



# Neighbor to Neighbor

Published by Anne M. Paquin Since 1983

64 Hardy St., Dunstable, MA 01827

(978) 419-1914

E-mail: [anne@neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com](mailto:anne@neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com)

[www.neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com](http://www.neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com)

**Celebrating 40 Years of Service!**

**Issue # 435 • April 2024**

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## DUNSTABLE TOWN CLERK NEWS

Just a friendly reminder that **Nomination Papers** are available at Town Hall through April 8<sup>th</sup> at 5pm **and must be submitted with signatures no later than Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup> 5pm.** Candidates must have twenty (20) certified voter's signatures on their nomination papers to have their name placed on the ballot. Wednesday, April 17, 2024 is the last day for objections/withdrawals from the race.

**The Annual Town Election will be held on May 21, 2024.**

### Things you need to know:

- If you are not currently registered to vote, the last day to register is May 10, 2024.
- Vote by Mail applications are due by Thursday, May 16th.
- **Vote by Mail ballots** must be returned to the **Dunstable Town Hall by 8pm on May 21, 2024.** There is a locked ballot box available 24x7 outside of the side entrance.

**Early voting will be held at Town Hall on the following days/**

- times:**
- Saturday, May 11th 9am-3pm
  - Monday, May 13th 9am-5pm
  - Tuesday, May 14th 9am-5pm
  - Wednesday, May 15th 9am-5pm
  - Thursday, May 16th 9am-5pm

**Polls will be open from 12pm - 8pm on May 21, 2024. All voters will vote at the Dunstable Public Library.**

The Town Clerk's office is staffed Monday-Thursday 9am-5pm, and we're also available to meet you later or earlier if needed. All things ATE including Vote By Mail & Early Voting schedules can be found [here](#). **Brynn C. Durno, Town Clerk, Town of Dunstable, 978-649-4514 x222**



## DUNSTABLE GRANGE #31

### SPONSORING ROADSIDE CLEAN UP

This year the clean up will be April 19th through April 27th. Bags will be available at the Town Hall, 511 Main St. and Tully Farm Store, 446 Pleasant St. beginning April 12<sup>th</sup>.

**This is a great way to celebrate Earth Day which is on Monday, April 22nd.** If we all do the road around our homes, the town will be in good shape. As you fill your bags during this time, please leave them on the side of the road. Our Highway Dept. crew will be going around to pick them up. We appreciate you continued support in keeping Dunstable beautiful.

## NISSITISSIT STRING QUARTET

We are excited to welcome you to join us for our 2024 **European Cruise Program!** This will be held on **Saturday, April 13<sup>th</sup> at 7:00m** at the **Dunstable Town Hall, 511 Main St., Dunstable.**

This **free concert** is sponsored by the Dunstable Cultural Council and Crandall's Child care. Here is our website for more information: <https://nissitissitstringquartet.org/home>

## IN MEMORY OF

Martha Roughan, RSCJ  
William "Bill" Hunnewell  
Maureen (Lohnes Kendall) Moussette  
Georgette R.(Laurent) Letendre

## DUNSTABLE VETERAN SERVICES OFFICE

Greetings fellow Veterans. Are you over 65? **How would you like to be paid to speak about your Experience in the military for about an hour and get paid about \$45 for it?** All you have to do is call Kindra Pugh at (781) 957 - 6538. This is a Boston University Study that has been approved by the VA.

I would like to give recognition to those vets I have in the Dunstable database who were born for each month but have since passed away. This month I would like to honor the following:

Robert Ogden - 14 Apr 1939 - 7 Dec 2021 USCG Vietnam  
Donald F. Rock - 27 Apr 1932 - 16 May 2019 - USMC - 1951 - 1954 - North Korea - PH

David G. Sweet - 21 Apr 1941 - 12 Oct 2017 USAF - 1959 - 1963  
Tobey G. Russell - 11 Apr 2025 - 3 Apr 2011 - Merchant Marines

**Our many thanks to those who went the extra step to serve our country.**

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

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

## DUNSTABLE SCOUT BSA TROOP 28

On Saturday, April 27th please join us at the Dunstable Town Common. We will be having a Recruiting Day on the Town Common, with games and weather permitting, the **Cub Scout Pack** will have the **Pinewood Derby track** for anyone who wants to race their old cars. Stop by, have some fun, and learn more about our BSA Troop and Cub Scout Pack.

**Note: The Scouts won't be putting on the Mother's Day pancake breakfast this year.**

## Dunstable Conservation Commission

### MONDAY MORNING WALKS IN MAY

May 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup>, and 20<sup>th</sup> Weather permitting, each week we will explore a different Town of Dunstable Conservation Area or DRLT property. Wear appropriate attire/footwear and **meet at the Town Hall to leave promptly at 9am.**



## Matt's Monthly Mechanical Memo

By Matt Manning

Purchasing home heating & cooling systems is a big investment. Choosing the right installer is equally as important as the equipment. Cheaper does not mean better. Far from it. What should homeowners look for?

**Licensed & Insured.** Qualified installers hold all proper licenses and certifications, always pull required permits, and carry much more than the minimum insurance coverages.

**Reputable Reputation.** Responsible firms have verifiable locations, proudly stand behind their work, and online reviews that reflect it.

**Manufacturer Accreditation.** Premium brands demand progressive levels of training and education for their certified install contractors.

**Little to No Subcontracting.** Highly capable installers have multiple trades in-house to reduce process issues, delays and breakdowns.

**Quality Control.** The most qualified firms follow comprehensive quality assurance measures from system sizing & design, through start up and commissioning.

Until next month, stay comfortable. *Matt*

**Got a question? Drop me a note!**

[matt@denommeplumbing.com](mailto:matt@denommeplumbing.com)



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## NASHOBA ASSOCIATED BOARDS OF HEALTH IS CO-SPONSORING RABIES CLINICS IN OUR DISTRICT

These clinics are open to all residents of the Nashoba district (Ashburnham, Ashby, Ayer, Berlin, Bolton, Dunstable, Groton, Harvard, Lancaster, Littleton, Lunenburg, Pepperell, Shirley, Stow, and Townsend).

### RABIES IMMUNIZATION CLINIC SCHEDULE

Rabies immunization for dogs and cats over six (6) months of age, not previously immunized, and those with a blue rosette (2021) rabies tag must be immunized. Depending on the vaccination status of your dog or cat the veterinarian will inform you of the effective vaccination duration for the vaccination given.

### ALL DOGS AND CATS MUST BE IMMUNIZED AGAINST RABIES

The charge per immunization is, \$20.00. Residents of Nashoba member towns may attend any of the following clinics. **Cats must be brought in cages or closed boxes during the last half of any clinic. The tag for 2024 will be red heart.**

- Friday April 5, 2024 from 5 PM – 6 PM at the Ayer Animal Hospital, 196 West Main Street, Ayer, MA. (\$20 Cash Only)
- Saturday, April 20, 2024 from 9-10:30am Flanagan, at the Fire Station on Jersey St., Pepperell, MA (\$20 Cash or Check \$20.00 Payable to Vet)



## BIKE RODEO SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2024 FROM 9-1 PM

To be held *rain or shine* at Groton Dunstable Regional High School.

