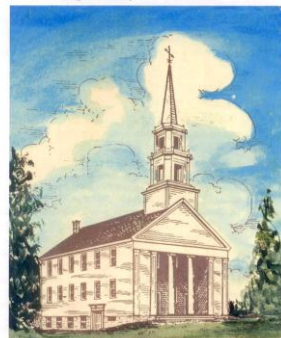


Congregational Church of Phillipston, U.C.C.  
60 The Common  
Phillipston, MA 01331

**The Congregational Church  
of  
Phillipston, Massachusetts**



United Church of Christ  
Embodied November 1785

Phillipston  
Community  
Newsletter

# December 2019



The Phillipston Congregational Church, U.C.C.

Our Community Church

Sunday Service at 10:00 a.m.      Sunday School begins at 10:00 a.m.

Dear Friends,

Every year in December, we decorate our homes with lights, and put up traditional decorations. I remember the Swedish small white candles that rotated and chimed when the candles were lit. My mother also had electric candles at every window which looked impressive when you came around the curve to the house. There were also the English traditions of plum pudding and fruitcake. Another tradition comes from Germany.

According to The Legend of the Candy Cane, by Lori Walburg: The traditional candy cane was born over 350 years ago when mothers used white sugar sticks as pacifiers for their babies. Around 1670, the Cologne Cathedral choirmaster in Germany bent the sticks to represent a shepherd's staff. (or upside down, looks like a J, which can represent Jesus) This choirmaster used the white candy canes to keep the attention of small children during the long Nativity service. The use of candy canes then spread throughout Europe.

In the mid 1800s, the candy cane arrived in the United States when a German-Swedish immigrant in Wooster, Ohio decorated his spruce tree with paper ornaments and white sugar canes. The red stripe was added to the candy cane at the turn of the century, when peppermint and wintergreen were added and became the traditional flavors for the candy cane. Some sources say that a candy maker in Indiana developed the candy cane as a witness to Christ's love. Your sister in Christ,

Rev. Stephanie C. Flynn

I hope to see all of you at the Christmas Eve worship service on Tuesday, December 24 at 7:00 p.m.

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THE NEWSLETTER IS ON [www.phillipston.com](http://www.phillipston.com)

**JANUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS DECEMBER 23<sup>rd</sup>**

**For more info go to : [www.phillipston.com/priceinfo.pdf](http://www.phillipston.com/priceinfo.pdf)**

# **The Phillipston Congregational Church**

## **Located On the Common, Phillipston, MA**

**EVERY ONE IS WELCOME! COME VISIT!**

**Please come and join our Church Family!**

**Church Phone Number: 978-249-8583**

Services & Sunday School are held on Sundays at **10:00 a.m** Parents are encouraged to take part in Sunday School, if they wish. A Coffee Hour with refreshments follows the service & on the second Sunday of the month there is usually a Pot Luck Brunch, where everyone may bring one of their favorite dishes. If you forget your dish, you are still welcome to participate, there is always enough food! For more information you may call 978-516-8061.

### **December Activities:**

- December 1<sup>st</sup>** : 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent: Morning Worship/ Sunday School  
10 am with Communion (open to all)  
Memory Tree 4:30pm on common, Light refreshments in church vestry.
- December 6<sup>th</sup>** : Senior Lunch – 12 noon – at Fire Station  
Set up for Holly Berry Fair 9am to ???
- December 7<sup>th</sup>** : Holly Berry Fair 9 am to 3 pm in vestry of church
- December 8<sup>th</sup>**: 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent: Morning Worship/ Sunday School  
10 am
- December 11<sup>th</sup>**: Annual Ladies Benevolent Christmas Party 12 noon  
In Vestry of the Church
- December 14<sup>th</sup>** : Senior Trip to Kennebunkport Prelude
- December 15<sup>th</sup>** : 3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent: Morning Worship & Sunday School  
10am
- December 17<sup>th</sup>** : Senior Lunch – 12 noon – vestry of church
- December 22<sup>nd</sup>**: 4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent: Morning Worship & Sunday School  
10am – Children's Christmas Pageant followed by Pot Luck.
- December 24<sup>th</sup>** : Christmass Eve Service 7 pm
- December 29<sup>th</sup>**: Morning Worship & Sunday School 10am
- 

