



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 38 Years of Service!

Issue # 412 • February 2022

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DUNSTABLE TOWN CLERK

• **As of December 15th, the temporary no-excuse vote by mail provisions in state law have expired.** The SOC did ask the Legislature to pass another extension of the law while we wait for them to pass something permanent, but that has not happened. This means that right now there is NO early voting by mail and NO option for early voting in person for your upcoming local and special elections. The only option for voting by mail is an absentee ballot for those who qualify. Absentee voters can vote in person in your office, but unlike with early voting, they will need to fill out the absentee ballot application before doing so. The deadline to apply for a mailed absentee ballot is still 4 business days before Election Day, as that change to the law was permanent. Voters who are voting absentee in person still have until 12 p.m. on the day before Election Day to apply.

• **2022 is a busy election year.** The date of the September primary is still being discussed so stay tuned to this section and the town website for updates.

• **The Annual Street listing was mailed the first week of January 2022.** It included a dog license application. In case you are new to Massachusetts, the annual street listing is a legal document of the Commonwealth and must be returned each year to remain on the active voter list. Pursuant to MA law, your name can then be removed from the voting list for failure to return the street listing after 2 years. If you do not receive one by the end of January, please contact this office.

• **Are you interested in running for a town board position?** A list of open offices will be certified and published on the town website, www.dunstable-ma.gov, or call my office for the full list. It includes Selectman, Assessors, Board of Health, Library Trustee, Cemetery Commissioner, Comm. Of Trust Funds, Planning Board, Advisory Board and Constable. The Governor signed the legislation to appoint the Town Clerk so that will no longer be an elected position.

• **Dog licenses began in early January.** All dogs, 6 months and older must be licensed. If you reserved a personal dog tag number, your dog must be licensed by the end of January or the number will be passed on (I'm not sure whether the new Town Clerk will offer this program). We have to account for the dog numbers each month with the Accountant (monies in). Seniors, age 70 and older, have the fee waived pursuant to a town meeting vote. The dogs must still be licensed.

• **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 is best to call ahead. Carol A. Skerrett, Town Clerk CMMC 978-649-4514 x222 CSkerrett@dunstable-ma.gov

IN MEMORY OF

Robie Stevens
Theresa Mainville Narus
Michael E. Switzer

Michael Romanowski
Barbara A. (Quinno) White
Susan (Marinelli) McGovern

Charles "PAPA" Goss 12 Years of missing you.
Jan. 27, 2010 – Jan. 27, 2022

DUNSTABLE VETERAN SERVICES OFFICE

I am sure all of you have at least received your annual census request and if you are a veteran or spouse of a veteran please annotate as such. Also I am sure you saw the flier noting the upcoming 350th anniversary of Dunstable. There is a document that describes the first 200 years of our small town when it was not so small. It is written by Rev Elias Nason in 1877 and covers our growth from 1673 to 1873. Sometimes as you drive through Dunstable you may wonder how many of the streets were named. Most of them were from members of the Dunstable Militia and the 6th Middlesex Regiment and fought in the French and Indian War, Revolutionary War, including Bunker Hill, and the War of 1812. Their names are all listed in the book and they also used to meet almost on a weekly bases here in Dunstable at the house directly across from the Central Cemetery on Rt 113, currently owned by Mr and Mrs Carl Davis.

You should be able to find an online copy of the book for free if you Google it by putting in "History of the Town of Dunstable by Elias Nason". I do encourage all of you to read it so you have a better understanding and appreciation for our little town of Dunstable.

Veteran Birthdays for February for those who have since passed and our many thanks.

David Brown, USMC, 21 Feb 1957, Vietnam

Lyle Carter, US Army, 8 Feb 1931, Korea

As always if you know of any veteran, widow or family member in need of assistance of any kind, even if it is just information, please send me an email at VSO@Dunstable-ma.gov. I am here to help you.

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

DUNSTABLE DEMOCRATIC TOWN COMMITTEE

Come join like-minded people from town and learn what the party is doing from the local to federal levels. The next meeting will be held on **February 17th, 2022 at 7pm via ZOOM**. The link will be available, for all who want to attend, on our facebook page.

Follow us on [facebook.com/Dunstable-Democratic-Town-Committee](https://www.facebook.com/Dunstable-Democratic-Town-Committee). For more information you may email rglod30@gmail.com.



HAPPY VALENTINE'S DAY



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HOMELY ATMOSPHERE...
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SHINE COUNSELOR VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

You know your community best!

That's why we want your help to support your neighbors as they enroll in Medicare for the first time, review plan options, or troubleshoot problems. Your local SHINE program has an opportunity for you to train to be a certified SHINE counselor.

As a SHINE counselor, you give back to your community, sharpen and build skills, and stay engaged and connected in your community.

As one volunteer states "What I am doing now is a good reason for me to get up in the morning. It makes me feel good about myself. It lets me know that I am helping people make their lives better."

SHINE screens, trains and certifies all volunteers so you don't need a background in health insurance to get involved. All you need is integrity, a willingness to learn, a desire to help others, and the time to give.

The SHINE program is currently accepting applications for a new SHINE counselor training in the spring (dates TBD).

It will be helpful for you to attend a volunteer informational session via Zoom on February 10 or March 10 at 10:00 a.m. to learn about this opportunity.

For a SHINE counselor application packet call 978-946-1374, and leave your name and mailing address with a request for the application. **Or to register for the info session, email: lrose@agespan.org. Note: AgeSpan** formerly Elder Services of the Merrimack Valley and North Shore.

DUNSTABLE BOARD OF HEALTH UPDATE: COVID-19 AT HOME TEST GUIDE

The Board of Health is pleased to share a guide, provided by Nashoba Associated Boards of Health, for administering COVID-19 at home tests. Testing is one of the most important tools we have available for combating this ongoing pandemic. As at home tests become more widely available, the Board of Health encourages residents to familiarize themselves with the processes and best practices for utilizing at home tests.

