



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!

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TYNGSBOROUGH'S TOWN MANAGER REPORT

*From Colin Loisel, Tyngsborough Town Manager
December 2023*

I am pleased to report the following information from Town over the last month. You can find a full version of the Town Manager's report online at tyngsboroughma.gov. A contract for the hazardous material abatement of the Winslow School located at 250 Middlesex Road was awarded to Green Environmental last month. The bid came in under budget and work under this contract will commence right away. The project involves a complete abatement of all hazardous material including asbestos which is prominent across the building.

- The Town Manger's Office has contracted with SOCOTEC Architects to design the partial demolition and relocation of the Winslow School as approved by Article 24 on the May 2023 Annual Town Meeting Warrant. We expect to have design complete with construction documents and hard construction estimates prepared in early Spring.

- The 2023 Roads Project has wrapped up for the winter. Work under this contract included a full-depth reclamation of Patriot Road and Descheneaux Lane. To date, reclamation, grading, and binder coat work have been completed on Patriot Road and Descheneaux. In the Spring, the contractor will install the final coat on both roads.

- In November, a contract was awarded to T Ford for the installation of the pedestrian bridge and observation deck over Flint Pond. Work under this contract is expected to be completed by June 30.

- The Town's new yard waste drop off site had a successful first season with no issues regarding illegal dumping. The site will close for the winter on December 9 and reopen on April 2. In the event that we get unseasonably warm weather and conditions permit, the Town may open the site periodically throughout the winter, please stay tuned to the Town website for announcements.

- The Fall Special Town Meeting on October 24, 2023 generated over 300 residents. In total, 7 articles and 3 citizen petitions were considered. All 7 town-sponsored articles were approved and the three citizens petitions did not pass. Annual Town Meeting will take place on Tuesday, May 7, 2024 at 7PM at the Elementary School.

- Work on the Bicentennial Field Irrigation Project will commence this spring. Bids for this project were due in November. The work will see the installation of a pump in Bridgemeanow Brook which will divert water to the Bicentennial Fields to be used for irrigation. This will reduce the Town's reliance on municipal water which has become costly. The Town expects to save \$50,000 annually thanks to this project.

Be sure to visit www.tyngsboroughma.gov to stay up to date on all things happening in Tyngsborough. You can sign up for alerts & view all recent news articles. You can also follow Tyngsborough MA on Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn so that you'll never miss a beat.

The Town Manger's Office can be reached by phone 978-649-2300 x100 or by emailing administration@tyngsboroughma.gov.

IN MEMORY OF

Alfred H. Levesque
Richard A. Russell Jr.
Aleta M. (Brown) Thompson
Carolyn. M. (MacKay) Hastings
Raymond J. Clement
Joan V. (Messer) Morris
Doris Pauline (Pintal) Beausoleil

TYNGSBOROUGH TOWN CLERK NEWS

• **2023 Dog Licenses** are available at the Town Clerk's office or by mail. Male/female licenses are \$11.00 and spayed/neutered licenses are \$7.00. Current rabies vaccination is required. **If renewing by mail, please enclose a stamped, self addressed envelope for the license**, as well as your dog's proof of rabies vaccine. Please contact the office at 978-649-2300 extension 129 or email to jshifres@tyngsboroughma.gov with any questions.

TYNGSBOROUGH TOWN HALL HOURS

Monday & Tuesday: 8:30AM to 4:30PM

Wednesday: 8:30AM to 7:00PM

Thursday: 8:30AM to 4:00PM

Friday: Closed

www.tyngsboroughma.gov

TYNGSBOROUGH BOARD OF HEALTH HOLIDAY TRASH AND RECYCLING SCHEDULE

Due to the upcoming Holidays, trash and recycling will be delayed and picked up on the following days:

Tuesday, December 26, 2023 (Christmas)

Tuesday, January 2, 2024 (New Years)

Tuesday, January 16, 2023 (Martin Luther King Day)

TYNGSBOROUGH BOARD OF HEALTH CHRISTMAS TREE DROPOFF

Christmas trees may be dropped off at the Highway Department on Kendall Road or at 180 Lakeview Avenue (old senior center) parking lot **during the month of January.**

Please make sure that all decorations and all hooks are removed before you drop your tree off.



*Wishing you a
Very Merry Christmas &
a Happy New Year!*

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ADOPT-A-FAMILY

Dear Tyngsborough Community Members,

It is that time of year again, and the Tyngsborough Public School's sponsored *Adopt-A-Family* program is beginning its annual efforts as we approach the 2023 holiday season.

The *Adopt-A-Family* program has been in existence for over forty years and provides assistance to needy families within our community during the holidays. The continued goal of the program is to assist those in need within our community who might otherwise go without. Last year this *Adopt-A-Family* program was able to assist over 100 needy families with help from students in our schools, private citizens and a few community businesses. Again this year, we plan to support families with gift cards this season as times continue to be difficult for a growing number of families.