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**JANUARY 2020 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS DECEMBER 23<sup>rd</sup>**

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**HOLLY BERRY FAIR  
AT THE PHILLIPSTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
ON THE COMMON, PHILLIPSTON, MA  
SATURDAY, DECEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup> FROM 9 AM TO 3 PM**



**COME VISIT SANTA & HAVE YOUR  
PICTURE TAKEN!**

**Christmas Attic Treasures, Slightly Used Clothing, Coffee Can Auction with many wonderful items to drop your ticket into the "Coffee Can" (purchase a card of tickets for \$3 each or 2/\$5), and much more! Other Vendors and much more! A jolly good time for all! There will be a "fabulous" Cookie Walk with many variety of cookies, pay \$3 for a bag and choose from many varieties, the Lion's Club will be serving a fabulous luncheon (\$) 3 choices of soup, chili, loaded baked potatoes, ginger bread with whipped cream & drinks!**

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125 Barre Road Templeton, Ma. 01468

978-939-8363 / 800-232-4725

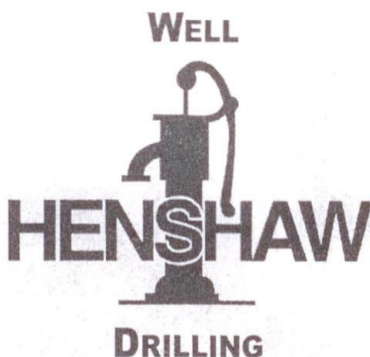
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### **LADIES BENEVOLENT SOCIETY**

The November meeting of the Ladies Benevolent Society was held on Wednesday, November 20th at the home of Barbara Sanden with Barbara Sanden, Carole Gariepy and Marie Lalena as hostesses with 13 ladies attending, Snowflakes were falling. A lovely luncheon of Beef Stew and Salad were enjoyed with the desert of Angel Food Cake with Pineapple whipped cream. Discussion and planning for our Holly Berry Fair being held on Saturday December 7<sup>th</sup> from 9am to 3pm, Santa will be there and available for pictures from 10am to 1pm. A delicious luncheon is being planned by the Phillipston Lions, vendors, slightly used clothing, coffee can auction and a marvelous "Cookie Walk". The Annual Christmas Party will be held on Wednesday, December 11 in the vestry of the Phillipston Congregational Church at noon with a holiday meal. All ladies are welcome to join us; you do not need to be a member of the church. Please join us for a fun time, all are welcome. Call Claire at 978-516-8061 for more information or a ride to the meeting. Lifetime dues are 50 cents, very reasonable for a fun time. There will be no meeting in January. February 2020 meeting will be held on Wednesday February 19<sup>th</sup> at 11am at the home of Nancy Nason with hostesses being Marilyn Hollway and Nancy Marr.

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To Veterans

Any Veteran who receives a Real Estate Tax Exemptions for Veterans Disability can come into the Assessors office to sign for FY 2020. Hours are Monday 9:00 am to 1:00 pm and Wednesday 1:00 pm to 8:00 pm

Thank you

Board of Assessors

# *Phillips Free Public Library*

## **Library Hours**

*Tuesday 9am-2pm*

*Wednesday 5-7pm      Saturday 9am-1pm*

## **Board of Trustees Meeting:**

*Tuesday, December 3 at 6pm*

## **Wreath Program- \*note new date!**

**\* Living Wreath Demonstration- Tuesday, December 10 at 6:30 – 7:30 pm**

Join library trustee Karen Perkins as she shows you how to craft a holiday table decoration that will last through the winter season from evergreen snips, herbs and berries. The centerpiece will be raffled off to one lucky attendee. Refreshments served.

## **Family Story Time**

Looking for a relaxing family activity for a chilly Saturday morning? Stop by on **Saturday, December 7 at 10:30** for a 'Family Story Time'. Enjoy a few stories, an activity and light refreshments. All ages welcome!

