



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 40 Years of Service!

Issue # 431 • December 2023

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TOWN CLERK

• Brynn C. Durno - email - townclerk@dunstable-ma.gov
Office hours are Tuesday's 1pm - 4pm, Thursday's 9am - 12pm.

• I am available by appointment for notary services and marriage intentions. **Emails and phone calls will be answered throughout the day REGARDLESS of office hours.** As I am a full-time clerk in Pepperell I am able to help with many things for Dunstable from Pepperell.

• **DOG LICENSES** All dogs, 6 months and older must be licensed. **FEES:** Female spayed \$6, Male neutered \$6. Female not spayed \$10 and Male not neutered \$10. Seniors age 70 and older have the fee waived pursuant to a town meeting vote, but the dogs must still be licensed. **Please note that you are now able to license your dog online too! Remember:** A copy of a current rabies certificate must be on file with the town Clerk. **The census and dog applications will be mailed together in December.**

• The first election in 2024 will be March 5, 2024. Stay tuned for more news from the town clerks office.

DRLT CALENDARS FOR SALE!

The Dunstable Rural Land Trust Calendars can be purchased at the Rose of Sharon at Blossom Hill, Tully Dairy Store, Farmhouse Cafe, Dunstable Library, Wickham & Willoughby and the General Store. Or, contact Patti Starbird at 978-649-6003. **There may be a few left. \$15 each**



DUNSTABLE RURAL LAND TRUST WINTERFEST 2024

SUNDAY, JANUARY 28, 2024

11am to 2pm at The McLoon Barn

Winterfest 2022 will be held at the McLoon Barn, located at Main St. and Thorndike St. Join us for horse-drawn sleigh rides, warm up by the bonfire and enjoy delicious refreshments. Dunstable Troop 28 will be helping again this year!

Bring your own snowshoes, x-country skis and sleds. Come out and enjoy Winter! There is accessible parking. Sorry, no dogs are allowed at Winterfest.

For more information about the event and the Land Trust visit drlt.org.

IN MEMORY OF

Eugene Stuart Chaney

Dunstable

Volunteer Firefighters Association

We do hope to see

you out along the parade route!

SANTA PARADE

Sunday, December 17, 2023

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 Mill St., Cross Main St. to Oak 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.



West Auto Repair, Inc. is a toys for tots collection site and the drop offs thus far have been record breaking. **We needed to request a pick-up of all the toys within the first week that the box was out.** We've never had to do that before so thank you to all who have donated for your generosity. **The collection box will remain in our waiting room until Friday December 15th.**

West Auto Repair is 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/gifts you might donate to this program.

We look forward to seeing you all during this upcoming holiday season and again we thank you for your support of this program. Should you have any questions relating to the Toys for Tots program please feel free to contact our local Toys for Tots representative, Anna at 978-376-6542 and she can answer any questions you might have.

**Wishing you and yours the happiest of holidays,
The West Family**



Matt's Monthly Mechanical Memo
By Matt Manning

Considering upgrading your cooling and heating system to a heat pump? Choosing the right contractor can mean the difference between success and disappointment.

Up to \$16,000 in incentive rebates, and up to \$2,000 tax credits make converting to heat pumps more affordable than ever, but contractors must be members of the Mass Save Heat Pump Installer Network (HPIN) program in order for homeowners to access full incentives and special 0% HEAT Loan financing options.

The Mass Save network requires participating contractors to complete technical training and substantiate certifications so that homeowners can be assured installers are up to date on the latest innovations in heat pump technology and that systems are properly sized and installed according to a high set of standards demanded by program sponsors.

Until next month, stay comfortable. *Matt*

Got a question? Drop me a note!

matt@denomme Plumbing.com

May your home and holidays be peaceful and comfortable.



Wishing all our customers, neighbors, and their families, joy, good health, warmth, safety and comfort this holiday season. Throughout the year, count on us to look after any, and all, plumbing, hvac and electric system needs, and to proudly stand behind our work— offering you peace of mind at the right price.

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ATTENTION 2024 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 of full-time study. A number of additional \$2,000 scholarships are granted to other students on a one-time basis (the main scholarship is for 4 year full-time studies only).

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.

Starting February 1, 2024, applications will be available at the town hall, library, your school guidance office, by emailing babcock-scholarshipfund@gmail.com or on our facebook page

(Babcock Scholarship - Dunstable. <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100088415042557>)

Completed applications can be submitted electronically to the above email, or to the following address **no later than Wednesday, March 13, 2024.**

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

Questions regarding the application process can be sent to babcockscholarshipfund@gmail.com. **We hope you take advantage of this wonderful opportunity!**

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

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.

Do you have news for January? Or events coming up in early February? Would you like info about advertising?
 Email: anne@neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com
 or call 978-419-1914. If events are coming up before the next issue is out, I can place the info on
www.neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com

ARTIST TONI DERUNTZ WILL BE SHOWING AT
 • The Whitty Gallery at Hollis Artspace presents, 100 Square feet of Art. 30 Ash Street, Hollis NH Show through December 31
 • Creative Ventures Gallery presents: 2023 Small Works Big Impact, 411 Nashua Street, Milford, NH. Show through December 31
 • Also at Wickham & Willoughby, 519 Main Street Dunstable, MA and The Barn Door, 51 South Road Pepperell, MA



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 - mpallis@dunstablepl.org


Karen Debrececi - Children's Librarian kdebrececi@dunstablepl.org

LIBRARY HOURS: Tues 3pm-8pm; Wed 10am-2pm;
 Thurs 10am-6pm; Fri 10am-2pm; Sat 10am-2pm

Like us on FACEBOOK to receive program updates!

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

- **Community Room Artist** Come in to see the wonderful wreaths that Dunstable families have made over the years!
- **Grief Counseling** Every first Tuesday on the month, grief counseling will be provided by Nashoba Health. This will take place in the community room from 3:30 to 4:30pm.
- **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 will meet from 10:00am – 11:00am. The program includes stories, songs and a craft or activity. Join the fun!
- **Homework Club** The library is offering homework help every Tuesday night from 5:30pm – 6:30pm 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. EVEN if they don't have homework, students can help them in any subject they are struggling with. If your child is attending, please call between 3:00pm and 5:00pm.
- **Pre-teen and Teen Area** If you have any games such as Uno or trivia that you would like to donate, we are setting up an older kids gathering space in the library. We have comfy chairs and some activities but would like to add more. Thank you!
 • **PRE-TEEN AND TEEN, TAKE AND MAKES, WILL ALSO BE IN THE TEEN SECTION!**
- **Book Club** The book club will take place every 3rd Saturday of the month at 10:30am. Email Sue Tully SJT0213@verizon.net or check out the display at the library for more info. The DPL can put a book on hold for you!
- **Chapter Book Reading** Mrs. D will continue reading from a chapter book each Tuesday night at 6:00 pm. Please join her on dpl facebook live to listen to the story. Any suggestions for favorite chapter books will be appreciated.
- **Teen Art Club! Every first and third Tuesday from 3:00 to 4:00pm**, teens can come to their own special space in the library and create art, poetry or play games.
- **Holiday Centerpieces - Make a beautiful "greens" centerpiece** Bring in a small vase or urn and we will supply everything else! This program will be on **Tuesday, 12/12 at 6:00pm**. Program sponsored by the COA and the library. Sign up at the library.
- **Children's Activities for December**
- **GINGERBREAD HOUSE DECORATING** will take place on **12/15 at 1:00pm**. This is a half day for the school. Please bring a bag of candy to share and we will supply the house.
- **HOLIDAY WORKSHOP** The children will create crafts to give to family or friends on Tuesday, **12/19 at 6:00pm**.
- **Children's drop in crafts** will be out during the month in the children's section.



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Please Share the Warmth! December 1 - 15 Thank You!



Happy Holidays!

