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December 2019

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Holliston Library Expands Programming Thanks to Generous Donation

By J.D. O'GARA

Vol. 7 No. 11

It's not every day such a donation rolls in to the Holliston Public Library, but the library recently received an anonymous donation of \$30,000 in honor of 93-year old Holyoke, MA resident and library enthusiast, Constance O'Dell. The donor's gift will honor Constance by providing special programs to children and young adults that support the library's role as an essential contributor to the Holliston community.

"What I can tell you about the donor is she's our patron, and she's just been incredibly generous. She wanted to give it in honor of her grandmother, a huge reader who likes to promote literacy and reading," says library director Leslie McDonnell. "We get donations, but not that big. We have people who give us gifts, and every once in a while, we'll get a grant. Last year, we got a grant from Middlesex Savings Bank and from the Pulpe company – but for an individual gift this large, we were very excited," she says.

Says McDonnell, the donor was specifically very interested in promoting children's services. McDonnell says the donor wanted to sponsor programs for children and young adults, to attract people who perhaps didn't know about the library or who were just starting to use the library.

In addition to the purchase of a laptop and film projector, the donation has enabled the library to present triple the usual number of programs for young readers including a Harry Potter Halloween party; cooking lessons; a mindfulness series for



Holliston Public Library has been able to implement ongoing children's programming, purchase a laptop for Skyping with authors and a film projector for other programs all thanks to a \$30,000 individual donation in honor of Constance O'Dell, beloved grandmother of the local donor.

LIBRARY continued on page 3

7th Annual First Night Trail Walk Dec. 31, 5-8 p.m.

Join the Friends of Holliston Trails for our 7th Annual First Night Trail Walk!

Chat with neighbors, enjoy the warmth of fire pits, snack on S'mores and hot dogs, and sip hot chocolate along the trail. This is a fun family event for all ages!

Begin your walk from either Blair Square (Corner of Railroad St. and Central St. | 1 mile walk) or Cross Street (Behind Phillips 66 on Rt. 16 | 0.25 mile walk) and meet in Phipps Tunnel for a hot dog.

Each year has brought different entertainment. This year, the Friends of Holliston Trails have hired Cryptic Firecat, who will be providing LED juggling entertainment along the trail. T.C. Scoops will return to the trail with some of their treats, and Unlikely Strummers, a ukulele group out of Plainville will join in to play some tunes.

A major feature of this laidback event is the annual fire pit contest. Neighborhood groups and other groups can get together to host a fire pit, which usually offers either some sort of entertainment or treat. Neighbors really showed up last year, sharing incredible experiences and treats along the trail. Who will have the best fire pit this year? Fire pits will be rated for features like "Best Snack" or "Best Entertainment," for an overall score for "Best Fire Pit." The winner will receive a gift certificate for a Bazel's pizza

If you'd like to host a fire pit, reach out to Erica Foster at eri-

WALK

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Holliston Veterans to Present Sister with Medal of Liberty for Fallen Soldier SN David G. Ouellet

holding a Medal of Liberty presentation at 11 a.m., Saturday, December 7th at the Holliston Senior Center, 150 Goulding St., Holliston. They will present the Medal of Liberty to Carol Thistle, on behalf of her brother, Medal of Honor recipient SN David G. Ouellet, who was killed in action in Vietnam.

According to his biography at the U.S. Navy website (www.navysite.de), on a page about ship that was named for him DE 1077 (changed to FF 1077), Newton native David George Ouellet was the son of Chester J. and Elizabeth E. Ouellet. After attending Wellesley Junior High School, he subsequently was employed by the Alfred Fisher Trucking Company in Wellesley. "On July 28, 1964, he enlisted in the U.S. Navy at Boston, Massachusetts, and had recruit training at the Naval Training Center, Great Lakes, Illinois. Completing his training in October 1964, he joined Assault Craft Division TWELVE, and while attached to that division served for five months in 1965 in the Vietnam era.

Between June and August 1966, he had river patrol boat training at the Naval Schools Command, Vallejo, California, after which he had training at the Naval Amphibious Base, Coronado, California. On September 21, 1966, he reported for duty with River Squadron FIVE and was attached to My Tho Detachment 532 of that squadron and at the time of his death on March 6, 1967. He was posthumously awarded the Medal of Honor and cited as follows:

'For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving with river Section 532, in combat against the enemy in the Republic of Vietnam. As the forward machine gunner on River Patrol Boat (PBR) 124, which was on patrol on the Mekong River during the early evening hours on March 6, 1967, Seaman Ouellet observed suspicious activity near the river bank, alerted his Boat Captain, and recommended movement of the boat to the area to investigate. While the PBR was making a high-speed run along the river bank, Seaman Ouellet spotted an incoming enemy grenade falling toward the boat. He immediately left the protected position of his gun mount and ran aft for the full length of the speeding boat, shouting to his fellow crew members to take cover. Observing the Boat Captain standing unprotected on the boat, Seaman Ouellet bounded onto the engine compartment cover, and pushed the Boat Captain down to safety. In the split second that followed the grenade's landing and in the face of certain death, Seaman Ouellet fearlessly placed himself between the deadly missile and his shipmates, courageously absorbing most of the blast fragments with his own body in order to protect his shipmates from injury and death. His extraordinary heroism and his selfless and courageous actions on behalf of his comrades at the expense of his own life were in the finest traditions of the United States Naval Service.'

Seaman Ouellet was also awarded the Purple Heart Medal for wounds received in enemy ac-

MetroWest Student Film Festival

The Center for Arts in Natick is pleased to announce the second annual MetroWest Student Film Festival, featuring the work of talented students from the cities and towns of Boston MetroWest. Official public screening dates for finalists are scheduled for Sunday April 5, 2020.

The MWSFF is a student film festival dedicated to showcasing the talents and creativity of the region's youth by providing an opportunity for young filmmakers and production teams to explore and create stories through motion pictures. Finalists among these student-created films will be shared with friends, families and the community in TCAN's state-of-the-art screening room.

We envision the MWSFF as the largest student film festival of its kind in the region. Being part of this festival provides entrants the opportunity to:

Share films with the regional community



- · Screen films in an independent, state-of-the-art cinema
- Network with a jury of judges from the industry, and other filmmakers in the region
- Attend the festival premiere showcase

Visit https://filmfreeway. com and look for Metrowest Student Film Festival to enter your submission.

Submission deadline is February 2, 2020

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CORRECTION

Last month, this photo, provided to a *Local Town* Pages staff writer for use with a sports story, was not sufficiently credited. Photo credit should go to **Ken Robinson** Photography (kbrphoto.com).



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LIBRARY

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combating anxiety and stress; and, a non-violent, hands-on video game program. A science program about the night sky, a winter variety show of music and dance and art programs to build self-esteem are also included. One of the programs includes a winter variety show this month on December 14th, at 11 a.m., with the Toe Jam Puppet Band (www.toejampuppetband. com). Similar programs will continue to be sponsored by this gift for years to come. "We never had a laptop," says McDonnell. "If we needed any kind of STEM programming or Skype with an author, we had to bring a laptop from home.

Now, we have a laptop to use in the building, and she's buying us another film projector we can use in the meeting room."

McDonnell adds that Jennifer Carlson, the new children's librarian, has been able to implement more series in her programming than she did before.

"Normally, we do standalones, because (series) are just too expensive. This gave (Jennifer) a chance to do a lot more programming than she would normally do, which gives her a chance to build up an audience. This has been wonderful for us"

This is extremely valuable, says McDonnell, who adds, "the day of the free program is kind of over. We're almost always paying someone to do programs for us. The library staff and trustees are so pleased to receive this gift. It will reach parents, children and teens who might not normally use the library or be aware of its many services and help expose them to a world of life-long reading, culture and learning. Many of the programs are designed to support emotional and developmental life skills for young residents while others are just pure fun."

Constance O'Dell is a retired nurse, a talented quilter and painter, and has a deep passion for books and reading. She is also a beloved mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

Holliston Public Library was established in 1904 and serves the 14,000 residents of Holliston, MA. The library offers over 300 programs for all ages, nearly all of which are free and open to all. For more info, visit the library website, www.hollistonlibrary.org or call (508) 429-0617 or email lmcdonnell@minlib.net.

HCAT Thanks Volunteers

Holliston Cable Access Television (HCAT) held its annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner at Restaurant 45 in Medway on Thursday, October 24th, 2019.

All the programming produced for HCAT's Public, Education and Government channels is provided by Holliston resident volunteers. Access television provides residents a vehicle to express their opinions, creativity, and interests through video. Training and equipment is available at no charge.

For more information, visit www.hcattv.org. If you are interested in learning to use the equipment and working on an HCAT production, contact Cronin at don@hcattv.org.



Shown are some of the volunteers who produce HCAT programming. HCAT held a dinner in appreciation of their efforts on October 24th.

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Following Town Funding Approval, Sudbury Valley Trustees Amp Fundraising for Its Pledge on Thistle Dew

By J.D. O'GARA

At Holliston's Fall Special Town Meeting, Holliston residents voted to commit \$500,000 in Community Preservation funds for the purchase of an approximately 28-acre parcel of land known at Thistle Dew Farm, under an Agricultural Preservation Restriction. The project has received a \$465,588 grant from the Massachusetts Department of Agriculture, and Sudbury Valley Trustees committed to raising \$150,000 in private funding, so that owners of Outpost Farm will be able to purchase the property at its agricultural value of \$290,000.