This event is FREE and is for ages 5 & up. Engage in fun, challenging bike activities, learn the ABC bike check and more!

Snacks & Refreshments Provided. For additional information or questions, please contact SRO Robert Wayne at [rwayne@grotonma.gov](mailto:rwayne@grotonma.gov).

Sponsored by Groton Police, Dunstable Police, Florence Roche Elementary, Swallow Union Elementary, Community Ed, and Groton Lecture Fund.



## SAVE THE DATE

**Sunday, May 5th at 10:30am-3:30pm**  
A lemonade stand will be held at West Auto Repair, Inc. at 30 Pleasant St. (Rt. 113) in Dunstable, MA.

All proceeds from the stand will benefit Reid's Crew & Great Strides for Cystic Fibrosis. We look forward to seeing you and thank you in advance for your support.



## Neighbor to Neighbor

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

E-mail: [anne@neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com](mailto:anne@neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com)

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Total Circulation is now 6,674 which includes Dunstable and Tyngsborough.

**GD PLAYERS PRESENT  
THE SOMEWHAT TRUE TALE OF ROBIN HOOD**

Join our high school drama troupe for this rousing comedic rendition of a classic tale we know and love. The Somewhat True Tale of Robin Hood has all the elements you love from Robin Hood, including Robin, Lady Marian, The Evil Prince John (boo, hiss), and the Sheriff of Nottingham, as well as countless Merry Men and Fawning Ladies. There is archery, spoon fighting, and yes, even a great tournament. Will Robin survive the torture of the baddies and win the day? Come join us and find out! **Friday, April 5 at 7pm and Saturday, April 6 at 2 & 7pm at the GD High School Black Box Theatre, 703 Chicopee Row, Groton. Tickets are available at the door, cash only, and are \$12, or \$10 for students and seniors. See you there!**

**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](mailto: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 are served on Wednesday's promptly at noon.

April 2024

**Meals/Programs for Dunstable Seniors at the Dunstable Public Library, Lunch is served at noon.**

- **Wednesday, April 3-** Lunch and dessert are provided by the Traveling Chef. **Dean Lotito will be available from 10-noon for your tech needs, no appointment needed.**
- **Wednesday, April 10-** Lunch is provided by Dinner Made Simple: Meatloaf, mashed potato and carrots, chocolate and banana cream pies for dessert.
- **Wednesday, April 17** –Lunch is provided by AgeSpan: Chicken Parm and pasta, veggies and pineapple for dessert.
- **Wednesday, April 24-** Pizza, tossed salad and cake and ice cream for dessert. **The Nurse will be in for well checks today from 11-noon.** No appointment necessary.

**Please let Anne know 1 week ahead if you would like to join the Seniors for lunch.** Email Anne at [afenochetti@Dunstable-MA.gov](mailto:afenochetti@Dunstable-MA.gov) or 978-649-4514 ext 223.

Come and take part in cribbage, dominos, and scrabble groups that are on hand each week.

• **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.

**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

**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](http://www.dunstable-ma.gov) for contact info, news & updates

**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](http://www.charitynavigator.org)

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## 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](http://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.

## DUNSTABLE PUBLIC LIBRARY

588 Main St., Dunstable, MA 01827

**HOURS:**  
Tuesday 3:00pm – 8:00pm  
Wednesday 10:00am – 2:00pm  
Thursday 10:00am – 6:00pm  
Friday 10:00am – 2:00pm  
Saturday 10:00am – 2:00pm

For more library information go to [www.dunstable-ma.gov](http://www.dunstable-ma.gov) and click on library

Maureen Strauss - Director [mstrauss@dunstablepl.org](mailto:mstrauss@dunstablepl.org)  
Karen Debreceni - Children's Librarian [kdebreceni@dunstablepl.org](mailto:kdebreceni@dunstablepl.org)

Like us on FACEBOOK to receive program updates!  
[www.facebook.com/pages/Dunstable-Public-Library/](http://www.facebook.com/pages/Dunstable-Public-Library/)  
Library phone number - 1-978-649-7830

**Community Room Artist** Check out the wonderful artwork done by Alice Sniezek. She has a fantastic collection showing in the community room!

**Margaret Abeyta Reading Room** Our reading room will feature a coffee klatch where we will offer free coffee, tea, hot chocolate and cookies for adults to enjoy while they sit to look through a book or read a magazine!

**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.

**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. **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.

**Book Club** The book club will take place every 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday of the month at 10:30am. **April 20th - Oxygen by Carol Cassella.** 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.

**Teen Study and Hang Out Hub** Teens, come in to check out your new and improved space to study, play games or just hang out! Thanks to **DS Graphics** for providing the printing of the posters!

**Children's Activities for April** **April 16th at 4:30pm** will be an exciting craft day! We will be creating a lot of spring time and earth day projects! The children will do a bit of planting and of course a few painting projects! Please wear clothes that can get messy! Sign up at the library or at [kdebreceni@dunstablepl.org](mailto:kdebreceni@dunstablepl.org)

**Children's drop in crafts will be out during the month.** Look for a project or two to do while hanging out in the kid's section. There will also be **Make and Takes** on the circle table in the kid's section in April. These crafts are limited!

**Mrs. D is looking for item's for the Summer Reading Program.** Do you have doubles of games or toys from Christmas? Are you trying to clean up your children's playrooms? Please consider donating new or nearly new toys or games for our Summer Reading Program. It would be wonderful to have a prize for each child who takes part in the program! Thanks in advance.

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**GROTON DUNSTABLE REGIONAL  
HIGH SCHOOL CHAMBER CHOIR  
CONCERT AT SWALLOW UNION SCHOOL**

Please join us for an afternoon of music featuring the highly acclaimed Groton Dunstable Regional High School's Chamber Choir. **The concert will take place on Sunday, April 28 at 5:00 PM at Swallow Union Elementary School in Dunstable.** Doors will open at 4:30 PM. **Concessions and raffles will be available.**

There is no cost to attend, however **donations are graciously accepted** as we are fundraising to support future travel opportunities for the choir including their trip to France in the Spring of 2025.

Please visit <https://sites.google.com/site/gdchamber1/> for additional information.

**BOOK GROUP MEETINGS**

*Held the 3rd Saturday of each month,  
at 10:30 a.m. at the Dunstable Library.*

**Meetings are open to the public**

**• 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.

**GRANGE #7 CONTRA DANCES**

Groton Grange #7 invites you to our traditional New England Contra Dance on **Saturday, April 20 from 7:30 - 10:00 PM**, at Historic Groton Grange Hall, 80 Champney Street.