In order to continue to provide assistance, we are reaching out to community members and businesses in the greater community for support. At this time the program is in need of the following:

- *Gift cards to Walmart, Market Basket, and Amazon* will be greatly appreciated and can be mailed to the address below.
- *Monetary donations* (checks made out to Tyngsborough High School, memo: Adopt A Family Program) can be sent to Tyngsborough Public Schools, 36 Norris Road, Tyngsborough, MA 01879, ATTN: Sharon Fairbanks
- *Any questions* please email one of the committee members.

We always look forward to establishing new partnerships within our community. Your contribution, along with the combined efforts and generosity of many, will ensure another successful season of giving for our neighbors in need.

Warm regards,

Sarah Lewenczuk, 978-649-8914, Adopt-A-Family Secretary & Treasurer, Sarah.lewenczuk@tyngsboroughps.org

Melissa Mallous, 978-649-3115, Family Liaison, Melissa.mallous@tyngsboroughps.org

Sharon Fairbanks, 978-649-7488, Adopt-A-Family Community Liaison, Sharon.fairbanks@tyngsboroughps.org

WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA EVENT

We are pleased to announce, in partnership with the Tyngsborough Fire Association, and the Town of Tyngsborough's Veterans office, we have teamed up with **Wreaths Across America** to secure a location for Tyngsborough. Our goal is to receive donations to purchase wreaths for all 480 veterans laid to rest in town. We will honor them by laying Remembrance wreaths on the graves of our country's fallen heroes across the cemeteries in Tyngsborough.

On December 16th a ceremony will take place at 11:00am at the Tyngsborough Town Hall, 25 Bryants Lane. This is a public event so please join us. After the ceremony, we will place wreaths at the following locations: Memorial Cemetery, Sherburne Cemetery, Drake Cemetery, Flint Cemetery, Gould Burial Ground, and Thompson Cemetery.

If you or your family would like to make a donation or volunteer to place wreaths on graves December 16th please visit www.wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/175972

REMEMBER the Fallen. . . HONOR those who Serve. . . TEACH our children the value of Freedom!

Reach out to Tyngsborough Veterans Services for more information at: veteransagent@tyngsboroughma.gov or (978) 649 2300 ext 131

Read Dunstable and Tyngsborough Neighbor to Neighbor issues, and other articles online at www.neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com

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, MA.

TYNGSBOROUGH COUNCIL ON AGING



169 Westford Rd, Tyngsborough, MA
978-649-9211

Mailing Address: 25 Bryants Lane, Tyngsborough, MA 01879
Email: Broche@tyngsboroughma.gov

Hours of Operation are Monday thru Friday 8-4. Bus 8:15-3.

Closed December 25th through Monday, January 1st, New Year's Day and Monday, January 15th, Martin Luther King Day.

- **Donations Needed:** Coffee (ground and k-cups), 12oz Cups, Paper Plates-Small and Large, Plastic Spoons, Forks, Knives, Sugar Packets and small coffee creamers
- **FREE... PAINTING CLASS Every Monday, 12:30-3:00** In this class everyone helps each other. If you love painting and don't mind (asking or helping) others, come join us and make new friends.
- **BONE STRENGTH FREE, Weds. 10:00 / Fri. 9:00** Doctor's note **NOT** required. Class has opening, No cost.
- **YOGA AND HOLISTIC HEALTH** Every other Weds. 9:00, see calendar for the dates. Lynda Gamble...Yoga. Laurie Schmaltz... Holistic Health
- **NEW GAME "CANASTA"** on Thursdays at 1pm.

BOOK CLUB (Monthly) Wednesday, December 13th at 10:00a.m. Usually this is held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. Discover and read.

FREE COMPUTER and CELL PHONE HELP at the Senior Center. Thursday, December 14th, 9:30 -12:00 Dean Lotito, will be available help fix issues with your cell phones and computers. Take advantage of this free service.

COA Board Meeting, Tuesday, December 19th, 3:30pm
HOLIDAY OPEN HOUSE "Cookie exchange," Thursday, December 21st, at 10:00AM, The Staff of the Tyngsborough Council on Aging will be providing coffee and holiday pastry for all seniors. If you know of anyone who would like to get out and listen to some holiday music and mingle, bring them along, and come and sing some holiday songs.

NEW YEAR'S EVE PARTY Thursday December 29th Come join us for a special gathering. Merry Christmas! Christmas Celebration, Friday, December 15th, 11:00a.m ~ 1:30p.m., Cost \$7.00. Entertainment by Kathy Rodger "Christmas Songs".