If you go to the Town website www.dunstable-ma.gov on the home page you should see the listing for this. Just click on the link and you will see the 2 page flyer from Nashoba Associated Boards of Health.

You can subscribe to E-Alerts on the home page of the town website.

WELL ADULT CLINIC

The clinic will be held on Wednesday, February 23rd in the Dunstable library from 11:00–noon. Maureen Scott, our new nurse will be on hand at these clinics which allows 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.

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.

Neighbor to Neighbor

Published by Anne Paquin Since 1983

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

E-mail: anne@neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com

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Total Circulation is now 6,616 which includes Dunstable and Tyngsborough.

The deadline is February 10th for the March issue. If you missed the deadline contact me as soon as possible. Please send in your news or articles to anne@neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com.

If you have a business and you would like more information about advertising, please call **978-419-1914** or email me.

Thank you, Anne



GROTON DUNSTABLE EDUCATION FOUNDATION TRIVIA NIGHT

The Big Night In

(Virtually) Gather a team of friends and family from anywhere on the planet to take part in the Groton Dunstable Education Foundation (GDEF) Annual Trivia Night event. **Saturday, March 19, 2022, 8:00 to 9:30 PM**

Virtually hosted by TRIVIA BROTHERS. \$15 per player. Please go to www.gdrsd.org. The site has this announcement with the link to register.

GDEF is a volunteer, non-profit organization committed to enhancing the success of our public schools by funding grants for innovative, inspiring programs, materials and professional development opportunities that fall outside the normal school district operating budget.

AVOIDING WILL CONTESTS

By Edward H. Adamsky

Your Will is the basic estate planning tool. In it you say who should get your assets after you die. If you die without a will your property will be distributed according to the intestacy laws of your home State, without regard to your wishes. Even if you have a Will, if some of your family members are not happy with what they get, they could "contest" the Will to try to get more.

A Will contest can be a long affair that will delay the settlement of your estate and add costs such as lawyer's fees and court charges. A fight amongst your family members will forever leave a scar on the family relationships. You should do your best to avoid Will contests by making sure you have a good Estate Planning Attorney and that everything is done just right.

In general, only an interested party can contest your Will. They have to have legal standing, so your neighbor cannot dispute your Will as they have no relation to you and your estate. Only your spouse, heirs and creditors can dispute the terms of your Will (creditors rarely do so, but they could).

Even those who have a right to challenge a Will cannot do so without legal grounds. Your Will could be held invalid if it wasn't technically correct. If there were a missing witness or signature it might fail. Also, if you were not competent to understand and sign the Will it would fail. Or, if someone used "undue influence" to coerce you into signing a Will you didn't really want to sign, or if someone defrauded you and had you sign a document that you didn't even know was a Will, then it could be held invalid. Only if one of these valid justifications was alleged could someone get a Court to look at whether or not your will was valid.

To avoid fights you should explain your planning to your family members. If someone is left out or gets more or less than others, you should tell them why. Fights often happen when people don't understand the situation. Clear communication can often stop a fight before it happens. Perhaps if you discuss the situation while still alive you might get the family to agree to your decision or they may convince you to do things another way.

You can also use a "No Contest" clause in your Will if you think someone may try to challenge it. This works best if that person gets something in the Will but due to the No Contest clause, they will lose that amount if they challenge the Will. If what they are getting is substantial enough, they might be dissuaded from a challenge if they will lose it all. A No Contest clause may not stop a challenge when someone gets nothing at all at first.

A Will can be challenged if the person who signed it was not competent to do so when it was signed. This is a common allegation when someone isn't happy with what they get in a Will. You can, if you suspect this might happen, have a doctor examine you and provide a written opinion that you are competent to understand and sign a Will. Make sure the examination is very close in time to the signing of the Will, otherwise this might not work.

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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 February the yearly fee will be \$125.00. All subscriptions expire on June 30th 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 www.dunstable-ma.gov 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.

You may sign up at Town Hall on Tuesdays from 12:00 to 4:00 pm. Any further questions should be forwarded to healthi@dunstable-ma.gov or call 978-649-4514, Ext. 229. Joan Ferrari Health Admin Asst. and leave a message. All inquiries are usually answered in a timely manner.

ATTENTION 2022 HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATES RESIDING IN DUNSTABLE

Congratulations on your pending graduation!

We are delighted to announce the availability of the Helene Morgan Babcock and Alfred Babcock Memorial Scholarship, 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 babcockscholarshipfund@gmail.com. **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 babcockscholarshipfund@gmail.com. We hope you take advantage of this wonderful opportunity. **Babcock Scholarship Trustees, P.O. Box 24, Dunstable, MA 01827**

THE RUSSELL G. AND SHIRLEY L. TOBEY MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP

A scholarship is now available to a graduating Dunstable student through the generosity of Russell G. and Shirley L. Tobey.

A one-time award of \$1000.00 may be applied to expenses incurred in the pursuit of advanced education at either a two, or four, year institution of higher learning.

The Tobey Scholarship will be administered by the Babcock Committee using the same guidelines as the Babcock scholarship. **Applications will be available at the town hall, library, your school guidance office or by emailing babcockscholarshipfund@gmail.com**

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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

DUNSTABLE COUNCIL ON AGING Barbara Martin, chairman; Mary Dow, secretary; Donald Pottle and Joan Simmons.

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. **Feel free to give us your ideas.**

Senior Services

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.

Well Adult Clinic February 23 in the Dunstable library from 11:00 – noon. Maureen Scott, our new nurse will be on hand at these clinics which allows 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.