This will be an evening of live music and dancing with Groton's own **Contra Banditos**, along with caller Dan Heinhold, who will teach traditional New England style contra, square, and line dances to the beat of old time fiddle tunes. Beginners are welcome, no experience or partner is necessary. **Donation at the door is \$5.00 per person, children under 3 years old are free, and family maximum is \$20.** Made possible by a grant from the Town of Groton Lecture Funds. Refreshments are provided.

**PARKING ALLOWED ONLY**

**ON THE GRANGE SIDE OF CHAMPNEY ST.**

**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](http://BBBSFoundation.org).

**DUNSTABLE RURAL LAND TRUST  
PLANT SALE MAY 19<sup>TH</sup>, 2024**

DRLT is hosting a perennial plant sale on **Sunday, May 19, 2024 from 10 am – 2 pm at the McLoon Barn.** We will also offer a *limited number of annuals and hanging baskets.*

This is an opportunity to support local conservation efforts and add beauty to your home.

Perennial plants add color and structure to your landscape yet require very little maintenance. Many perennials thrive when they are divided every few years in the spring. Local gardeners will be donating plants divided from their own gardens.

**If you have perennials you would like to donate for this fund raising event, please call Patti @978-846-3561 or Kap @ 978-761-6646.**

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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.

**THE DUNSTABLE BOARD OF HEALTH  
 & NASHOBA ASSOCIATED BOARDS OF HEALTH  
 WELL ADULT CLINIC**

The clinic will be held on Wednesday, April 24th in the Dunstable Library, 588 Main St. from 11:00–noon. The 'Town Nurse' will be on hand for Well Checks, no appointment necessary. The public Health Nursing Team (AKA "Town Nurse") is available for consultation, home visits for assessments and coordination of care, health programs, clinics and disease investigations Hours Mon-Friday 8-4:30. Call 978-772-3335 or go to their website. [www.nashoba.org](http://www.nashoba.org)

**CAPITAL GAINS TAX AND INHERITANCES**

*By Edward H. Adamsky*

Whenever you earn money such as by selling an item for a profit, or wages at a job, you have to pay income-tax. The tax is based on your profit. Wages are all "profit" as your time cannot be deducted as an expense. When you sell an item for more than you paid for it, the taxable profit is the difference between your purchase price and the sale price. Another name for your purchase price is your "basis." Basis can be different though. For instance, if you bought a house for \$200,000, but then put another \$100,000 into an addition, your total basis in the house is \$300,000.

One component of the income-tax is that you pay a lower rate on some gains. Wages are considered "ordinary" income, and you pay the regular tax rate. But, if you bought real estate or stock, and held it for more than one year, when you sell it, your profit is taxed at a lower "capital-gains" rate. This is an incentive to get people to invest and hold for a longer term. It may not be fair to working folks, but it is believed that this is good for the economy overall.

One of the exceptions to having to pay income tax on money you receive is when you receive it as a gift or inheritance. This is not counted as income, and you don't have to pay any tax when you inherit assets. If you inherited \$100,000 from your parents, you just get to keep it all without paying any tax. This is a rare rule that we should all be happy about.

But say you inherited a house from your parents, and your parents only paid \$100,000 for it. If you sell it for \$500,000, do you have to pay income tax on the \$400,000 of profit? In most cases the answer is "no" because of something in the Tax code called the "adjustment in basis" (commonly called the "step-up" in basis). When you inherit an asset, instead of using the basis of the person you got it from, you get to use the fair-market value on their date of death. So, you won't pay any tax on the sale of your parents house, if the sale price is the same as the value when they died.

This is a concept you should know and understand when planning for yourself or your family. You can make mistakes that cost your family money. You only get the step-up in basis through an inheritance. You don't get it with an outright gift. If your parents gave you their house while they were still alive, you would have to use their basis to calculate your gain and the tax due when you sell the house. The step-up only comes through an inheritance at death.

There are reasons to do lifetime gifts, so the decision is not simple, but you need to think through the ramifications of lifetime gifts and inheritances before you make a mistake. You should consult with your financial advisor and your estate-planning attorney before making any large lifetime gifts and to determine the best tax consequences for your estate planning.

**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.**

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## 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>

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•To contact us for more information email to [office@wcumc.us](mailto:office@wcumc.us).  
•West Chelmsford United Methodist Church is a family oriented church with something for everyone from tiny tots to seniors.

## 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](mailto:www.dunstable-ma.gov/user/53/contact). All inquiries are confidential.

## OPEN BURNING SEASON ENDS MAY 1<sup>ST</sup>

For 2024 burning permits, please send the following information to [dunstableburnpermits@gmail.com](mailto:dunstableburnpermits@gmail.com) and a member will contact you. 1. Name, 2. Address, 3. Phone Number and Carrier (ie Verizon) 4. Email address

**The 2024 permit fee has been waived.**  
**Burn Permit Hotline: 1-855-933-4499**

Call this number daily, once you have your permit to check if conditions are okay to burn on that day.

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

### Rules and Regulations

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

### **Under all Circumstances the following are prohibited**

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

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

Information is available online at the town website [www.dunstable-ma.gov/dunstable-fire-rescue](http://www.dunstable-ma.gov/dunstable-fire-rescue)

## 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](http://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](mailto:gailmosher@gmail.com) or leave a message with us. 100% of the proceeds will go to Kitty Angels. For other ways you may help, please visit the How to Help page on our website at [www.kittangels.org/howtohelp.html](http://www.kittangels.org/howtohelp.html) Kitty angels, Inc. is an all-volunteer, 501(c)3 non-profit organization. Your donation is fully tax-deductible.

## COMMUNITY CARES CORNER

### At West Auto Repair in Dunstable

Located inside our waiting area at West Auto Repair, located at 30 Pleasant St. in Dunstable, MA, we have our community cares corner. Here you can drop off your **pop tabs** from carbonated beverages, pet food cans etc. **which are donated to Shriner's Children hospital.**



**You may also drop off your donations for the PACH food pantry**, which is located in Pepperell, MA and serves our Dunstable and Pepperell neighbors.

As we head into the spring time months the volunteers at the food pantry have stated that they are in need of **coffee, tea and condiments such as ketchup, mustard and relish.** The pantry is always in need of **personal hygiene items such as soap, shampoo, conditioner, diapers, feminine supplies, toothbrushes, toothpaste as well as laundry detergents and household cleaning supplies.**

Donations can be dropped off inside the waiting area at West Auto Repair Monday- Friday between the hours of 8AM and 5PM. After hours there is a blue bin to the left side of the front door where you can also leave your donations outside.

We could never do this without you, our neighbors, who graciously continue to support these organizations with your donations. Thank you and wishing you a happy spring season! The West Family and our employees at West Auto Repair, Inc.

## 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](mailto: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

## STONE WALLS AND SCENIC ROADS

Refer to Massachusetts General Laws, Title VII, Chapter 40, Section 15C: Scenic road designations; improvements; fines: <https://malegislature.gov/Laws/GeneralLaws/PartI/TitleVII/Chapter40/Section15C>

The stone walls lining many roads and tracing through the woods and fields of Dunstable date mostly from the 18<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup> centuries. They were built to get rid of stones from our glacier-impacted soils and were used for controlling livestock and, increasingly, as boundary markers. (A split rail fence – one rail set upon crossed fence posts – might be added, supplemented, or replaced by barbed wire after the 1870s.)