We are collecting NEW or gently used winter coats. These items will be donated to "Our Father's House, Inc.," helping those in need in central Mass.

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DUNSTABLE COUNCIL ON AGING NEWS

Dunstable Council on Aging Barbara Martin chairman; Mary Dow secretary; Donald Pottle, Joan Simmons, and Jean Haight.

Assistant to the Elderly Anne Fenochetti 978-649-4514 # 223
afenochetti@dunstable-ma.gov

Office Hours: Wednesday 8:30 – 1:30 & Thursday 8:00 – 1:00

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.**

LUNCHES FOR DECEMBER AT THE DUNSTABLE LIBRARY

• **December 6** AgeSpan will be providing American Chop Suey, w Veggies, garlic roll and dessert.

Dean Lotito, Tech Specialist will be available for the Seniors on Wednesday, December 6th, 4 from 10-noon. *Please make note, Dean is at the Library the 1st Wednesday of each month.* No appointment necessary. Bring your phone, tablet or laptop.

• **December 13** The **Dunstable Police Union** will be sponsoring the **Greater Lowell Voc Tech culinary students**. The meal will include braised short ribs, mashed potatoes, carrots and desserts. We will also have a **gift swap** that day for anyone who would like to participate. **The gift should be in the \$15.00 range and be edible.**

• **December 20** The Traveling Chef will be set up with carving stations and all the trimmings. And of course, dessert.

Kathy Rodgers will be providing music from 12:30-1:30

• **December 27** No meal served.

The nurse will be available from 11-noon.

Bone Builders Led by Brian O'Donnell and Linda Gill, is held on Wednesdays from 10:30 to 11:30 and Fridays from 11:00 – 12:00 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.

Please let Anne know 1 week ahead if you would like to join the Seniors for lunch. Come and take part in cribbage, dominos, and scrabble groups that are on hand each week. **Happy Holidays!!**

Important Numbers at a Glance

Anne Fenochetti COA	978-649-4514 #223
Non emergency Police	978-649-7445
Non emergency Fire Dept.	978-649-6661
Nashoba Nursing	978-425- 6675
PACH	978-925-9770
SHINE	1-800-243-4636
Elder Abuse Hotline	1-800-922-2275



DUNSTABLE VETERAN SERVICES OFFICE

Greetings fellow Veterans. If you have been in the military, you probably have a "DEERS" account or a "milConnect" account. If so, you should probably go ahead and extend that with a "Premium DS Logon account. With that account you can get all your medical records as well as all your personnel records including your DD-214, and more. Just simply go to "VA.gov", choose "Records" and then select which records you wish to look at or change. Please contact me if you have any issues and I will help you.

The Dunstable Veterans I would like to honor who were born November 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 Lombardi – 23 –Dec – Air Force – Korea

Our many thanks to those who took the extra step to serve their country.

Have a Very Merry Christmas and Happy New Year

Joe Dean, Dunstable Veteran Services Officer

VSO@Dunstable-MA.Gov 978-496-0985 Former USMC SGT, Retired USAF CAPT Proud to serve those who have served.

THE ANNUAL COMMUNITY COOKIE SWAP

This will be held on **Saturday, December 16th at 11:30am** in the lower hall of the Town Hall. Please bring 3 dozen of one kind of cookie and the recipe to share. Also make sure to bring an empty container to put all the swapped cookies in. **Hope to see you then!**

BOOK GROUP MEETINGS

THESE MEETINGS ARE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC.

Held the 3rd Saturday of each month,
at 10AM at the Dunstable Library.

• **December 16 - *The Remains of the Day* by Kazuo Ishiguro**

The main protagonist is Stevens, a traditional English butler—all reserve, discretion, and decorum. The story is set in the 1950s towards the end of Stevens' career, when he is looking back on his years of service and forward to what is left of his life.

• **January 20 - *The Invention of Wings* by Sue Monk Kidd**

The Invention of Wings is the fictionalized history of the Grimké sisters, Sarah and Angelina (Nina), who were at the forefront of the abolitionist and women's rights movements, wound around the intriguing narrative of a young slave, Hetty, who was given to Sarah as an 11th birthday present. Sarah despises slavery, even at that early age, and out of principle attempts to reject the gift.

• **February 17 - *Horse* by Geraldine Brooks**

Kentucky, 1850. An enslaved groom named Jarret and a bay foal forge a bond of understanding that will carry the horse to record-setting victories across the South. When the nation erupts in civil war, an itinerant young artist who has made his name on paintings of the racehorse takes up arms for the Union. On a perilous night, he reunites with the stallion and his groom, very far from the glamor of any racetrack. Based on the remarkable true story of the record-breaking thoroughbred Lexington, *Horse* is a novel of art and science, love and obsession, and our unfinished reckoning with racism.

• **March 16 - *Lessons in Chemistry* Bonnie Garmus**

Lessons in Chemistry is about women's lives, careers, and struggle for empowerment in the late 50s and early 60s. It follows the story of Elizabeth Zott, a brilliant chemist who is forced to become a television chef when she finds herself a young, single mother.

• **April 20 - *Oxygen* by Carol Cassella**

Dr. Marie Heaton is an anesthesiologist at the height of her profession. She has worked, lived, and breathed her career since medical school, and she now practices at a top Seattle hospital. Marie has carefully constructed and constricted her life according to empirical truths, to the science and art of medicine. But when her tried-and-true formula suddenly deserts her during a routine surgery, she must explain the nightmarish operating room disaster and face the resulting malpractice suit.

• **May 18 - *See Me* by Nicholas Sparks**

Colin Hancock is giving his second chance his best shot. With a history of violence and bad decisions behind him and the threat of prison dogging his every step, he's determined to walk a straight line. To Colin, that means applying himself single-mindedly toward his teaching degree and avoiding everything that proved destructive in his earlier life. Reminding himself daily of his hard-earned lessons.

• **June 15 Sold on a Monday by Kristina McMorris**

1931. It's an era of breadlines, bank runs, and impossible choices. For struggling reporter Ellis Reed, the gut-wrenching scene evokes memories of his family's dark past. He snaps a photograph of the children, not meant for publication. But when the image leads to his big break, the consequences are devastating in ways he never imagined. Haunted by secrets of her own, secretary Lillian Palmer sees more in the picture than a good story and is soon drawn into the fray. Together, the two set out to right a wrongdoing and mend a fractured family, at the risk of everything they value.

The Dunstable Library will gladly assist you in getting your copy of the books.

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• 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.

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**Do you have some news or do you want info about
advertising in Neighbor to Neighbor?
The deadline is the 10th of each month
for the upcoming issue. If you missed this date please
get in touch as soon as possible.
Email: anne@neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com**

PACH PEPPERELL FOOD PANTRY

PACH provides food, paper goods and personal care items. *Anyone in need of this service, please do not hesitate to call 978-925-9770 or go online to www.pachoutreach.org This is open to Dunstable residents.* PACH is located at 66 Hollis St., Pepperell. Hours of operation Tues 5-7pm, and Thurs. 2-4 & 5-7pm.

CHARITY NAVIGATOR

There aren't many days that go by that we are not contacted to make a donation to different organizations. Want to make sure they are legitimate and the donated monies are well used? You can now look up these charities at www.charitynavigator.org

FROM THE DUNSTABLE BOARD OF HEALTH SUICIDAL HOT LINE

Did you know that you can call or text **988** to reach the Suicidal Hot Line 24 hours, 7 days a week. This number has been designated as the new three digit dialing code that will route you to the **National Suicide Prevention Life Line**. You may call even if you are not suicidal but experiencing emotional distress or just need to talk with someone. **IT IS CONFIDENTIAL CALL OR TEXT 988**

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF GREATER LOWELL

CRITICAL HOME REPAIR PROGRAM

Is your home 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, mobility and code enforcement issues so that homeowners can remain safely in their homes.