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 www.alzheimersupport.com/memory-care/massachusetts/

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 1 hour 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.

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 www.prescriptionadvantage.org

Medicare 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. 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.

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.

Article continued on next page.

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and other articles online at

www.neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com



Matt's Monthly Mechanical Memo

By Matt Manning

In November 2021, Mass Save, the state's energy efficiency program provider, announced exciting changes for 2022 to lower carbon emissions by increasing electrification. The program makes the installation of energy-efficient heat pumps even more affordable for residents. Read on to learn more.

Increased Rebates. Thousands of dollars available in rebates for upgrading home heating & cooling systems to heat pumps.

Size Matters. Rebates based on equipment size (tonnage) for heat pumps to supplement an existing heating system, or in a portion of a home. Enhanced rebates for customers who install heat pumps for whole-home heating and cooling.

0% HEAT Loans. No interest loan of up to \$25,000 toward qualified energy efficient home improvements with terms up to seven years. Note, heat pumps must be installed by a contractor participating in the Mass Save Heat Pump Installer Network in order to be eligible for HEAT Loan financing.

Matt

Got a question? Drop me a note!

matt@denommeeplumbing.com

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DUNSTABLE COUNCIL ON AGING continued

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 state-wide, 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 drop off items. Accepted items should be brought to Town Hall only.

Message from the Fire Department A volunteer from the Dunstable Fire Dept. is available to check your smoke detectors or help to install new ones, you just need to set up an appointment. They also have night lights available to give away to keep you safe as you move around in the dark.

Files of Life Why everyone should have their own File of Life. Medical emergencies happen any time. When they do there is panic, urgency, and confusion. A File of Life puts needed answers in the hands of EMTs. It allows first responders to immediately begin the best possible treatment. Completed File of Life have a magnetic strip on the back and should be placed on your refrigerator.

Living Alone Safely in Your Own Home The Dunstable COA is working with the Fire Dept. and the Police to keep those seniors living alone safe in their home. They can secure a lock box with a key on to your door at your home so that in an emergency help would be able to get to you quickly. Information is available through the Fire Dept. 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.

PACH PEPPERELL FOOD PANTRY

66 Hollis St., Pepperell, MA Tues 5-7pm, Thurs 2-4 & 5-7pm. PACH provides food, paper goods and personal care items to residents in need of assistance. If interested in this service, or if you want to help by making a donation of food or supplies, call the Office at 978-925-9770 or visit their web site at www.pachoutreach.org. You may also drop off donations at West Auto Repair, 30 Pleasant St, in Dunstable, MA.



FOR SWALLOW UNION SCHOOL

Download the **Box Top for Education app!** You can track the school's progress. The goal for 2021-2022 is \$1,000. This is a direct, simple way to help Swallow Union.

Many new products continue to be added, there are Bonus Offers, Specially Marked Packages and Sweepstakes for Bonus Box Tops for the school to win bonus. You can even set scan reminders for your Receipts.

While traditional Box Tops are being phased out of production, **YOU CAN STILL CLIP AND TURN IN BOX TOPS!** You'll continue to find them on many products throughout the store for the next few years, including Hefty, Green Giant, Reynolds, Scott, Ziploc, Kleenex, and Finish (look for old logo). *Just check the expiration date on them before you turn them in.*

Thanks again for your support! Chrissy McLane (mclane.chrissy@gmail.com) Box Tops for Education Swallow Union Elementary School swallowunionapt.org aptswallowunion@gmail.com [facebook.com/APTSwallowUnion](https://www.facebook.com/APTSwallowUnion)

DUNSTABLE SENIORS

Program Coordinator Susan Tully 978-649-6750

or Email at slt0213@verizon.net

Dunstable Seniorswe 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.

For February we will be able to offer meals on Wednesday, February 2, 9, 16 and 23. On the first Wednesday we will be celebrating those with February birthdays. The menu for that day is tossed salad, pizza, cake & ice cream. On the 16 we will have **rosemary roast pork, winter squash, brussel sprouts, roasted potatoes and on the 23 we will have a stuffed chicken breast green beans with barley pilaf.** These meals are provided by Elder Services of Merrimack Valley. Cost is \$3.00. Reservations must be made one week prior for each meal. **Reservations for all meals are required one week prior to each meal.**

You are more than welcome to bring your own lunch on Feb. 12 and take part in, cribbage, dominos, and scrabble groups that will be on hand.

Masks will be required except while eating

Book Group Our group will meet at 10:30, on February 19 in the community room of the Dunstable church. We will be discussing **The Midnight Library by Matt Haig.** Summary "Between life and death there is a library, and within that library, the shelves go on forever. Every book provides a chance to try another life you could have lived. To see how things would be if you had made other choices... Would you have done anything different, if you had the chance to undo your regrets? Everyone is responsible for getting their own book but can be ordered thru the Dunstable library.

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-we-do/criticalhome-repairs/> or contact Habitat Lowell Critical Repairs Coordinator, Kim Raymond at 978-692-0927 option 4 or criticalrepairs@lowell-habitat.org.



SHEPHERD OF THE VALLEY LUTHERAN CHURCH

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

To contact Pastor Rev. Susan Gaeta (978) 540-0768
or email her at pastorgaetasov@gmail.com

Please Note: Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran welcomes people who are willing to wear face masks and still keep appropriate distance to worship in the sanctuary on **Sunday mornings at 10 a.m.**

We are located at 21 Washington St., Ayer, MA Thanks to the Federated Church of Ayer for being so welcoming!

You may join in our service via online ZOOM. Sunday worship at 10am and Wednesday prayer group at 7pm. Please visit our Facebook page or website and you will be able to see how you can join in. We hope to 'see' you there!