Although at first glance the stone walls may appear to some people to be just a pile of rocks, in keeping with a single theme throughout the town, it is important that we maintain their appearance.

These walls have historical and aesthetic value and are legally protected in some locations. One may not alter a “bound wall” – one that forms a boundary between two separately owned properties. In Dunstable and many other towns, walls bordering roads designated as “scenic” by Town Meeting may not be breached, significantly altered, or demolished without permission from the Planning Board after a public hearing. (Refer to the Town’s General Bylaws, and subsection “SCENIC ROAD BYLAW” for a listing of designated scenic roads.) Breaching a wall – most often to accommodate a new driveway – is rather straightforward but does require a permit. Repairing or reconstructing a wall involves several considerations.

Stone walls have two natural enemies: vegetation and gravity. Dunstable farmers created stone walls and had to maintain them (sometimes called “mending walls.”) This typically simply meant restoring to their place stones which had fallen or rebuilding a collapsed portion. Such repair is certainly permitted by the Town’s Scenic Roads Bylaw. (Note: Dunstable’s historic walls were always “dry” – NO mortar should ever be used in repairing them.) Adding new stones to a wall is another matter. Stones ex-

posed to the elements or “weathered” are gray and often covered with various species of moss and lichens, a process that takes decades. “Raw” stone (i.e., covered by earth until now) stands out for years and should be used sparingly or not at all. On the other hand, some roadside walls get partly buried; it’s OK to re-expose the stones. Sometimes one can use nearby stretches of a wall as a guide for height and style, whether mending an existing wall or building a new one where none exists.

**When in doubt, feel free to contact the Dunstable Planning Board via <mailto:Crock@Dunstable-MA.GOV> or call to (978)649-4514 X230.**



## 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-notice-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](http://www.thinkbluemassachusetts.org) <https://www.nmstormwater.org/for-municipalities-stormwater-collaborative...> <https://cfpub.epa.gov/npstbx/index.html>

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## DUNSTABLE BOARD OF HEALTH 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](http://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](mailto:jferrari@dunstable-ma.gov) You may also leave a message at **978-649-4514, Ext. 229.** Thank you, Joan Ferrari, BOH Admin Asst.

## 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](http://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](http://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/](http://www.utecinc.org/mattress-recycling/)

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

## 3RD ANNUAL ART AND MUSIC AT THE BARN

**Saturday, June 22, 2024 10-2**

The beautifully restored McLoon Barn at 370 Thorndike Street will again be the location for an art exhibit, with a background of live music. All types of art are welcomed to be exhibited; including painting, drawing, photography, jewelry, pottery and fiber art, such as quilts. Local musicians will play a variety of music.

It was another successful event last year, and all who attended enjoyed the day! **If you are interested in being an exhibitor, please contact Jean Haight at [jtjhaight@aol.com](mailto:jtjhaight@aol.com).**

**We are also looking for volunteers to help with the show!**

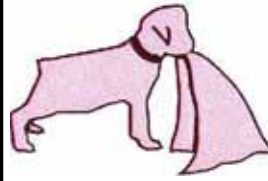
This event is supported by the Dunstable Rural Land Trust, Massachusetts Cultural Council and the Dunstable Cultural Council.



**Congratulations to the  
DUNSTABLE RURAL LAND TRUST  
on its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary!**

Wishing you many more years of  
continued success.

Sincerely,  
Anne & Louis Paquin



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## ZERO WASTE DAY

Saturday May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2024 - 9am to noon

**Tyngsborough Elementary School Parking lot,  
205 Westford Rd., Tyngsborough, MA.**

An opportunity for residents to keep usable materials out of the waste stream. By partnering with local reuse organizations, durable goods can be used again and again.

**Residents from any community are welcome!**

We will reuse or recycle: electronics, small appliances, gently used furniture, household goods, scrap metal, bicycles, small engines, textiles, books and more!

**Connect with us on Facebook at Sustainable Tyngsboro**  
Or contact the Sustainability Committee (978) 649-2300 Ext. 100.



25th Anniversary

May 19, 2024 Tsongas Arena

Give a Little Bit

**REGISTER NOW** Join together on **Sunday, May 19, 2024,**

**Tsongas Arena, Lowell, MA**

**Free Parking at Ayotte Garage adjacent to Tsongas Center**

**Rain or shine! 8:00 am** Registration/donation drop-off, Incentive pick-up and free team photos. **9:30 am** Opening ceremonies.

**9:45 am** 3 mile walk begins. **10:30 am-12:00 pm** Refreshment tent open. **11:30 am** Closing ceremonies

[teamwalk.org](http://teamwalk.org) or call 978-788-7170



## CONCERT FLYER CONTEST

The **Dunstable Concert Committee** has plans for six summer concerts on the Dunstable town common this year: **Wednesday evenings June 19th through July 31st (with a rain date on Thursdays (and no concert the week of July 4<sup>th</sup>))**

The committee is inviting all young, local artists to be creative and share their passion for the Summer Concerts by designing the flyer that will be used to promote the 2024 Summer Concerts!

Crayons, markers, paint, photos or any combination can be used but must be submitted as a hard copy on a standard (8 1/2" X 11") piece of paper.

**Entries must** include the contestants' name, age, and town they live in. Entries can be submitted at the Dunstable Public Library, West Auto Repair and Swallow Union School.

**Deadline for submission  
is Monday April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2024.**

**What's in it for the winner?**



The winner will receive one free ice cream of their choice at each of the 2024 summer concerts!



## DUNSTABLE SUMMER CONCERTS

### SAVE THE DATES!

**Wednesdays, June 19 - July 31 (rain dates on Thursdays).**  
*We hope to see you there for our 26th season!*

- June 19 - The Delta Generators
- June 26 - The Shakerz
- July 3 - No Concert (Happy 4th!)
- July 10 - Catfish Howl
- July 17 - Bush League
- July 24 - Dirty Water Brass Band
- July 31 - Monadnock Bluegrass

*Bands are subject to change - keep up-to-date with the latest schedule and rain delays on our Facebook and Instagram pages!*

## 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](mailto:criticalrepairs@lowellhabitat.org).



**Loaves and Fishes Food Pantry is open to Dunstable residents** providing food and support to families in need. Call us at 978-772-4627 ext. 312 or [clientservices@lovesfishespantry.org](mailto:clientservices@lovesfishespantry.org) for more information.

