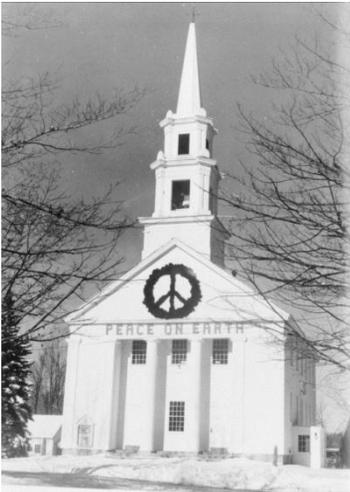


Congregational Church of Phillipston, U.C.C.
60 The Common
Phillipston, MA 01331



Phillipston
Community
Newsletter

December 2021



The Phillipston Congregational Church, U.C.C.
Our Community Church
Worship 10:00 a.m.
The Phillipston Congregational Church, U.C.C.
Our Community Church

Dear Friends,

Janice Howard gave me a beautiful book called Images of Christmas edited by Eliane Wilson with Calligraphy by Dorothy Boux. One of the stories is about the midwife written by Saint James.

Behold a woman coming down from the hill country, and she said to me: "Man, where are you going?" And I said: I seek a midwife of the Hebrews." And she answered and said, "Are you from Israel?" And I said, "Yes." And she said, "And who is she that comes forth in the cave?" And I said, "She is engaged to me." And she said to me, "Is she not your wife?" And I said to her, "It is Mary that was nurtured in the temple of the Lord: And I received her to wife by lot: and she is not my wife, but she has conceived by the Holy Ghost. And the midwife said to me, "Is this the truth?" And Joseph said to her, "Come and see!" And the midwife went with him. And they stood in the place of the cave, and behold a bright cloud overshadowing the cave. And the midwife said, "My soul is magnified this day, because my eyes have seen marvelous things, for salvation is born into Israel." And immediately the cloud withdrew itself out of the cave, and a great light appeared in the cave, and a great light appeared in the cave so that our eyes could not endure it. And little by little withdrew itself until the young child appeared, and went and took the breast of its mother Mary.

On December 2, 2001 the Congregational Church of Phillipston hired me to be their pastor. We have been ministering together in this community for twenty years. Perhaps we have been midwives together, bringing forth the Word of God. We will celebrate his birthday on Christmas Eve, with a candle light worship service at 4:00 p.m., weather permitting outside on the Common!

Your sister in Christ, Rev. Stephanie C. Flynn

Children's History Book at Library

The new children's history book of Phillipston is on sale at the library for \$10. Proceeds go to the Historical Society of Phillipston.

Phillipston's Holiday Memory Tree

and

2021 Public Service Award



When: Sunday, December 5, 2021

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, *and if Covid conditions allow*, 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.

The Phillipston Youth Supports (PYS)

Second Meeting:

Thursday, December 9, 2021 at 6:30pm
in Rm #2 at the Phillipston Memorial School.

The purpose of this nonprofit organization is to raise and distribute money for programs, scholarships, and educational opportunities that will directly support the youth of Phillipston.

If this is something you are interested in, please join us and bring a friend. The more the merrier!!

THE NEWSLETTER IS ON www.phillipston.com

January 2021 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS December 23rd

For more info go to : www.phillipston.com/priceinfo.pdf



THE COMMONWEALTH OF MASSACHUSETTS
 OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
 CENTRAL MASSACHUSETTS DIVISION
 10 MECHANIC STREET, SUITE 301
 WORCESTER, MA 01608

MAURA HEALEY
 ATTORNEY GENERAL

(508) 792-7600
 (508) 795-1991 fax
 www.mass.gov/ago

September 27, 2021

Karin L. Foley, Town Clerk
 Town of Phillipston
 50 the Common
 Phillipston, MA 01331

**Re: Phillipston Annual Town Meeting of June 2, 2021 – Case # 10237
 Warrant Article # 38 (General)**

Dear Ms. Foley:

Article 38 - We approve Article 38 from the June 2, 2021 Phillipston Annual Town Meeting.

Note: Pursuant to G.L. c. 40, § 32, neither general nor zoning by-laws take effect unless the Town has first satisfied the posting/publishing requirements of that statute. Once this statutory duty is fulfilled, (1) general by-laws and amendments take effect on the date these posting and publishing requirements are satisfied unless a later effective date is prescribed in the by-law, and (2) zoning by-laws and amendments are deemed to have taken effect from the date they were approved by the Town Meeting, unless a later effective date is prescribed in the by-law.

Very truly yours,

MAURA HEALEY
 ATTORNEY GENERAL

Nicole B. Caprioli

By: Nicole B. Caprioli
 Assistant Attorney General
 Municipal Law Unit
 10 Mechanic Street, Suite 301
 Worcester, MA 01608
 (508) 792-7600 ext. 4418

cc: Town Counsel Thomas W. McEnaney

ARTICLE 38 (Citizen's Petition):

(New Section)

Section 4. Moderator

a. The elected Moderator cannot hold any elected or appointed position in Town that has authority or decision-making powers with the budget making process.

**Motion made to move the article as printed, 2nd
 Motion to amend the article to say:**

a. The elected Moderator cannot hold any other elected or appointed position in the Town, 2nd

Motion to amend is voted yes by majority.