According to Christa Collins, Director of Land Protection of the Sudbury Valley Trustees,

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editor@hollistontownnews.com © Copyright 2019 LocalTownPages which works with 36 communities in the Sudbury Valley Watershed, "this is the first project we've really been involved in in Holliston." Collins was alerted to the property-owner, Charlie Nickerson by another Holliston resident, Dennis Prefontaine, with whom she had worked and who belonged to a tractor club with Charlie. Nickerson, she said, took the initiative on applying for the APR.

So far, said Collins, \$100,000 of these funds were donated to the Sudbury Valley Trustees through Massachusetts Audubon Society from an anonymous donor, contingent on the group raising the other \$50K.

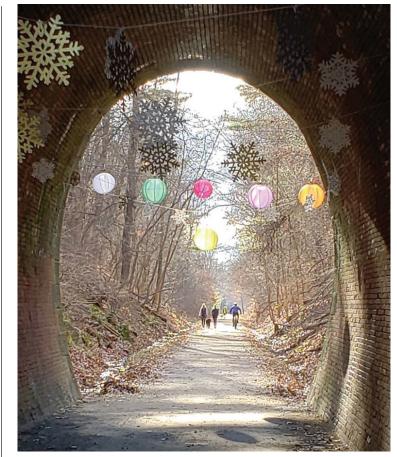
"About \$6,618 has been raised so far," said Collins, as of mid-November. Since the timeline for the Agricultural Preservation Restriction was fairly long, with the expected closing on the property in December 2020, she's hopeful the balance can be raised, especially with the quick response of donors and the support of the town.

"It shows how many people and organizations really care about this property," she said. Collins adds that Sudbury Valley Land Trust website has a page dedicated to the project that includes a donate button, and the organization is reaching out via social media posts.

"We're committed to raise that money," said Collins, who added the group hopes to hear back on two grant proposals sometime in December. She says she was elated by the support for the project at the Fall Special Town Meeting.

"I think it's just another really great contribution to keeping the character of Holliston what it is," says Collins. "People see that the towns around are losing their character to development. By preserving our farms our natural places, we can have both. I know people are excited about the Rail Trail, and all of these places combine to make Holliston a great place to live, and, of course, a source of great, healthy, local food."

To visit the Sudbury Valley Land Trust page on the Thistledew Farm project, visit www. svtweb.org/thistledew.



Don't miss this year's First Night Trail Walk – a great way to start your New Year's Eve celebration, from 5-8 p.m. at the Holliston Rail Trail! Photo originally posted on Friends of Holliston Trails Facebook page.

WALK

continued from page 1

cafoster20@gmail.com, or send a message through the Friends of Holliston Trails Facebook page.

While the event is free to the public, donations are welcome. ** Parking details: please remember that many local businesses (Depot Package Store, Casey's, etc.) will be OPEN for business on December 31 during the event, so we ask that you do not park in their lots, so their customers

have easy access to the businesses. There is a parking lot at the Cross Street start, and there are several options for downtown parking (with auxiliary police to help direct traffic and pedestrians) for the Blair Sq. start. Downtown options include a small lot at Blair Square, on-street parking, the public lot on Exchange St, and another free lot up on Washington St. (the entrance is in between 763 and 757 Washington St).

Check Friends of Holliston Trails Facebook page for updates!

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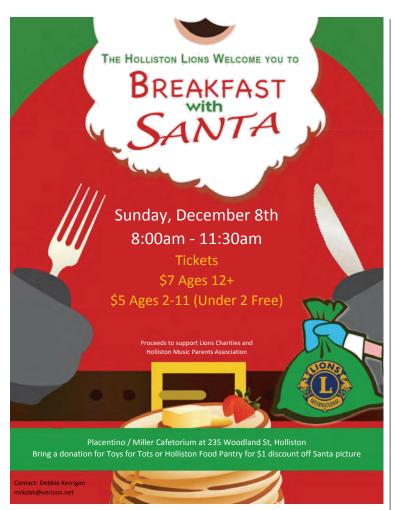
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Holliston Lions Breakfast with Santa Sunday, December 8

The Holliston Lions Club will seniors, as well as our annual be holding our annual breakfast with Santa on Sunday, December 8 at the Placentino/ Miller Cafetorium, 235 Woodland Street, Holliston from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. Join us for breakfast fare consisting of pancakes, eggs, bacon, sausage, fruit, and hot and cold beverages. They will be musical entertainment and of course photos with Saint Nick.

Admission is \$7 for ages 12 and over, \$5 for ages 2-11, and free for ages under 2, with a family maximum of \$20 (immediate family only). Tickets will also be available for pre-sale at Fiske's and Coffee Haven.

Once again, we will be accepting donations of toys for Toys for Tots and non-perishable food items and paper goods for the Holliston Pantry Shelf. Patrons who bring donations will be given a \$1 discount off their photos with Santa.

All proceeds will benefit local community groups and charity organizations such a Holliston Pantry Shelf, Holliston Music and Arts Parents Association, and scholarships for high school

club donation to support eye re-

For more information about breakfast with Santa please contact Kevin McAteer kimcateer20@gmail.com. For more information about the Holliston Lions Club please visit our website at hollistonlions.org. If you are interested in becoming a Lion, please contact our membership chair Steve Apesos at membership@hollistonlions.org.

Free "Pasta Dinner with Santa" to Benefit the Holliston **Pantry Shelf**

Anthony's on the Green at Pinecrest Golf Club, located at 212 Prentice Street, is once again hosting a "Free Pasta Dinner with Santa" to benefit the Holliston Pantry Shelf. The event will be held on Tuesday, December 17, from 5:30 p.m. -7:00 p.m., and is free for all Holliston families with children. In exchange, families are asked to bring paper good donations such as paper towels, toilet tissue, napkins and facial tissue to benefit the Holliston Pantry Shelf. Children will also have an opportunity to have their photo taken with Santa and his Elves. The free buffet dinner includes pasta, salad, rolls, dessert and beverages. If you are interested in donating a baked good to the event, please contact Diane Regan at (508) 509-8626.

"Once again, we would like to extend our sincere gratitude for the generosity of Mike Ficco and Anthony's on the Green," said Keely Krantz, President of the Holliston Pantry Shelf. "This event allows the Holliston Pantry Shelf Board of Directors to interact with and thank the members of our community who support us throughout the year. The visit with Santa is an added bonus to this fun-filled tradition in our town."

Members of the Holliston Lions Club will once again make the evening even more memorable by taking photos of each child with Santa that they can take home that same evening. Holliston High School students also volunteer their time to set-up and help serve at the event.

Holliston Pantry Shelf, located at 73 Charles Street, was founded in 1993 and serves more than 200 Holliston Families. Holliston Pantry Shelf is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit food pantry that serves Holliston residents. For more information about Holliston Pantry Shelf, please visit www.hollistonpantryshelf.org









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Holliston Pantry Shelf Announces New Board Members and Elects New Executive Board Leadership

The Holliston Pantry Shelf Board of Directors elected five new Board Members including Holliston residents Martha Devoe, Jane Gilfoy and Karen Jewett. Holliston High School juniors Mattisse Carmack and Jack Winston were named Student Board Members. A new Executive Board has also been announced: Keely Krantz will serve as President, Karen Jewett will serve as Vice President, Dave O'Neil will continue to serve as Treasurer, Tony Polise will continue to serve as Corresponding Secretary and Debbie Kerrigan will continue to serve as Recording Secretary.

"We are delighted to expand our Pantry Board with such capable, community-service minded individuals," said Keely Krantz, President of Holliston Pantry Shelf. "Each of these new Board Members offers unique and valuable experience and perspectives that will help continue our Pantry mission of "Neighbors Helping Neighbors."

Two Student Board Members are selected each October and serve a two-year term as the primary liaisons between the Holliston Pantry Shelf and the Holliston High School community. To be considered for this position, students must fill out an application describing their volunteer and leadership experience, as well as interview with Holliston Pantry Shelf Board

members. Applications are emailed to all junior Holliston High School students through the guidance department.

Holliston Pantry Shelf, founded in 1993, serves more than 200 families and is located at 73 Charles Street. The Holliston Pantry Shelf is a 501 (c) (3) non-profit food pantry that provides food at no cost to Holliston residents. For more information about Holliston Pantry Shelf, please visit www.hollistonpantryshelf.org







Help Us Plan the Library of the Future!

Wed., Dec. 4 from 1-2:30 p.m.

Holliston Public Library has hired a consultant to evaluate the library for the future. We are asking our patrons to attend one public forum and share their thoughts and ideas. We hope to cover topics such as:

- Should Holliston build a new library?
- Should the library stay downtown?
- What are the pros and cons of the present building?
- What types of services should the library provide in the coming decade?

Be sure to attend and give us your two cents!

The Holliston Public Library is located at 752 Washington Street, Holliston.





Your Money, Your Independence

Roth Conversion: Wrap Up Your Tax Year

One of the most under-utilized strategies that can impact retirement and tax planning is the Roth IRA, including Roth Conversions.