**SAVE  
THE  
DATE!**



**The 2024 Spring Into Action 5K on Sunday, May 5<sup>th</sup>.** Our 4th Annual event will be starting from Rogers Field in Devens, MA. 5K participants start at 1:00pm and should plan to complete their walk or run by 3:00pm **Walk or run, have some fun, and support the Pantry!** **Please go to [www.LFwalk.org](http://www.LFwalk.org) to Register to Walk, Sponsor a Walker or Team, Donate or for more info.** All proceeds will benefit Loaves & Fishes Food Pantry and help support our neighbors in need in Ayer, Devens, Dunstable, Groton, Harvard, Littleton and Shirley.



## Neighbor to Neighbor

Published by Anne M. Paquin  
Since 1983

64 Hardy St., Dunstable, MA 01827  
(978) 419-1914

[anne@neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com](mailto:anne@neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com)  
[www.neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com](http://www.neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com)

**Do you have a fundraiser, meetings, or events coming up in May or in early June?**

The news is placed FREE of charge on a first come first served basis. *If you have an event in early June it is best to have it in the upcoming May issue.*

**If you are thinking about advertising your business,** please contact me by email, I will send you a rate sheet which should answer most questions. There are 6,674 issues of Neighbor to Neighbor sent out directly to homes and business each month in the towns of Dunstable and Tyngsborough.

**New issues are available to read online around the first of each month, at [www.neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com](http://www.neighbortoneighbornewsletter.com).** You will also find more news and articles posted there.

*I look forward to hearing from you soon. Anne*

**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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## REPAIR CAFÉ RETURNS TO


### TYNGSBOROUGH - SATURDAY, APRIL 13

Back by popular demand, the Sustainability Committee, Tyngsborough/Dunstable Rotary Club, Tyngsborough Public Library and community volunteers are working together to offer a second Repair Café at **The Beehive Coworking Community** (2 Bridgeview Circle) on **Saturday, April 13th from 11:00AM - 2:00PM.**

A Repair Café is a neighborhood initiative that promotes repair as an alternative to tossing things out. Residents can bring their broken items in and, with the help of volunteer repairers, fix them. At this event, everything centers on making repairs. Volunteers with a variety of areas of expertise will be available to help, free of charge. Tools and materials will also be on hand. People visiting the Repair Café will bring their broken items from home. Toasters, lamps, hair dryers, PCs/Macs, clothes, bikes, toys, jewelry, crockery... anything that is broken is welcome, and can more than likely be repaired. Many of the tools we use will then be available to borrow from the Tyngsborough Public Library's "Library of Things" so that residents can perform the same types of fixes at home without having to purchase these tools.

By repairing things together, we are fostering a "repair mindset" to reduce waste and promoting a community spirit. Want to know more about the Repair Café? Look at the international website [repaircafe.org/en](http://repaircafe.org/en). **See you on April 13 at the Repair Café!**

### TYNGSBORO-DUNSTABLE

**Rotary**  *Rotary Motto Service Above Self*

#### What is Rotary?

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.

Rotary Club of Tyngsboro/Dunstable meets at the Dream Diner, 384 Middlesex Rd, Tyngsborough, MA. We meet the second Thursday for lunch at 12:00 and the fourth Thursday for breakfast at 8:00 am.

All are welcome! We even treat our guests on their first visit. We're a super friendly and informal group with a huge community impact! Our facebook page is [www.facebook.com/tyngsborodunstable Rotary/](http://www.facebook.com/tyngsborodunstable Rotary/)

## THE FRIENDS OF THE TYNGSBORO ELDERLY, INC.

(originally Friends of the Council On Aging, established in 1984) is a 501 (C) 3 nonprofit organization which was formed for the purpose of contributing to the needs of the senior citizens of our town. Through the \$10 membership fee per year per person, they are able to fund luncheons, dinners, lectures, entertainment, and a host of activities both at the senior center and elsewhere.

Currently, plans are underway for the Spring Fling Luncheon. This event will host a One Of A Kind entertainment that will be sure to please. Popular 50/50 Raffle, Raffle Baskets, and Door Prizes are always fun.

**Membership forms are available at the Greeter Desk at the Tyngsboro Senior Center or by calling President, Joe Jacoppi (978-649-9076).**

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

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On **Mondays from 10AM to 11:30AM** you can find a group of stitchers in the dining room. We share patterns, learn stitches, or just chat and enjoy the company as we stitch away. There are usually volunteers who will teach you the art of stitching.  
 We are happy to see Jeanne Checchi in our group once again. She brought several hats as well as afghans that she has made through the winter.  
 Our group will be working on an afghan project that will be raffled off at the Fall Festival. We continue to work on projects for next winter as well. Join us.



**DUNSTABLE EVANGELICAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
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[www.dunstablechurch.org](http://www.dunstablechurch.org)  
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- **Sunday Morning worship service begins at 10:30 AM.** with Interim Pastor Doug Walker leading. We welcome you to join us anytime!
- **The Adult Bible Study Class meets in Fellowship Hall weekly (except the second week of the month) at 9:00am.** The topic is 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 nearing the end of its study and preparation to name a search committee to find a new pastor for the Dunstable Church. **The next meetings will be held on April 7<sup>th</sup> and 21st.** **Anyone is welcome at these meetings.** Check the church website for any updates.
- The four weeks of Lent officially ended with an Easter celebration on March 31<sup>st</sup>, an early calendar date for Easter. We hope you were able to join us. If you missed it, we gather every Sunday morning at 10:30am at the big white church in the center of Dunstable. We would love to meet you!

**We look forward to seeing you at 10:30 AM on Sundays. God bless you.**

**BONE BUILDERS AT THE TYNGSBOROUGH SENIOR CENTER**

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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.

• **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.

• **“SAVE THE DATE” - Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.** for our Spring Gospel Concert featuring our own “A New Beginning” with Barry & Debbie Shirk along with a few additional surprise singers joining them. Come for an inspirational evening of music, desserts, coffee and fellowship! **This is a FREE EVENT so bring a friend or two with you. You’ll be glad you did!**

• **YOUTH GROUP** will meet: **May 3 - 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm & June 7 - 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm**

• **LADIES BIBLE STUDY**- Tuesday mornings 9:30-11:30 am. The study is being led by our interim pastor’s wife Diane. 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. led by Jim Politi. A new study of 2 Corinthians has begun but you can still join us Tuesday evenings. 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!!!

• **PARSONAGE/ CHRISTIAN LEARNING CENTER (CLC)**  
Some of our Sunday School classes and our Women’s and Men’s Bible Studies are now being held in our newly renovated Parsonage building next to the church, now known as our Christian Learning Center (CLC). The CLC has a wheelchair accessible handicap ramp, entry door and bathroom as required by ADA regulations. We are very excited to use this renovated space to accommodate our growing church. Come visit us and check it out

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or please check our **Facebook** page for unexpected closure dates.

••• Watch for more information regarding our upcoming **Ice Cream Social in June** to thank our Thrift Store volunteers and faithful customers! This is a fun event for all!