SNOW CANCELLATION POLICY If Town Hall offices are closed in Tyngsborough due to a snow storm, the Tyngsborough COA will be closed. **Call before heading to the Center to see if we're open. BUS Transportation:** If there is no school in Tyngsborough the elder bus **WILL NOT RUN**. If the schools have a 2-hour delay the bus will not start till 10:00 AM. If you have a morning appointment **before 10:00** you will have to reschedule it. **Cancellations will be announced on WCAP Radio 98.5 & TV News on 4, 5, 7.**

WELLNESS CLINIC Tyngsborough Council on Aging, 169 Westford Rd, 978-649-9211 Charlene Muscato RN will be here Wednesday, December 12th, 9:30 doing blood pressure readings, weight checks and medication reviews. **Sign in sheet at the front desk.** First come, first served.

Donations Needed for the upcoming Holidays. The food pantry is in need of items below. Canned Baked Beans, Pasta, Tomato Sauce, Peanut Butter, Marshmallow & Jelly or Jam... Crackers...Snack Packs, Shelf Milk, Applesauce Cups, Juice Boxes, Nutrition Bars, Muffin Mixes, Cookies. 12oz Coffee Cups, Cereal, Cake Mix, Frosting. Whatever you can think of. Thank you.

UPCOMING in January These dates and times are subject to change. Somethings come up from time to time that can't be avoided. Thank you.

Birthday Celebration:
Friday, January 13th, 11:30a.m. Entertainment Kathy Rodger



Read Dunstable and Tyngsborough Neighbor to Neighbor issues, and other articles online at www.neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com



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HOLLY JOLLY HOLIDAY MARKET
Fundraiser Event

Tyngsboro Grad Night Committee

This will be held at the Tyngsboro Elementary School
205 Westford Rd., Tyngsborough, MA 01879

Saturday, December 16, 2023

From 10AM to 2PM

www.millcityeventsbytara.com

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. **No paid staff - every cent of every donation goes to caring for needy cats!** www.kittyangels.org Kitty angels, Inc. is 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Your donation is fully tax-deductible.

TYNGSBOROUGH REPUBLICAN
TOWN COMMITTEE (TRTC)



The TRTC serve as our community's official representation within the Massachusetts Republican Party. In addition to promoting the principles of the Republican Party, we also assist local, state, and national Republican candidates in their bid for public office. While not everyone agrees on all issues, the TRTC focuses on issues we all share: **less government, budgetary restraint, and lower taxes.**

LOCALLY: We help promote fiscal responsibility; present Town Meeting Warrant Articles; oversee voter registration and elections; and organize signature drives for candidates and important issues. **STATE & NATIONALLY:** We promote and support candidates that share our values; provide delegates to our State Convention to vote on our nominees for elected office; and coordinate with other Republican Town and City Committees. **Please get involved and make your voices heard!!**

ELECTION OFFICIALS NEEDED: We're looking for Republicans to help preserve integrity in the 2024 election. Please let us know if you're interested in serving as an Election Official, Poll Worker, or even as an Election Observer at one of our town precincts. Reach out to TyngsboroughRTC@gmail.com for more information.

COME JOIN US!!: E-mail TyngsboroughRTC@gmail.com to get on our mailing list and follow us on Facebook ([TyngsboroughRTC](https://www.facebook.com/TyngsboroughRTC)) for meeting updates and other important information.

DONATE: If you'd like to make a donation, please send to: TRTC, PO BOX 614, Tyngsborough, MA 01879 or directly via <https://secure.winred.com/tyngsborough-rtc/donate>

REAL ESTATE TAX EXEMPTIONS
AVAILABLE

You may be eligible to receive a property tax exemption if you fall into any of these categories: Legally blind person; Veteran with a service-connected disability; Surviving spouse of a disabled veteran or veteran who died from active-duty injury or illness; Senior citizen age 65 and older, who meets income and asset requirements.

You must have owned and occupied your property as of 7/1/2023. Supporting documentation is required for all exemption applications. Applications are available at the Assessors Office in Town Hall, or at www.tyngsboroughma.gov/departments/assessors. Applications for FY2024 are due to the Assessors Office by April 1, 2024. If you have questions, please call 978-649-2300 x 121.

TYNGSBORO
FOUNDATION FOR THE AGING

The Tyngsborough Foundation for the Aging is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit organization, organized to support local senior citizens and the Tyngsborough Senior Center in coordination with the Tyngsborough Council on Aging. Its sole purpose is to lend volunteer and financial assistance to the Council on Aging in providing fellowship and a diversity of activities and programs and to enrich the lives of area seniors. P.O Box 534, Tyngsborough, MA 01879 Email Address ffta@yahoo.com The Annual membership fee is \$5.00.

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

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.

TYNGSBOROUGH'S

YARD WASTE DROP-OFF SITE!

There will no longer be Yard Waste Pick Ups.