## **Book Club & Yankee Swap**

Our newly- formed book club has chosen the book 'The Silent Patient' by Alex Michaelides as its first read. We'll be meeting on **Monday, Dec. 9 at 6pm** to dissect it! And to have a festive "Reverse Yankee Swap"- (just wrap up an item of yours that you no longer use, and we'll have a few laughs while we 'swap' all of our 'stuff'!) If you would like to be part of this fun group, there's still plenty of time... or if you need help getting a copy of 'The Silent Patient' call the library (978)249-1734-

## **Holiday Hours**

Tuesday, December 24 –open 9am-noon, Wednesday, December 25- CLOSED

Tuesday, December 31- open 9am-noon, Wednesday, January 1 – CLOSED

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## **TRANSFER STATION HOLIDAY HOURS**

The Transfer Station will be closed on Christmas Day and New Years Day. It will be open instead on Thursday December 26<sup>th</sup> and January 2<sup>nd</sup> from 4pm – 6pm.

Reminder Gift Wrapping Paper and Tissue Paper are NOT recyclable; please dispose of them in the trash.

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS**

## SENIOR LUNCH PHILLIPSTON

SENIOR LUNCH FOR THE MONTH OF DECEMBER WILL BE HELD ON THE FRIDAY, DECEMBER 6<sup>TH</sup> AT 12 NOON AT THE PHILLIPSTON FIRE STATION. RESERVATIONS ARE NEEDED BY DECEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup>. CALL 978-249-6302. AND THE THIRD TUESDAY, DECEMBER 17<sup>TH</sup> IN THE VESTRY OF THE PHILLIPSTON CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, ON THE COMMON, PHILLIPSTON, MA. A DONATION OF \$3 IS SUGGESTED. CALL THE CHURCH 978-249-8583 FOR RESERVATIONS. MEET OTHERS, TALK AND SHARE IN FUN TIMES! TRANSPORTATION IS AVAILABLE, IF NEEDED. CALL 978-516-8061 FOR MORE INFORMATION. LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU THERE!

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The following committees have available openings. If you are interested in serving on any of these committees, please contact the Selectboard Office, 978-249-6828 or [selectman@phillipston-ma.gov](mailto:selectman@phillipston-ma.gov).

- Conservation Commission
  - Capital Improvement Planning Committee
  - Historical Commission
  - Open Space Committee
  - Parks and Rec Committee
- 

8 TITANICS TO OUR RDS. / HIGHWAY DEPT. MEN  
FOR BEST ROUTES IN AREA DURING THE APX.  
1/2 YR. WINTER, N. ENGL. . E.G. 5!  
BAD + TROUBLE WEATHER; STOCKING SAND;  
TRUCK CARE; TIMING; RIGHT CALLS & MIXES;  
ECONOMICS (PICK-UP TRUCKS WHEN POSSIBLE);  
ETC. ! FOR 40+ MILES (ARE 2-WAY) W. TRICKY-SPOTS.

-PITIL. CITIZEN, 4 DECADES, 3/2010.

1/2. TRYING TO BE EVERY WHERE,  
☺ THE RIGHT TIME WITH THE RIGHT STUFF,  
(OUR SCHOOL BUSES, COMMUTES, SAFETY, SKILLS,  
EXPERIENCES)



Thank you from the Selectboard to Sterling Whiting for donating this year's Christmas tree on the Town Common, to Rick Tenney for cutting and erecting the tree, and to Gerhard Fandreyer for decorating the tree. Your thoughtfulness and contribution to our community is deeply appreciated.

## Senior Tax Work Off Program.

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Phillipston seniors aged 60 and over who own and live in their homes and are current on their taxes and municipal charges can volunteer to work part-time in town offices and receive a tax credit valued up to \$1,000 toward their real estate taxes.

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We currently have openings in the Library, Tax Collector and Selectboard offices for clerical and light cleaning work. Contact the Selectboard Office for more information. Application deadline is December 20, 2019. Positions start in January 2020.

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### Auction of Surplus Town Items

The Town is auctioning off surplus equipment and various items. Check the town website for details [www.phillipston-ma.gov](http://www.phillipston-ma.gov). Bids are due Tuesday, December 17, 2019.

