



The

Senior Informer

Volume 9

Issue 11

NOVEMBER 2012

ABINGTON COUNCIL
ON AGING
441 Summer Street, Abington, MA 02351
781-982-2145

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ABINGTONSENIORCENTER.COM

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Don't forget to VOTE
Nov. 6th at High School

BREAKFAST with SANTA
Dec. 15th, 8AM—Noon
\$5, 4 & under FREE
Abington Senior Center

*Success is the sum of small efforts,
repeated day in and day out.*
—submitted by Jean Connell

ACTIVITIES

Bingo
Blood Pressure Screening
Bridge & Chess
Chair Yoga w/Joanne
Computer Classes
Cribbage
Hearing Tests
Knitting & Crocheting Group
Legal Assistance
Quilting Class
Senior Lunches
Tai Chi & Zumba

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*Chief David Majenski
is pictured in his office
at the Abington Police
Station.*

—Photo by Marie Brown

YOUR ABINGTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

Police Chief David Majenski was raised in Abington so he's familiar with the town, its people and environs. He started his police career as a patrolman, then rose through the ranks to Sergeant, Deputy Chief, and eventually was appointed chief in 2004. His background included working for the Bureau of Criminal Investigation and attending the FBI Academy. He also holds degrees in Criminal Justice and Psychology.

One of the major problems confronting the department today is an increase in crimes and the complexity of those crimes. Today there are 24 officers (down from 30) which contributed to the loss of the detective unit.

Training is very important for police officers. There are seven training academies and each new officer attends one of the academies for 21 weeks. After completion of the training, they are partnered with a field training officer for three months, and they continuously receive training daily during roll call. In addition, they must complete 60 to 70 hours of specified training (i.e., CPR, firearms, etc.) per year.

Chief Majenski is proud of his department, their professionalism, and community commitment, especially in dealing with the increased complexity of the crimes they are dealing with. The public should be aware that their police force is a well trained, community oriented department. The officers welcome feedback and suggestions from the community.

Speaking of the town-wide phone alerts, the chief said they originate through two agencies, one is the Florida-based Missing Children Alert (for both children and adults) and the other is handled by the Plymouth County Sheriff's Department. Majenski plans to address any confusion caused by a recent alert, stating he will suggest more specific information should be included in the call to alleviate confusion/fears and also that a follow-up call be made as soon as the situation has been alleviated.

Speaking about a popular exercise program previously sponsored by the police department, the chief stated that program was funded through a one-time Federal grant that gave him the discretion to sponsor programs he thought would be useful to the community. Abington was one of only four communities to receive those Federal grants to be used for community activities such as exercise programs, etc. The chief stated that he would like to be able to provide more community outreach programs. One such program will be the collection of outdated/expired prescription drugs to take place in March of 2013.

—Chief Majenski was interviewed by Marie Brown for the above information.

DO YOU REMEMBER?*Memories —Red Greenleaf***My days at the Dunbar Street**

School: In the second grade, I kissed a pretty little blond girl. She told the Principal, Clare Crowley. My punishment was to go down to the janitor and kiss his black dog that lived in the coal bin. Needless to say, I stopped kissing girls in the second grade. In the fifth grade, I threw a spit ball one day. My punishment was to pick up a whole box of pea beans (1,000) thrown over a 40 square hallway floor. After five hours and only 998 pea beans, I have never thrown another. On the day the *Hindenburg* caught fire in New Jersey, she first flew over Brockton. We were allowed to watch her from the front steps of the school. Our teachers at the Dunbar Street School were Miss Rourke, Miss Wilkes, Miss Barteau, Miss Farrar, Bob Dennis, and Clare Crowley.