Main motion as amended Yes – 95 No – 48 Motion and Citizens petition passes

Phillips Free Public Library

Library Hours

Tuesday 9-2pm

Wednesday 5-7pm

Saturday 9-1 pm

Board of Trustees Meeting:

Tues. December 7, 2021 at 6pm

Holiday Schedule

The library will be CLOSED on Saturday, December 25, and Saturday, January 1. Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!!

New Materials

New books include: **Better Off Dead** by Lee Child, **The Dark Hours** by Michael Connelly, **The Lincoln Highway** by Amor Towles, **Over My Dead Body** by Jeffrey Archer, **Foul Play** by Stuart Woods, **Never** by Ken Follett, **Enemy at the Gates** by Vince Flynn, **Mercy** by David Baldacci, **State of Terror** by Louise Penney and Hilary Clinton, **Stranger in a Lifeboat** by Mitch Albom, **Shanghai Girls** by Lisa See and **Chouette** by Claire Oshetsky.

New DVDs include: **Disney Jungle Cruise**

Book & DVD sale

Stop by and find a great book and movie for the price of a small donation...

Calling All Collectors

We're looking for a great collection to display during December and January...maybe it's yours! Please call the library (978) 249-1734 if you have something you'd like to share

Please Hold Donations

The church thanks you so very much for the great donations that have benefitted our fundraising sales held at the transfer station during Covid. We will close the storage trailer for the winter and reopen in the spring so please save your donations till then. We are grateful.



Annual Senior Holiday Luncheon



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

When: Wednesday, December 22, 2021

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 12th at:

svarney@nrsd.org

OR

ageyster@nrsd.org

(978) 939-5661

SENIOR LUNCH MENU FOR NOVEMBER MEALS TO GO

Tuesday Dec. 7th Chicken Jambalaya, Brown rice, mixed veggies, multigrain bread, yogurt

Tuesday 14th Lasagna roll with tomato sauce, mozzarella cheese, Italian veg blend, wheat bread, fruit cup

Please call Paula at 978-652-5797 to order a meal.

All meals are served to go from 11am to noon at the church. \$3.00 donation accepted

Cable TV Service Survey

The Town Cable TV License is up for renewal in November of 2023. The Town negotiates the terms of cable access and service, the renewal license does NOT control the prices Comcast charges. The State negotiates pricing. An important part of the license renewal process is gathering input from all the residents of Phillipston on the performance of the cable service and Comcast. The following survey is the first way this will be done. A web link to this survey also appears on the Town's homepage and below if you would prefer to complete the survey online. All Town residents are requested to respond to the survey even if you currently do not have access to cable service. Gathering your feedback about the quality of cable service in Town will help the Town and our cable lawyer negotiate with Comcast on your behalf. In addition to this survey, a public hearing will be scheduled in early 2023 with a representative from Comcast in attendance. If you have any questions or comments concerning the survey or the public hearing, please contact the Cable Advisory Committee at (978) 249-6828.

If you do not have Comcast TV cable service, what are your reasons for not subscribing?

Cost **No cable access** **Cable service problems** **Prefer Satellite TV**
 Don't want cable TV service **Other**

If you have Comcast cable service, how do you rate the quality of the cable TV service?

Above Average **Average** **Below Average**

If you do have Comcast cable service, have you ever needed a service technician?

Yes **No**

If you contacted Comcast, how satisfied were you with the results?

Strongly Approve **Approve** **Disapprove** **Strongly Disapprove**

Have you ever watched the Town's local cable community access channel (channel 99)?

Yes **No**

If you have seen the information on the Town cable channel 99 was it useful?

Yes **No**

Presently Town information, Town Meeting recordings, Public Service programs from the State and Worcester County along with some Town events are broadcast on channel 99.

Would you be interested having other community events or local programs broadcast?

Yes **No**

If you have Cable TV service from Comcast, on your bill, there is one line item, under the section titled, "Taxes, fees and other charges" labeled "Franchise Fee." It varies between \$0.50 and \$1.80 and it depends on the cable TV services provided. This fee is used by the Town to fund extending the cable service to areas of the Town that do not have access to cable service. This has been done on Williamsville Road and is currently underway on Willis Road. If you do not have cable service (this includes internet) available at the street for your home and would like to have it, please contact the Cable Advisory Committee. The process takes over a year once the funds are there to proceed.

Thank you for your time. Please drop this survey off at the Town Hall in the Cable Advisory Committee's mailbox, or mail it to the address below. Responses will be tallied at the end of January, 2022 and shared with Comcast.

Cable Advisory Committee

The Town Hall 50 The Common, Phillipston, MA 01331

Complete the Survey online at - <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/KKJJHN8>

**Rt. 101
Queen Lake Rd.**



Due to a design error work on the bridge will not be completed this year. The cost to temporarily open it for the winter would be excessive. Work will continue as long as possible this year and will start back up just as soon as the weather allows in the spring.

Any questions can be answered by the selectmen's office: 978-249-6828

Winter Parking Ban



No Parking

A winter parking ban will be in effect from November 1-April 1 annually. During this time, there will be no parking on public roads from 11 pm – 6 am daily.

In the event of a snowstorm, any vehicle impeding snow removal will be towed at the owner's expense.