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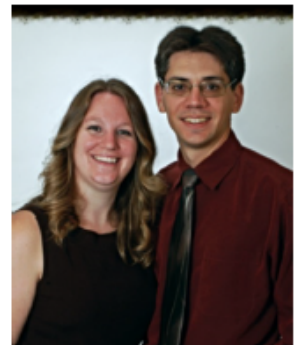


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# CENSUS – From The Town Clerk's Office

It's almost that time of year again it's exciting the year 2020 Census.

The Town of Phillipston census will be mailed out for January 1, 2020. This year you will be doing 2-two census filings. One for the Town of Phillipston and one for the Federal Government.

The Town of Phillipston census is in January and February. The Presidential primary is March 3, 2020 so make sure your voter registration information is up to date.

The Census 2020 for the Federal Government will start in March and April. This year the Federal Census will be on line and by phone call. You must respond and if you don't there will be a Census agent knocking on your door. All information given to the Census is confidential no information is shared with any other Federal, State or local agency or town.

The Federal Census will **never** ask for your Social Security Number.

The Federal Census will **never** ask for money or payment of any kind.

The Federal Census will **never** ask for Credit Card Information.

The Federal Census will **never** ask for checking or savings account numbers.

**Census workers do not need access into your home under any circumstances.**

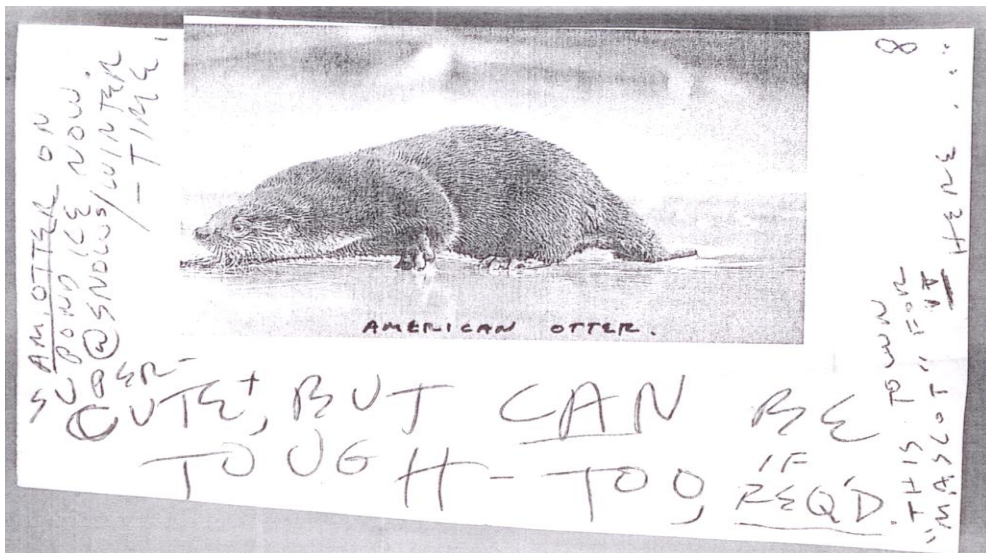
Please be aware of scams that may happen at this time of year.

The data collected is very important for Federal and State funding to our area and town. Remember 2-two census mailing this year. No information is shared or released to any other agency Federal, State or local. Contact the Town Clerk's Office at 978-249-1733 if you have questions.

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## Merry Christmas to All

The Phillipston Fire and EMS Association, police association, and the Lions club are collecting new, unwrapped toys. For kids K-12, Boxes are located at the Phillipston town hall, the transfer station, and the Fire station. Pickup date will be December 26th. Any questions please contact Don Smith 978-249-9190. Thank you for your help.



## 3rd Annual Senior Holiday Luncheon



Senior Citizens from Phillipston & Templeton are invited to a **Holiday Luncheon** sponsored by the Narragansett Regional School District.

**When:** December 20, 2019

**Where:** Middle School/High School Cafeteria

**Time:** 12pm

Your choice of delicious turkey or ham, served with all the fixings!  
Followed by an assortment of baked holiday treats and hot coffee/tea.

We hope that you are able to join us!