A Roth IRA offers tax-free growth potential, tax-free income distributions and has no Required Minimum Distributions (RMDs). Recall, with Traditional IRAs, the government requires a percentage each year after age 70 ½ be made taxable, regardless if you need the funds.

Despite all the positives of Roth IRAs, confusion reigns on eligibility as people say, "I make too much money and can't do a Roth." Wrong.

Anyone, regardless of high

income levels, can have a Roth IRA. How you get assets into a Roth is what matters.

Contribute versus convert. You can "contribute" the maximum amount to a Roth for tax year 2019 when Modified Adjusted Gross Income (MAGI) is under \$193,000 for those Married Filing Jointly. If MAGI is well above, you can't contribute, but you can "convert" assets from a Traditional IRA into a Roth and pay income taxes on the converted amount that was pre-tax money and earnings.

The pro-rata rule and taxes. When converting, the IRS considers all traditional IRA account balances combined, and you

must figure out the proportion of which is nondeductible contributions, then use this percentage to determine how much of your conversion will not be taxable. You can't choose to convert only after-tax money; the IRS won't allow it.

Best to convert at year-end. A conversion must be completed by December 31 and the amount converted is included in that year's taxable income. By choosing year-end to convert, you reduce the range of MAGI variables and improve chances of converting to the top of your current tax bracket.

Not all-or-nothing. To manage taxes and build larger Roth bal-

ances, develop a plan to spread conversions over several years. You can even skip a year or two as needed pending MAGI levels and ability to pay taxes with non-IRA assets.

More to consider beyond this limited space. Add 2017 tax law changes banning conversion reversals ("recharacterization"), it is important to plan ahead and take ownership of retirement and tax planning.

To learn more, talk with your tax professional or Certified Financial Planner.

The opinions voiced in this material are for general information only and are not intended to provide specific advice or recommendations for any individual.



Glenn Brown

Glenn Brown is a Holliston resident and owner of PlanDynamic, LLC, www.PlanDynamic.com. Glenn is a fee-only Certified Financial PlannerTM helping motivated people take control of their planning and investing, so they can balance kids, aging parents and financial independence.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Mass & Metrowest Receives \$20,000 from Middlesex Savings Charitable Foundation

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Mass & Metrowest was awarded \$20,000 from Middlesex Savings Charitable Foundation for calendar year 2019. The funds will be used to support one-to-one mentoring programs between adult, volunteer mentors and at-risk children living in Middlesex County and Westborough.

"We are so grateful for the support that Middlesex Savings Bank, and its foundation, has provided for our mission. Research has indicated that there are thousands of children in the Metrowest and Middlesex County region that need a reliable, positive, and effective mentor to help meet life's challenges — today," said Jeffrey Chin, MSW, LCSW, Chief Executive Officer for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Mass & Metrowest. "This incredible support from our friends at Middlesex Savings

To learn more about Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Mass & Metrowest, visit www. bbbscm.org.

Bank goes a long way in helping

us address this need and make an

impact on our communities."









John C. Park, DMD

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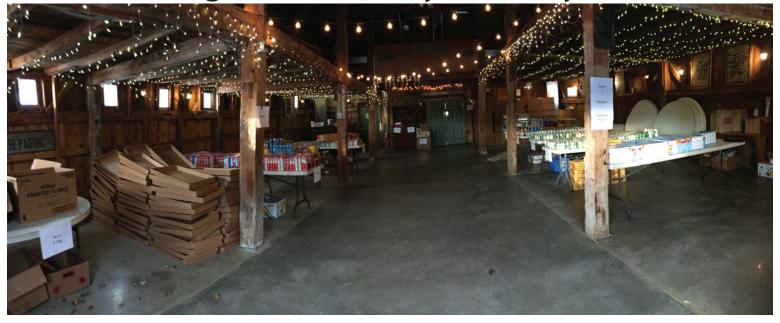
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Holliston Newcomers & Neighbors & Pantry Shelf Say Thank You!

Over 170 Thanksgiving Baskets were assembled by the Holliston Newcomers & Neighbors along with the Holliston Pantry Shelf at the Holliston Historical Society Barn the Saturday before Thanksgiving. They were then distributed to the patrons of the Holliston Pantry Shelf, Head Start and individuals of other local organizations. The baskets contained everything needed for a fantastic Thanksgiving feast canned goods & fresh produce, tea & coffee, brownie & quick bread mix, a gift card for the turkey and of course a hand-made Thanksgiving card.

All this would not have been possible without the support from our local community organizations, religious groups, and businesses. HNN collects nonperishable food throughout the



town as well as holding a food drive at Shaw's in Ashland with the help of the Holliston Girl Scouts at the door greeting shoppers with our food needs. The napkins are donated by Boston International and the pies were purchased at a discount from Table Talk Pies. Many local groups also held their own nonperishable food drives and made Thanksgiving Cards that would put a smile on anyone's face. Thanks to these groups for their time and effort including Holliston Girl Scouts, St Mary's Religious Education, Christ the King Lutheran Church, Christian Family Montessori, First Congregational Church of Holliston, HMKO (Holliston Kids Helping Others), Stucchi Landscape &

Design, and Jensen Sheehan Insurance Agency.

Even with all of this support, there is still much more work to filling a Thanksgiving Basket. The Holliston Historical Society donates the Barn for the week before so Holliston Newcomers & Neighbors can setup and assemble the baskets with the help of HNN members & their families, pantry volunteers, First Congregational Church Youth Group and the Holliston High School Hockey Team. The morning of assembly, HNN works with Shaw's in Ashland to coordinate the buying of all the

fresh produce these families will enjoy on Thanksgiving Day - everything to complete the meal.

The monetary donations received by individuals and businesses make the food and gift cards purchases possible. A big thank you to Depot Package Store, Boudreau's Automotive, Atlantic Capital Management, Village Automotive, Holliston Glass & Mirror, Abbess Instruments and Systems, Shea Insurance Agency, Moor Metals Inc, Dr. Barbara A. Preussner, D.M.D., Holliston Pediatrics, TLC Painting, Holliston Equipment Co., Meridian Financial Advisors, Cadwell Products Company, Jensen Sheehan Insurance/Bright Insurance Agency, Applewood Survey Co., and Shaw's of Ashland. A special thanks also goes to Holliston Sewer Service, Quality Auto Body, Gerald A. Bloom, D.D.S., Roar Industries, Ahronian Landscaping & Design, Fiske's General Store, Holliston Vision Center, Century-TyWood Manufacturing, Farrell Pool Service, MPS Marketing, Wasserman Massage Therapy, Crafted, and Holliston Self-Defense Center for their contributions as well as to everyone else who has made a donation or contributed their time to help us all meet our goal.

The Holliston Newcomers & Neighbors and the HNN Thanksgiving Committee hope that Thanksgiving Day was enjoyed by all with family, food and fun. With the help of all the people mentioned above, we know that over 170 deserving families had a great Thanksgiving Day as well.

Holiday Stroll

Join us at the 2019 Hopkinton Chamber of Commerce Holiday Stroll on December 7 from 10am to 3pm. Visit businesses throughout town using our NEW Holly Trolleys to travel around. Over 40 local businesses are participating offering sales, specials, contests, treats, raffles and promotions to make your holiday shopping easy and fun! See more information at www.hopchamber.com/

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Fatima Shrine Festival of Lights Celebrates Season

You are invited to the 2019 Festival of Lights at Our Lady of Fatima Shrine, Summer Street right in Holliston, one of our best kept secrets. Each year, the Xaverian Missionaries at Fatima Shrine and some 60 faithful volunteers provide a Seasonal Light and Music show that welcomes

all visitors to the wonders of the birth of Jesus Christ. The Festival of Lights begins November 30th and runs to December 29th. The lights are from 5-9 p.m. each night. In the Hall, there is place to warm up as well as enjoy hot chocolate, coffee or tea, munchkins and fellowship.

The Gift Shop is open all throughout this time period, with extended hours until 9 p.m. The schedule of Masses throughout December is as posted: 11 a.m. Sunday Mass, Sunday Rosary at 3 p.m., Saturday Mass is at 10 a.m. and Confessions on Saturday at 3 p.m. Daily Masses are in the small chapel in the residence/office building at 7:30 a.m. Monday through Saturday. Holy Hour is celebrated every Thursday evening at 7 p.m. in the small chapel.

Parishes and schools may schedule an event at the Shrine. Please contact the Shrine Director at (508) 429 2144.

There will be a Pasta Dinner Saturday evening December 14th from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. Tickets are to be purchased at the office, after Church or in the Gift store by December 12th. No tickets are available the night of the dinner. There will be a sacred concert of songs offered by the St. Cecilia Parish Choir of



Ashland on Sunday December 15th at 3 p.m. There is ample parking. There will be tickets available in the Hall for a cash raffle that will be pulled on the evening of December 24th. The grand prize will be \$3,000. Second prize is \$1,000 and the third and fourth prizes are \$500 each.

The Festival of Lights was begun in the early 1950's and has been part of the Holiday tradition in many families, no matter the creed. All are welcome.

On Monday, December 16th, there will be a special night for

families with members who may be on the autistic spectrum. There will be no music or flashing lights all that evening long so that those who are affected by music and flashing lights may enjoy a panorama of lights and cheer.

For more information check our website www.xaverianmissionaries.org/fatima-shrine-holliston-ma, and our Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/OurLadyofFatimaShrine-Holliston/.