To find out more, please visit <https://lowellhabitat.org/what-we-do/critical-home-repairs/> or contact **Critical Home Repair Manager, Kim Raymond** at 978-692-0927 option 4 or criticalrepairs@lowellhabitat.org.

TRASH & RECYCLING PICKUP

The Board of Health increased the yearly subscription to \$360.00 This is an increase of an additional \$5.00 per month. The additional cost will allow us to continue to bring you the best service available at a still affordable price. **This is the first increase since the beginning of our program five years ago.**

New Subscriptions

You may pay on line on the town webpage www.dunstable-ma.gov and choose online payments. Scroll down halfway to Trash-Board of Health. You may mail a \$360.00 check made payable to the Town of Dunstable to P.O. Box 268, Dunstable, MA 01827. Please make sure your name, address, phone number and email are included. You may drop off a check or cash at the Town Hall Monday-Thursday (upper level) 9:00-4:00 p.m. **Please write Joan - Trash Payment on your envelope. Please make sure your name, address, phone number and email address are included.**

Overflow bags can also be purchased online or at the town hall for those times you may have extra trash that will not fit into the trash container. The cost is \$3.00 each, sold in rolls of 5 for \$15.00. Bags may be picked up at the town hall Monday-Thursday 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m. **Bring a copy of your receipt if you paid online.**

If you need to reach us for any reason, please email us at jferrari@dunstable-ma.gov You may also leave a message at 978-649-4514, Ext. 229. Thank you, Joan Ferrari, BOH Admin Asst.

SCAMS TARGETING THE ELDERLY

By Edward H. Adamsky

There are always scams targeting the elderly. Older persons are more likely to have issues with memory and processing thoughts quickly and can more easily be tricked. Even younger folks can be taken in by a clever scammer. Social Security and Medicare have recently issued warnings about a new round of scams.

The key is that almost all government agencies and elder service agencies never call you directly. They usually communicate by regular mail. They would never call you and ask you for information that they already have like your Social Security Number or your Medicare number. If you get such a call, hang up and don't answer if they call back.

Anyone who calls demanding any sort of immediate payment or threatens you with jail is a scammer. You would have sufficient notice by mail or legal service of process if you owed money or if you were accused of a crime that might put you in jail. You wouldn't get a phone call about that sort of thing at all. If they were really going to arrest you, the police would just show up and do so, they don't give you a chance to pay them off first.

No government agency nor credible social service agency will ask you to pay with a gift card or to wire them money. Those are always a fraud. You should never give out any personal information to anyone who calls you. If you call an agency or company directly, they may ask you for some proof of identity, but most have some way of doing so without you having to give your SSN or other highly private information.

If you are suspicious about a call, just hang up the phone. Look up the purported caller's phone number and call that agency directly to see if they do need to communicate with you. Some scams come by email, so be careful not to click on any links in emails that you don't clearly know are from the actual agency. Always try to look at the return email address. You might have to click on the address bar area of the email, but scam emails often have a long string of numbers or a source that clearly isn't the agency they pretend to be.

Older adults who are targeted by scams and fraud can call the Department of Justice's National Elder Fraud Hotline at 833-372-8311. In addition, scams and fraud targeting people of any age can be reported to the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) by calling 877-382-4357 or visiting reportfraud.ftc.gov.

COMMISSIONERS OF TRUST FUNDS

For Those In Need

Are you a Dunstable resident who is experiencing financial hardship? We may be able to help. A century ago, various residents of Dunstable willed funds to the town to help those in need. Dunstable's Commissioners of Trust Funds are responsible for disbursing funds from the interest on these accounts each year. If you, or someone you know, is a resident of Dunstable and could use some one-time help with medical, pharmacy, grocery, or fuel bills, let us know. Requests can be submitted by emailing the Commissioners of Trust Funds www.dunstable-ma.gov/user/53/contact. All inquiries are confidential.

DUNSTABLE BOARD OF HEALTH RECYCLING

The Town of Dunstable Board of Health and Big Brothers Big Sisters Foundation and CMRK has created a partnership to allow residents to easily donate their clothing, textiles and small household items. CMRK has been collecting these items across Massachusetts for over 35 years. **Bins are located on Pleasant Street next to the Dunstable post office. Please drop off bagged clothing, sneakers, etc. and textiles only.** CMRK also accepts non-usable clothing and textiles. Please be sure they are bagged and not wet, moldy or soiled. **Do not leave any items, large or small, outside the bins.**

Donating clothing helps the environment, helps save taxpayers money and helps clean out your closets. Big Brothers Big Sisters Foundation will pick up bagged clothing and textiles but also will accept boxed small household items such as pots, pans, small decor and more! **If you have small items, many items or large items, PLEASE CALL 508-466-4590 to arrange a pick up or schedule online at BBBSFoundation.org.**

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DUNSTABLE PLANNING BOARD

At Town Meeting in May of 1995, The Town of Dunstable voted to designate certain streets as scenic roads within the meaning of "Massachusetts General Laws, Chapter 40, Section 15C: Scenic road designations; improvements; fines"

The law states: "After a road has been designated as a scenic road any repair, maintenance, reconstruction, or paving work done with respect thereto shall not involve or include the cutting or removal of trees, or the tearing down or destruction of stone walls, or portions thereof, except with the prior written consent of the planning board..."

Please review page 83 of the Town's General Bylaws to see if your street is considered scenic and go to the Planning Board's Forms page for the necessary Scenic Road Request form and instructions for submission. An applicant must request a Scenic Roads hearing and authorization prior to any roadside alterations on their property. Contact Carol Rock via Crock@Dunstable-MA.GOV or call (978)649-4514 X230 for more information.

WHAT TO DO WITH YOUR OLD MATTRESS

If you're not sure what to do with your old mattress, there are a few options to consider. You can donate mattresses in *good condition*.

- Household Goods, 530 Main St. (Rt 27) Acton, MA 978-635-1710 ext. 5 www.householdgoods.org

Donation Drop-Off Hours: Tues, Thurs, and Sat. 9AM - 12PM

- The Wish Project, 166 Middlesex St., North Chelmsford, MA 866-947-4360 You can visit their website to fill out the donation form. www.thewishproject.org

Donation Hours: Tues. and Sat 9AM - 2:45PM

- Curbside pick-up now available for a fee with UTEC call 978-856-3997 or visit www.utecinc.org/mattress-recycling/

If you are buying new, check with the retailer to see if they will recycle your old one.

RIVER OF DIVINE MERCY CATHOLIC COLLABORATIVE

978-957-0322 <http://rodmc.org>

St. Marguerite d'Youville, Dracut • St. Rita, Lowell

ST. MARY MAGDALEN

93 Lakeview Ave., Tyngsboro, MA

Mass Times: Saturday 4:00pm, Sunday: 7:30, 9:30, 11:00am Vietnamese. Monday and Thursday at 9:00am **Reconciliation:**

9:30am-10:00am 1st Thursday of the month or by appointment

Adoration: 9:30am-10:00am 1st Thursday of the month.

COMMISSIONERS OF TRUST FUNDS

Sarah Parkhurst Lecture/Program Fund

Did you know that the Town of Dunstable has funds that may help defray the cost of a speaker for your group? A century ago, Sarah Parkhurst willed funds to the town for the purpose of maintaining free public lectures/programs in Dunstable. Dunstable's Commissioners of Trust Funds are responsible for disbursing funds from the interest on this account each year. Funds can be used by any recognized non-profit group of Dunstable residents, such as (and not limited to) the schools, Grange, 4-H, Scouts, Dunstable Seniors, library, etc. If your group would like to apply for these funds, please submit your request via an email to the Commissioners of Trust Funds at www.dunstable-ma.gov/user/53/contact

Please include the following information:

- Name of host group • Contact person; email and phone number
- Location of proposed lecture • Date of proposed lecture
- Name of speaker; fee required for the speaker • Topic of lecture
- Approximate number of attendees expected for the lecture
- Target audience • Amount requested

COMMUNITY CARES CORNER

Inside our waiting area at West Auto Repair, located at 30 Pleasant St. in Dunstable, MA, we have our community cares corner. This is open year round! Here you can drop off your pop tabs from carbonated beverages, pet food cans etc. which are donated to Shriner's Children Hospital.

