iOS and Android devices. Make monetary donations to show your financial support. Request a prepaid shipping label to donate gently used items. Shop our Amazon Wish Lists to purchase new items. The Catie's Closet app makes it easy to support local kids in need anytime, anywhere. Download today!

#### KITTY ANGELS

is a no-kill shelter dedicated to rescuing stray and abandoned cats, furnishing them with treatment for injuries or other heatlh problems, and placiing them into life-long, loving, indoor homes with compatible owners. If you wish to make a donation you can use the PayPal link, or you can send your donation to Kitty Angels, P.O. Box 638 Tyngsboro, MA 01879. 501(c)3



# 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

Time goes by so quickly. The holidays are already here! I want to thank all of you for taking the time to send in your monthly updates, for your club or organization and for your wonderful articles. It certainly is difficult with Covid still with us. Many events were planned only to be canceled. If a website or Facebook page is given, you may want to check there for updates on the event. Please remember, if I am informed I do updates on www.neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com.

News, articles and events are posted on the main pages of the website often. Also the upcoming issues are posted there at the beginning of the month. You can also look through issues going back to 2016.

A sincere thank you to all of you who advertise. I truly appreciate your continued support of Neighbor to Neighbor. The circulation has grown to 6,616 including both Dunstable and Tyngsborough. Things have certainly changed since 1983. But the purpose of Neighbor to Neighbor continues to be the same. To give you some local news, interesting and informative articles and a place to find local businesses to help you in your every day life.

Wishing all of you a Very Merry Christmas & The Best of Health & Happiness in the New Year!

Sincerely, Anne

I look forward to hearing from you soon!









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### CLOTHING SHED AT **DUNSTABLE CHURCH**



The clothing donation shed at the **Dunstable Evangelical Congregational** Church, 518 Main St, Dunstable MA, is open to the public.

St. Pauly Textile Inc., the company that has provided the shed, partners with a network of businesses and various organizations to distribute donated items both here in the U.S. and worldwide, where they're ultimately re-worn by people who need them. The Dunstable Church additionally has the option to use donations to serve community needs. In 2019, the company was able to help keep over 20 million articles of clothing out of landfills, which clothed an estimated 2.5 million people worldwide. The company was founded in 1996

Accepted items: clothing, shoes, belts, purses, blankets, sheets, curtains, pillowcases, and stuffed animals. PLEASE tie your bags, and do not leave bags outside the box.

and is an A+ rated member of the Better Business Bureau.



#### Altrusa: Leading to a Better Community

The Altrusa Club of Merrimack Valley has been very busy this fall providing birthday parties for the little ones living with their teen Moms at Brigid's Crossing in Lowell, as well as supporting the Lowell Transitional Living Center, in Lowell.

Altrusans crafted and filled 25 comfort bags for new female clients seeking shelter for an extended period of time. Each bag contained shampoo, conditioner, soap, bath scrubber, tooth brush, tooth paste, body lotion, deodorant, and hand sanitizer.

The Altrusa Club also awarded a \$500 scholarship in memory of Eleanor Durant, 38 year member of Altrusa and teacher in the Chelmsford School System, to Kylie Letendre of Hudson, NH, a senior at the University of Massachusetts Lowell (UML). Altrusa appreciates the cooperation and support of James Nehring, Chair and Johanna Tigert, Assistant Professor in the School of Education,

Altrusa Club of Merrimack Valley is one of the featured nonprofits this quarter for the Jeanne 'Arc Credit Union's We Share A Common Thread Foundation "Give a Click" program. The non-profit with the most votes will receive \$1,500 from the foundation. You can vote now through December 31, 2021. Please help by casting your vote for Altrusa.

https://www.jdcu.org/community-about/our-foundation/give-a-click/. It's that simple. We truly appreciate your help.

Our mission is to promote literacy and to make a difference in the lives of the less fortunate. Altrusa meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month. Please email altrusamv@gmail.com if you are interested in joining other volunteers in making a difference in the lives of others in our communities.





46 Coburn Road **Tyngsboro** 

#### SHERBURNE NATURE CENTER & TRAILS

For more information on this and future events, please visit the website http://www.naturewalkscs.org/events-schedule

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, observe the birds and notice what has changed since winter has come. Remember to wear your boots or if we have some snow, bring your snowshoes. It's a great place for outdoor exercise and to enjoy nature close to home. Children under 16 must be accompanied by an adult.

Please note: The tennis court behind the Sherburne Nature Center is not part of the PUBLIC Nature Center property.