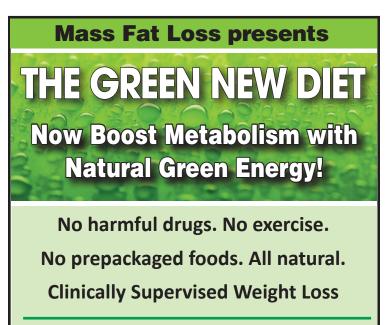


Living Healthy

Broadmoor in December

Children & Families

Join us for a night adventure Owl Prowls for Families at Broadmoor!



Go to MassFatLoss.com 508-881-1002

274 Union Street, Ashland

Saturdays, December 7, 4:30-6 p.m. December 14, 7-8:30

Photography & Art

Small class size for personal attention.Getting the Mostfrom your Digital Camera Saturdays, December 7 or January 11, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Have a new camera? Overwhelmed with your existing one? Not sure what the buttons do or how to get off auto? Come learn more about your camera and how to take advantage of features to help you improve your

Upcoming photography classes including photo editing and macro classes. Lightroom class coming in March.

Birding and More for Adults

BBB

Fair Weather Birding with Director Elissa Landre. One or more weeks each month we...

- · Check the weather
- · Pick the best birding day
- · Contact our "fair-weather" birding list with the date/time.

Sign up for Fair Weather Birding emails to stay up to date on new fair weather birding dates.

Owl Prowls start in November!

Owl Prowls under the **Moon for Adults** Fridays, 7:30-9 p.m.,



December 6 & 13

A great chance to learn about owls and listen for them on a night walk. Don't miss out on these special night experiences...

Travel & Taste

Dinner & Lecture or Lecture Only. Pre-registration required for dinner by 5 p.m. the Tuesday

December 5: Saving Nature on the Big Island

Hawaii is home to many spectacular animals and plants found nowhere else. Over the years, there has been increased habitat loss and many other threats to native wildlife and plants. Learn what is being done to restore native forests and to conserve endangered bird species on the Big Island.

January 16: Exotic Fiji

Located in the Southern Pacific, Fiji is an island nation that embodies the beauty of the Pacific. An archipelago of over 300 islands, these emerald jewels are a traveler's paradise.

Nature on Tap

Join us the 2nd Wednesday of the month at Jack's Abby Brewery in Framingham for food, a beer and a thought provoking discussion with local experts (Pizza appetizer is included)

December 11, 6:30-7:30 p.m. Nature on Tap ... A Mighty Wind Birds and Off-Shore Wind Power

Broadmoor Wildlife Sanctuary is located at 280 Eliot Street in Natick. To find out more about classes, visit https://www.massaudubon.org/ learn. You can also check out their blog at https://blogs.massaudubon.org/ branchingoutatbroadmoor/ or find them on Facebook.



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21 Charles St, Holliston MA 01746 www.hollistonfamilydental.com

Living Healthy

Fuel Assistance Help Available at Holliston Senior Center

The local fuel assistance program run by SMOC, (South Middlesex Opportunity Council, www.smoc.org) has expanded qualifying income guidelines this year. If you didn't qualify last

year, you might qualify this year.

The program includes residents of all 37 towns served by SMOC, including Holliston. 80 households received a total of \$65,941.03 in assistance in Hol-

liston in Fiscal Year 2019

To inquire in Holliston, Call Marty Schneier at the Holliston Senior Center, (508) 429-0622. The program is open to Holliston residents of any age

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www.hollistondentalassociates.com

Living Healthy

December 2019

"The Senior Center is the Place To Be..."

MONDAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY	
9:30 Tai Chi 9:30 Coloring & Coffee 11:00 Yoga 12:00 Policemen's Luncheon*** 6:30 Mindful Meditation**	9:00 9:00 10:15 10:30 12:30 2:45	Energy Focus Mvmt	9:30 11:00 12:00 1:00	Walking Fitness Yoga Lunch*** Bingo Introduction to Pool Playing***	9:00 9:30 10:00 10:30 12:00 12:30 1:00	Pilates-Video Watercolor Holiday Flower Arranging*** Energy Focus Mvmt You-Pick-Two Lunch*** Photography Gary Hylander "Pearl Harbor"***	L	Creative Crafts Holliston Love Tune Timers GHT'S FARM / ASALETTE AY TRIP***	
9:30 Tai Chi 9:30 Coloring & Coffee 11:00 Yoga 12:00 Happy Birthday Lunch*** 1:00 Grief & Loss Support Group*** 1:30 GAME DAY 6:30 Mindful Meditation**	9 9:00 9:00 10:00 10:30 12:30 2:45	Atty. Marsden*** Chair Massage*** Energy Focus Mvmt	9:00 9:30 11:00 12:00 1:00 1:00	Podiatry*** Walking Fitness Yoga Lunch*** Introduction to Pool Playing*** Bingo COA Meeting	9:00 9:30 10:00 10:30 12:00 12:30 1:00	Pilates-Video Watercolor SSF Meeting Energy Focus Mvmt You-Pick-Two Lunch*** Photography AAA License Renewal Program*** Golden Youth Technology Training***	9:30 9:30 1:00 1:30	Creative Crafts "Holiday Box"*** Holliston Love Tune Timers Book Club	
9:30 Tai Chi 9:30 Coloring & Coffee 11:00 Yoga 12:00 Lunch*** 1:30 GAME DAY 6:30 Mindful Meditation**	9:00 9:00 10:30 12:30 2:45		9:30 11:00 11:00	Walking Fitness Yoga Habitat for Humanity Office Hours*** Holiday Luncheon with The Tune Timers***	12100	Pilates-Video Watercolor Energy Focus Mvmt Lunch & Movie*** You-Pick-Two Lunch*** Photography	9:30 9:30 1:00	20 Creative Crafts Holliston Love Tune Timers	
9:30 Tai Chi 9:30 Coloring & Coffee 11:00 Yoga 12:00 Lunch*** 1:30 GAME DAY 6:30 Mindful Meditation**	9:00 9:00 10:30	Blood Pressure Pilates-Video Energy Focus Mvmt	CLOSED		NO PROGRAMS OR LUNCH		NO PROGRAMS OR LUNCH		
NO PROGRAMS C LUNCH	30 R N	NO PROGRAMS OR LUNCH		***Reservations are Requested in Advance.		VFW / AMERICAN LEGION ANNUAL ROAST BEEF DINNER Sunday, January 5, 2020 12:00 pm			

Holliston Senior Center December Highlights

"Come and Be Your Creative Self," Fridays 9:30 a.m.—11:30 a.m.

We have everything from knitting, macramé, crocheting, sewing, quilting, and, crafts. Bring your projects in and we will all work together. We will also be working on Holliston Love Projects and other Special Projects.

Monday Evening—Mindful Meditation, Monday Evenings at 6:30 p.m.

We will resume meeting weekly for an hour of meditation and community each Monday evening. We will continue exploring downloaded guided meditations, music and an occasional guest facilitator to help us release the stress of the day and bring greater clarity, awareness and acceptance to the present moment. Please call the Senior Center at (508) 429-0622 to register.

Calling All Pool Shark Wanna-

New Program to be held on two Wednesdays each month from 1 to 2 p.m.

Want to learn the basics of playing pool or do you already know the basics but would like to learn how to play better. Make an appointment for a free 1-on-1 lesson with one of the instructors here at the Center. Call the Senior Center to schedule your 30-minute lesson.

HOLIDAY FLOWER ARRANGING

Thursday, December 5th at 10

Due to popular demand, we will once again have a holiday wreath making / flower arranging class with Linda M.

Participants will have a choice of making a silk holiday arrangement or wreath. Please call by November 25th and let us know what you would like to make when you sign up at (508) 429-0622. Cost is \$5 to help cover the cost of the supplies.

BALANCE, STRENGTH & EDUCATION FOR FALL PREVENTION

Tuesdays 2:45 pm—3:30 p.m.

Patty Osten, PT, is back! Any age can participate in this free class that focuses on balance, strength, and education to prevent falls and fall-related injuries.

Funding for this program is through grant funds provided by the Executive Office of Elder Affairs

GARY HYLANDER presents PEARL HARBOR

Thursday, December 5, 2019—1 p.m.

Presentation Sponsored by Timothy Daniels House

Please sign up with the Receptionist at (508) 429-0622.

Also remember to sign up for our "You-Pick-Two" lunch for \$2 served at noon before the presentation.

Grief and Loss Support Group

If you have experienced grief

and loss and would like to join us in community, friendship and support please join us on the 2nd Monday of each month.

Please register with our Receptionist in advance so that we can have enough supplies on hand at (508) 429-0622.

Holliston Police Association Annual Holiday Luncheon

Monday, December 2nd, 2019, 12-2 p.m.

(cutoff to sign up for this free event was November 25th)

GIFT DONATIONS WANTED

Would you like to help your friends and neighbors this holiday season? The Senior Center is accepting donations for seniors who are alone or in need. Items such as hats, gloves, blankets, personal care items, puzzle books, candy, and gift cards to grocery stores, pharmacies, etc. are a few suggestions.

If you have questions, know someone in need, or want to donate, please see any staff member. Please drop off all donations by Wednesday, December 11th. If you would prefer to make a cash donation, checks can be made out to the SSF.