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Additional information: [www.ChelmsfordQuiltGuild.com](http://www.ChelmsfordQuiltGuild.com)

## THE FRIENDS OF THE TYNGSBORO ELDERLY, INC.

(originally Friends of the Council On Aging, established in 1984) is a 501 (C) 3 nonprofit organization which was formed for the purpose of contributing to the needs of the senior citizens of our town. Through the \$10 membership fee per year per person, they are able to fund luncheons, dinners, lectures, entertainment, and a host of activities both at the senior center and elsewhere.

Currently, plans are underway for the Spring Fling Luncheon. This event will host a One Of A Kind entertainment that will be sure to please. Popular 50/50 Raffle, Raffle Baskets, and Door Prizes are always fun. **Membership forms are available at the Greeter Desk at the Tyngsboro Senior Center or by calling President, Joe Jacoppi (978-649-9076).**

## TYNGSBOROUGH GARDEN CLUB



Join us for our closing reception for Quilts in Bloom at the Tyngsboro Public Library. **Scheduled for Monday, April 22** and co-hosted by the Friends of the Library and assisted by the Library staff, quilts which are currently on display will be paired up with floral arrangements designed by Garden Club members. Light refreshments will be provided, so, come check out the Library, the floral arrangements, and the Garden Club members who will be only too happy to tell you what a great group we are!

We're changing venues this year with a trip to **Weston Nurseries on May 14**. At 6 pm staff will talk to us about shrubs and perennials that grow well in this region and members will be able to buy plants at a discount.

**Our major fundraiser for the year is our annual Plant Sale, which is scheduled for Saturday, May 18.** We're planning to make a bigger splash this year than we have in the past at our two locations—Flint's Corner and 13 Beverlee Rd. If you're going to be in the market for plants this year, make us your first stop because you won't find a better deal anywhere!

New Garden Club members are always welcome and the public is invited to attend individual but programs for a nominal fee of \$5. Unless otherwise noted, meetings take place at the Evangelical Congregational Church 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](mailto:tynggardenclub@gmail.com). *Linda Sheldon, President*

## MAS S D E M S

The Massachusetts Democratic State Committee is the governing body of the Massachusetts Democratic Party. The Public Policy subcommittee acts to facilitate stakeholders understanding and engagement with federal, state, and local programs and initiatives for their benefit and for the general good.

Public Policy State Committeewoman Elizabeth Coughlin 1<sup>st</sup> Middlesex Senate District is currently providing outreach information regarding student loan reduction benefits, Green Community, Climate Change and other grants and initiatives.

**Identification and protection of vernal pools is ongoing—anyone who hears the spring peepers, please let us know.**

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- GuruKool Bollywood Fitness - weekly Wednesdays, 7:45pm
- 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](mailto:joe_virga@yahoo.com) to get on the Jazz Jam email list. \$5 suggested cover for all drop-in programs. **Future Dates: 4/17, 5/15, 6/2...** Producer: Marcia J. Macres
- 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: 4/19, 5/17, 6/21...** Producer: Mark Abare To learn more about the PCA & its wide array of artistic endeavors, visit [pcawestford.org](http://pcawestford.org)

## WHAT IS A CHROMEBOOK?

By Dean Lotito

Chromebooks are laptops, created by Google to provide a much less expensive alternative to a traditional Windows or Mac computer. As a rule, Chromebooks cost from \$200 to about \$600. (For comparison, Windows laptops range from \$500 to \$1,500, and Apple laptops range from \$800 to \$3,000, without finding something on sale.)

A Chromebook can be a good option for people who use their computer mostly for email and browsing the internet. Any task you can accomplish using an Internet Browser (Edge, Chrome, Firefox, Safari, etc.) can be done on a Chromebook. For many users, this is all you need.

You must have (or create) a Google account (Gmail) to use a Chromebook. These accounts are free. In addition, you can create and edit documents and spreadsheets using either Google Docs or Microsoft Office online. (These browser-based apps are also free.) The programs are run from the Cloud, and all documents that are created are stored on the Cloud. It is important to note that Chromebooks rely on internet access for their functionality. This should not be a problem for most users since Wi-Fi at home is so common these days. You can also use Wi-Fi at other locations such as a library or school, or local coffee shop. There are also Apps which can be downloaded to the Chromebook from the Google Play store. This includes games as well as other productivity Apps.

As a rule, I recommend always buying a new Chromebook. I do not recommend buying a USED Chromebook without first researching the original release date. Google provides software and security updates for 10 years from the release date, which is fine for most people, but buying a used Chromebook that is 6 or more years old would leave you with support and updates for only a few more years.

Chromebooks are a less expensive and very workable option for many people. If you need help selecting or setting up your Chromebook, feel free to contact me.

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## COMEDY NIGHT

To Benefit the American Legion Auxiliary,  
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With Headliner Steve Bjork. This is to be held at the **Tyngsboro Sportsman Club, 90 Westford Rd., Tyngsboro, MA**, on **Saturday, April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2024**. Doors will open at 7pm. Showtime is 8pm. Tickets are \$25 in advance and \$30 at the door.

**For tickets and information, contact Linda Small (603) 860-6936 or Michelle Lambert (603) 566-1634.**

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## SELL FIRST OR BUY FIRST NAVIGATING THE REAL ESTATE SHUFFLE

by Christine McCarron

I'm often asked: "Should I sell my current property before buying a new one?" The truth is, there's no one-size-fits-all answer. The decision of whether to sell first or buy first depends on a blend of personal circumstances and market conditions. Let's explore the advantages and disadvantages of each approach, so you can make an informed decision for your unique situation.

### Selling First: The Cash Advantage

- **Financial Security:** Selling first eliminates the potential burden of two mortgages, providing financial breathing room during the house hunt.
- **Stronger Offer:** Buyers whose purchase is contingent on selling their existing home, often face an uphill battle. By selling your home first, you can present an offer free from these conditions, which strengthens your position in a competitive market.
- **Defined Budget:** Once you accept an offer on your home, you'll know exactly how much money you have for your next purchase.
- **Potential for Rent Back:** You may be able to negotiate a rent-back agreement with the buyer of your current home, allowing you to stay put for a predetermined period while searching for your new place.

### However, selling first isn't without its challenges:

- **Market Uncertainty:** If the market is going up, you might find that your next home is more expensive than you've budgeted. It's important to understand where we are in the market cycle before deciding to sell first.
- **Temporary Housing:** You may need to arrange temporary housing between closing on the sale and finding a new place, which can be inconvenient and costly.
- **Dream Home Risk:** The perfect home might appear while your current property is still on the market when you're not yet ready to buy.

### Buying First: Convenience and Flexibility

- **Stay Put Until You Find the Perfect Place:** You won't have to rush into buying a new home just because you are, or soon will be, homeless. Buying first allows you to take your time and find a house that truly ticks all the boxes.
- **Use a Bridge Loan:** Some financial institutions offer bridge loans that cover the gap between selling your existing home and buying a new one.
- **Worst-case Budget:** When you buy first, it's wise to factor in the lowest expected sale price of your existing property. Most likely, your post-sale situation will be even better than budgeted.