The Rose of Sharon at Blossom Hill

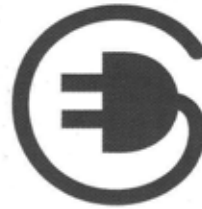
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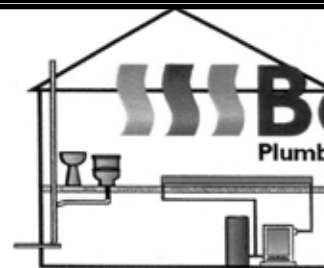
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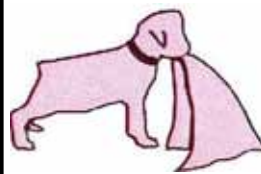
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February 9, 11, 16, 19, 23, 25

March 2, 4, 9, 11, 16, 19, 23, 25, 30

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. www.loavesfishespantry.org or call 978-772-4627.

Weather related closings. Please check for new posts on the website, follow us on facebook or call us at 978-772-4627 to listen to a recorded message.

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www.dunstable-ma.gov click on library

Mary Beth Pallis - Director – mpallis@dunstablepl.org

Karen Debreceni - Children's Librarian kdebreceni@dunstablepl.org

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**

Community Room Artist Check out the wonderful new artwork done by Alice Sneizek. Her collection of paintings is incredible!

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! Please check on the DPL Facebook page for additional information.

Adult Book Club Our group will meet at 10:30am on Saturday 2/19 at the Dunstable church.

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.

Chapter Book Reading: 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.

Take and Makes for February: Come to the library to pick up materials to make two special projects. **More information will be on the Dunstable Public Library Facebook page.** All the directions and supplies are included. All bags will be in the library lobby. No sign ups are needed. Supplies are limited.

February 8th - Make several Valentine Day projects.

Join Mrs. D on DPL Facebook Live to read some Valentine stories and creates our projects together.

Materials will be put out the week before.

February 22nd - Make an adorable penguin project.

Mrs. D is looking for item's for the Summer Reading Program

... Do you have doubles of games or toys from Christmas? Are you trying to clean up your children's playrooms? Please consider donating new or nearly new toys, games, or books for our Summer Reading Program. Your "Trash" might be someone else's Treasure. Please drop these items with Mrs. D at the library (No Large items please). *Thank you very much.*

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

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

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

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

OPEN BURNING SEASON

BEGAN JANUARY 15TH

Dunstable Fire Chief, Paul Zbikowski announced it is now "Open Burning Season". This will end on May 1st. Permits are available daily from 9:30am to 12:30pm at the Fire Station on Pleasant St.

Permits cost \$10 and are free to "over 65".

Agricultural Permits are \$15. Call for more info.

FEE AND PERMIT INFORMATION

You must follow all the rules and regulations that are listed below.

Rules and Regulations

1. You can only burn brush and garden trimmings only.
2. Burning is allowed only between 10am and 4pm. No fire shall be started after 12 noon and all fires must be extinguished by 4pm.
3. The permit holder must call the Fire Department @ 978-649-6661 each day after 9am for permission to burn that day.
4. The fire must not be left unattended and must be at least 75 feet from any structure.
5. Have available water supply, rakes, shovels, etc. for controlling the fire.

Under all Circumstances the following are prohibited

1. The burning of Grass, Hay, Leaves, Stumps, tires and/or building materials.
2. Burning of brush, trees, cane and/or driftwood from commercial and/or institutional land clearing operations.
3. Burning at landfills or refuse disposal facilities other than approved incinerators.
4. Large piles that will not readily burn or are of such size that they will not be totally out by 4pm.

If you have other questions regarding burning, please call the station at 978-649-6661.

Information is also posted on the town website
www.dunstable-ma.gov/dunstable-fire-rescue



TYNGSBOROUGH GARDEN CLUB

Congratulations to Lisa Johnson, the winner of our Festival of Trees submission, *Garden of Seedin'*! Lisa has a great start on the 2022 gardening season with the assortment of vegetable and flower seed packets that were hanging on that tree.

We're excited to announce that Master Gardener and popular blogger and speaker Betty Sanders will be presenting a program at our March meeting on **Tuesday, March 1 at 7pm. Betty is a Lifetime Master Gardener with the Massachusetts Master Gardener Association, and a nationally accredited Master flower show judge.** She has given presentations to many civic organizations and corporations as well as the Massachusetts Horticultural Society, Tower Hill Botanical Gardens, and the US Department of Agriculture. Her topic for this meeting is "**Gardening for a Lifetime**" which will address how to create and adapt a garden to the changing needs of family, a busy lifestyle, and ageing.

Betty's presentation will take place at the Tyngsborough Recreational Center at 120 Westford Rd starting a 7pm.

On April 5, Emmy Waldsmith from Bonsai West in Littleton, will present a program on the history, creation and maintenance of bonsai. She plans to bring some plants with her and actually demonstrate some of the techniques.

The programs are free to Tyngsborough Garden Club members. We invite members of the community to join us for a nominal admission fee of \$5.00. **Masks are required for everyone's safety.** For more information please email tynggardenclub@yahoo.com
Linda Sheldon, President.



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THE DUNSTABLE 350 CELEBRATION COMMITTEE



The Dunstable 350 Celebration Committee held its first meeting of the new year on Tuesday evening, January 4 via zoom. With the present increase in Covid cases, the committee has decided to continue to meet virtually until cases stabilize.

We have been greatly touched by the support of the community as members have sold t-shirts, hoodies, ornaments and magnets featuring our logo at several local events as well as West's garage, the Tully farm store, and Dunstable General Store (*the corner store/gas station/Dunkin's, best remembered by old-timers as Dick Snell's Ski Shop*).