Abington Center: At the corner of Thaxter Avenue was Karl Crook Motor Company selling Chryslers and Plymouths. On the other corner was the Old Colony Gas station run by Doug Bone from North Abington. Bill's Barber Shop came next, then three houses with families – the Kiely family, Eddie Bailey's place, with the Greenleafs upstairs, next the Douglas home and Bill Carey's family. Then across Bank Street to the Savings Bank, Jimmy the Greek's variety store, a Texaco gas station, Leo DeCota's cleaners, then a Gulf station run by Art LaFranchise and an Esso station operated by George Ward. This side of the street was completed by a hair salon, Grubby Donovan's restaurant (later owned by John Kelley), then the post office, the Golden Slipper gift shop, and the New Jerusalem church. On the opposite side of the street were Gates Market, Matheson Insurance, Mutual Insurance, Eddie Bailey's Mobil station, Erickson's News, a dry cleaners; then across Orange Street to the drug store and a meat market. Behind these stores was the Fox Bus terminal (later to become the location for Bailey's garage). Then down Washington street and to the Universalist Church, Lloyd's small lunch spot, and then Finnish Hall on Washington Terrace. Across the street were the Blacksmith shop and Russell's furniture store.

When I was 12 years old, I helped Teddie Ware on the milk truck. One morning when I was delivering milk to the home where Bridie Cashman now lives, I pushed aside what I thought was a cat to make room for the milk bottle on the step. I got fooled – it was a skunk, and, boy, did he give it to me. I stunk for a week.

World War II: I was a Navy Armed Guard on a merchant ship. We were leaving New York, and the last thing aboard was a 3 ft. box scheduled for delivery in Russia. Now, here we are with 10,000 tons of bombs, ammunition, tanks, and 500 soldiers, and guess where this box was from? Green Street, Abington, the Kay Goat Farm, only ½ mile from my home. I lived on Mill Street at the time.

The Navy did give me a chance to see the world. We stopped in ports in South America, Europe, and the South Pacific. And, finally, back home to Abington.

In 20 years, you will be more disappointed by what you didn't do than by what you did. —Mark Twain

He or she (your hero) walks on the same ground you do.

INFORMER NEWS DEADLINE

Place in Newsletter inbox by 10th of previous month (i.e., 10th of November for the December issue).

HEALTH AND ASSISTANCE

Walk-In Health Screening for Blood Pressure, Sugar Testing, Nutrition and Weight Counseling & Medication Instruction are held as follows: Leavitt Terrace, 1st Tues. 9:30 to 12:30; Abington Sr. Ctr., weekly on Mondays 9:30 to 12:30 and the last Tuesday of the month, 9:30 to 12:30; Blanchard Gardens, 2nd Tues. 9:30 to 12:30; Chestnut Glen, 3rd Tues. 9:30 to 12:30. *The Board of Health states the nurse will be available to ALL Abington residents, regardless of age, and Seniors are welcome at ALL sessions.* Free Hearing Screenings and Hearing Aid Checks are held the first Tuesday of each month at the Senior Center with John Klefeker. Call for appt. 781-982-2145.

SENIOR TRANSPORTATION—CALL 781-982-2145

(24 HOUR ADVANCE NOTICE REQUIRED)

Council on Aging Van is door-to-door service to medical appointments, and other needs. \$3 round trip - suggested donation. Call the COA at 781-982-2145 to book rides in advance. **Dial-A-BAT** vehicles travel a bit further out, to Brockton and the Bridgewaters between 9:30 and 4:30 and to Boston Wed. & Fri. BAT rides must be booked thru the COA. Fees vary. Door-to-door-pay driver. **Friday Morning Shopping Van.** We will be using our trusty van to get you to either the Hanover Mall or another mall. We will pick you up starting at 9:15 or shortly after. We will pick you up at the mall at 12:30 getting you home around 1 or 1:15. Cost for round trip is \$3.00. Each week we will alternate between malls.

SENIOR NUTRITION—CALL 781-982-2145

Meals on Wheels delivered to homebound Seniors, lunchtime Mon-Fri, \$3.00 per meal. Our wonderful volunteers deliver nutritious meals right to your kitchen table. A referral is needed from your doctor, visiting nurse, social worker or case worker.

Senior Lunches: Tuesdays & Thursdays at 11:30. Tuesday—cost \$4.00. Thursday suggested donation is \$3.00. Call the Center at 781-982-2145 to make your reservation by Friday of the previous week.

FUEL ASSISTANCE

Fuel assistance will begin on November 1. Call 781-982-2145 to make an appointment.

MEDICAL EQUIPMENT

Wheelchairs, walkers, and other medical equipment are available at the Senior Center. Call 781-982-2145 for availability.