### While convenient,

### buying first comes with its own set of considerations:

- **Contingent Offers:** Your offer on a new home might be less attractive if it's contingent on selling your current property, especially if you haven't yet started marketing it.
- **Carrying Two Mortgages:** If you don't make your new offer contingent on selling your current home, you'll be responsible for two mortgages simultaneously, which can strain your finances. See Bridge Loan above for one alternative.
- **Market Uncertainty:** Similar to selling first, if market conditions are changing, it could take longer than expected to sell your home, causing stress to you and your budget.

**Ultimately, the decision of whether to sell first or buy first is a personal one.** Consulting with a trusted real estate professional familiar with your local market and financial situation is crucial. They can guide you through the pros and cons of each approach, helping you navigate this critical crossroads of your move with confidence.

## HIGH SCHOOL CLASS REUNION FOR 1974

Attention Chelmsford High School Class of 1974

Our Reunion is being planned for **Saturday, October 19<sup>th</sup>, 2024**. This will be held at Princeton Station in Chelmsford, MA. Please look for our site on Facebook or email [ChelmsfordHigh1974@gmail.com](mailto:ChelmsfordHigh1974@gmail.com)

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### WHEN SHOULD YOU TAKE SOCIAL SECURITY?

One of your important sources of retirement income will likely be Social Security — but when should you start taking it?

You can start collecting Social Security benefits at 62, but your checks will be considerably bigger if you wait until your full retirement age, which is likely between 66 and 67. You could even wait until you're 70, at which point the payments will max out, except for yearly cost-of-living adjustments. But if you need the money, you need the money, even if you're just 62 or any age before full retirement age.

However, if you have adequate financial resources to meet your monthly needs, whether through earned income, your investment portfolio or a combination of the two, you could have some flexibility in choosing when to take Social Security. In this case, you may want to weigh these considerations:

• **Life expectancy** – For all of us, it's one of life's great mysteries: *How long will we live?* Of course, we can't see into the future, so the question can't be answered with total confidence. But to make an informed decision on when to take Social Security, you don't need to know your exact lifespan — you just need to make a reasonably good estimate. So, for example, if you're approaching 62, you're enjoying excellent health and you have a family history of longevity, you might conclude it's worth waiting a few years to collect Social Security, so you can receive the bigger payments. Conversely, if your health is questionable and your family has not been fortunate in terms of longevity, you might want to start taking your benefits earlier.

• **Employment** – You can certainly continue working and still receive Social Security benefits. However, if you're under your full retirement age for the entire year, Social Security will deduct \$1 from your benefits for every \$2 you earn above the annual limit of \$22,320. In the year you reach your full retirement age, Social Security will deduct \$1 in benefits for every \$3 you earn above \$59,520. So, you may want to keep these reductions in mind when deciding when to begin accepting benefits. Once you reach your full retirement age, you can earn any amount without losing benefits. (Also, at your full retirement age, Social Security will recalculate your benefit amount to credit you for the months you received reduced benefits because of your excess earnings.)

• **Spouse** – Spouses can receive two types of Social Security benefits: spousal and survivor. With a spousal benefit, your spouse can receive up to 50% of your full retirement benefits, regardless of when you start taking them. (Your spouse's benefit can be reduced by the amount of their own retirement benefit and whether they took Social Security before their full retirement age.) But with a survivor benefit, your decision about when to take Social Security can make a big difference. A surviving spouse can receive the larger of their own benefit or 100% of a deceased spouse's benefit, so if you take benefits early and receive a permanent reduction, your spouse's survivor benefit may also be reduced for their lifetime.

When to take Social Security is an important — and irrevocable — decision. So, consider all the factors before making your choice.

*This article was written by Edward Jones for use by your local Edward Jones Financial Advisor. Edward Jones, Member SIPC*

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## 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 2023-2024 LIONS YEAR:** President: Laura Ward; 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President/Treasurer: Kristine DeMonico; 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President/Secretary: Meg DeMonico; Membership Chair: Joe Ward; LCIF Chair: Mark Alexander; Media/Marketing: Kristine DeMonico; 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>

**PROJECTS THE CLUB HAS COMPLETED OVER THE PAST YEAR:** Annual Thanksgiving baskets; Diabetic Rescue kits for the town schools; Free annual Easter Breakfast with the Easter Bunny; Free senior/community Pancake Breakfasts; Eye glass collections and screenings; Sock and Clothing drives for Veterans and Homeless; Earth Day Clean up.

### 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. This benefits The Shriners. **Lion's collection boxes for eyeglasses, hearing aids and can tabs are 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

**PENNIES FOR SIGHT:** "Your change- changes people's lives" See a Lion cannister around please consider donating. Every Penny Counts!



## 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 Oljey, Josephine Beauregard, and Annette Coles  
If you are interested in joining the Auxiliary, **contact Diane DiLeo at 978-204-9329** or email: [ddileo1956@hotmail.com](mailto:ddileo1956@hotmail.com)

## 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 1<sup>st</sup> 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.**

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

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Altrusa meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month at the Tyngsborough Senior Center, 169 Westford Road, at 6:00 p.m. Please email [altrusamy@gmail.com](mailto:altrusamy@gmail.com) if you are interested in joining other volunteers in making a difference in the lives of others in our communities.

## PLUNGE FOR A CURE

We are writing to you today once again looking for your support. I thought perhaps last year was our last Relay for Life event. However, in 2023-24 so many friends and family have been afflicted with cancer that we cannot turn away. This year "we" (my sisters Beth, Carol and myself, with hopefully our husbands???) will be plunging into the ocean in our Plunge for a Cure! Although many people do their Polar Plunge in January (apparently the average water temperature is 41 then), we will be plunging in April when the average water temperature is 37!!!! ***We hope in this silly yet important Plunge for a Cure, we will once again bring attention to CANCER and the devastating toll it takes on those we love.***

**How can you help? There are 3 ways:**

1. Give us the name of someone who is fighting or has fought cancer and we will put it on our banner at the beach to let them know people care and support them!
2. Donate if you would like to the link below. Donations desperately help support patients and research. So many cutting-edge treatments have helped those we love, but money is what is needed to support and develop those and other new treatments.
3. Make sure you are not the next patient. You can make sure you aren't the next patient by doing all preventive exams and being knowledgeable about family history. Be aware of your own possible symptoms and don't wait to get checked out!

We understand we all have our causes and places to put our energy. This does not have to be your passion! Every one of you is an amazing individual who makes this world a better place by just being in it! My email is [bhopke1840@aol.com](mailto:bhopke1840@aol.com) if you have questions or care to join us in our Plunge for a Cure! Maybe...just maybe this year some truly amazing treatments will be developed and end the awful toll it takes on those we love!

Our Plunge for a Cure is tentatively planned for the first weekend in April at Hampton Beach in New Hampshire.

Once again, THANK YOU for all your love and support throughout the years. It has been almost 15 years since my first cancer and I am blessed to have all of you in my life! And to those of you **WAR-RIORS** that are fighting, we have your **BACK!!!!** Love, Mae Bob, Beth, Carol and the rest of the Wee Bit of Hope team!