BONE BUILDERS AT THE TYNGSBORO SENIOR CENTER

Bone Builders is an exercise program specifically designed for those suffering from Osteoporosis or Osteopenia.

Currently, the class at the Tyngsboro Senior Center is on a wait list. **Please don't hesitate to call Jean Jacoppi, Leader, (978-649-9076) to add your name to the list.**

STITCHERS AT THE TYNGSBORO SENIOR CENTER

The Stitchers meet every Monday from 10AM to 11:30AM at the Tyngsboro Senior Center in the Dining Room.

Our project currently is knitwear for Hospice at The Cancer Center at Lowell General Hospital. All supplies and lessons are taught at the center. All are welcome to attend. **For Further questions, please call Jean Jacoppi, Coordinator (978-649-9076).**

COME TO OUR KNITWEAR SALE AT THE TYNGSBORO SENIOR CENTER FRIDAY, DECEMBER 15 FROM 10 AM TO 3PM.

THE FRIENDS OF THE TYNGSBORO ELDERLY, INC

... proudly announces their membership numbers recently reached over 100. The Board recently met at their monthly meeting and discussed plans to bring back some of the programs with lunch that were well attended prior to the spread of Covid 19.

Membership forms are available at the Greeter's Desk at the center or by calling President, Joe Jacoppi, (978-649-9076). Thank you for your continued support.

STORMWATER MANAGEMENT – PUBLIC OUTREACH AND EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

THE IMPACTS OF PET WASTE AND FERTILIZER TO DUNSTABLE'S STORMWATER

The Town of Dunstable provides outreach and educational materials to support municipal compliance with the Town's MS4 Stormwater Permit. The permit and its requirements aim to reduce polluted runoff keeping our Town's waterways clean and healthy.

To learn more about how pet waste and the use of fertilizer can impact stormwater runoff, please review educational materials <https://www.dunstable-ma.gov/stormwater-ms4/pages/fertilizer-and-dog-waste-reminders>.

You are also encouraged to visit the Town's website, <https://www.dunstable-ma.gov/stormwater-ms4> for more stormwater related information and the following webpages with additional materials: www.thinkbluemassachusetts.org <https://www.nmstormwater.org/> <https://www.thinkbluemassachusetts.org/for-municipalities-stormwater-collaborative...> <https://cfpub.epa.gov/npstbx/index.html>

WELL ADULT CLINIC

The clinic will be held on December 27th in the Dunstable library from 11:00–noon. Our nurse will be on hand at these clinics which allows for personalized, one on one attention from the nurse. Offered services include: blood pressure/blood sugar screening, diet/nutrition information and teaching, medication review, assistance with identifying and coordinating community resources and referrals.

HAPPIER HOLIDAYS AND EMPTIER TRASH CARTS

by Sustainable Tyngsborough

The holiday season means both cherished time spent with family and friends and, at the same time, a hectic, frenzied rush to get everything done. There are presents to wrap, cookies and pies to bake, bathrooms to clean, merry to make and before you know it, the trash cart is overflowing! It's no wonder that Americans throw out 25% more trash between Thanksgiving and New Years than any other time of the year.

Here are some tips to help you save both your sanity and space in the trash cart:

1. Pre-Holiday Clean Out - Take a weekend before the hustle and bustle sets in to purge items you no longer need or want. Schedule a home pick up with a charitable partner, like Big Brother, Big Sister to donate unwanted household items and toys that are still in good shape. Clothing & Textiles (in any condition) can be dropped off at the expanded Recycling Center at the Tyngsborough Highway Dept, 89 Kendall Road.

2. Twin the Bins - When hosting family and friends, place an indoor recycling bucket in plain sight near the trash barrel. You'll make it easy for those visiting to keep recycling out of the trash, without having to ask where you keep your recycling bin.

3. Use Up Those Leftovers - Cooking for Christmas Eve and visiting the next day? Why not make a plan to reimagine the leftovers to bring something the next day? Leftover Prime Rib makes an amazing chili and Roast Turkey makes a great filling for pot pie. If that's not feasible, buy some extra reusable plastic containers and send the leftovers home with your guests! Even better, save and wash plastic food ingredient containers for reuse and then recycle.

4. Save gift bags and boxes for use next year. Everything is more expensive these days. Save gift packaging to use again (and again). It's like getting a BOGO deal you never expected.

5. Plan Ahead for Excess Trash - Extra trash unavoidable? Stop by the Health Office to buy overflow trash stickers before you need them. \$5 each and can be affixed to any size trash bag. If you find you just can't fit your trash in the cart with the lid closed, you'll already have a sticker or two to be able to put out the extra bags on trash day.

This article was shared by Sustainable Tyngsborough



American Red Cross

GIVE THE GIFT OF TIME

Want to turn your compassion into action? Volunteer with your local American Red Cross Disaster Relief Team! People are displaced every day due to home fires, storms, and other disasters. Disaster Relief Volunteers respond to these emergencies to provide those affected with food, clothing, shelter, and hope. Join your local Disaster Relief Team and provide much needed support to your neighbors in their greatest time of need.

You can also support your community by teaching safety programs to children, installing free smoke alarms in high-risk neighborhoods, dispatching Disaster Relief Volunteers to emergencies, and more! We have something for everyone! No experience is necessary – we'll provide all the training you need.

To learn more, contact Michele Cruz

Email: michele.cruz@redcross.org Phone: (617)913-6381

Scan to learn more!

Can't volunteer right now?

The American Red Cross has an ongoing critical need for blood and platelet donations amidst coronavirus uncertainties. You can make an appointment to give blood or platelets at RedCrossBlood.org.





Hello Neighbors,

We are in the midst of our 2023 year end collection campaign for PACH food pantry. We have set a goal to collect 2,023 pounds of donations for PACH food pantry at West Auto Repair before year end. Since the campaign has started in November we have collected just shy of 500 pounds thus far. That means we have a whopping 1,500+ pounds to try and collect over the first few weeks of December (**please keep in mind the last day to drop off donations to PACH will be Thursday, December 21st**) for this year.

PACH is our local food pantry located in Pepperell, MA that services Dunstable and Pepperell families during difficult times. Every year for the Thanksgiving and Christmas holiday the food pantry goes above and beyond and offers holiday meal assistance to families in need so they can have a special holiday meal.

There are blue PACH collection bins located in the front lobby and outside the front door at West Auto Repair, Inc. located at 30 Pleasant St. in Dunstable, MA. The office is open Monday-Fridays 8AM-5PM and if you stop by after hours or on the weekends please feel free to leave any donation for PACH in the blue bin located outside the front door.

At this time of the year PACH is especially in need of side dishes such as stuffing and potato mixes, bread mixes, canned vegetables, flour, sugar, pasta and rice mixes. They also are requesting donations of coffee and tea and canned fruit. In addition to the aforementioned items the pantry can always use personal care items such as shampoo, conditioner, body washes, soap, laundry detergent and paper goods such as napkins, toilet paper and paper towels.

We have had a tremendous outpouring of support these past few years from our neighbors as we aim to hit our year end collection challenge. 2,023 pounds of donations is not an easy task to achieve but we know we have an awesome community of supporters to help us meet this challenge and help those less fortunate than us.

From our family to yours we wish you a happy and safe holiday season. Your friends at West Auto Repair

DOWNLOAD YOUR FREE BOOK "LIVING WITH OUR WILD NEIGHBORS"

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.