Purchases, donations, and the enthusiasm of the community continue to be very encouraging. Our next "appearance" will be at Dunstable Rural Land Trust's Winterfest, February 6, at the McLoon Barn. We are also very encouraged by the beginning of corporate donations toward our grand celebration. **Follow us on Facebook!**

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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. A Door-to-Door Collection System Serving Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry. 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/> If 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 February 12, 2022 and April 9, 2022.

PRESCOTT SCHOOL COMMUNITY CENTER

Located at the Prescott School • 145 Main St, Groton, MA

February 10-March 10 • Class Listings

• School Vacation Week:

Artstravaganza, Feb. 21-25, 9 AM- 3 PM

School Vacation Sports Week Ages 7-12, Feb. 22-25, 9 AM- 3 PM

• Individual Adult Programs:

Enjoying Classical Music, a performance and discussion, Sun. Feb 20th, 3:00-5:00 PM

• Individual Children Programs:

ArtPak Kids, Friday Feb 11th, 1:00-3:00 PM

GlassPak Kids, Friday, Feb. 18th, 1:00-3:00 PM

Let's Make Bento Ages 7-11, Wed. March 2nd, 4:30-5:45 PM

• Weekly Adult Programs:

Yin Yoga, Tuesdays, Feb. 1 - 15, 9:30-10:45 AM

Tai Chi for Liberation, Tuesdays, 7:00-8:30 PM

Yoga Fusion, Wednesdays (Online)/Fridays (In Person) 9-10:15 AM

Small Town Talks about Big Issues, Weds Feb. 2-23, 7-8:30 PM

Tai Chi for Health, Thursdays 7:00- 8:30 PM

Exploring Groton's Trails in the Winter, Fridays Feb 4-18, 9-11 AM

Yoga for End of Day Reset, Mondays Feb. 7-28, 8:30-9:30 PM

Learn To Play Pickleball, Tuesdays March 1-22, 9:30-11:00 AM and 6:00-7:30 PM

The Total Body Workout and Core Training Pilates, Wednesdays starting March 9th 8:00-9:00 AM and 6:30-7:30 PM

Combating Climate Change: Realistic Options, Wednesdays March 2-22, 7:00-8:30 PM

Bible Study for Seekers and Skeptics, Thursdays starting March 3, 1:00-2:30 PM

Great Plants for Groton Gardens, Thursdays March 3-10, 6:30-8PM

Cryptocurrencies, Blockchains, NFTs, and more, March 7-21, 7:00-8:30 PM

Learning to Ride the Waves of Life: An Introduction to Mindfulness, March 9-30, 10:00-11:15 AM

• Weekly Children Programs:

Stained Glass Intensive for Kids, Thursdays 3:00-5:00 PM

Messy Mondays: Sensory Play, Mondays starting Feb 28, 9:30-10:30 AM

Learn to Play Pickleball Highschool, Tuesdays March 1-22, 2:30-4:00 PM

Visit www.prescottsc.org for details and to register for upcoming classes. Some classes will be held in person and virtual and some only in person.

BEAVER BROOK NATURE CENTER

117 Ridge Road, Hollis, NH

Please go to the website for more information about Beaver Brook, and check often for upcoming programs.

There are many trails to explore! Check out the "Hike It All Challenge"! (603) 465-7787 www.beaverbrook.org

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.

Thank you to the volunteer leaders of the Bone Builders: Lily Boudreau, Elaine Rivard, Nancy Kaelin, Jeanne Dery, Joyce Croce and Carol Sides. **For additional information, please call Jean Jacoppi, 978-649-9076.**

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.

Thank you to Terry McIneny, Sally Stavolta, Yolanda Carmona, Sheila Birchfield, and Mary Joy Gasdia for donating knitwear to the homeless.

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.

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.**



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If you missed the deadline contact me as soon as possible.

To submit news or info about an upcoming event, please email the information to me. If you have a business and you would like to know more about advertising, please call 978-419-1914 or email me at anne@neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com I will get back to you as soon as possible. *Thank you, Anne*

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How can you help? There are several ways you can help students in need 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.

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 www.catiescloset.org

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Email bwheeler@budgetbuddies.org

Visit www.budgetbuddies.org



PAWS FOUR THE CLAWS

6th Annual Spring Open House/Fundraiser

Mark your calendar for Saturday, April 9 from 10am to 5 pm and Sunday, April 10 from 10am to 4pm

Sale is live in person this spring! Join us at the Tyngsborough Dunstable Historical Society's "Little Red Schoolhouse" located at 64 Main St., Route 113, in Dunstable right over the Tyngsborough town Line.

"Wash Away Pet Homelessness" All proceeds benefit Animals. Spa quality Handcrafted Soaps, Lotion Bars, Body Oils, Lip Butters, Bath Products, Odor Neutralizing Room Sprays, Springtime/Easter Gifts and so much more. Hope to see you there!



DUNSTABLE EVANGELICAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

518 Main St, Dunstable, MA 01827

www.dunstablechurch.org

978-649-6251

Pastor Bobby Ross pastorbobby@dunstablechurch.org

DECC is a caring community of faith where we are all on a journey together finding hope, purpose, connection, and wholeness as followers of Jesus. Wherever you are in this walk of life, we invite you to join us.

• **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.** There will be no Adult Bible Study for the month of January. Check the website for updates.

• **Sunday School/Nursery.** Nursery/Sunday School classes have begun during our 10:30 AM worship service. Care is provided for infants through preschool. See "Children at Dunstable Church" below.

• **Community Group.** With a goal of strengthening community among us, **a gathering is held on Tuesdays from 7:00-8:30 PM three times monthly on Zoom and once a month in person for lunch following our Sunday morning service.** 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.