Thank you for making this a happier holiday season for every-one!

DAY TRIPS

Complete details on these trips will be available at the Senior Center. New trips will be added soon for 2020.

SOME TRIPS REQUIRE REGISTRATION UP TO 2 MONTHS PRIOR TO THE EVENT. IF THERE ARE NOT ENOUGH PEOPLE SIGNED UP, THE TRIP MAY BE CANCELED, SO PLEASE CALL EARLY.

Wright's Farm & LaSalette Lights, Friday, December 6, 2019—\$69, Transportation, Luncheon, Light Display & Concert

Look for information on OVERNIGHT/EXTENDED TRIPS offered through the Senior Support Foundation and Collette Travel, including an 8-day trip to Canyon Country in May and a 13-day cruise to Alaska in August! Details will be available at the Senior Center.

Holliston Senior Center Monday and Wednesday Lunch Menu

You-Pick-Two Soup, Salad, Sandwich Every Thursday

DECEMBER 2019

Monday, December 2nd—POLICE ASSOCIATION'S LUNCHEON

ROASTED TURKEY with all the Fixings

Please bring a nonperishable food donation for the Holliston Food

Pantry. Sponsored by the Holliston Police Association

Wednesday, December 4th (Bingo at 1 p.m.)

MEATLOAF—Tossed Salad, Mashed Potatoes, Corn, Roll, Cookies

Monday, December 9th— HAPPY BIRTHDAY LUNCH

PARMESAN CRUSTED CHICKEN—Caesar Salad, Rice Pilaf,

Squash, Roll, Cupcakes Wednesday, December 11th (Bingo at 1:00)

BAKED FISH—Clam Chowder, Baked Potato, Spinach, Roll, Jell-O

Monday, December 16th

CHEESE RAVIOLI—Minestrone Soup, Broccoli, Garlic Bread,

Brownies

Wednesday, December 18th— HOLIDAY LUNCHEON

ASSORTED ITALIAN DISHES—Fresh Pastries and Entertainment

Provided by The Tune Timers (Suggested Donation \$6) SIGN UP

BY DECEMBER 9th

Monday, December 23rd

BEEF, PEPPERS & ON-IONS—Tossed Salad, Egg Noodles, Mixed Vegetables, Roll, Fruit Pie

Partially underwritten by a State Grant from the Executive Office of Elder Affairs

PLEASE SIGN UP AT LEAST 2 DAYS IN AD-VANCE - Call the Center at (508) 429-0622 for reservations.

Monday and Wednesday meals are a \$3 donation and include a drink, roll, and dessert (unless noted).

Thursday You-Pick-Two meals are a \$2 donation and include a drink and dessert.

*Birthday Lunch—no charge if born in December. Reserve in advance.

Network of Enterprising Women (NEW) Monday, December 2, 2019

Time: 8:30-10:30 a.m.

Location: Cheryl Cohen Mosaics, 360 Woodland St. 2nd floor, Holliston.

Member Jen Powell speaks about "Genealogy: A Top 10 List of things to know about ferreting out your ancestors." Light breakfast provided. Guests welcome; free admission for 1st time guests and current members; \$20 for all others. For more info see www.networkofenterprisingwomen.com or email info@networkofenterprisingwomen.com



Hopkinton Center for the Arts Holiday Events

All events take place at the Hopkinton Center for the Arts ,98 Hayden Rowe St." Hopkinton© with the exception of *The Nutcracker*, which takes place at Ashland High School. For more information and tickets visit www.HopArtsCenter.org.

Festival of Wreaths Through December 8, Gallery Hours 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

The ever-popular Festival of Wreaths returns to the Hopkinton Center for the Arts this Holiday season. Created by local crafters, all of the wreaths on display in the gallery are available as part of a silent auction. Proceeds benefit the artists and HCA. Winners may pick up their wreaths after Dec. 9.

Shopping for a Cause Holiday Boutique

Sunday, December 1, 2 to 6 p.m.

Gift giving season is in full swing. Join us for this fun event and enjoy small bites and wine



as you shop and support local artisans and small businesses. Presented by the Real Housewives of Hopkinton with proceeds supporting the Hopkinton Center for the Arts. Free admission to the public. Child watch services are available while you shop. \$5 suggested donation at the door per child to benefit your local Girl Scouts. Children must be potty-trained and parents must

remain in the building.

Nutcracker Sweet Saturday" December 7, Two performances: 11 a.m. & 2 p.m.

Kids will enjoy a 50-minute performance of scenes from *The Nutcracker* followed by a meet and greet with the cast and a sweet treat. Tickets: \$15 for kids & seniors I \$20 adults general admission

The Treblemakers' Holiday Concert

December 11 & 12 I 7:30 p.m.

The community chorus in residence at the Hopkinton Center for the Arts presents their winter concert. Buy your tickets now for an evening of Holiday favorites sure to get you singing along. Tickets: \$10 for kids & seniors I \$15 adults general admission, Children under 5 are free.

Classical Holiday Family Concert with the Claffin Hill Symphony Quartet Saturday" December 14 at 3

Join the Claflin Hill Symphony String Quartet and the HCA for a new Holiday event for the entire family. Enjoy tra-

for the entire family. Enjoy traditional classical music and holiday favorites" including music from The Nutcracker. Pre and post event festivities will include an instrument petting zoo, face

painting, and refreshments. All

ages are welcome. Sponsored by Scott's Landscaping. Tickets: \$15 for kids & seniors I \$20 adults general admission

The Nutcracker Ballet at Ashland High School, 65 E. Union St." Ashland

Sunday, December 22 I Two performances: 12:30 p.m. & 4:30 p.m.

Tickets: \$20 for kids & seniors I \$25 adults general admission

New Year's Eve Party Tuesday, December 31, 9 p.m.

– 1 a.m.

Ring in the New Year in Hopkinton at the HCA. The evening will feature the music of Signs of Life. Ticket includes small bites, a champagne toast at midnight, music and dancing. Cash bar featuring beer, wine, and a signature cocktail.

Tickets: \$40 adult general admission

Holliston Historical Society Holiday Open House

Sunday, December 8, 2 – 5 p.m., 547 Washington Street

You're invited to enjoy the historic Asa Whiting House beautifully decorated with greens and flowers by the Holliston Garden Club, along with displays from the Society's collections

in seasonal settings. Light refreshments will be served in our newly-renovated kitchen. Socialize with friends and neighbors in our 1812 Colonial as the holidays begin.

Holliston Historical Society is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization that preserves and shares Holliston's history for our members, our community, and the general public through programs about local and American history, exhibits, and education. Our Library is available for genealogy, old house, town, and other

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research—or get help from our in-house researchers. We collect, preserve, and exhibit items relating to town history; provide social events for members and friends; and hold fundraising events to support our educational activities and preservation of our historic buildings, gardens and grounds.

SIGN UP WITH A FRIEND AND

BOTH RECEIVE

SUV Package of \$790

We Accept Credit Cards



There are Individual, Family, and Junior memberships—we'd love to have you join in the fun! Find out more at www.hollistonhistoricalsociety.org.

And we hope to see you December 8th!





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GOOD FOR ANY CLASSES DEC-MAR

Exsultet! to Present "All the Magic, All the Music" feat.

Jubilate!

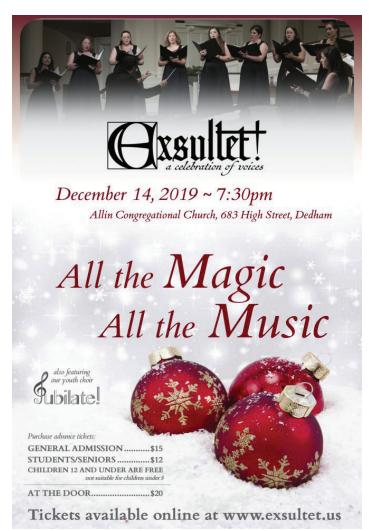
Join Exsultet! at Allin Congregational Church (683 High Street, Dedham) on Saturday, December 14th from 7:30-9 p.m. to experience a holiday performance entitled All the Magic, All the Music. This joyous evening will be filled with wonderful memories, familiar jingles and holiday cheer! This performance will also feature our children's choir, Jubilate!

Advance ticket prices are as follows:

- Adults: \$15
- Students/Seniors: \$12
- Children ages 5-12: free

Our concerts are not suitable for children under age 5.

Purchase tickets now, as this \$5 discount is only available for a limited time, at https://exsultet.us.



Eversource Challenges Students to Showcase Energy

Statewide Contest Open to Students K-12

Eversource invites Massachusetts students to demonstrate their energy efficiency knowledge by entering its seventh annual Eversource Challenge.

The competition promotes energy conservation, energy efficiency and sustainability and is open to Kindergarten to high school students in Eversource's Massachusetts electric service territory. Deadline for registration is March 17, 2020. All entries must be received or postmarked by March 27, 2020.

Students in grades K-8 are assigned grade-specific challenges and asked to submit entries in the form of a poster (Grades K-2), a limerick (Grade 3), an outdoor billboard (Grade 4), a narrative and an image of an energy-saving super-hero (Grade 5), a letter to parents (Grade 6), a news article (Grade 7), or public service announcement (Grade 8).