<https://www.animalsheltering.org/page/wild-neighbors-book>

SWALLOW/UNION SCHOOL

522 Main Street, Dunstable, MA 01827

#8 in Massachusetts Elementary Schools

Overall Score 99.27/100 Overview of Swallow/Union School. Swallow/Union School is a public school located in Dunstable, MA which is in a fringe rural setting.

The student population of Swallow/Union School is 308 and the school serves K-4. At Swallow/Union School, 77% of students scored at or above the proficient level for math, and 82% scored at or above that level for reading.

The school's minority student enrollment is 20%. The student-teacher ratios is 12-1, which is the same as that of the district. The student population is made up of 47% female students and 53% male students. There are 26 equivalent full-time teachers and 1 full-time school counselor.

This notice was sent to me by a reader, who thought it would be nice to celebrate this news and to acknowledge and give credit to the teachers, administrators and paras at Swallow/Union.

This is just a part of the article "These are the Best Elementary, Middle Schools in MA" that appeared on patch.com.



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 changes fall has made. **Remember to dress for the weather.** 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.*

KITTY ANGELS

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.

Kitty Angels is an all-volunteer organization. We have no paid staff - every cent of every donation goes to caring for needy cats! Please consider making a tax-deductible donation. You can do so by clicking on the "DONATE" button on our Facebook page; mailing a check to Kitty Angels, P.O. Box 638 Tyngsboro, MA 01879; or using the PayPal link on our website: 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.kittiangels.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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AMERICAN LEGION AUXILIARY UNIT 247

90 Pawtucket Blvd. Tyngsborough, MA 01879

Officers of the American Legion Auxiliary Unit #247

President, Linda Small; Sr. Vice President-Ann Thellen; Jr. Vice President-Michelle Lambert; Secretary/Treasurer-Diane DiLeo; Chaplain-LeeAnn Houle; Sgt at Arm: Jeanette Milsci. E-Board: Kathy Olje, Josephine Beauregard, and Annette Coles

The Auxiliary is holding a CHRISTMAS RAFFLE.

This will be drawn, **Wednesday, December 13th**.

1st Prize – Basket of Cheer, 2nd Prize – 40" Smart TV, 3rd Prize – Gift Cards,

Scratch Tickets & More Surprises

\$10 donation = 15 chances to win.

Tickets-Payments-Info: Call/text Diane DiLeo at 978-204-9329

If you are interested in joining the Auxiliary, contact Diane DiLeo at 978-204-9329 or email: ddileo1956@hotmail.com Our December meeting is our Christmas Dinner at Princeton Station.

We Wish You a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Starting in January meetings will be held the second Saturday at the Evangelical Congregational Church in Tyngsboro 11:00 am.

AMVETS POST #247

ROBERT D. PELLETIER

90 Pawtucket Blvd. Tyngsborough, MA



POST OFFICERS: Commander: Robert Golas; Treasurer: David Coles; Secretary Rod Wood

We meet the 1st Tuesday of each month at 2:00PM.

Currently we meet at the Tyngsborough Sportsmen's Club, Westford Road, Tyngsborough.

For more info please call Dave Coles at 978-551-1344.

"ALWAYS READY TO SERVE OUR VETERANS"

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

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

Elected Officers/Executive Board:

Jim Lawler, Joe Conlin, Ray Hamelin and Fred Carroll.

Hello everyone, my name is **John Taylor**. I am the contact for the American Legion Post #247 and SAL. You may email me at john.taylor1777@gmail.com.

I want to share our new website address. I am continuing to build it. I really believe it will be a great resource for all of you to be able to access information and link to websites, organizations, local affiliations and people. I am enclosing the address for you to save to your bookmarks or mobile device favorites. Please feel free to contact me with any questions, concerns or suggestions. I thank you all for your service and involvement in the American Legion.

If you would like to stay updated with new information about Post #247 please use this link <https://sites.google.com/view/american-legion-site/home> or the facebook page American Legion Post 247 – Tyngsborough MA

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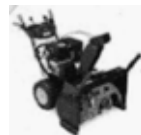
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When you contact a business or organization, please tell them you've seen their ad or news in *Neighbor to Neighbor*. They would like to know.
Thank you, Anne

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PARISH CENTER FOR THE ARTS

10 Lincoln Street, Westford, MA 01886 pcawestford.org

- Music Together - weekly Mondays, 4:45-5:30pm Thursdays, 10:30-11:15am
- Creative Motivations with Gail Flannery - weekly Tuesdays, 9:30-11:30am (On break 12/19/23-1/9/24.)
- GuruKool Bollywood Fitness - weekly Wednesdays, 7:45pm
- 12/3-12/28: December Artist-of-the-Month: Magda Stilmant
A serendipitous encounter with the craft of dry needle wool felting intrigued her and sparked her journey to create her own works. Thru December 28. The Gallery is open to visitors Sundays, noon-2pm.
- 12/17/23: Music Makes Me Happy Chorus 3:00-4:30PM
Concert FREE & open to the Public! Join us!

For tickets call 978-692-6333 or visit pcawestford.org:

- 12/23/23: A Charlie Brown Christmas Concert, 6pm
Cabaret Seating.
 - 1/26/23: **BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND!** Dueling Pianos, 7pm
 - 2/10/23: Isabel Stover Quintet, 7:30pm
 - **Sunday Jazz Jams** Bring your instrument and sit in on a few tunes with other jazz musicians, 3:30-5:30pm. A safe space to practice, play and listen to jazz tunes, or just hang out with friends. Each month, a few tunes will be posted to work on before the jam. Email joe_virga@yahoo.com to get on the Jazz Jam email list. \$5 suggested cover for all drop-in programs. **Future Dates: 1/7/24, 2/4, 3/3, 4/7, 5/5, 6/2...** Producer: Marcia J. Macres
 - **12/15: 3rd Friday Bluegrass Jam** A community event open to the public, 7-10pm. Bring your banjo, fiddle, voice, or just come to watch! All are welcome and all have a great time. **Future Dates: 1/19, 2/16, 3/15, 4/19, 5/17, 6/21...** Producer: Mark Abare
- To learn more about the PCA & its wide array of artistic endeavors, visit pcawestford.org

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

A sincere thank you to all of you who advertise. I truly appreciate your continued support of Neighbor to Neighbor. When you call on the businesses, let them know you have seen their ad. They do like to know. The circulation has grown to a total of 6,674 issues delivered free of charge, to all residents and businesses in Dunstable and Tyngsborough. The purpose of Neighbor to Neighbor continues to be the same. To give you some local news, interesting and informative articles, and information about local businesses, all in one place, to help you in your every day life.

I want to thank all of you who take the time to send in your monthly updates, for your club or organization and for your wonderful articles. I know the time goes by fast and seems like it is always the deadline. It is important to have contact info in your articles. It can be a name and number, webpage, Facebook page or email address.

News, articles and events are posted on the main pages of www.neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com often. Upcoming issues are posted there around the 1st of the month, prior to the delivery of the printed editions.

I wish all of you a Happy Holiday Season whether it be Christmas, Hanukkah, Fiesta of Our Lady of Guadalupe, Boxing Day or the beginning of winter.



Best wishes for a Healthy and Happy New Year
Sincerely, Anne

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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



THE HOPE AND HEALING ADULT GRIEF SUPPORT GROUP

We meet on the last Saturday of the month,
from 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

at St. John the Evangelist, Old Parish Hall,
115 Middlesex Road, N. Chelmsford, MA 01879.

TYNGSBORO-DUNSTABLE

Rotary  *Rotary Motto Service Above Self*

Rotary is a global network of 1.4 million neighbors, friends, leaders, and problem-solvers who see a world where people unite and take action to create lasting change – across the globe, in our communities, and in ourselves.