Children at Dunstable Church:

We invite children to begin in service with their families and then we'll dismiss them for Sunday School/Nursery. **Every 4th Sunday of the month, we'll have all children stay through the whole service with their families.** Our hope is to help children learn to participate in the service with their families and feel more included with the congregation. Feel free to ask for coloring sheets from the ushers or let us know if we can support your family in any way.

To the parents of young children, may we suggest:

God gave children the vibrant energy that sometimes causes them to wiggle and make noise. They belong right here with God's people where you have so faithfully brought them. Stick with it! Feel free to sit in the front where it's easier for your children to see and hear what's going on or the back side room if you want more space for little ones. Quietly explain the parts of the service, actions of the pastor, ushers etc. Sing the songs and participate in the prayers and responses. Children learn how to worship by watching you. If you need to step out of the service with your child, feel free to do so, but please come back. We welcome families and are so glad you're here.

To the members of our church:

Children are a gift, not a distraction. The sound of children in the church is the reminder of God's faithfulness through all generations. Please welcome children and give a smile of encouragement to their parents.

"Let each generation tell its children of Your mighty acts; let them proclaim Your power." Psalm 145:4

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.

JAMES JACOPPI MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FOUNDATION

This is the 20 year anniversary of the passing of our beloved James. With the help from all of you, our raffle awarded over \$10,600 in scholarships to aid in the continuing education of graduating high school students last year. We have awarded over \$150,600 over the years. We feel blessed to have the ability to remember Jim in such an extraordinary way. We are extremely grateful for your continued support.

This year will be our **10th annual raffle** (Commonwealth of MA #36). Our Fundraiser will be a **Calendar Raffle with daily cash prizes** for the month of April. Mondays through Saturdays, \$50 will be awarded daily. Sundays, a prize of \$125 will be awarded and the grand prize of \$700 will be awarded on April 30th. 30 Cash prizes with a total value of \$2,450.

The **cost of the ticket is \$25 for 1 daily entry or \$35 for 2 daily entries**. If you wish to purchase entries, **please call or text Cara Jacoppi at (603)714-0135. All entries must be received by Thursday, March 31st.** We appreciate and thank you for any donation you can provide to the foundation. For any other information you may need including access to scholarship applications please visit our website www.jamesjacoppischolarshipfund.com or our Facebook page.

*Thank you all for your continued support. Sincerely,
The Jacoppi Family*



Altrusa: Leading to a Better Community

Organized in January 1976, the Altrusa Club of Merrimack Valley is celebrating its 46th year of service in the Greater Lowell/Greater Nashua area. Altrusa's mission is to promote literacy and to make a difference in the lives of those in need in our communities.

Altrusa service projects include support for **Merrimack Valley Shelters**: Nashua Soup Kitchen & Shelter, Alternative House, House of Hope, Lowell Transitional Living Center and Brigid's Crossing. **Scholarships** to a student enrolled in the BS in Nursing Program at Rivier University and to a student enrolled in the BA in Education and Special Ed at UMASS Lowell.

Altrusans also contribute their time and talent directly through various on-going service projects: **Food Drives** to benefit Greater Nashua and Greater Lowell Food Pantries; **Baby Hygiene Drives** to benefit Merrimack Valley Family Shelters; and **Days for Girls International, Inc.**

The Altrusa Club meets on the 2nd and 4th Tuesdays of the month. To learn more about Altrusa, e-mail us at altrusamv@gmail.com or visit us at www.altrusa.org.

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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 Sunday

• DAILY MASS SCHEDULE Monday thru Friday

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

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3 WAYS TO MAKE THE MOST OF COLOR AT HOME

Sponsored by Carrie Cyr

If you're thinking of updating, remodeling or repairing your home this year, it's time to start planning.

Want to make the most of your efforts? Don't overlook color. Color plays a big role in your home's aesthetic and mood, and it can affect your overall property value, too.

If you're not sure where to start, get acquainted with the trending hues for 2022 and take a look at these tips for incorporating color like a pro.

- **Let the colors of the year guide you.** A great place to start is by reviewing the "colors of the year." For 2022, hues of green are in for two of the most well-known brands. Benjamin Moore went with [October Mist](#), a pale, silvery green, while Sherwin-Williams opted for [Evergreen Fog](#), a soothing "green-meets-gray" shade. Pantone went in a different direction with [Very Peri](#), a periwinkle shade with violet-red undertones meant to "encourage courageous creativity."

- **Have a color-placing strategy.** How will you use the colors? You can opt for a more nuanced approach and paint an accent wall, your crown molding or your baseboards, or you could go all-out and use it on your kitchen cabinets or even an entire room or ceiling. Another option: You could focus on accessories like bedding or drapes if you want something more temporary.

- **Factor in durability and upkeep.** White and light hues photograph well and make a room look nice and clean. On the downside, they may get dirty easily and often require a lot of cleaning and upkeep. They're typically not good choices in a well-used space (like a playroom or right around the kitchen sink or oven, for example).

TYNGSBOROUGH-DUNSTABLE



Rotary Motto *Service Above Self*

Rotary is a global network 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 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 or text Ron Keohane at (508)517-3895 or Brian Day-Lewis at (978)399-4952. Want to join a meeting? **We meet at Dream Diner in Tyngsboro on 1st and last Thursday of the month at 8:00 am. Second and third Thursday of the month, we meet at 12:00 at Dream Diner.**

Local Rotary Events

- Fishing Day for Individuals with Disabilities of all Ages – Tyngsboro Sportsmen Club
- Senior meals for the Tyngsboro and Dunstable Councils on Aging
- Funded SafetyNet program for individuals with cognitive impairment
- Many other local service events

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Let's Get Moving...

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

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.

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 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 distribution 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 canister around please consider donating. Every Penny Counts!