SENIOR COMPUTER LEARNING CENTER

For info regarding classes, dates, times, etc., call 509-521-4008 or by email go to www.seniorcomputerlearningcenter.org.

BOOK RECOMMENDATIONS

This is not a new title but it's a good read:

Snow in August by Pete Hamill—a 1947 era story about an Irish Catholic boy, a Jewish rabbi, and the ballplayer Jackie Robinson set in Brooklyn, NY.

Stop By the Abington Public Library

November 2-29 Abington Art Association Exhibit at Library.

November 15, 7:00 P.M. Evening non-fiction group to discuss *A Death in Belmont* by Sebastian Junger.

November 19, 10:15 A.M. Morning Book Discussion Group, Copeland Room at Library, *Defending Jacob* by William Landy.

November 27, 7:00 P.M. Evening Mystery Group to discuss *The Lincoln Lawyer* by Michael Connelly.

November 28, 7:00 P.M. **Books for the Holidays Program:**

Deborah Grimmitt and Lauren Budd will talk about books perfect for holiday giving.

December 5, 7:00 P.M. Hank Phillippi Ryan will speak about her mystery novels and new thriller *The Other Woman*.

**NOVEMBER 11 IS VETERANS DAY
FREEDOM ISN'T FREE, DON'T FORGET TO THANK A VET!**

FRIENDS OF ABINGTON SENIORS, INC. MEMBERSHIP & DONATIONS

The Friends of Abington Seniors, Inc. would like to thank both past and present members for their support and contributions.

JUNE 2012 starts a new membership year with dues of \$5.00 payable now and good until JUNE 2013. Please make checks payable to:

“Friends of Abington Seniors, Inc.”

and mail to P.O. Box 2035, Abington, MA 02351.

Many thanks to families selecting “Friends of Abington Seniors” for memorial gifts.

Friends of Abington Seniors Membership for 2012-2013: \$5.00 per person or \$100 for lifetime membership.

Please send donations to this address: P.O. Box 2035, Abington, MA 02351

Name _____

Address _____

In Memory Of _____

Send Acknowledgement to _____

THE BIRTHDAY GIFT THAT KEEPS ON GIVING

Do you have a birthday coming ? Can't think of anything you want or need ?

Suggest a donation in your name to the Friends of Abington Seniors, Inc.

Memberships:

Don & Bev Fontaine	Helene W. Meehl	William Morison	Francis & Eileen Leary
Elaine Dunford	Al & Joan Robbins	Karney Eldridge	Russ & Helene DeCoste
Patricia McCarthy	Jim & Barbara Aikens	Janet Macmurdo	Beverly A. Brown

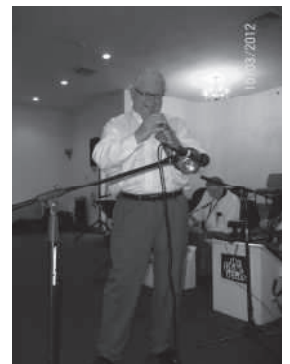
In Memory of: Gordon F. Slinger by Betty Slinger Wilma & David by Joe Bentley
 Fran Greenough by Anna Fopiano Connie West by Helene Meehl
 Ed Kiernan by Muriel Kiernan Donald Monts by Teresa Monts
 Edward Coughlin by Natalie Walker Edward Coughlin by Vinson Blanchard Garden Association

Donations: William A. Morison Russell & Helene Decoste John Shepard

Lifetime Membership: James Howell

DANCE WITH THE OLDE KIDS BIG BAND
December 5th, 1 PM—3PM, Abington Senior Center
Tickets \$6 per person, Refreshments

The Olde Kids Big Band was originally started in 1986 by Bob Vurzetti. The present group, together for approximately 12 years, is led by Bob Jorgensen and features Mara Castle as vocalist (she's also the booking agent). This group performs 10 to 12 concerts throughout the summer, as well as performing at private parties. The average age of band members is 78, and they hail from Braintree, Rockland, Westwood, Fall River, Boston, Brockton, Kingston, Rhode Island, etc. They perform music from the *Great American Song Book*, i.e., the music of Glenn Miller, Count Basie, Duke Ellington, Gene Krupa, etc. Ms. Castle sings her own vocal arrangements of songs such as *In The Mood*, *Tenderly*, *You Made Me Love You*, *Misty*, and other old favorites. The band rehearses on Wednesdays at the Randolph Senior Center, and you are welcome to stop by to listen.

