

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

ECR WSR 06  
RESIDENT  
PHILLIPSTON, MA 01331

Phillipston  
Community  
Newsletter

January 2020



The Phillipston Congregational Church, U.C.C.

Our Community Church

Worship is at 10:00 a.m. Sunday School is also at 10:00 a.m. after the children have heard a Bible story

Dear Friends,

In the darkness of midwinter, I remember the Epiphany, the light the Wisemen followed to find Jesus and I share this poem with you. May God's light shine brightly in your lives in the coming year. We will be celebrating Epiphany on Sunday, January 5.

An Epiphany poem (Monday, January 6) by Gerhard Frost

If I am asked

what are my grounds for hope,  
this is my answer:

Light is Lord over darkness,  
Truth is Lord over falsehood,  
Life is Lord over death.

Of all the facts I daily live with,  
There are none more comforting  
than this: If I have two rooms,  
one dark, the other light,  
and I open the door between them,  
the dark room becomes light  
without the light one becoming darker.  
I know this is no headline,  
but it is a marvelous footnote;  
and God comforts me in that.

Your sister in Christ,  
Rev. Stephanie C. Flynn

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

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

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



## **The Phillipston Congregational Church Is Located On the Common, Phillipston, Ma**

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

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

Services & Sunday School are held on Sundays at **10:00 am**. Parents are encouraged to take part in Sunday School, if they wish. A Coffee Hour with refreshments follows the service and is open to all. For more information you may call 978-516-8061.

### **January Activities:**

**January 5<sup>th</sup>:** Morning Worship & Sunday School 10 am

**January 7<sup>th</sup>:** Senior Lunch 12 noon

**January 12<sup>th</sup>:** Morning Worship & Sunday School 10 am  
with Potluck Brunch following the Service

**January 19<sup>th</sup>:** Morning Worship & Sunday School 10 am

**January 21<sup>st</sup>:** Senior Lunch 12 noon

**January 26<sup>th</sup>:** Morning Worship & Sunday School 10 am



Wishing you all a  
Happy New Year!



Gordon & Karissa Moore  
978-822-8791

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## **TOWN EMPLOYEE OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS**

Do you know a Phillipston town employee whose dedication and efforts deserve special recognition for the past year? The 'Commitment to Excellence' Award provides the opportunity for residents, department heads and Town employees to recognize individuals for demonstrating excellent performance over the past year. Any full time or part time employee under the direct or indirect supervision of the Chief Administrative Officer is eligible for consideration. They do not need to be a Phillipston resident. The selected employee will receive a plaque, letter of recognition, and cash gift of \$250. All employees will be honored at an employees' luncheon on January 23, 2020.

**Criteria.** The Chief Administrative Officer will consider nominees who:

- Are full time or part time employee under the direct or indirect supervision of the CAO;
- Have increased productivity, performed appropriately beyond job responsibilities, provided cooperative and positive working relationships, demonstrated a pattern of high-quality work, has offered a creative or innovative idea to improve town operations, efficiency, or saved costs to the Town, and provided courteous service to the public and other departments.

Nomination forms are available in the lobby at Town Hall or on the town website, [www.phillipston-ma.gov](http://www.phillipston-ma.gov). Residents, department heads or other employees may nominate an employee by submitting the form below with a detailed explanation on how the nominee has met one or more of the above criteria. Limit your nomination statement to the space on the form. Self-nominations will also be allowed and are encouraged. Note: this is not a popularity contest, multiple nominations don't increase anyone's chances. Nominations must be received by the Chief Administrative Officer by January 7, 2020. Please return nomination forms to the Selectmen's Office.

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### **ANDREW NOVAK ROOFING**

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## LADIES BENEVOLENT SOCIETY

The annual Ladies Benevolent Christmas Party was held on Wednesday, December 13, 2019 at 12:00 pm in the church vestry. A delicious holiday lunch was served to all. We had 38 attendees. It was enjoyed by all and "Annie's Game" was explained to the newcomers and everyone had a great time. There will be no meeting in the month of January so we will have to wait for our February Meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup> at 11am at Nancy Nason's to gather together again and catch up on news. We will begin planning for the Easter Great Gathering to be held in April at the Red Apple Farm. The Ladies Benevolent Society is open to all ladies, please feel free to come and join us, 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.

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**COME JOIN US! SENIOR LUNCH IS SERVED THE FIRST AND THIRD TUESDAY OF JANUARY 2020 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.**



**COME JOIN US!**

# *Phillips Free Public Library*

## **Library Hours**

*Tuesday 9-2pm*

*Wednesday 5-7pm*

*Saturday 9am-1pm*

## **Board of Trustees Meeting:**

*Tuesday, January 7 at 6pm*

## **Family Story Time**

Looking for a relaxing family activity for a chilly Saturday morning? Stop by on **Saturday, January 18 at 10:30** for a 'Family Story Time'. Enjoy a few stories, an activity and light refreshments. All ages welcome!