The Residential Yard Waste Drop Off Site is located across the street from Town Hall, 25 Bryants Lane. The site is located off Bryant's Lane, closer to the Middlesex Road end. *This location is a town-owned parcel located directly behind (but not part of) the Bell Conservation property. Use of this Yard Waste Drop-Off Site is available to residents only, is free and usage is unlimited during operating hours.* Vehicles will enter & exit through the same driveway. Look for the signage on Bryants Lane.

Open daily Tuesday through Friday 7:30 AM - 3:30 PM
Saturday 8:30 AM - 3:30 PM The site will close the second Saturday in December (weather permitting) and will reopen on the first Tuesday in April.

Please note that the Town will close the site during heavy rain events or snow events. *Notices about changes of hours due to weather events will be posted on the Town website & social media.*

Yard waste may be dumped from any type of container **or left in paper leaf bags**. No items should be left in anything other than paper bags. If transporting the yard waste via plastic bag or barrel, please dump directly onto the ground. Signs will point you to where to leave the yard waste. Your cooperation in keeping the site orderly is appreciated.

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Explore and connect

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Library Hours: • Mon. & Wed. 10:30 a.m. – 8 p.m.

• Tues. & Thurs., 9 a.m. – 5 p.m. • Sat., 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

• Fri. & Sun. Closed

CLOSED Monday, December 25th for Christmas Day

CLOSED Monday, January 1st for New Year's Day

• **Holiday Party at the Library: Wednesday, December 6th at 4:00 – 7:00 p.m.** Join us for our annual Holiday Party at Tyngsborough Public Library!

• **Author Event: Leslie Diggins Reads "Twas the Night Before Christmas in Bethlehem Town": Wednesday, December 13th at 6:00 p.m.** Join us for a special author event at the Old Town Hall (10 Kendall Road in Tyngsborough). Local author Leslie Diggins will read from her new book, 'Twas the Night Before Christmas in Bethlehem Town.' Light refreshments will be served. Registration Required.

• **Holiday Cookie Decorating with Mandy Roberge of Wicked Good Henna: Saturday, December 16th at 12:30 p.m.** (ages 12+ only) Learn how to expertly decorate at least four (4) holiday cookie designs with Mandy Roberge of Wicked Good Henna. This Royal Icing Cookie Decorating Program is for ages 12+ only as it utilizes a method called "flooding" and involves learning specialized techniques for teens and adults. Register online.

• **TPL Popcorn Picks (fun for all ages)** Not sure what to watch? Let TPL's expert movie staff help you choose! Popcorn Picks is a free movie recommendation program for registered library card holders. Fill out a form and receive three film recommendations on DVD or Blu-ray, popcorn, candy, and other surprise treats for your watch party. Once your movie bag is ready, we will notify you to pick it up at the library. Launches Dec. 1

• **Writers' Group: Every Monday at 6:30 p.m.** Join us for a writing workshop! Expand your knowledge on writing; critique each other's work; and get advice on the craft. New and long-time writers are welcome! This will be an ongoing program.

• **Writers' Group—Children's Literature: Wednesday, December 6th; December 20th; and January 3rd at 6:30 p.m.** If you're interested in crafting and publishing children's books and stories, join us to participate with a group of likeminded individuals to discuss, critique, and broaden your children's literature knowledge. All skill levels are welcome and encouraged to join. Contact Karen Johnson (978-649-7132) for more information.

• **Adult Coloring Club: Wednesday, December 6th and January 3rd at 6:30 p.m.** The Coloring Club meets on the first Wednesday of each month, from 6:30 pm to 7:45 pm. Come color and socialize!

• **Tech Help: Tuesdays 11:30 a.m. – 1:30 p.m. and Wednesdays 7:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.** Get technology help at the library. Book an appointment for an individual lesson or consultation on topics such as: Computer basics; Android tablets and phones; Microsoft Word. Call the library (978-649-7361) or email circdesk@tynglib.org to register for a timeslot. **Registration required.**

• **Book Club: Wednesday, December 27th at 6:30 p.m.** For the December meeting, we will be discussing *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt. Copies of the book are available at the front desk. Visit tynglib.org/book-club/ for more information.

• **Visit tynglib.org/events to check out all of the upcoming virtual events!**

Register for TPL programs by calling or emailing

(circdesk@tynglib.org) the Library or using links provided on the online calendar for virtual programs.

Subscribe to our NEWSLETTER to get updates on all our programs sent to your inbox every month! tynglib.org/newsletter

Kids & Teens SPECIAL PROGRAMS

Disguise a Gingerbread Man Challenge, December 2nd-December 14th (ages 6-12) Kids can pick up a blank gingerbread man template from the Children's Room starting on December 2nd. They will have until December 14th to decorate their gingerbread man into a book character of their choosing. Once they've finished, they'll return it to the Children's Room by the 14th so patrons can vote on their favorite gingerbread man. Voting will end on December 18th, and we will announce the winner and post it on the Tyngsboro Library Kids Facebook Page, as well as display it in the Children's Room for the final two weeks of December. The winner can also come to the Children's Room to receive a prize. This program is intended for ages 6-12. No registration required.