**THANKS!**

A very large thank you to *all* who helped with our Craft Fair. Without your help, it couldn't be done—especially Darlean Lewis who organized it and kept everyone going. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

Thanks to Dottie Rosseel for her recent complimentary note about our newsletter, *The Informer*.

NOVEMBER'S CHUCKLE

Hospital regulations require a wheel chair for patients being discharged. However, while working as a student nurse, I found one elderly gentleman already dressed and sitting on the bed with a suitcase at his feet, who insisted he didn't need my help to leave the hospital. After a chat about rules being rules, he reluctantly let me wheel him to the elevator. On the way down I asked him if his wife was meeting him. “I don't know,” he said, “she's still upstairs in the bathroom changing out of her hospital gown.”

OUTREACH WITH VALERIE

Hello everyone, hope you are all having a wonderful fall season. As many of you already know this is also the time for the **Medicare Open Enrollment which continues until December 7, 2012**. If you would like to look over your Medicare options for 2013, call and book an appointment with me. I am holding SHINE office hours on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday from 9-2pm. This is a very busy time, so please call as much in advance as you can to book your appointment and I will do my best to accommodate your appointment time and needs. Hope everyone has a great November and Thanksgiving holiday!

RETRAIN YOUR BRAIN SO YOU SEE THE SUNNY SIDE!

Did you know it's possible to retrain our brains through actions? Here's some advice for a sunnier outlook:

Count your blessings: If you record your day in a diary and review the entries later it becomes easier to see just how much in your life is going right.

Make time for "you": Distancing yourself from stress helps eliminate a negative mind-set. Just take 10 minutes in the day to sit (turn off everything)...or else spend some time outdoors.

Push yourself: Put extra effort into something meaningful to you. Pushing yourself and exceeding your comfort zone is very important.

FYI—Health Tip: If you stop getting thirsty, you need to drink more water. When a human body is dehydrated, its thirst mechanism shuts off.

DID YOU KNOW?

The American Legion, on Washington Street, has a receptacle on its front porch where anyone can leave a worn or old American Flag for disposal. These flags are burned and disposed of by the American Legion at a public ceremony the first week of December, usually Dec. 7th.

ABOUT SOME POPULAR WEBSITES

Facebook is a free social networking Web site that people use to stay in touch, share information, and reconnect with people.

MySpace is a free online community that people use to stay in touch with friends and family, share information, and meet new friends.

LinkedIn is a professional networking site that people use to find, be introduced to and collaborate with other professionals.

Twitter is a real-time short messaging service that works over multiple networks and devices including TwitterMobile and Facebook.

RECIPE OF THE MONTH — (submitted by Lorraine Leventuk)

Kisses Cookies

2 egg whites, beaten stiff	1 cup brown sugar
1 cup nut meats	2 cups corn flakes, rolled fine
2 cups coconut	

Mix well. Drop cookies onto ungreased baking sheet. Bake at 350 for about 20 minutes



TEMPERATURE RULES FOR COOKING FOODS

145F.....Beef, lamb, & veal steaks & roasts, medium rare
(medium: 160F)

160F.....Ground beef, pork, veal & lamb, pork chops, ribs & roasts, egg dishes

165F.....Ground turkey & chicken, stuffing & casseroles, leftovers

170F.....Chicken & turkey breasts

180F.....Chicken & turkey whole bird, legs, thighs & wings.

—Food Safety & Inspection Service
U.S.D.A.

Confidence is 10% hard work and 90% dedication. —Tina Fey, in Vogue

Two roads diverged in a wood, and I
I took the one less traveled by
And that has made all the difference.

—Robert Frost

WISH LIST

Paper Towels and Paper Napkins.
Men or Women adult absorbent underwear, i.e.,
Attends, etc.

FOOD STORAGE AND DATES

Types of Dates:

A **"Sell-By"** date tells the store how long to display the product for sale. You should buy the product before the date expires.

A **"Best if Used By (or Before)"** date is recommended for best flavor or quality. It is not a purchase or safety date.