[https://secure.acsevents.org/site/STR?fr\\_id=107518&pg=personal&px17741091](https://secure.acsevents.org/site/STR?fr_id=107518&pg=personal&px17741091)

## LOADING DOCK GALLERY 5 CONNECT, APRIL 3-28, 2024

This April, Loading Dock Gallery presents **5 Connect**, featuring work of Nancy Cameron, Denise Driscoll, Dina Mordeno, Laurie Simko, and Janet Wolahan. Connected through friendship, these five artists work share an interest in color, texture, and pattern. Their styles span abstract to representational, with subjects ranging from pure color to botanicals and landscapes.

**Cameron's** work is calligraphic, improvisatory, inspired by jazz and the city. **Driscoll** builds layers with stamps, drips, creating work speaks to inner unseen experience and patterns of connection. **Mordeno** grounds the spirit with meditations on the horizon, a metaphor for hope for the future in a time of unrest. Inspired by nature's interconnectedness, **Simko** creates fluid, joyful paintings, and collage. **Wolahan** offers two series: one based on Rockport's stone retaining walls, the other inspired by moving homes, called "Stuff We Hide."

**5 Connect** runs **April 3-28, 2024**, at Loading Dock Gallery, 122 Western Avenue, Lowell, MA, noon-5:30pm, Wednesday-Saturday, until 4pm Sunday. . More at [www.theloadingdockgallery.com](http://www.theloadingdockgallery.com). **Loading Dock Gallery is part of Loading Dock Arts, Inc., a 501c3.**

## Dinner & A Show Too

Date: Saturday, April 27, 2024

Location: Lenzi's, 810 Merrimack Avenue, Dracut

Tickets Online: \$95, \$89 Members

Link: <https://thebrush.org/dinner.htm>

## DINNER & A SHOW TOO

### TO BENEFIT LOCAL NONPROFIT GALLERY

Lowell, MA The Board of Directors, staff, and artists of The **Brush Art Gallery and Studios** will present "Dinner & A Show Too," their annual fundraiser, on Saturday, April 27, 2024, at Lenzi's, 810 Merrimack Avenue, Dracut. This event is a follow-up to the 2023 successful fundraiser, Dinner & A Show. Early event sponsors include: **Richard K. & Nancy L Donahue Charitable Foundation, Conway Insurance Agency, Michael H. Lally, Johanna Bohan Riley, Joanne & Andy Bergamini, Jack Moynihan & Carolyn Walsh and Ellen Andre.**

The evening begins at 6:00PM with a cocktail hour, raffle, and wine pull. A buffet dinner will be served followed by a cabaret-style performance of songs featuring **Michael Lally, Matt Descoteaux at the piano, Erin Noonan-Descoteaux, Greg Descoteaux, Jerry Bisantz, Camille Bedard, Alison Burns, and Lura Smith.** The entertainment is produced and directed by Michael H. Lally, the founder and director of the SRO Players.

**The Brush** was the first Open Studios in Lowell and has been an attraction for visitors to the Lowell National Historical Park for over 40 years. The organization's tagline "Making Art Make A Difference" illustrates their commitment to address social and environmental issues. Current programs include art classes at Megan's House, art classes at the Recreational Adult Resource Association, and the "Four by Four for Education" exhibit which raises scholarship money for UMass Lowell students.

The Brush has collaborated with many other local organizations including Community Teamwork's YouthBuild Lowell, Merrimack Valley Food Bank, Innovation Academy, Lowell Humane Society, and the Lowell Public School system.

**Proceeds from the event will help The Brush continue its unique outreach programs and educational exhibits. Please call The Brush at 978-459-7819 for more information.**

The Brush Art Gallery and Studios is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization located in the Lowell National Historical Park across the courtyard from the National Park Service 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. Studio artists produce paintings, illustration, photography, jewelry, sculpture, ceramics, quilts, and handwoven items. Associate artists display work in the common area. The Brush is supported by the Lowell National Historical Park.

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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.**

# TYNGSBOROUGH DUNSTABLE HISTORICAL SOCIETY



*The Little Red Schoolhouse*  
64 Main St, Dunstable, MA (Route 113).

*Not far from the Dunstable/Tyngsborough town line near Route 3*

- April 27 - Saturday starting at 9 a.m.
- April 28 Sunday at 2 p.m.
- **Spring Cleanup at the Little Red Schoolhouse**  
Inside Cleanup on Saturday, outside on Sunday.  
Help make the place shine for our events.
- **May 5 - Sunday from daybreak until noon.**  
**47th Annual Steam & Gas Engine Meet**  
At the Little Red Schoolhouse. Come explore the "power of the past" machinery. Refreshments are available for this first event of the year!
- **May 18 - Saturday SCHOOLHOUSE DAYS**

The Tyngsborough-Dunstable Historical Society is pleased to sponsor a program specifically designed for children (or grandchildren) in grades 3 and up to experience a school day in the life of a child in 1798. The event will take place on **Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup> from 11:00am to 2:00pm at the Little Red Schoolhouse on Route 113 in Dunstable.** The day will start at 11:00 sharp and it is strongly recommended you NOT be late for school!

You should plan to arrive at the field by 10:30 where the children will register and then either go directly into the Sarah Tyng Winslow Schoolhouse or stay outside to participate in a variety of learning stations in round robin fashion. Here they will learn and practice their penmanship on slates so that they can write their name in a "fair hand" in cursive. They may make butter, lemonade, pomander balls, or sachet bags of fragrant herbs or learn why the original settlers made such a long and dangerous trip to come, of all places, here! After lunch, we will switch places and the "outside children" will have their turn to meet the greatly "respected/feared" Schoolmaster.

The presenters will be in period costumes and students are encouraged to see what they might have in their homes that would be appropriate to join in the spirit of the day. You can gather ideas via the internet.

Parents are welcome to attend with their children, but this is perhaps not the right event for children who have not yet been in the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. If you would like to join the Historical Society and/or contribute to help defray the expenses, you can do so at the event.

We hope you will seriously consider this unique event as a part of your child's education, none of which will show up on MCAS tests, but will become a fond childhood memory for years to come.

For more information or answers to burning questions, please e-mail [kimpton576@gmail.com](mailto:kimpton576@gmail.com) To Register for the event please fill use the link provided: <https://forms.gle/vVfPwntxQfv2sXul8>

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**Post Executive Committee:** Commander Ray Hamelin, Sr. Vice Commander Pete St. Peters, Finance Officer Jim Lawler Jr., Adjutant Jim Lawler Sr., Executive Board Members Joe Conlin and Fred Carroll.

Hello everyone, my name is John Taylor; I am the point of contact for the American Legion Post #247 and the Sons of the American Legion (SAL). You may email me at [johntaylor1777@gmail.com](mailto:johntaylor1777@gmail.com), with your inquiries for the American Legion or the Sons of 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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