## **Book Club**

Our newly- formed book club has chosen the book '**The Guest Book**' by Sarah Blake as its next read. Join us on **Monday, January 27 at 6pm** to dissect it! Please call the library and we will help you get a copy. If you would like to be part of this fun group, even if you haven't read the book, please join us & see what it's all about.

## **Handmade Mask Display**

Stop by to see the library's current display. A collection of masks made by the Phillipston Memorial students is on display through the month of January. We have some very talented young people among us!

Do you have a collection that you'd like to loan for our display cases? Call the library (978) 249-1734

## **New Books**

Finding Chika by Mitch Albom, Blowout by Rachel Maddow, Girls Like Us by Cristina Alger, Cilka's Journey by Heather Morris, Sullivan's Island by Dorothea Benton Frank and Wild Game by Adrienne Brodeur

## **New Movies**

Check out some of our new movies... 'Downton Abbey', 'Overcomer', 'It-Chapter Two'

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*Thank you ALL for your participation in the recent Memory Tree Ceremony on December 8th!! It was very well attended despite having to suddenly postpone it from its original date due to the two foot snow storm. This was the first time it had ever been postponed. But, you all came out the next Sunday and made the event a wonderful success. Thank you very much for your determination to participate despite the changing weather + date!*

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**CONGRATULATIONS to**  
***Gerard Gariepy and Craig Twohey***

*Hearty congratulations to the recipients of the 2019 Alphonse E. Chartier Public Service Award (aka Citizen of the Year)! This year there were TWO equally deserving people, and therefore, the two men were honored this year as individual recipients.*

***Gerard Gariepy and Craig Twohey***  
*have been instrumental people within the Town of Phillipston for decades. It was not surprising that both men received equal kudos and votes for this prestigious award. Phillipston is certainly blessed with outstanding people who devote so much personal time, effort and energy into making our Town a sparkling light on the map!*

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**KEY AMNESTY - LOOKING FOR LOST KEYS**

Have you seen any lost keys recently? The Selectmen's Office is looking for lost keys. We have desks, file cabinets, and doors in multiple locations which are missing their keys. Sometimes the keys are lost accidentally. Sometimes employees or officials will forget to turn in their keys when they leave office. As time passes they may be embarrassed to acknowledge they still have them. It is expensive to re-key locks because we have to provide new copies to current users and some locks cannot be changed.

***We are declaring a "key amnesty."*** If you have any town keys turn them in now through January 8, 2020, no questions asked by dropping them in the slot in the Town Hall front door or dropping them off in the Selectmen's Office. Thank you for bringing our keys home.

TOWN OF PHILLIPSTON  
Office of the Town Clerk  
**50 The Common**  
Phillipston, Massachusetts 01331  
Phone: (978) 249-1733  
[townclerk@phillipston-ma.gov](mailto:townclerk@phillipston-ma.gov)

## **SPECIAL TOWN ELECTION**

Per a vote of the Select Board on December 18, 2019 there will be a special Town Election held on March 3, 2020 to fill a vacant Select Board position. The Position has been left vacant by the recent moving of Select Board member Terrance Dymek. We wish Terry all the best in his move from Phillipston and appreciate his years of service.

The term left open is only until May 18, 2020. All candidates taking out nomination papers for the March 3<sup>rd</sup> special election will fill the term until May at which time the office will be open for nomination papers to all candidates for the three-year term.

Any one wishing to take out nomination papers for the Select Board position for the term of March 3<sup>rd</sup> to May 18<sup>th</sup> please come to the Town Clerk's Office by January 15<sup>th</sup>. Please see the election schedule below.

Nomination papers available January 2, 2020.

Last day to take out nomination papers January 15, 2020.

Last day to return nomination papers to the Town Clerk's Office  
for registrar's certification January 21, 2020

Last day to file with Town Clerk after certification is February 4, 2020

Last day to object or with draw papers is February 6, 2020.

Last day to register to vote February 12, 2020.

**This will be a dual election – Presidential Primary – March 3, 2020**

**Special Town Election for Select Board member – March 3, 2020**

**Two separate ballots and two ballot boxes**

**Polls open at 7am and close at 8pm**

**Early voting will be February 24<sup>th</sup> to 27<sup>th</sup> (4 days) 8am to 4pm**

**Wednesday 26<sup>th</sup> only 8am to 7pm**

Please call with any questions 978-249-1733 or e-mail [townclerk@phillipston - ma.gov](mailto:townclerk@phillipston-ma.gov)

See you at the polls ☐

Karin Foley/Town Clerk