Students competing in Grades 9-12 will create a persuasive image that advocates for an energy topic. Options include a short poem (125 words or less) or a cartoon strip (12 cells or less) that addresses energy efficiency, a renewable energy source, or environmental concern.

Eversource Challenge finalists in all categories and grade levels will be honored at a special awards ceremony in early May, and winners will receive Amazon® Gift Cards. All entries are judged on the use of accurate and scientific facts, creativity, readability, persuasiveness, originality, and appearance. Students' submissions are judged against those from the same grade levels in their community.

For applications, guidelines and more information about the Eversource Challenge, visit www. eversourceinschool.com/challenge

"Kaleidoscope: Lights, Colors and Reflections of Winter"

Charles River Chorale to Perform 35th Annual Holiday Concert

Come along for a joyous seasonal event as the Charles River Chorale presents "Kaleidoscope: Lights, Colors and Reflections of Winter" on Sunday, December 8th, from 4-6 p.m. The concert takes place at the Medfield High School auditorium, 88 South Street in Medfield.

The concert features a wonderful variety of classic and contemporary arrangements of holiday and seasonal music that the whole family will enjoy. The Chorale is led by Director Ashley F. Nelson-Oneschuk and accompanied by Assistant Director Susan Fortin.

Joining the festivities again this year is the Charles River Children's Choir, directed by Lelia Tenreyro and accompanied by Everard Huggins, which will perform several lively seasonal tunes sure to delight everyone.

Tickets are available at the

door and are \$20 for adults, \$15 for seniors and full-time students, and \$10 for children under 12. A special family price of \$60 is available for two adults and two children.

There will be a raffle, holiday sing-a-long, and all are invited to the reception following the performance where refreshments will be served.

Drawing membership from throughout the Charles River Valley, the Chorale performs two major concerts per year and is available for other events as well. The Charles River Chorale is a non-auditioning choir under professional direction, bringing a variety of engaging, enriching and enjoyable choral music to the regional community. For more information visit our website at www.charlesriverchorale. com, see us on Facebook, or contact us at info@charlesriver.com.



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A Festival of Lessons & Carols, December 15, 2019, 5-6 p.m.

Join us for an evening of beautiful music and scripture, anticipating the wondrous birth of our Lord Jesus. This year's Lessons and Carols will feature the combined choirs and ensembles of St. Mary's Church, 8 Church St., Holliston, as well as nationally-renowned organist Brandon Santini, who will also

at 4:30 pm. The program will include familiar carols as well as choral music by Praetorius, Harris, Stanford, Rutter, Pearsall and others. Bring your family, and don't miss this opportunity to fill your Christmas preparations with plenty of holiday cheer!











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Community Events

Through December 29th

Festival of Lights, Fatima Shrine, 5-9 p.m. each night (December 16 Autism-Friendly night with no flashing lights or music), 101 Summer Street, Holliston

December 2

Network of Enterprising Women (NEW), 8:30-10:30 a.m., Cheryl Cohen Mosaics, 360 Woodland St. 2nd floor, Holliston. Member Jen Powell speaks about "Genealogy: A Top 10 List of things to know about ferreting out your ancestors." Light breakfast provided. Guests welcome; free admission for 1st time guests and current members; \$20 others. www.networkofenterprisingwomen.com or email info@networkofenterprisingwomen.com

Morning Book Club, 11 a.m., Holliston Public Library, 752 Washington St., Holliston; Their Eyes Were Watching God, by Zora Neale Hurston

December 4

Holliston Library Planning Public Forum, 1-2:30 p.m., Holliston Public Library, 752 Washington St., Holliston, patrons invited to attend public forum with planning consultant and share thoughts and ideas

Traditional Ancient Service of Sung Vespers, sung by St. Mary's Youth Choir, 7 p.m. St. Mary's Church, 8 Church St., Holliston

December 7

Holliston Veterans Medal of Liberty presentation, 11 a.m., Holliston Senior Center, 150 Goulding St., Holliston; medal to be presented to Carol Thistle, sister of Medal of Honor recipient SN David G. Ouellet who was KIA in Vietnam.

The Claflin Hill Symphony Orchestra presents Holiday Pops 2019, 7:30-10:30 p.m., Milford Town Hall, 52 Main St. Milford, tickets at (508) 478-5924 or boxoffice@ claflinhill.org

December 8

Holliston Lions Breakfast with Santa, 8 a.m.-11:30 a.m., Placentino/ Miller Cafetorium, 235 Woodland Street, Holliston, includes pancakes, eggs, bacon, sausage, fruit, hot and cold beverages, musical entertainment, photos with Saint Nick, \$7 for ages 12 and over, \$5 for ages 2-11, free for ages under 2, family maximum of \$20 (immediate fam-

Holliston Historical Society Open House, 2-5 p.m., 547 Washington St., Holliston, enjoy the historic 1812 Asa Whiting Colonial beautifully decorated with greens and flowers by the Holliston Garden Club, along with displays from the Society's collections. Light refreshments, www.hollistonhistoricalsociety.org

Charles River Chorale & Charles River Children's Chorus present Kaleidoscope; Lights, Colors & Reflections of Winter, 4 p.m., Medfield High School, 88 South St, Medfield, Concert tickets can be purchased through chorale members before the concert or at the door. Adults: \$20; Seniors & Students: \$15; 12 & under: \$10; Family (4+): \$60; raffle & refreshments available

December 14

Pasta Dinner, Fatima Shrine, 5-8 p.m., tickets for purchase until Dec. 12th at office, after church, or in gift store, For more information check our website www.xaverianmissionaries.org/fatimashrine-holliston-ma, and our Facebook pagehttps://www.

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facebook.com/OurLadyof-FatimaShrineHolliston/.

Exsultet presents "All the Magic, All the Music" featuring Jubilate!, 7:30-9 p.m., Allin Congregational Church, 683 High Street, Dedham.

Classical Holiday Family Concert with the Claflin Hill Symphony Quartet, 3 p.m., Hopkinton Center for the Arts ,98 Hayden Rowe St., Hopkinton, Join the Claffin Hill Symphony String Quartet and the HCA for a new Holiday event for the entire family with traditional classical music and holiday favorites. Pre- and post- event festivities will include an instrument petting zoo, face painting, and refreshments. All ages are welcome. Sponsored by Scott's Landscaping. \$15 for kids & seniors I \$20 adults general admission, www.HopArtsCenter.org.

December 15

A Festival of Lessons and Carols, 5-6 p.m., St. Mary's Church, 8 Church St., Holliston, will feature combined choirs of St. Mary's, with nationallyrenowned organist Brandon Santini, offering a 30-minute organ concert at 4:30 p.m.

Little Beehive Farm 12th Annual Open House, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m., 35 Dalton Rd., Holliston, features local artisans and

St. Cecilia Parish Choir of Ashland concert, 3 p.m., Fatima Shrine, tickets available in the Hall for a cash raffle that will be pulled on the evening of December 24th. For more information check our website www.xaverianmissionaries.org/fatimashrine-holliston-ma, and our Facebook pagehttps://www. facebook.com/OurLadyof-FatimaShrineHolliston/.

December 16

Autism-Friendly Night at Fatima Shrine Festival of Lights, 5-9 p.m., on this night, no flashing lights or music, For more information check our website www.xaverianmissionaries.org/fatimashrine-holliston-ma, and our Facebook pagehttps://www. facebook.com/OurLadvof-FatimaShrineHolliston/.

December 17

Free Pasta with Santa, 5:30-7:30 p.m., Anthony's on the Green, 212 Prentice St., Holliston, families are asked to bring paper good donations such as paper towels, toilet tissue, napkins and facial tissue to benefit the Holliston Pantry Shelf, photos with Santa and his elves by Holliston Lions, free buffet dinner includes pasta, salad, rolls, dessert and beverages. To donate a baked good to the event, please contact Diane Regan (508) 509-

History Book Club, 6:30 p.m., Holliston Public Library, 752 Washington St., Holliston; check website for book title



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December 4th at 7 p.m. It will be sung by the St. Mary's Youth Choir and is free and open to all.

Sports

Ryan Burchard Literally Grew into a Holliston Football Leader

By Christopher Tremblay, Staff Sports Writer

Football was a sport that Ryan Burchard fell in love with the very first time he put a helmet on way back in second grade. In addition to wearing the uniform, the team atmosphere really drew the Holliston resident in, and unlike many who want to play the glorified positions, Burchard chose to play on the offensive line.

"I wasn't playing the game for the glory," he said. "I love blocking and being part of that front five with the boys."

While the Holliston athlete now plays both the offensive and defensive line, as a second grader the Panther was hoping for a position that was a little different than where he currently finds himself playing.

"Lineman was a position that I was put into when I was younger; of course, I originally wanted to play quarterback like everyone else, but after playing the position I fell in love with it," Burchard said. "I found that I loved blocking and being physical while keeping the quarterback safe."

Upon entering high school, Burchard found that he was a lot

smaller than most of the other linemen, but that didn't stop him from playing the position he loved. He was determined to get bigger. As a freshman, he felt he was an underdog and under looked because of his lack of size.

Although he moved up to the junior varsity team his sophomore year, the second year lineman eventually got his chance to play for the varsity squad. During the last three games of the season, Burchard was playing center for the Panthers, a position that he would start his entire junior campaign. It wasn't until this, his senior season, that he moved over to left tackle on the offensive line.