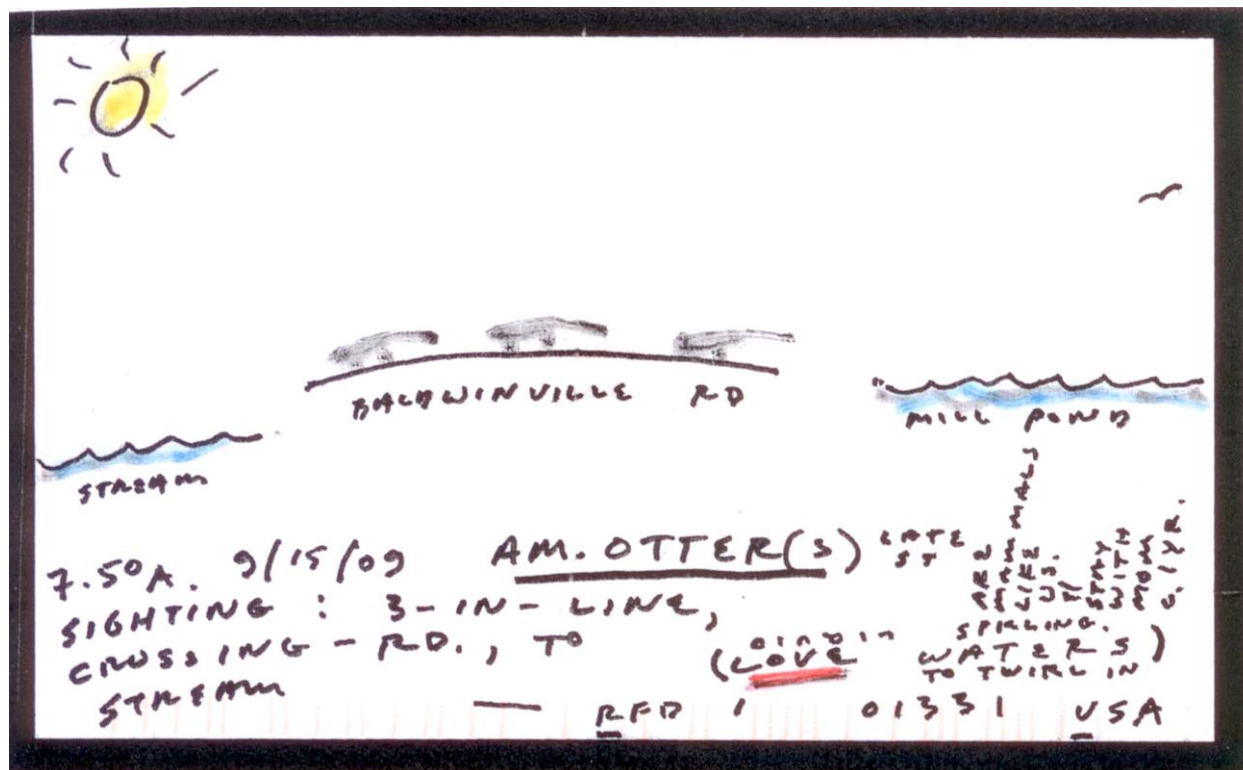
Please RSVP to Susan Varney or Ann-Marie Geyster no later than December 10th at:

[svarney@nrds.org](mailto:svarney@nrds.org)

OR

[ageyster@nrds.org](mailto:ageyster@nrds.org)

(978) 939-5661



William Gruters 1946 - 2019

By typing in: **smile.amazon.com** in the address bar  
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Please select "Historical Society of Phillipston Inc." as your  
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# *Phillipston's Holiday Memory Tree*

## *2019 Public Service Award*

### *and Concert*

**When: Sunday, December 1, 2019**

**Time and Place: 4:30 P.M., On the Common**

***Please come join us*** as the Historical Society of Phillipston once again sponsors the Memory Tree Ceremony, an event that has become a meaningful way to begin the holiday season. After the tree is lit, we will move to the church for the reading of the names of loved ones who have passed away, family members and friends who are serving in the armed forces, and the happy events in our lives that we would like to share.

The annual "Citizen of the Year" for public service to the town will also be announced and presented this evening. A wonderful musical program featuring music by "Legacy" will also be presented.

*Light refreshments will be served in the vestry.  
You won't want to miss this evening to remember.*

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