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If you prefer, you can **connect with us on Zoom at 9:30AM Sunday mornings for Worship at www.facebook.com/westchelmsfordumc**

If you want to join us via Zoom the service links are being posted each Friday along with the bulletin.

•To contact us for more information email to office@wcumc.us.
•West Chelmsford United Methodist Church is a family oriented church with something for everyone from tiny tots to seniors. We have a vibrant Sunday School program for all ages. the missions ministry will offer you many opportunities to give of yourself. We support Lowell Open Pantry, St. Paul's meals, Lowell Transitional Living Center and more. **Many programs are meeting In Person and Via Zoom at this time.**

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• 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 <http://www.tyngsborocongregational.org>
- 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.*

Due to Covid spikes we strongly urge all parishioners to wear a mask, and continue to follow Covid safety practices when entering our church for services, for everyone's safety. Thank you for adhering to these requests. At this time NO fellowship is taking place after church services. We are trying to be proactive regarding Covid issues.

LADIES BIBLE STUDY - Tuesdays 9:30 am to 11:30 am. - We will be continuing our study of the book of Esther. A new Bible study class will begin in March of 2022. If you would like to join our study group, you can call our office, and leave your name and number. Someone will return your call.

MEN'S BIBLE STUDY - Mondays 6:30 pm to 8:00 pm We will be studying the Book of James. If you are interested in attending, please call our office and leave your name and number.

• **YOUTH BIBLE STUDY** - Friday, 6-8PM Follows school year schedule

• **All Executive Boards now meeting.**

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We were closed during the last few weeks of January. **The store is now open again as of February 3rd.** The committee will make decisions for open or closings depending on weather and covid issues. **You can stay updated by visiting us on Facebook at [ecctchurch](https://www.facebook.com/ecctchurch) or checking our church website.** We apologize for this inconvenience, but thank you all for staying devoted, and shopping with us.

PLEASE CHECK OUR FACEBOOK PAGE FOR UNEXPECTED CLOSURE DATES. We are always looking for volunteers to help us out. **So if you can spare a few hours a week, please call Charlotte at 978-649-7803.** We also want to thank our volunteers who continue to support this very important ministry. **Remember, in order to shop inside our store we require face masks.**

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is a no-kill shelter dedicated to rescuing stray and abandoned cats, furnishing them with treatment for injuries or other health problems, and placing them into life-long, loving, indoor homes with compatible owners.

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www.kittyangels.org You can donate Gift Cards, Cat Food, Medical Supplies, Cleaning Supplies, Towels. If you have small antiques, collectibles or other items to donate please contact Gail Mosher at gailmosher@gmail.com or leave a message with us. 100% of the proceeds will go to Kitty Angels. For other ways you may help, please visit the How to Help page on our website at www.kittangels.org/howtohelp.html Kitty angels, Inc. is an all-volunteer, 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Your donation is fully tax-deductible.

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LOADING DOCK GALLERY

122 Western Avenue ~ Lowell, MA

Show: Background/Colors

Show dates: February 2-27, 2022

This February, the Loading Dock Gallery presents **Background/Colors**, a show which explores setting, sensation, and heritage. Gallery members present a body of work that invites the viewer to reimagine experience through masterful interaction of imagery and color.

Background/Colors explores the energy of our worlds: inherited, perceived, and imagined. Artwork ranges from traditional fine craft through realism to abstract, in paint, photography, wood, and fiber.

Cityscapes explore the life lived now, revealing energy hidden in the commonplace. Photographs and paintings celebrate the New England coast in its many moods. Fine woodwork and fiber wall art expand on craft traditions developed over generations.

Background/Colors also includes abstract work, from pop to contemporary. Strong pattern and texture combine with spontaneous and imagined imagery, in photographs, collagraphs, digital arts, and acrylic on carved bas-relief.

Background Colors runs **February 2-27, 2022** at Loading Dock Gallery, 122 Western Avenue, in Lowell, MA. Loading Dock Gallery is open noon to 5:30pm, Wednesday through Saturday, and noon-4pm on Sundays. Loading Dock Gallery is part of Loading Dock Arts, Inc., a 501c3. For more details, visit www.theloadingdockgallery.com.



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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.

AMERICAN LEGION POST 247 INC.

90 PAWTUCKET BLVD. TYNGSBOROUGH, MA

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Hours are Tues, Wed, Thurs & Sunday 12pm to 8pm and Friday and Saturday 12pm to 11pm. Closed Monday.

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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.

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The Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) is offering a copy of the book "Living with our Wild Neighbors" as a free download. It is very informative and covers all wildlife from A-Z. Since we have so many animals that we share our yards with, I thought it might be helpful. <https://www.animalsheltering.org/page/wild-neighbors-book>



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 Olje and Josephine Beauregard.

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

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I WILL ALLURE HER

Nathan Combs

Ancient Israel was like an unfaithful spouse. During the days of the prophet Hosea, God's people had abandoned him for the worship of foreign gods. The Canaanite fertility god, Baal, was especially popular. Despite the fact that King Jehu had wiped out the temple of Baal in Samaria and slaughtered every priest and worshipper of Baal he could find (2 Kings 10), Baal was thriving roughly one hundred years later. Hosea even spoke of the people confusing God with Baal - "no longer will you call me 'My Baal'" (Hosea 2.16)!

In order to help his unrepentant people understand the personal devastation he felt by their idols, God instructed his prophet to intentionally marry a "wife of whoredom" and start a family. Hosea married Gomer, had three children with her, but their life quickly unravelled when she became adulterous. However, instead of discarding his wife to find a more faithful one, Hosea's story takes an unexpected turn. God tells him to go search for Gomer, pay off the debts she's accumulated, and accept his wife once again. This too was designed to picture God's relationship with his people.