Drop-In Ornament Craft, Wednesday, December 6th, 1 p.m.-7 p.m. (ages 3-12) Visit the Children's Room for a fun ornament craft! Materials and directions will be provided for children to work at their own pace. Recommended for ages 3-12 (with adult accompaniment). No registration required.

Winter STEM Challenge, Wednesday, December 20th at 5 p.m. (ages 6-12) Join us for a fun winter-themed STEM challenge! Kids will work together to build their own "snow shovel" out of various materials that can effectively scoop "snow." Whoever can make the most efficient "snow shovel" is the winner! This program is intended for ages 6-12. Registration is required.

WEEKLY PROGRAMS

Family Storytime, Thursdays at 11 a.m. (ages 2-5) Join us for stories, songs, and fun! Storytime builds early literacy skills and social skills. This program is intended for ages 2-5. Registration is required.

Family Resource Network Playgroup - Wednesdays at 11 a.m. (ages 0-6) Join us for our community playgroup where we will work on Early Literacy skills and much, much more! Ask us about any resources we can help provide for you and your family! The Family Resource Network is funded by the Coordinated Family and Community Engagement Grant (CFCE) from the Massachusetts Department of Early Education and Care. No registration required.

MONTHLY PROGRAMS

Club Pokemon, December 4 at 4 p.m., December 27 at 2 p.m., and January 8 at 4 p.m. (grades 3-8) Through the Pokemon TCG, your child will learn strategic skills, participate in friendly competition, and have fun! Whether you have binders full of cards or are just learning to play, please join us. You may also bring video game consoles and mobile devices to share your love of the game. Younger grade levels welcome with adult accompaniment. RSVP online.

Babytime - December 11th & January 8th, 22nd at 11 a.m. (ages 0-23 mos.) Join Miss Lizzie in singing songs, fingerplays, and activities all geared toward early literacy skills for your little one! This program is intended for ages 0-2. Registration is required.

LEGO Challenge Club, Saturday, December 16th at 11 a.m. (all ages with a grownup) All ages are welcome to join our LEGO Challenge. See our Instagram [@tyngsboroughpubliclibrary](https://www.instagram.com/tyngsboroughpubliclibrary) for examples of past LEGO Challenge creations. No registration required.

Monthly Scavenger Hunt, All Day, All Month Long (ages 3-12)

Come into the Children's Room each month and participate in a Scavenger Hunt! Each month, there will be twelve numbered pictures hidden throughout the Children's Room. If you find all twelve, you can visit the desk for a sticker! This activity can be done at any time in the Children's Room. No registration required.

Board of Library Trustees Meetings are generally held monthly on the third Tuesday. Check the TPL or Town websites for scheduled meetings.

Friends of the Library – Join in the fun and support your library! Meetings are held 9 Mondays per year at 6:30 p.m. in the Library. See the TPL website for dates. Also, check out the new and easy way that you can join or renew your membership to the Friends of the Library right from the Friends link on our website simply by using the "Join and Pay" or "Donate" buttons.

Like us on **Facebook**,

follow us on **Instagram** [@tyngsboroughpubliclibrary](https://www.instagram.com/tyngsboroughpubliclibrary)
and **Twitter** [@tyngsboroughlib](https://twitter.com/tyngsboroughlib)



Tim's Timely Technical Tips

By Tim Hulings

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.

Tim

Got a question? Drop me a note!

tim@denommeplumbing.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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TYNGSBOROUGH CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Winter Wildlife Reminders!

Leaving a few piles of leaves/brush along the edge of your yard can provide for many species of pollinators, birds, reptiles and small mammals during the colder months. Allowing some leaves to remain in your yard provides cover and insulation to overwintering insects like moths and butterflies. The decomposing leaves also provide nutrients to your grass and gardens.

Not cleaning up your perennial beds can provide a boost to birds and insects. Not all birds migrate south for the winter and those that remain can survive on natural foods. Pollinators can make use of the hollow stems and other parts of the plant during the winter.

Watch for wildlife on the roads! Breeding season for white-tailed deer goes through early December. Be mindful of the increase in deer activity during early morning and evening hours.

All outdoor users who are in the woods during hunting season should wear blaze orange clothing pieces as well. Hunting season is still in full swing so keep pets on leash and visible. Make your presence known like talking loud or whistling to identify yourself as a person. But be courteous not to make unnecessary noise to disturb wildlife or hunting as hunter harassment is against the law.