A **"Use-By"** date is the last date recommended for the use of the product while at peak quality. The date has been determined by the manufacturer of the product.

"Closed or coded dates" are packing numbers for use by the manufacturer.

Safety After Date Expires:

Except for "use-by" dates, product dates don't refer to home storage and use after purchase. "Use-by" dates usually refer to best quality and are not safety dates. But even if the date expires during home storage, a product should be safe, wholesome and of good quality if handled properly and kept at 40F or below. If product has a "use-by" date, follow that date. —from America's Cookbook

All you need in life is a friend with chocolate.

SAVE THE DATE —Upcoming Events at the Senior Center

12/2 Thank You Community Lunch sponsored by Richard Donovan, 2-4PM, Public Welcome
12/5 Old Kids on the Block Big Band, 1-3 PM
12/7 Candy Land Event
12/8 Polar Express
12/11 South Shore Choir Performance

PUZZLE

Complete each sentence with two words that sound alike, but are spelled differently.

- I came down with the ___ after I ___ in an airplane with a sick passenger.
 - Even though he was ___ down by his fishing gear, the angler managed to ___ across to the other bank where the fishing was better.
 - My salad ___ are, unfortunately, now just a ___.
 - During the sea display, the safety ___ was set off with real ___.
- (See page 8 for answer.)

NOVEMBER 2012 LUNCH & ACTIVITIES

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<p><i>November 3 Sadie Hawkins Day</i> <i>November 4 Daylight Savings Ends</i> <i>November 11 Veterans Day</i> <u>Freedom isn't free.</u> <u>Thank a vet!</u></p>	<p>FYI: IN CASE OF INCLEMENT WEATHER AND THE ABINGTON SCHOOLS ARE CLOSED, THE SENIOR CENTER WILL ALSO BE CLOSED.</p>	<p><i>FYI: Menu is subject to change.</i></p>	<p><u>1</u> <u>9:00 Cribbage</u> <u>10:00 Chair Yoga w/ Joanne (Donation)</u> <u>11:30 Lunch: TBA</u></p> <p><i>All Saints Day</i></p>	<p><u>2</u> <u>9:00 Cribbage</u> <u>9:00 Shopping Van</u> <u>11:00 A.M Tai Chi (Free)</u></p>
<p><u>5</u> <u>9:00-10:00 Beginners Knitting/ Crocheting Class (\$5)</u> <u>12:30 Bingo</u></p>	<p><u>6</u> <u>Election Day</u> <u>9:00 Cribbage</u> <u>11:30 Lunch:</u> <u>Baked Ham, Scalloped Potatoes, Vegetable, Rolls, Dessert, Beverage</u> <u>5:30-6:30 Zumba (\$4)</u></p>	<p><u>7</u> <u>10:00 Knitting Group</u> <u>10:00-12:00 Quilting Class</u> <u>10:00 Bridge</u> <u>10:30 Chess</u></p> <p><i>Last Quarter</i></p>	<p><u>8</u> <u>9:00 Cribbage</u> <u>10:00 Chair Yoga w/ Joanne (Donation)</u> <u>11:30 Lunch: TBA</u></p> <p><i>Black Bears Head to Winter Dens</i></p>	<p><u>9</u> <u>9:00 Cribbage</u> <u>9:00 Shopping van</u> <u>11:00 A.M. Tai Chi (Free)</u> <u>Veterans Day Program by Ctr. School Kindergarten</u> <u>12:30PM</u></p>
<p><u>12</u> <u>Center Closed</u></p> <p><i>Veterans Day Observed</i></p>	<p><u>13</u> <u>9:00 Cribbage</u> <u>10:30 Meet w/State Rep. Geoff Diehl</u> <u>11:30 Lunch:</u> <u>Roast Pork, Roast Potatoes, Gravy, Vegetable, Applesauce, Dessert, Beverage</u> <u>5:30-6:30pm: Zumba (\$4)</u></p>	<p><u>14</u> <u>9:00 FOAS Mtg.</u> <u>10:00 Knitting Group</u> <u>10:00-12:00 Quilting Class</u> <u>10:00 Bridge</u> <u>10:30 Chess</u></p>	<p><u>15</u> <u>9:00 Cribbage</u> <u>10:00 Chair Yoga w/ Joanne (Donation)</u> <u>11:30 Lunch: TBA</u></p>	<p><u>16</u> <u>9:00 Cribbage</u> <u>9:00 Shopping van</u> <u>11:00 A.M. Tai Chi (Free)</u></p>
<p><u>19</u> <u>9:00-10:00 Beginners Knitting/Crocheting Class (\$5)</u> <u>12:30 Bingo</u></p> <p><i>Gettysburg Address, 1863</i></p>	<p><u>20</u> <u>9:00 Cribbage</u> <u>11:30 Lunch:</u> <u>Soup, Sandwich, Crackers, Dessert, Beverage</u> <u>5:30-6:30pm: Zumba (\$4)</u></p>	<p><u>21</u> <u>9:00 COA Mtg.</u> <u>10:00 Knitting Group</u> <u>10:00-12:00 Quilting Class</u> <u>10:00 Bridge</u> <u>10:30 Chess</u></p> <p><u>Center closes at 1:00 PM</u></p>	<p><u>22</u> <u>Center Closed</u></p> <p><i>Happy Thanksgiving</i></p>	<p><u>23</u> <u>Center Closed</u></p>
<p><u>26</u> <u>9:00-10:00 Beginners Knitting/Crocheting Class (\$5)</u> <u>12:30 Bingo</u></p>	<p><u>27</u> <u>9:00 Cribbage</u> <u>11:30 Lunch:</u> <u>Cheeseburgers, French Fries, Cole Slaw, Birthday Cake, Beverage</u> <u>5:30-6:30pm: Zumba (\$4)</u></p>	<p><u>28</u> <u>10:00 Knitting Group</u> <u>10:00-12:00 Quilting Class</u> <u>10:00 Bridge</u> <u>10:30 Chess</u></p> <p><i>Full Beaver Moon</i></p>	<p><u>29</u> <u>9:00 Cribbage</u> <u>19:00 Chair Yoga w/ Joanne (Donation)</u> <u>11:30 Lunch: TBA</u></p>	<p><u>30</u> <u>9:00 Cribbage</u> <u>9:00 Shopping Van</u> <u>11:00 A.M. Tai Chi (Free)</u></p>