If you would like to join a group of fellow residents who are giving back to their community and having fun, please be our guest at **Dream Diner in Tyngsboro on 1st and last Thursdays of the month at 8:00am. Second and third Thursday of the month, we meet at 12:00 at Dream Diner.**

If you are interested in membership, please call or text Ron Keohane (508)517-3895 or Brian Day-Lewis at (978)399-4952

Tyngsboro-Dunstable Rotary Club members want to take a moment to thank the restaurants that participated in the Taste of the Town and thank everybody who attended this event. What a fun event with Ben Durand playing music while enjoying the restaurants delicious food.

First of all, this event could not happen without the generous support from the following restaurants; Dream Diner, Mave's Kitchen, Tavern in the Square, Chateau Merrimack Pasha Café, Flints Corner Pizza & Seafood, Bahama Breeze, and Sullivan Farms Ice Cream. Also want to thank our sponsors, Jeanne D'Arc Credit Union, Enterprise Bank and Dream Diner.

All proceeds for this event will help fund the Rotary Club service projects. Over the past year the Rotary Club has sponsored Fishing Day for the Disabled, two Senior Breakfasts, our first of many Repair Cafes, and supported Zero Waste Day.

The Rotary Club was also instrumental in launching **SafetyNet**. SafetyNet is a radio frequency tracking system designed to help police officers locate residents with cognitive impairments such as autism spectrum disorder, Alzheimer's or dementia.

Eligible residents who sign up for SafetyNet will receive a free loaner bracelet for as long as they wish to be in the program.

We want to thank everybody who attended Taste of the Town. Because of you, the Rotary Club can fund the many service projects for another year and expand the number of service projects. Hope you all had a blast and hopefully we will see you and your friends next year!

Neighbor to Neighbor

The deadline is always the 10th of the month, for the next month's issue. Email: anne@neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com or call 978-419-1914 for more information. Remember announcements can be sent in to be posted on my website's main page, anytime.

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TYNGSBOROUGH GARDEN CLUB



Our November meeting took place at the Evangelical Congregational Church on Tuesday, November 7. After the business meeting, the group constructed intricate and beautiful tasseled Triskele ornaments for themselves and as gifts. Several were left to decorate the church Christmas tree.

Look around town this December for our arrangements of greens and ornaments as we fulfill our mission to deck the halls, and other locations around town. Also, look for an explosion of color on the grounds of the Parish Meeting House next spring, as the efforts of our volunteers headed up by Bill Gleason become visible.

The Garden Club Christmas party will take place at the home of Jim and Nancy Burke on Tuesday December 5. We agreed that we will do a potluck dinner with an emphasis on appetizers, salads, and desserts. Members seem to find this arrangement more comfortable than having to coordinate multiple courses.

We take a break in January and will resume programming on February 6 at the church with a presentation on 2024's Herb of the Year: yarrow.

New Garden Club members are always welcome and the public is invited to attend individual programs for a nominal fee of \$5. Unless otherwise noted, meetings take place at the Evangelical Congregational Church at 23 Kendall Rd. and begin at 7 pm. The membership year starts in September. Club dues are \$25 for the membership year, prorated to \$15 for people who join in the second half.

For more information, please visit our new web site at <https://tyngsborogardenclub.org> or email us at tynggardenclub@gmail.com Linda Sheldon, President



When the cold weather comes, this is the time I enjoy baking more. I haven't put any recipes in for awhile so I thought I would share this very simple one with you. It has been a favorite of mine for years. Sometimes I change things up, using other dried fruits and adding in some nuts.

VANISHING OATMEAL RAISIN COOKIES

½ cup (1 stick) plus 6 tbsp. butter, softened
¾ cup firmly packed brown sugar
½ cup granulated sugar
2 eggs
1 teaspoon vanilla
1 ½ cups all-purpose flour
1 teaspoon baking soda
1 teaspoon cinnamon
½ teaspoon salt (optional)
3 cups Quaker ® Oats (quick or old fashioned, uncooked)
1 cup raisins

1. Heat oven to 350 degrees F. In large bowl, beat butter and sugars on medium speed of electric mixer until creamy.
2. Add eggs and vanilla; beat well.
3. Add combined flour, baking soda, cinnamon and salt; mix well.
4. Add oats and raisins; mix well.
5. Drop dough by rounded tablespoonfuls onto ungreased cookie sheets.

Bake 8-10 minutes or until light golden brown. Cool 1 minutes on cookie sheets; remove to wire rack. Cool completely. Store tightly covered. Makes about 4 dozen cookies.

(Recipe from the package of Quaker ® Oats)

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Any questions, please email: info@thewishproject.org

Our THRIFT STORE is open 9-3:00 Tuesday-Saturday. It is located in our warehouse. All are welcome.

Inventory changes daily, so stop by often!

Donations of items may be sent to: The Wish Project, 166 Middlesex Street, N. Chelmsford, MA 01863. Monetary donations may be mailed to The Wish Project, PO Box 8693, Lowell, MA 01852.

If you want to drop off a donation please be sure to review our donation guidelines on our website, for items that we accept, fill out a drop off form, and check our drop off hours.

Donation Hours Tue-Sat 9:00-2:45,

166 Middlesex St, North Chelmsford, MA.

Visit the website for the lists of current needs.

Items we accept, and those we do not accept

- **Clothing** Clean casual clothes for all ages, shoes, coats, belts, bras, socks, and baby clothing. We appreciate it when clothing is donated during the season when it is needed. **We do not accept** Used underwear, except lightly used bras and socks.
- **Children's and baby Items** New Toys for kids of any age, Pack-n-Plays, strollers, combo-strollers (with new car seats), high-chairs, monitors, new bottles, new bottle brushes, diapers (new or open packs), and unopened and unexpired formula. **We do not accept** Drop-side cribs, cribs older than 5 years, infant or toddler car seats, bouncy seats, baby baths, jumpers, and PLEASE, no used stuffed animals or used toys.
- **Furniture** Sofas, dressers, and loveseats, kitchen dining sets, single tables, and sets or pairs of kitchen chairs (must be sturdy and fully functional). We especially appreciate small kitchen tables (preferably 4 feet or smaller), tall dressers (not long/large dressers) and loveseats as our clients often live in small apartments and often have flights of stairs to contend with. If it only needs paint or a screw, please consider doing that before donating. **We do not accept** Heavy dining tables, hutches, china cabinets, desks, living room chairs, sectionals, end/coffee tables, bedside tables, or sewing machines. We cannot accept upholstered furniture that is stained, dirty, or has any rips.
- **Mattresses** Mattresses sets (Twin, Full, Queen), (must have both box spring and mattress), metal bed frames (no wooden frames or headboards/footboards), and toddler beds. We cannot accept any mattresses that are stained, dirty, or have any rips. **We do not accept** Headboards/footboards, wooden frames, daybeds, trundles, bunk beds, or king/california king size beds.
- **Appliances** Air conditioners (in summer), heaters (in winter), fans, lamps (with lampshades), microwaves, clocks and clock radios, irons, small kitchen appliances like toaster ovens, toasters, blenders, coffee makers, crock pots, and food processors. We very much appreciate it when these items come to us clean. **We do not accept** Washers, dryers, chandeliers, ceiling fans, wall sconces, built-in microwaves, refrigerators, and stoves.
- **Electronics** New play stations, new DVD players or other new electronics that can be given to teens. **We do not accept** Televisions of any kind, used DVD players, computers, monitors, or outdated electronics.
- **Kitchen & Dining Items** Dishes, bowls of all sizes, cups/mugs, drinking glasses, silverware, pots and pans, can openers, utensils, baking pans, large knives, casserole dishes. **We do not accept** Single dishes, dirty/chipped items, wine glasses, plastic dishes/cups, used Tupperware type items.
- **Household Linens** Clean sheets, comforters (not down), quilts, blankets, towels (worn is okay), shower curtains, new shower liners. It is very helpful to us if bedding is labeled with size. **We do not accept** Duvet covers, down comforters, used shower curtain liners, valences, curtains, mini-blinds, used place mats and napkins, dirty items, or items used by pets (however, we will take any cloth items if they are bagged separately and are labeled "Recycle", which we will sell to a fabric recycler.