NEWS Special thanks the Budar Family siblings for graciously donating a memorial bench to the Sherburne Nature Center property. This memorial bench is in honor of their mother, Deb Budar. She was an amazing woman who is loved and missed by so many people. The siblings thought this would be a great way to honor their mother since it was her and her husband's favorite place to walk. The Budar Family has always loved the Sherburne Nature Center and the beauty of the property. The Conservation Commission greatly appreciates the donation and special memorial. Stop by and enjoy!

TYNGSBOROUGH SCHOLARSHIP TRUST

P.O. Box 547, Tyngsborough, MA 01879

1963 * Celebrating 60 Years * 2023



THE TST IS ACTIVELY RECRUITING NEW MEMBERS and invites you to join our meetings on the second **Thursday of the month at the Tyngsborough High School at 6:30 pm.**

If you would like to volunteer at one fundraising events, enjoy trivia competition, or can help remotely by updating our website or Facebook page, we need you! Please send an email to info@TyngsboroughScholarshipTrust.org with any questions.

The Tyngsborough Scholarship Trust would like to thank all of our vendors, shoppers, and volunteers who attended our annual **Holiday Marketplace** on November 4th. The crisp fall weather and your festive attitude made this a wonderful community event. The October **Trivia Night** was also a great success! All funds raised from these events go directly to the Class of 2024!

Do you have an idea for an event? **Please come share your ideas at TST meetings, 6:30 pm, the 2nd Thursday of the month in the THS teacher's room**

A reminder to the 2023 scholarship recipients, please be sure to submit proof of school enrollment to the TST at P.O. Box 547 Tyngsborough MA 01879 so you can receive your first or second scholarship payment.

Donations are welcomed in memory of a loved one. All profits from the 2023-2024 fundraising events will benefit scholarships for the Class of 2024.

For 60 years volunteers from our community have been coordinating fundraising and awarding scholarships to high school students from Tyngsborough. We welcome and need your help to continue this town tradition.

Please contact info@TyngsboroughScholarshipTrust.org with any questions.



FRIENDS OF THE TYNGSBOROUGH PUBLIC LIBRARY



** **Thank you** to all who attended October's book sale and all the volunteers who helped before, during, and after the sale. The Innovation Academy Charter School, Boy Scout Troops 46 and 28, bakers, and other volunteers were a huge help. Special thanks to all of you who generously donated your used books, DVDs, CDs and puzzles. We appreciate your waiting until September to make donations. 25% of the proceeds from this sale will go to the purchase of new items for the Children's Library such as books, movies, music, and electronic games. Other funds raised go toward purchasing passes, items for the "Library of Things", and Library programs throughout the year.

** With the book sale over, there are still **books for sale** near the Bibliothèque Café in the Library. Stop for a coffee and buy a book at sale prices for some reading during the cold months. Need a puzzle? There is also a good selection of puzzles for sale for adults and kids.

** This month, the Friends will contribute to the Library's **annual holiday party**. Come for fun and goodies to start the holiday season on Wednesday, December 6, 4 - 7pm.

** You can **join the Friends** anytime. Ask for an application at the Library or go to <https://www.tynglib.org/about/friends-of-the-library/> and use the **Donate** button to contribute. Your donation goes to the Friends in support of the Library, not to the town.

** Do you know about the **Museum Pass Program**? There are museum and visitor passes purchased by the Friends for museums, parks, zoos, etc. that are educational and fun for adults and kids. Passes can be reserved online or by contacting the Library. The passes give you free admission or entry with a discount. Check the website for details.

** **Upcoming Meetings: Join us on Mondays, 6:30pm, in the Library: Meeting dates in early 2024: January 8, February 5, March 4 (Membership Month), April 1 (New membership year)** Email the Friends at TynglibFriends@gmail.com if you have questions.

TYNGSBORO SCOUTING

Cub Scouting includes a variety of fun and rewarding activities for kids entering kindergarten through fifth grade. Parents can rest assured that Cub Scouting encourages family participation and good behavior, offers both traditional and contemporary Scouting activities, fosters friendships, and introduces them to activities they may not ordinarily participate in. **Anyone 11-17 years old, interested in adventure, the outdoors, service to their community, and leadership opportunities, is welcome!** For more Info email **Brett Pacewicz** at bpacewicz@hotmail.com.

CHARITY NAVIGATOR

We are often 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

We are open! Please call before coming.

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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.

SUSTAINABLE TYNGSBOROUGH

Happier Holidays and Emptier Trash Carts

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.

** **The Holiday Lights recycling collection bin is outside Town Hall until January 15****

Please contact us at sustainabletyngsboro@gmail.com with your ideas or questions. Or join one of our meetings - always the 3rd Tuesday of the month, starting at 6:30pm at Town Hall.