Through their idolatry, Israel shattered the covenant God made with the nation at Mt. Sinai when the law was given through Moses. But after a period of punishment, God's ultimate intentions were restoration. He promised to vigorously pursue her like a young man woos the lady of his affections. "I will allure her, and bring her into the wilderness and speak tenderly to her. And in that day, declares the Lord, you will call me 'My Husband.' And I will betroth you to me forever. I will betroth you to me in righteousness and in justice, in steadfast love and in mercy. I will betroth you to me in faithfulness. And you shall know the Lord." (Hosea 2.14, 16, 20). The power of this message is just as potent today as it was then because you and I are Gomer. Unbelievably, despite all of our sins, God wants to call us "my people," as Jesus' apostle Paul explained in Romans 9. He vigorously pursued us by sending his own Son into our world to buy us back from spiritual debts we could never begin to repay. And he expects us to pursue others the same way.

Seeing the heart of God through Hosea can alter the shape of our hearts. When we feel wronged, our natural response is to retreat instead of pursue our offender in love. After we are hurt in a conversation, we're tempted to refrain from future conversations with that person or even sever the friendship altogether. We live in a culture where covenant relationships are ended easily and frequently. And restoration work can certainly involve prolonged labor and complications, as the story of God and Israel demonstrates. But the scope of Scripture shows us the peace and glory found in the temporarily harder path. May he give us the strength to take it.

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 system.

• **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. Go to our website to find more information about what we are in need of and what projects we are working on. **We are also in need of:**

Baby Needs

Baby wipes, Baby safety kits,
Tear free shampoo/wash for babies and children

Clothing and Shoe Needs

Men's underwear in all sizes
Women's underwear in size small
Men's winter coats in sizes small, large, and XL
Women's winter coats in sizes small
Girls clothing in sizes 7 and above

Cleaning & Hygiene Needs

Laundry detergent pods, Disinfectant spray cleaner,
Spray bottles, Hand soap, Paper towels,
Dish soap, and Dish sponges

Furniture & Home Goods Needs

Small kitchen tables (to seat 2 people)
Couches, Loveseats, Dressers
Steak knives

BITS Bags

The BITS program begins on February 16th.

Deadline for dropping off items is March 3rd

We provide BITS (Basic Items for Toddler Success) Bags to children who may experience developmental delay due to lack of these simple interactive toys to stimulate them. Our goal is to provide BITS Bags with educational and developmental toys to young children.

How can you help

• Donate \$35 and we can provide a bag in your name or in the name of your company • Donate complete bags • Collect items for bags and we will put the bag together.

Items Needed

• Bags will ideally be cloth or otherwise reusable, sized 8 x 10 x 4. (Optional) • Books: Bath, Board book, picture book or first reader Bubbles, Chalk, Beach Ball, Crayons, Coloring Books, Rubber Ducks, Stack rings, soft dolls, spinning tops, texture blankets, musical toys, pull toys, trucks. No Stuffed Animals Please!

The Wish Project partners with hundreds of social workers from many local agencies including: Anne Sullivan, MSPCC, CTI South Bay, Clarendon and others.

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.

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*Add One Time, \$50 Admin fee Upon Rental. Cost includes cost for purchase of supplied lock.

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SAINT JEANNE D'ARC SCHOOL

Due to the blizzard at the end of January, the Open House that was scheduled for Sunday, January 30th was canceled.

For more information, or to book a tour of Ste Jeanne d'Arc School, please contact blyons@sjdarc.org or call 978-453-4114.

Ste Jeanne d'Arc School is a PK3 through grade 8 Catholic Elementary School located at 68 Dracut Street, Lowell, Massachusetts. Come and see why Ste Jeanne d'Arc School is consistently recognized as a school of excellence.

Visit on line at www.sjdarc.org
or call 978-453-4114 for more information.

Elisabeth Bruyère Award Dinner

Honoring James F. Linnehan Jr., Esq.

Thursday, April 28, 2022, 6:00 PM at Lenzi's in Dracut
\$125 per ticket. For more information or to register please
visit www.sjdarc.org/gala.

Accepting Event Sponsors through April 1st. Contact Jacqueline
Schnackertz at 978-454-7038
or jschnackertz@sjdarc.org for more information.



46 Coburn Road
Tyngsboro, MA

SHERBURNE NATURE CENTER & TRAILS

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.

RISE SPRING COURSES BEGIN MARCH 7



Nashua – The Rivier Institute for Senior Education (RISE) is conducting the spring semester both online via Zoom and on campus. **The five-week semester begins March 7 and ends April 8.** Each class session is 60 minutes and held between 8 a.m. and 4 p.m.

Seniors can choose from more than 35 courses. 29 courses are online and 7 are conducted on campus. There are no learning prerequisites, no tests and no credits earned. Membership fee is \$75.00 for one or more courses.

Course topics include literature, history, music, fine arts, technology, philosophy, self-help, nutrition, environment, personal safety, personal growth, genealogy, writing, politics and the world, health, arts and crafts, enrichment, film, and yoga.

Zoom is easy to use, and RISE will provide support for individuals who might be hesitant to participate using this format. Zoom allows a continuation of lifelong learning and provides a way to connect with other RISE members.

Information for course listings and descriptions, as well as the link to register, is posted at www.rivier.edu/riase. The registration period is open now, with a **deadline to register, at end of the day on February 14.**

The RISE program, tailored for "learning in retirement," is in its twenty-fifth year. RISE is an affiliate of the Road Scholar Institute. **Individuals 55 and over are invited to learn more about RISE from the RISE website www.rivier.edu/riase.** Additional information is available by calling (603) 897-8623. Rivier Institute for Senior Education (RISE), Rivier University, 420 South Main Street, Nashua, NH 03060