TYNGSBOROUGH DUNSTABLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY



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town line near Route 3

It was wonderful to see so many people interested in finding out more about the history of Dunstable, NH. Thank you to Nashua Alderman, Patricia Klee for sharing her knowledge of the complicated evolution and formation of Nashua and other towns in NH from our original Dunstable, MA.

We hope you had a chance to enjoy a few of the programs we presented this year. We would like to encourage you to suggest new ones for 2024. Thank you to those who have renewed their membership. We appreciate your support.

Want to become a member, Membership Forms and more information is available at www.tdhistoricalsociety.org or email tyngsboroughdunstablehs@gmail.com. *Happy Holidays!*

GENERAL COMPUTER TOPICS YEAR IN REVIEW By Dean Lotito

I thought the end of the year was a good time to review best practices for computers, phones, and tablets. I hope you find them helpful.

First and foremost are passwords. You should have a different password for every online account. These passwords must be long and complex with letters, numbers, and symbols. Since no one can remember all the passwords they have, a Password Manager is highly recommended. These managers encrypt and securely store your passwords for you. Browsers like Chrome, Edge, Safari, and Firefox are better than writing down passwords, but less secure than password managers. Two of the most reliable computer websites recommend BitWarden, Dashlane, 1Password, Keeper, and NordPass. Some have free versions; others have a range of yearly costs. BitWarden has a good free version.

Using open unsecured networks for shopping or banking is not recommended. Examples of an open unsecured network would include airports, hotels, and most public buildings. This includes doctor's offices and hospitals! And, your home network should use a password and encryption. This will protect your personal information.

Quick things to try when a new problem shows up: The first step any user should take when they are having a new problem is to power down and then restart their device. Be sure to save any open documents before you turn off your device. If the device is powered by a plug, remove the plug for 10 seconds after powering down the device. Then plug it back in and restart. This applies to computers, phones, home routers, and any device that attaches to your home Wi-Fi.

Installing new system updates to computers, phones, and tablets is also best practice. This does not mean you have to be the first person to install an update as soon as it is available some people prefer to wait a few weeks in case there is a problem with the new software that needs to be fixed by the company. However, many of these updates do fix security issues that can be exploited by people trying to steal your money or identity, so they are important for you to install. Keeping your devices updated is the key to protecting your device from hackers and thieves.

Even with the most recent updates, you should never click on a link in an email unless you know the sender is a friend or reputable vendor. And never give personal information by text, email, or phone. Specifically, no one should ever ask for your social security number, credit card number, or bank information. And obviously, never reveal your online passwords. If you need any assistance or have any questions, I'd be happy to help. Have a safe and healthy holiday season!

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www.tyngsborocongregational.org

Interim Pastor Bernie Michaud



Our Weekly Sunday Worship Services are at 10:00 AM

If you prefer to stay home, Services are available on line.

- **TO WATCH LIVE SERVICES** Log on to facebook and go to ECCT Church. Log in at any time to watch the recorded services.

MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR CHRISTMAS SERVICES:
*Regular Sunday morning service on December 24th.
 Christmas Eve service at 7pm.*

- **NEW PARKING LOT** - Please enter and exit across from the Tyngsboro Fire Station. A walkway has been paved for easy access to our church.

- **SUNDAY SCHOOL** is available for Pre-School through High School from September until the beginning of June. Nursery care is available for toddlers. All toddlers and students are dismissed from church at 10:15am to go to their assigned area/class. We are blessed to have great teachers and many children of all ages to teach. If interested in more information call our office and leave a message or come join us some Sunday morning for church and see what our Sunday School has to offer.

- **LADIES BIBLE STUDY**- Tuesday mornings 9:30-11:30 am. The study is being led by our interim pastor's wife Diane. The women are currently studying Romans (Life Guide Studies), Becoming New in Christ. If you would like more information or would like to sign up for the study please call our office and leave a message. Someone will return your call.

- **MEN'S BIBLE STUDY:** Tuesday evenings at 6:30 pm. The men are currently studying 1 Corinthians. The study began on September 26th and is being led by Jim Politi. If interested please call our church office and leave a message.

- **PRAYER/PRAISE TIME - WEDNESDAY EVENINGS** - Please join us at 5:15 pm to 6:15 pm to pray together, to sing together, to care about each other, to support one another and to Praise God!!!

We were blessed to celebrate 6 adult and one teen baptism on October 8th. A big thank you to Cornerstone Church in Westford for letting us use their baptismal tank.

Hanging of the Greens will be on **Sunday November 26th 10 am**. Come join us as the Sunday School students lead the congregation in a traditional Christian ceremony of decorating the church for the Advent and Christmas season.

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- You can remain updated by visiting our website www.tyngsborocongregational.org or please check our Facebook page for unexpected closure dates.
We wish everyone a blessed Christmas!

The Brush Art Gallery & Studios
 256 Market Street, Lowell, MA 01852
www.thebrush.org

Exhibit Title: Annual Members' Exhibition 2023
Exhibition: Through December 23, 2023

Lowell, MA -- Artist members of The Brush Art Gallery & Studios and the New England Sculptors Association were eligible for this exhibition. This year we had an open call with no required theme, although, small works were encouraged because they make great gifts.

Notice the end date of the exhibit. Purchases can be taken home for Holiday gifts on December 22. Members also enjoy a 10% discount on purchases from the main gallery.

Artists included this year are: Louise Abbott, Elisa Adams, Bayda Asbridge, Donna Berger, Linda Cargiuolo, Rose Carney, Michele Champion, Sally Chapman, Lisa Ciaccia, Michael delaVega, Lolita Demers, David Devens, Dave Drinon, Alton Frabetti, Claire Gagnon, Carla Goldberg, Chrissy Theo Hungate, Jay Hungate, Lynne Johnson, David Jones, Janice Jones, Dan Kovacvic, Ilana Krepchin, Gwendolyn Lanier, Jennifer Levatino, Tracy Levesque, Madeleine Lord, Barbara Ludinsky, Maria Luongo, Monica McDermott, Juliette Montague, Paul Richardson, Daniel Rocha, Margaret Shanahan, Laurie Simko, Lynn Simmons, Raksha Soni, Donald Sullivan, Stan Sundstrom, Gay Tracy, Keith Trexler, Elisa Vanelli, Tom Whiting, Jean Winslow, Rebecca Harriet Wisniewski, Nancy Wormwood, and Melanie Zibit.

Jurors: Mary Ann Kearns, previously co-founder and curator of 119 Gallery in Lowell. **Jessica O'Hearn**, Mosaic Lowell Director, former Executive Director of the Brookline Arts Center.

The Brush Art Gallery and Studios is located in the Lowell National Historical Park across the courtyard from the Visitor Center. This dynamic and captivating place was originally founded by the Lowell Historic Preservation Commission, U.S. Department of the Interior. The Brush presents museum quality exhibitions, educational programs, and has collaborated with many other nonprofit groups. Artists occupy studio spaces to interact with and educate the public on a weekly basis. Currently, eleven studio artists produce paintings, illustration, photography, jewelry, sculpture, ceramics, quilts, and handwoven items. Associate artists display work in the common area. The Brush Art Gallery and Studios is a nonprofit, 501(c)(3) organization. The Brush is supported by the Lowell National Historical Park.



