

Lancaster Events this Month

Town of Lancaster

January 1, 2016

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***REMINDER:** The Lancaster Recycling Center will be **Closed** on Sat, Jan 2, and Sun, Jan 3
Happy New Year!!

KEY



Helpful Information



Save the Date!



News!



Neighboring Towns

2016 Census Forms are in the Mail!

Please check your mailboxes and post office boxes for the Town Census.

All residents are urged to review the information on the form, make any appropriate changes per the instructions, and then sign and return the form to the Town Clerk's Office as soon as possible. Included with the census are some helpful inserts, including upcoming voter registration dates and election dates for the year. You can also register your dog via the mail using the helpful tear-off portion at the bottom!

Forms may be returned by mail in the enclosed addressed envelope, in person to the Town Clerk's Office, or dropped in the drop box outside of Town Hall.

Responding to the annual census is important for many reasons:

To maintain a voter's "active" voter status;

To maintain accurate population information;

To provide the public safety divisions with current information;

For the allocation of State and Federal Funds and grants to the Town;

To provide proof of residency for numerous personal and/or legal requirements such as in-state tuition at State colleges or universities; housing benefits for the elderly or other eligible persons; veterans benefits; insurance benefits; and school enrollment.

If you have not received a form, be sure to contact the Town Clerk's Office and one will be mailed to you!

[Dog Licensing for 2016 has BEGUN!!](#)

Stop by the Town Clerk's Office to buy your new tag or pay online.

Neutered/spayed dogs \$10.00. Unaltered, \$20.00. Dog owners over 70 years of age, FREE.



GRACE TONIGHT

Sundays at 5:00 PM Evangelical Congregational Church—793 Main Street, Lancaster

"Did you miss church on Sunday morning? Grace Tonight is open for you!" Grace Tonight is for busy people, who, because of employment, family responsibilities, or kids' sports schedules, miss the opportunity to worship on Sunday morning. Meetings will feature contemporary music, discussion, refreshments, and meaningful messages and song. Come as you are! All are welcome.

Remember, you can unsubscribe at any time by emailing "unsubscribe" to "townclerk@lancasterma.net"



Seven Bridge Writers Collaborative Events in January

Monday, January 4, 2016

6:30 to 8:00 p.m.

Thayer Memorial Library, Dexter Thayer Room, Lancaster, MA

Ruth McCarthy: "The Wrinkle Curse," Level Best Anthology, *Red Dawn*

Ruth M. McCarty's short mysteries have appeared in Level Best Books and in *Over My Dead Body! The Mystery Magazine*. She won the 2009 Derringer for BEST FLASH STORY for "No Flowers for Stacey" published in *Deadfall: Crime Stories by New England Writers*. She is former editor at Level Best Books, a past president of the New England SinC, and a member of MWA. Her website is www.ruthmccarty.com.

Ruth will be reading from her newest mystery short story, "The Wrinkle Curse," and discuss the process of writing mystery short stories.



Submitting to Literary Magazines With Diane Mulligan

Saturday, January 16, 2016, 10:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.

Thayer Memorial Library, Dexter Thayer Room, Lancaster, MA

Do you find the task of submitting to literary magazines intimidating or overwhelming? In this workshop we'll develop basic tools for identifying journals that are right for your genre and writing style, as well as best practices for contacting editors and tracking your submissions.

Diane Vanaskie Mulligan began writing her first novel, *Watch Me Disappear*, during an after-school writing club she moderates for high school students. The book was published in 2012 and was a finalist in the Kindle Book Review's, Best Indie Book Awards, in the Young Adult category the next year. Her second novel, *The Latecomers Fan Club*, was released in 2013 and was named a 2014 IndieReader Discovery Award winner. In 2015, Diane published *The Sane Person's Guide to Self-Publishing*, a brief guide book to self-publishing, in order to help other aspiring writers get their work out into the world. Diane holds a BA in American Studies from Mount Holyoke College and a Master's Degree in teaching from Simmons college. When she isn't teaching or writing, she is the managing editor at *The Worcester Review* and the director of The Betty Curtis Worcester County Young Writers' Conference. You can find her occasionally strumming her guitar and singing at various bars in central Massachusetts, where she lives with her husband.

For questions about either of these programs or about SBWC, contact us at: 7bridgewriterscollaborative.com, or visit us at sevenbridgewriters@blogspot.com for the latest information

The Recreation Committee is developing an email list for ad hoc last minute winter snowshoe walks when the snow falls. If you are interested, please email:

jablauner@comcast.net to get your name on the "last minute snowshoe notification list". When the snow falls and we put together an ad hoc snowshoe walk ... we will notify everyone on the list when & where! Don't have snowshoes? We have Xtras!

Just ask!



<https://www.facebook.com/Lancaster-Recreation-Committee-788615881222653/>



"Like" the Lancaster Recreation Facebook page to be informed on all the wonderful programs available!

Funding Opportunity

IN
MEMORIAM



If you would like to help support the Family of Tyke Crowley, please go to the following "GoFundMe" link.

<https://www.gofundme.com/pjdxu6m4>



Lancaster Firefighter's Association

Christmas Tree Pick-Up & Removal Program



Let us Remove Your Tree for You!

Call 978-368-4003 or email
sgranger@lancasterfd.net between: now and
January 15th to Schedule a Pick-Up

All Pick-Ups will be made after January 1st.
Pick-Up and Removal is FREE but Donations are
Greatly Appreciated!

Proceeds Will Benefit the Lancaster Firefighter's
Association



January Worship at First Church of Christ Unitarian (10am)

- January 3:** "A New Year's Celebration: Saying Goodbye to the Old; Welcoming in the New"
- January 10:** "It's Spiritual." What parts of our lives do we consider "spiritual?" Where and for what reasons do we draw the line?
- January 17:** Celebrating the life and legacy of the Rev. Doc. Martin Luther King, Jr.
- January 24:** "The Heart of Compassion." An exploration of the core spiritual value common to all the world's spiritual traditions.
- January 31:** "The Circle of Compassion." How is our understanding of compassion challenged by the realities and demands of day to day life?



First Church will be offering the **Mindfulness Based Stress Reduction Program (MBSR)** developed by Jon Kabat-Zinn and taught at the Center for Mindfulness at University of Mass. Medical School. MBSR is an experiential learning program that engages mind and body in mindfulness, the moment-by-moment, non-judgmental awareness of experience. Classes will be taught by Eowyn Ahlstrom, yoga instructor, meditation teacher and faculty member at the U. Mass Mindfulness Center. Sessions will run on eight successive Thursday evenings from 6-8:30pm and will also include one full-day Saturday session. The cost of the program is based on a sliding scale; no one will be turned away because of inability to pay. An information session/orientation will take place Thursday, January 21 at 6pm in the Church Parlor. For more information visit the First Church website or contact Rev. Bob Johansen.