POLICE & FIRE EMERGENCY 911

Fire Dept. 978 649-7671 Police Dept. 978 649-7504

TOWN OF TYNGSBOROUGH
TOWN HALL, 25 BRYANTS LANE

Mon. & Tues., 8:30AM to 4:30PM • Wed.: 8:30AM to 7:00PM
Thurs.: 8:30AM to 4:00PM • Closed Friday Until Further Notice

Meeting schedules are posted at the front entrance of the Town Hall

Town Hall Directory Main Number 978-649-2300

Town Accountant	Ext. 124	Media Dept.	Ext. 140
Assessor's Office	Ext. 121	Planning Board	Ext. 115
Board of Appeals	Ext. 112	Town Treasurer	Ext. 126
Board of Health	Ext. 118	Veteran's Agent	Ext. 131
Building Office	Ext. 112	Sewer Dept.	Ext. 134
Town Clerk	Ext. 129	Board of Selectmen	Ext. 100
Town Collector	Ext. 128	Town Administrator	Ext. 100
Conservation Office	Ext. 116	Recreation & Parks	Ext. 150
Capital Asset Mgmt Com	Ext. 124	Highway Dept.	978-649-2310

**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.**



**TYNGSBOROUGH
RECREATION AND PARKS
Call 978-649-2300 Ext. 150**

We meet at The Old Town Hall, 10 Kendall Road the first Wednesday of the month at 6:30pm. Additional information may be found on our website at TyngsboroughRec.com Like us on Facebook. Seeking new members. Join us!

ADULT PICKUP BASKETBALL 1x a week. See Tyngsborough Recreation Facebook page for schedule. New faces always welcome. \$10pp at the court.

14TH ANNUAL FESTIVAL OF TREES - THANK YOU! Thank you to all who supported and helped create and run our 14th Annual Festival of Trees! Many people volunteered and donated to make this a fantastic event for all. We are grateful and look forward to seeing you next season. Contact us on our website to get involved. Please visit our FB page and <https://festivaloftreestyingborough.com/> for great photos and a full list of all our sponsors. Please patronize the businesses and support the groups that generously donated and sponsored displays and activities at the Festival. Happy Holidays and a Healthy and Happy New Year!

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS DROP OFF Drop off your unwanted decorations after Christmas at the Town Hall Offices 25 Bryant Lane. There is a bin outside the Town Hall at this time for your unwanted Christmas tree lights. Thank you!

COMMUNITY SERVICE HOURS AVAILABLE FOR STUDENTS Do you need community service hours? Contact us, we have many opportunities at our various events and programs.

FREE CURBSIDE TEXTILE PICK UP

The Town of Tyngsborough partnered with HELPSY to offer free curbside pick-up of clothing and household textiles to residents. Pickups will happen weekly. Schedule curbside pick-up at helpsy.co/tyngsboroughma or 800-244-6350. Questions? <https://www.helpsy.co/home-pickup-faq> Only clothing and other textiles, should be bagged and left on the curb by 7:00 AM on the day of the scheduled pick up. HELPSY accepts clean, dry, and bagged clothing and fashion accessories (stained, worn, and torn is fine). This includes dresses, shirts, pants, suits, coats, gloves, hats, belts, ties, scarves, wallets, purses, backpacks, totes, shoes, towels, bedding, costumes, curtains, placemats, tablecloths, and throw rugs. For more information about other recycling programs available to Tyngsborough residents, please contact the Board of Health by phone at 978-649-2300 x118 or visit them on the web at <https://www.tyngsboroughma.gov/departments/inspectional-services/health/trash-and-recycling/>

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Tyngsborough News Updates & Emergency Alerts

Subscribe to Town news updates by providing your email address. Updates may include: Town News, Town Calendar Events, All Meeting Minutes, and more! You can unsubscribe at any time and your email address will not be shared with anyone. No longer using a landline? Add your cellphone number to continue to receive emergency communication from the Town. Once you've signed up for Smart911, first responders will be aware of important information you have provided that will locate and help you in an emergency. Sign up www.tyngsboroughma.gov

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TYNGSBOROUGH HIGH SCHOOL

proudly announces Norah Araujo,

Madison Mical, Connor St. Gelais, and Sienna Hudon as the November students of the month.

Norah Araujo, daughter of Jennifer and Jeff Araujo, has received the Principal's Award, Outstanding Representation of Tyngsborough High School Core Values, Outstanding Achievement in Visual Arts, and Outstanding Achievement in Theater Arts Award. She is the president of the Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Club this school year and was a member last year. Norah is also a member of the Tyngsborough theater program as well as the band. She also participated in softball during her freshman and sophomore years. Norah's hobbies are crocheting, surfing, and kickboxing and her favorite subjects are anatomy and band. Her future goals are to major in photography in college and eventually become a photographer. Looking back on her days at Tyngsborough High School she says, "At THS, I have gained new interests and fun experiences through my classes and extracurricular activities. School has allowed me to get out of my comfort zone and try new things. Memories with friends and the excitement of Homecoming week are fond memories I will take with me".