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*The Abington
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Legion Post
located on
Washington
Street.*

*Abington's
War Memorial
wall located on
Washington
Street near the
Legion Build-
ing.*



A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE MILITARY SERVICE OF ABINGTON RESIDENTS —Joseph Shea

1789-1860

After the Revolution, militia service continued in Abington. A third militia company, this one of artillery, was formed in 1787. Abington tradition is that trees from our town were used in building the U.S.S. Constitution (“Old Ironsides”) in the 1790s. Abington, as well as most of the New England states, had a much smaller role in the War of 1812 than during the Revolution. The war was unpopular in New England and the Massachusetts Governor did not allow Massachusetts volunteer units or militia to serve except in defense of the state. There were about 100 Abington residents who served on militia expeditions, but these were only to respond to threatened British naval raids on Boston, Plymouth, Hingham, and Scituate. There was no fighting and no casualties are recorded. One Abington man served on a privateer ship at the end of the war. There may have been others who served in the Navy, Regular Army or regiments from other states, but no record of them has been found.

In 1840, Massachusetts (as part of a national trend) changed its Militia law to place more emphasis on volunteers serving in the militia rather than relying on all adult men being required to serve and attend training. There is a drawing of a Massachusetts governor inspecting Plymouth County militia in the 1850s in the “Musterfield” area of North Abington. This was named the Musterfield since it was used for militia drills because of its flat and empty (at the time) nature. It is between Wales, West, Pine, and Spruce Streets. No records could be found of Abington residents serving in the Mexican-American War of 1846-1848.

1866-1916

After 1875, the records of military service are divided between Abington, Rockland, and Whitman. The only records found for Abington for residents serving in the Spanish American War are records of 6 servicemen buried in Abington cemeteries. Four were in the Army and 2 in the Navy, with two dying from disease. There may have been more Abington servicemen since Rockland had 28 serve and 5 die.