• Our Work We give children in crisis the resources they need to thrive in and out of the classroom. Catie's Closet transforms unused areas inside schools into safe, welcoming spaces where students in grades preK-12 can discreetly shop, free of charge, for clothing, toiletries, and other necessities. **• Want to Get involved?** Donate your new and gently used clothing. Youth boys & girls sizes 3 – 20. Teen boys & girls sizes XS – 3X | 00 – 24 and 28 – 48. Infant & toddler size 0 month – 2T. All items donated should be free of excessive wear, rips, stains and any inappropriate sayings or gestures. Items must be appropriate for children attending school. Drop off at **Catie's Closet Headquarters, 28 Loon Hill Road, Dracut, MA 01826. Hours of Operation: 10am to 5pm, Monday-Friday Phone: (978) 957-2200.**

If you would like to make a monetary donation you may make it online at the website <http://catiescloset.org> Host a Drive, Volunteer, or Shop Amazon Wish Lists.

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

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LOADING DOCK GALLERY

122 WESTERN AVENUE, LOWELL, MA

SHOW: Winter Lights

SHOW DATES: Thru December 24

& December 27-31, 2023

Possibilities glitter this December at Loading Dock Gallery's **Winter Lights**. Enjoy three rooms of art and craft. **Winter Lights** offers something for everyone on your list.

Find gifts to cherish. Pick out cards to match. Offerings at **Winter Lights** range from small to large, whimsical to elegant. For a little token, choose among handmade bookmarks, candles, jewelry, or even tiny paintings. To complement wardrobes, find scarves dyed, woven, and crocheted. Functional pottery or a wooden box makes a lovely house-warming gift, while paintings, photographs, and sculpture enrich your home or office.

Make this holiday one they will remember. Give the gift of art. **Winter Lights** is open noon-5:30 PM, Monday-Saturday, noon-4 on Sundays, November 29 thru December 24 and again 27-31. Closed December 25-26. Loading Dock Gallery is at 122 Western Avenue, Lowell, MA. More at www.theloadingdockgallery.com.

Loading Dock Gallery is part of Loading Dock Arts, Inc., a 501c3.

**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. We are currently looking for community minded members to join, please contact membership chair Joe Ward his contact information is below.

Officers for the 2022-2023 Lions Year

President: Laura Ward, *1st Woman President for this Lions Club which was formed in 1977*; 1st Vice President/Treasurer: Kristine DeMonico; 2nd Vice President/Secretary: Meg DeMonico; Membership Chair: Joe Ward; LCIF Chair: Mark Alexander; Media/Marketing: Charline Vigna; Tail Twister- Jorg Skowranek; Lion Tamer- Richard Lowe

Anyone interested in joining the lions is asked to contact Joe Ward 978-930-1153. Our Regular Meetings are held on the first and third Tuesday of the month starting at 6:30 pm at **Princeton Station** 147 Princeton St., in N. Chelmsford, MA. Our Facebook Page is <https://www.facebook.com/DunstableTyngsboroLionsClub>

If you would like to make a donation, please send to: Dunstable Tyngsboro Lions Club, P.O. Box 93, Tyngsboro MA 01879

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- **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, hearing aids and can tabs be located at: Tyngsboro Post Office- 353 Middlesex Rd Tyngsboro MA 01879; Tyngsboro Council of Aging Center - 169 Westford Rd., Tyngsboro MA 01879; Dunstable Town Hall - 511 Main St Dunstable MA 01827; Dunstable Post Office- 170 Pleasant St Dunstable MA 01827; Dunstable Library-588 Main St Dunstable MA 01827

One of our latest events was "Operation Turkey". We provided Thanksgiving baskets to families in need.

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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



DUNSTABLE EVANGELICAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

518 Main St, Dunstable, MA 01827

www.dunstablechurch.org

978-649-6251

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.

As church attendance numbers fade across the nation and online services become very convenient, it's important to remember why church attendance for you and your family matters so much.

Christians ... are contributors. We don't watch. We engage. We give. We sacrifice. We encourage. We pray, sometimes by laying hands on the hurting. We do life together. The church needs you. And you need the church. - Michael Carl

• **Sunday Morning worship service begins at 10:30 AM.** with Interim Pastor Doug Walker leading. We welcome you to join us anytime!

• **Advent commemorations began on Nov 26th during our regularly scheduled 10:30am Sunday morning services and continue through Christmas Eve.**

Our Christmas Eve Service will begin at 5:00pm on Sunday, December 24th.

• **The fall Adult Bible Study Class continues weekly (except the second week of the month) at 9:00am and will continue to the end of the year.** The Dunstable Church will hold an in-depth study of the Gospel of Matthew. It contains the most thorough and organized presentation of Christ's teaching anywhere in the Bible. Join us.

• **A Transition Team** is continuing to meet on the **first and third Sundays of the month** to study our church and its people, to prepare a church and pastor profile, and to establish a Search Committee. The next meetings will be held on December 3rd & 17th. Anyone is welcome at these meetings. Check the church website for any updates.

• The Dunstable Church held its annual **Trunk-n-Treat on Saturday, October 28. Many thanks** to all who came to the party and donated to the Food Drive! **Donations delivered to PACH totaled 317.7 pounds, a new record!**

We look forward to seeing you at 10:30 AM on Sundays. God bless you. We hope you are enjoying a joyful, safe and healthy season.

Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays!



Altrusa meets the second and fourth Tuesdays of each month at 6:00 p.m. at the Tyngsborough Senior Center. For more information, please email altrusamv@gmail.com.

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Know the key benefits of Roth IRA

As you save for retirement, you'll want to take full advantage of the investment vehicles available to you — and one of the best is a Roth IRA. But what sets it apart from other accounts?

Three key factors distinguish the Roth IRA:

- *Tax-free earnings* — When you invest in a Roth IRA, your earnings can grow tax free, provided you don't begin taking withdrawals until you're 59½ and you've had your account at least five years. If you don't meet these criteria, withdrawals of earnings will be subject to taxes and a possible 10% penalty.

- *No penalties on withdrawals of contributions* — You fund a Roth IRA with after-tax dollars, which means you can withdraw your contributions — not the earnings — at any time for any reason, without facing taxes or penalties. So, you could use some of your Roth IRA money for non-retirement purposes, such as helping pay for a child's college education.

- *No required withdrawals at age 73* — With a traditional IRA or a 401(k), you must start taking withdrawals — called required minimum distributions, or RMDs — once you reach 73. But this rule doesn't apply to a Roth IRA — you can keep it intact as long as you like. You may need to tap into it for some of your retirement income, but if you don't use it all, the remainder could benefit your beneficiaries.

A Roth IRA does share one similarity to a traditional IRA: It can be funded with virtually any type of investment, including stocks, bonds, mutual funds, certificates of deposit (CDs) and so on.

However, unlike a traditional IRA, a Roth IRA does have income limits.

For the 2023 tax year, if your modified adjusted gross income was less than \$138,000 (for a single filer) or \$218,000 (married filing jointly), you can put in the full amount of \$6,500 and an additional \$1,000 catch-up contribution if you're 50 or older. The amounts you can contribute will gradually decline at higher income levels and are phased out entirely at \$153,000 for single filers and \$228,000 if you're married and file jointly. These income ranges will likely change for the 2024 tax year, so you'll want to consult with your tax advisor for details.

Still, even if you've contributed to a traditional IRA or a 401(k) for many years, you may have a chance to eventually "convert" some, or all, of these funds to a Roth IRA and gain its benefits. It's not hard to do this conversion — it involves minimal paperwork from your traditional IRA or 401(k) provider — but it does come with tax issues. Any money that's converted from a traditional IRA or 401(k) to a Roth IRA will be treated as ordinary taxable income. This can trigger a large tax bill, so, unless you have the money available from other accounts to pay the taxes, the conversion may or may not make sense for you. But you don't have to convert all the funds at once. By spreading the conversion over several years, you could reduce the effect of a large tax hit in any single year. You may want to consult with your tax advisor before converting any funds to a Roth IRA.

If you can find a way to contribute to a Roth IRA, either directly or through a conversion, consider it carefully — you'll find a lot of upsides to this investment account.

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