Madison Mical, daughter of Martha Szabo and Partick Mical, was named Athletic All-Star for cheerleading in her sophomore and senior year. She has also been a four-year member of the varsity cheerleading team where she was named captain the last two years. Madison is also a four-year member of the varsity softball team. She has participated in many community service activities such as helping run the youth softball clinic, PTO volunteer, Give Kids the World 2022, and being a Tyngsborough Block Party volunteer. Madison's hobbies include hanging out with her friends, going to the beach, shopping, snowboarding, and playing sports. Her favorite subjects are math with Mr. Beaudette, independent study with Ms. Richardson, and Mr. Richall's business classes. Madison's future goals are to get her real estate license and attend college where she will study business to be able to hopefully one day open her own real estate brokerage. Looking back on her days at Tyngsborough High School she says, "I have gained many friendships that will last a lifetime, along with that I have found a support system within THS. THS has pushed me out of my comfort zone and shaped me into the person I am today. The memories I will take with me are the community and friendships that come along with being a part of this community".

Connor St. Gelais, son of Eric and Kim St. Gelais, has received the Principal's Award for three consecutive years. He has been a four-year member of the varsity baseball team and was named Most Valuable Pitcher and a MidWach All-Star last season. Connor is also a four-year member of the varsity golf team where he is a two-year recipient of the MidWach All-Star Award. He plans on attending the Give Kids the World trip to volunteer this upcoming December. His hobbies include fishing and snowboarding and his favorite subject is math. Connor plans to attend college and become a successful baseball athlete. Looking back at his days at Tyngsborough High School he says, "THS has made me a better student and taught me to work harder at my goals".

Sienna Hudon, daughter of Melissa DiPiero Hudon and David Hudon, is a two-year member of National Honor Society. She has received numerous awards such as the Harvard Prize Book Award, Harvard Club of Merrimack Valley Award, AP Scholar Award, College Board Award, Outstanding Achievement in English Language Arts, Outstanding Achievement in Theater Arts, Outstanding Achievement in Social Studies, Outstanding Achievement in Visual Arts, Outstanding Achievement in World Language, Commitment to Learning Award, and the Academic Excellence Award. Sienna is the co-founder and president of the book club, a member of the THS yearbook club, and has participated in sixteen different Tyngsborough Theater productions. Sienna has volunteered at the Tyngsborough Public Library and Tyngsborough Recreation and Parks Department, is a member of Planet Dance, and works part-time as a checkout assistant manager at Market Basket. Sienna has her own company called Designs by Sienna in which she creates and sells hand-made jewelry and crafts. Her favorite subjects are English, history, world

language, and psychology. Sienna's plans include attending college in a large city, studying psychology and linguistics, and eventually researching and working in the field of psycholinguistics or speech pathology. Looking back on her days at Tyngsborough High School she says, "My time at THS has been marked with lasting friendships, involvement in the school environment, and challenging coursework. I have fostered and strengthened my relationships with my close friends, pursued a variety of creative passions, and stayed involved in activities both in and outside of the school."

Congratulations to these four amazing Class of 2024 Students!

TYNGSBOROUGH BOARD OF HEALTH

*** Expanded Recycling Center at the Highway Department - Now, in addition to large flattened cardboard, you can bring scrap metal, textiles, and mercury-containing items to the Recycling Center at the Highway Department (89 Kendall Road) for recycling or safe disposal, year round.**

Scrap metal: NO full-size appliances. For a list of accepted metals, please visit: www.scrapit.us/metals-we-take

Textiles: In any condition - Clothing and fashion accessories, underclothes, coats, footwear, purses, wallets, backpacks, towels, all linens, curtains, throw rugs, stuffed animals.

Mercury-containing items - Fluorescent and CFL bulbs, thermometers, rechargeable batteries, elemental mercury.

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.

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.**



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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.

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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,

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\$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



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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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- 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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Nonprofit Organization Founded in November 2018

A licensed safe haven for orphaned or injured local wildlife.

It is our goal to rehabilitate these animals so they can be released into the wild. Call 978-413-4085 m.me/NewhouseWildlifeRescue

janeseeke@gmail.com <http://NewhouseWildlifeRescue.org>

<https://facebook.com/pg/NewhouseWildlifeRescue>

TYNGSBORO CHURCH OF CHRIST

27 Old Tyng Rd. Tyngsboro, MA 01879
(about 1 mile south of Tyngsboro bridge on Rt. 3A)

Evangelist: Nathan Combs 1-978-703-4741

Web Site: www.tyngsborochurchofchrist.org

Email: thechristians@juno.com

Home bible studies in Nashua, Tyngsboro, Dracut, and Lowell.

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

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, 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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References available No cost initial consultation

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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