World War I

During 1917 and 1918, 298 residents of Abington served (5% of the population); 223 in the Army, 56 in the Navy, 17 in the Air Service, and 2 in the Marines. Two women served; Helen Merrill and Maud Miller. Ninety-one served overseas in the Army or Air Service. They won 2 Silver Stars (Edgar Bascom posthumously, George Wheatley), 1 Distinguished Service Cross (Harry McPherson), and 1 French Croix de Guerre (Cornelius Reardon). Seventeen died (6% of those who served) – 6 killed in action, 8 by disease, 3 unknown causes. The short period (18 months) of the war limited those who served, but 15 died in 4 months (July 15-November 11, 1918). Four hundred thirty-three men and women served from Rockland with 12 dying. Whitman had over 1,000 residents serve and 21 die (2 were serving with the Canadian Expeditionary force and 2 were in the Navy). Residents of all three towns worked in war industries, especially the Bethlehem Steel shipyard at Fore River, Quincy, and local shoe factories. For the first time, rationing was implemented in the United States. After the war, the Abington Legion Post was founded and named in honor of Lewis Dorsey who was killed in action.

Note: This document is part of an article on the history of Abington (including Rockland and Whitman) residents' military service from colonial times until today. This is one of many articles and history of Abington to be included in the Abington Tricentennial book to be published this fall. Those who are interested in the history of Abington should plan to purchase this book.



Pictured is Abington's GAR Hall

The Grand Army of the Republic (GAR) according to Wikipedia, was a fraternal organization composed of veterans of the Union Army, US Navy, US Marines and US Revenue Cutter Service who served in the American Civil War. Founded in Decatur, Illinois, it was dissolved in 1956 when its last member died. Linking men through their experience of the war, the GAR became among the first organized advocacy groups in American politics, supporting voting rights for black veterans, lobbying the U.S. Congress to establish veterans' pensions, and supporting Republican political candidates. Its peak membership, at more than 400,000, was in 1890, a high point of Civil War commemorative ceremonies. In later years, the Abington GAR hall was used by the Grange. —David Klein

VETERANS DAY

Veterans Day, November 11, celebrates veterans of all US wars, however, it is worth remembering that Veterans day originally was called Armistice day, which was a holiday commemorating the cease fire that effectively ended WWI, the “Great War.” The armistice began at 11:00 AM on the 11th day of the 11th month in 1918. The last known surviving veteran of WWI died earlier this year. Florence Green was two weeks shy of her 111th birthday. Mrs. Green joined the newly formed British Royal Air Force (RAF) at the age of 17. Her passing marks a true end to a generation that saw so much change. —David Klein



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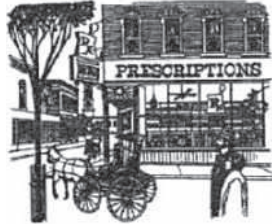
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Miscellaneous

Line Dance Schedule: Dancing with Dot Dunham at St. Bridget's Parish Hall on Friday afternoons, at 1 p.m. to 2:30p.m. Donation: \$3.00. Call 781-293-7727 for more information.

Support Groups– Open to the Public– No Charge: Bereavement Group, Abington, meets once a month at the Library, 1st Tues., 6:30 pm; Caregivers Support Group, Rockland COA, 394 Union St, 4th Mon, 1 pm; Prostate Cancer Support Group, monthly, 3rd Wed., 7 p.m., Brockton Hospital, Assembly Room 2nd floor by café.

Food Pantry: St. Vincent dePaul Food Pantry is open on Tuesday evenings from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. at the old Friary Convent at St. Bridget's, 781-878-1194.

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Answers to puzzle on page 4: 1. flu/flew 2. weighed/wade 3. days/daze 4. flare/flair.

Bill of Rights – Amendment III

No Soldier shall, in time of peace, be quartered in any house, without the consent of the Owner, nor in time of war, but in a manner to be prescribed by law.

According to Wikipedia, there is no provision in the Constitution for political parties. So, the process for choosing political candidates had evolved over time and in 1910 Oregon held the nation's first political primary. Soon after, 11 other states followed, and by 1912 the primary process had its first major test, a presidential election.

Good judgment comes from experience, and a lot of that comes from bad judgment. —Will Rogers

Whenever something hurts in life, we have a choice to make: We can become bitter or better. It's really up to us.