Following his freshman year, Burchard found a permanent residence in the weight room. He began eating right and got involved in programs that would help him get bigger and stronger. As a freshman, he was 5'8" and 140 pounds, three years later he stands at 5'11' and weighs in at 200 pounds.

"There is no substitute for strength if you're going to play the line," he said. "I couldn't have continued to play this position if I hadn't worked out, I knew that I was undersized and had to do something if I wanted

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to play the position."

In addition to playing on the offensive line, Burchard also plays defense, which, although somewhat of a different position, was one he picked up quickly.

"Defensively, you just go out and focus on what you need to do," he said. "And while I love playing in the middle of the defense, offense is definitely my passion and favorite position."

Last winter as a junior, Burchard got involved with the strength and condition program with the Holliston eighth graders.

"I really found that I enjoyed the teaching aspect of the game. I was able to get them involved with the program and felt that it allowed them to ease into high school football," Burchard said. "They got to work out with the varsity team the summer before they were to enter high school, and this allowed them to take things in. I really believe those extra months really helped with their transition."

Holliston varsity coach Todd Kiley likes the transformation that he has seen in his lineman.

"Over the last two years Ryan has put on about 25 pounds of muscle and is no longer that undersized kid. He has also set a lot of record for the program regarding strength," the Coach said. "He's the type of kid you want on your program; he does everything you ask of him and more. He has definitely been a huge part of our success."

Burchard and his Holliston teammates went through the year only losing one game during the regular season; a 35-29 loss to Ashland who finished undefeated and the TVL's Large Division Champion. The senior PANTHERS

Being of small stature didn't stop lineman Ryan Burchard, who has set an example of determination and conditioning for his younger teammates. Submitted photo.

wasn't looking for any individual goals when the season started, he was hoping that the team would have a good season and make a run at the Super Bowl.

Currently, the Panthers are headed to the state semi-finals. During his sophomore year the Panthers fell to Scituate in the first round, as a junior the squad shutout Somerset Berkley quite handily before losing to Scituate (the eventual champion) again. In his final season suiting up for the Panthers, the team was able to dismantle Medfield 40-6 in the opening round of the tournament, proceed to crush Somerset Berkley 48-6, and overturn Canton 27-14 in the Division 5 South Championship.

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Sports

Twin Captains Played Key Roles for Holliston Girls' Soccer Team

By KEN HAMWEY, STAFF SPORTS WRITER

The Holliston High girls' soccer team is on a roll.

Coach Brielle Chadsey's contingent finished the regular season unbeaten at 14-0-3, won the Tri Valley League Large Division championship for the second straight year, then captured the Division 2 Sectional crown by defeating, in order, Apponequet, Silver Lake, Canton and Medway. At Local Town Pages deadline, the Panthers were preparing to battle for the State title against North champion Winchester (14-3-5).

Two major contributors who played key roles for Holliston were seniors Alyssa and Sidney Brucato, a pair of twin captains who excelled as defensive backs. The twins, who played all four varsity seasons, started as five-year-olds in Holliston's youth league and excelled at the club level for a combined 14 years.

Both National Honor Society students, Sidney will continue playing soccer in college after getting academic and athletic scholarships to the College of St. Rose in New York and Alyssa, who has yet to decide on a collegiate venue, will compete at the club level.

Now that their soccer careers have concluded at the interscholastic level, they've had a chance to reflect on their successes and their team's achievements.

"We're delighted we won the TVL Large Division title again and captured the Sectional crown," the twins said. "We're proud and pleased. The boys team won the Sectional last year, and we wanted to match their effort. It means a lot for our school and the community."

Winning TVL honors for the second consecutive year was significant for the twins.

"It was meaningful because we lost 11 seniors from last year's team," Alyssa said. "We showed we could bounce back. Winning the league title was one of our goals and we did it two years in a row."

Sidney was ecstatic about this year's TVL crown, because she was unable to compete as a





Alyssa and Sidney Brucato are not only outstanding student-athletes, but they're also terrific ambassadors for Holliston High. Submitted photos by Elizabeth Crews.

junior after fracturing her right foot. "I was on the sideline when we won the TVL title my junior year," she noted. "This season, I participated fully, and it was very meaningful for me."

The Sectional crown was extraordinary for the twins because it's the first Sectional title for Holliston in 24 years. "It was an amazing feeling," the twins said. "It was great for the seniors on the team and for other players from the past. We snapped a 24-year drought."

Alyssa, a 5-foot-2 center back, and Sidney, a 5-foot left back, enjoyed dynamic careers, primarily because of their strengths. All their years at the club level sharpened their soccer IQs, but they relied on other assets. "We communicated well, used our strength and speed, and we relied on field awareness and technique," they said.

Those strengths blossomed throughout their four years, and the twins have vivid memories of two matches where their defensive ability produced a pair of shutouts.

"My best game was in the quarterfinals of the Sectional last year against Dartmouth," Alyssa said. "We shut them out, 2-0. The entire team played well, and I had a consistent effort on defense."

Sidney was pleased with her play against Hopkinton in their first meeting this season. "I was able to make a lot of stops and played a solid game," she said. "We won, 3-0, in a hard-fought, physical matchup."

Acutely aware that Holliston's success in 2019 was a total team effort, the twins point to their coach and the other three captains as key contributors.

The 17-year-old twins have different reasons for their attraction to soccer. Alyssa, who also plays varsity tennis, likes the sport because "everyone has a role and no one player can carry a team." Sidney admires the game because "it's physical, fast-paced and promotes a sense of family."

The twin captains have similar views about their leadership roles, but their playing styles were very different. "I played in an analytical way," Alyssa said. "I tried to anticipate upcoming plays and where the ball might go. Sidney was more up-tempo. "I relied on a pro-active nature," she said, "I wanted to get our attack rolling."

As captains, they led in a variety of ways. "We led by example, by being communicative and also being supportive," Alyssa said. Sidney said she "stressed a positive outlook, was encouraging and often gave pre-game and halftime speeches."

Both girls have a lot to be pleased about, primarily because of their team's achievements. During their four years, a tourney berth was earned every season, they were part of a pair of TVL title, and now they've won a Sectional crown. They knew this year's team was special. "Every-

one had a role and everyone had value," the twins emphasized. "There was unity and a sense of purpose. It was a family affair because we all liked each other. We were driven to not only win, but to also have fun and enjoy our athletic journey."



Sports

Holliston Girls' Soccer Captures Division 2 South

By Christopher Tremblay, Staff Sports Writer

Finishing the regular season 14-0-3, the Holliston girls' soccer team found themselves not only with a berth to the Division 2 South Sectionals, but were awarded the number two seed. The only team above the Panthers was Old Rochester who went 20-0, but were sent packing via a 2-1 loss to Medway, the number eight seed.

Upon gaining entry into the tournament, the Panthers took out Apponequet 3-1, Silver Lake 2-1 in overtime on penalty kicks and Canton 5-0 before having to go up against the giant killers in Medway. The Mustangs, who opened the season with only one

win in their first six games, eventually finished at 10-5-3. In the tournament Medway defeated Milford 5-1, the number one seed 2-1 and then Dartmouth 2-1 in overtime to set up the championship game against Holliston.

Once in the Division 2 South final junior Megan Putvinski, who wasn't even on the team last year, came to play – notching a goal and 2 assists as the Panthers defeated Medway 3-0 to claim their first Sectional Championship since 1995.

"Megan is such a clutch performer and has done it time and time again for us," Holliston Coach Brielle Chadsey said. "She has been huge for us all year. She has no ego, works hard and really loves playing the sport for her school and her friends."

Having a foot in all three goals, Putvinski got things rolling in the opening half when she fired a shot on the Mustang goalie, who made the initial save, but unfortunately the rebound went right to Eva Bergloff who fired the ball into the upper corner giving the Panthers the only goal of the first half.

"It was definitely a relief to get that first goal," the Panther Coach said. "Throughout the tournament teams have been playing us very defensively."

In the second half, Putvinski scored when senior captain Gwen Freeley took a cross shot toward the net. The junior would then set up the third and final score of the afternoon when she made a beautiful pass top Maggie Fitzgerald, who deposited the ball into the Medway net setting off a frenzy on the Holliston side.

"Medway gave us a tough game," Chadsey said. "Their forwards are very fast and just about the entire second half, we were chasing them."

The Mustangs' best opportunity of the second half came when Grace Kellerman sailed a one-timer over the head and net of Holliston goalie Mary Katherine Ward.

When the season got underway in early September the Panthers were hoping to once again capture the Tri-Valley League Title, a feat they had accomplished the year prior. However, having lost 11 seniors from the

team, they were not quite sure if the goal could be achieved once again.

"Having not one a Sectional Championship since 1995, it was something that was on the girls' minds, but they really didn't think that it would be this year," the Coach said. "The chemistry was awesome with this team, and as the season progressed, they realized that they could actually do it."

Holliston will look to continue their undefeated (18-0-3) season as the team's heads into the Eastern Mass Division 2 State Championship game against defending champion Winchester, who is 17-1-3

Holliston Football Heads to State Semi-Finals

By Christopher Tremblay, Staff Sports Writer

With a 27-14 win over Canton, Holliston Panthers football

was headed to the state semifinals at *Local Town Pages*' press

Having defeated Medfield 40-6 and Somerset Berkley 48-6

the Holliston football team was looking pretty good entering the Division 5 South Championship. Having defeated their two opponents by a combined 76 points the Panthers would now have to go up against Canton, a team that was not only undefeated, but had only allowed their opponents an average of 5.3 points per game.

"We knew that they had a great defense, so we had to get creative a little offensively," Holliston Coach Todd Kiley said. "Some things worked, some things didn't. We made the plays we had to make."

Despite trailing at half, the Panthers came out on fire lead by junior Tristan Benson in the third quarter as Holliston defeated the Bulldogs 27-14 to capture their first sectionals title since 2015 when they won back-to-back championships.

Holliston's Matt Arvanitis hit Christina Schneeloch with a 32-yard touchdown pass to give the Panthers the early lead. The point after was missed. While Holliston managed to score first Canton's Jahmi Aldin picked up a fumble and brought it the distance to give Canton a 7-6 half time lead.

In the second half, Benson would rumble in from five yards out and would also score the two-point conversion. The junior back would also add a two-yard touchdown run late in the game with the two-point conversion failing to account for

the final score. In the middle of Benson's two touchdowns Arvanitis would hook-up with Kevin Lyons on a 32-yard touchdown while Canton's Johnny Hagan hit Kyle Fitzgerald with a 17-yard touchdown.

Benson would rush for a 144 yards on 12 carries scoring two touchdowns, while Arvanitis went 9-26 for 206 yards and also added two touchdown strikes. The Panthers will now face the North Champions, Swampscott in the State Semi-Finals.



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Mass Audubon Stony Brook Announces Its December Programming!

Tiny Trekkers: Saturday, December 7th & 21st, from 10:30 a.m. - 12 p.m. Start your weekend off with a fun and knowledgeable Stony Brook teacher on the trails learning about nature. Each day will have a special topic created to excite your child about the natural world, with crafts, activities and lots of laughter. This month's theme: Oh, Deer/ Animals of the Night. Ages 2.9 to 6 with a parent. Fee: \$6m/\$7nm per person per session

Stories in Stone: from the Ice Age to Today, Sunday, December 8th, 1:30 - 3:30 p.m. Learn how millennia of glacial advances and retreats created the landforms and topography of New England. We will hike on the sanctuary to see and identify various distinctive glacial landforms as well as the evidence of how those stones were used in developing New England. We'll examine their characteristics and learn how they continue to influence the living world today. Fee: \$13m/ \$16nm

Stony Brook STEM Series - Spa Science, Saturday, December 14th, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Explore the science of gels, fragrances and fizzers. Aspiring scientists will be able to make colorful and fragrant



bath bombs, lotions, bubbles, lip balm and more. Learn about chemical reactions and why they happen! Ages 7 & 8. Fee: \$15m/

Sounds of the Night, Saturday, December 14th, 4 – 6 p.m. Familiar trails by day offer the promise of new experiences after sunset. Join us for a walk along Stony Brook's Sensory Trail after lights-out for a chance to expand your knowledge and your sense of surroundings. Afterwards we will meet in the Stony Brook Program room to share our stories and some ice cream before calling it a night. Bring binoculars and wear warm clothes. Minimum age 6. Fee: \$9ad/\$6chm --\$11ad/\$7chnm



Winter Tree ID Made Easier, Sunday, December 15th, 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. Join us for an up-close look at trees and shrubs in their winter form. This hands-on workshop will guide you through the various methods of identifying trees in the winter months. We will discuss habitats and the attributes of trees that are helpful in placing a name to unknown trees. Meet at Wollomonopoag Pond in Wrentham. Call of go online for directions. Fee: Free Wrentham Open Space Program

Pre-registration is required for all programs (except as noted). For more details, visit the Mass Audubon webpage at www. massaudubon.org or contact us at (508) 528-3140. Register

by phone, email (stonybrook@massaudubon. org), fax (508-553-3864) or in person. Stony Brook is located at 108 North Street in Norfolk.



Bowl for Kids!

Benefits Big Brother Big Sisters of Central **Mass & Metrowest**

Bowl for Kids' Sake is a fun and easy way for you and your company, friends, or family to support the life-changing work of Big Brothers Big Sisters. If you care about kids and can spare an hour to have fun with your friends, then Bowl for Kids' Sake is for you! Join us for an afternoon of bowling and fun while raising money to support our one-on-one mentoring programs for youth facing adversity. Want to get involved? Start or join a team of 4-6 bowlers. The goal? Raise \$600 per team and at least \$100 per bowler! All money raised supports mentoring programs for kids in need.

You are invited to Bowl for Kids' Sake on January 20th from 12-2:30 p.m. at Bowlero in Shrewsbury! If you're a fan of bowling and want to support our life-changing mentoring programs, Bowl for Kids Sake is the event for you! The event is taking place in January to celebrate National Mentoring Month! It also happens to be Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, so we hope you are able to enjoy the holiday with us in the spirit of giving back as a day of service!

Getting Involved is Simple:

- 1. Start or Join a Team Find a group of 4 to 6 of your friends, family members or co-workers who would like to join you in collecting donations for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Central Mass & Metrowest, then register your team online at www. bbbscm.org/bowl
- 2. Fundraise for Big Brothers Big Sisters Collect donations for Big Brothers Big Sisters on your personal or team's fundraising pages. Post your fundraising page on social media and ask your friends and family to contribute \$20. You'll be surprised how quickly you can reach your goal!
- 3. Hit Your Fundraising Goal We ask that each team try to raise at least \$600 in donations for the agency. Many teams go above and beyond - and earn some pretty great prizes for doing so!
- 4. Celebrate by Bowling on January 20 Come to Bowlero Shrewsbury on January 20th to bowl and have an amazing time! The event is truly a party. You and your team members will receive 2 hours of free bowling with shoe rentals, pizza, beer/soda, prizes and more! There will be raffle items and chances to win prizes you won't want to miss.

Milford Regional Welcomes New Physicians to the Cancer Center

Cancer Center Services expand at Dana-Farber/Brigham and Women's Cancer Center at Milford Regional with the appointments of Daniel Roberts, MD and Luke Peng, MD to Milford Regional's active medical

Dr. Roberts earned his medical degree from Loyola University, Stritch School of Medicine, Chicago, IL in 2012. He performed an internship and residency in internal medicine at Beth Israel Deaconess Medical Center and Harvard Medical School, Boston, MA. Dr. Roberts continued his training at Beth Israel Deaconess and Harvard Medical School with a clinical fellowship in hematology/oncology. He will be seeing patients at The Cancer Center as a medical oncologist with Dana-Farber Cancer Institute.

Dr. Peng received his degree in medicine at Weill Cornell



Medical College, New York, NY in 2014. He completed an internal medicine internship at Maimonides Medical Center, Brooklyn, NY and a residency in radiation oncology at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, Baltimore, MD where he was chief resident. Dr. Peng will be seeing patients at The Cancer



Center as a radiation oncologist with Brigham and

Women's Physician Organiza-

Milford Regional Medical Center was recently recognized nationally, receiving an 'A' in The Leapfrog Group's fall 2019 Leapfrog Hospital Safety Grade for the third year in a row.



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"Tammy exemplifies the type of professional we designed this award for," says Chad Golladay, Executive Publisher of Broker★ Agent Advisor. "A true credit to their company, profession, and community both inside and outside of their real estate practice; one with whom the honor is truly ours in being able to share this award."

> Tammy Todaro, Team Leader of The Todaro Team can be reached at 508-444-9796

Tammy and Andy, The Todaro Team Continue To Take Big Bites in 2019

Going Full Force is what they do. This is a team of two, and they're never satisfied just "nibbling around the edges!" Tammy and Andy, The Todaro Team, made "the cut" again and are listed on the "Top Agent Report" for New England.

This report is for the period that runs from January 1st to September 30th of 2019. It's hard to believe we've completed the first 9 months of the year! RE/MAX Executive Realty is well represented for the month of September plus the first 9 months of the year for Residential Commissions and the Number of Transactions.

Another example of Bigger Not Being Better. Tammy & Andy, The Todaro Team, continue to compete with the Mega Teams throughout New England, and the results are in black and white.

Barbara Todaro, Marketing Agent for The Todaro Team

Congratulations to Tammy and Andy for their achievements, as they continue to take "big bites!"

TODARO

January - September 2019 by residential commission:

Individual: #18 Mary Wood

#22 Sandy Lucchesi

#30 Bill Gassett

#37 Marcia Pessanha

#44 Kate Lunny

#48 Lorraine Kunev

#50 Susan Morrison

#66 John Atchue

#71 Jeanne Leombruno

#84 Paul Shao

Team:

#27 Todaro Team





by residential commission:

Individual: #22 Marcia Pessanha

Team:

#16 Todaro Team #49 Elaine McDonald

January - September 2019 by commercial commission:

Individual: #10 Eileen Mason Team:

#2 RE/MAX Executive Commercial Division

January - September 2019 by transaction:

Individual: #22 Eileen Mason

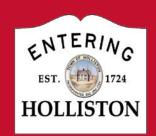
#23 Mary Wood

#24 Erika Steele

Team:

#26 The Results Team

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10 Nouvelle Unit 301 Natick Rental



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