



Your Community Connection

November – December Holiday Guide 2015

Highlights and Insights About Reading's Community Services Website: www.readingma.gov

The Holiday Lights of Downtown Reading (and the preparation that it takes to make it so beautiful!)



Have you ever thought about all the preparation it takes to turn our Downtown into a winter wonderland each holiday season? Well... the man “in the know,” Bob Keating, Supervisor of Parks, Forestries, & Cemeteries, shared the mystery of what and whom it takes to accomplish this annual miracle!

It starts around November 1st and it takes 2 men working for 3 weeks to get all the lights strung up in the trees. These men are from the DPW/Forestry crew. The Fire Department installs the lights and

garlands on the Downtown light poles that run throughout the Downtown and down Main Street. And it takes about the same amount of time to take down all the lights... because just like everyone in their homes... you have to take down and pack everything away for the next year!

Almost all of the upper and lower common trees, as well as the trees in front of Town Hall, are strung with “strands”... that’s the name used in the light-decorating business for what we call strings of lights. And 600 strands are installed for a total of 15,000 lightbulbs! Each strand is approximately 25’ and contains 25 bulbs per strand.

The lights come on each day at dusk once the Holiday Lighting Ceremony has taken place and they are shut off each day at 10:00 PM.

The strands we use now all contain LED lights and these lights might be a little dimmer but they are amazingly cost effective. The electricity used throughout the Holiday Lighting season previously cost \$5,000 a month but with the switch to LED the electricity now costs \$1,000 per month! The lights and the cost of the electricity are generously donated each year by the Reading-North Reading Chamber of Commerce.

So this year, when you attend the Holiday Lighting Ceremony on November 29, look in awe at the 15,000 lights twinkling back at you and thank the Reading-North Reading Chamber of Commerce, the DPW/Forestry crew, the Reading Fire Department, and Bob Keating. And make sure to read the page in this issue about this year’s Holiday Lighting Ceremony!



READING MATTERS...

The Reading Board of Selectmen

You can contact the Board by phone, email at selectmen@ci.reading.ma.us, attendance at meetings, and the monthly office hours held at 6:30 PM on the first Meeting of the month.

BOS OFFICE HOURS:

November 3 & December 1
6:30 PM to 7:00 PM
Town Hall Conference Room



Don't forget!

**Your Community Connection
is now issued every other month!**

The news is fresher...crisper...newer!

**Town Election &
Presidential Primary
March 1, 2016**

VOTE

Nominations Papers for local election officials will be available in the Town Clerk's office on November 9th.



**Real Estate Taxes... Water/Sewer...
Storm Water Bills... Electronic Payments...**



Water/Sewer/Storm Water bills will be mailed on December 10 and must be paid by 7:00 PM on January 19. Everyone now receives the discount since it is factored into the new lower rates. Payments not received by December 31 will accrue interest daily at an annual rate of 14% until payment is received. Postmarks are not accepted. The white mail box in the parking lot will be emptied at the close of business on each payment due date. The next bills will be mailed on March 10.

The first installment of the FY16 Actual Real Estate/Personal Property tax bills will be mailed by December 31. Payment is due by February 1. The tax rate has not yet been approved by the Department of Revenue for FY16. These bills will reflect all payments received and any exemptions/abatement that are granted by December 1, 2015. The deadline to apply for abatements is February 1, the same as the bill due date. The deadline to apply for an exemption is 3 months after the bill mailing date. The state mandated interest rate is 14% for late payments. Payments not received by the due dates are subject to interest and demand fees.

The demand fee increased from \$5.00 to \$25.00 as of January 1, 2009 by vote of Town Meeting. **Effective January 1, 2014 we are no longer mailing payment reminders before imposing the demand fees on unpaid bills.**

We can only accept debit and credit card payments through our online payment service. The link is available on the home page of the Town's website.

Please be sure that if you're using an on-line bill payment service through your bank that you allow plenty of time for your bank to **mail** a check to our office. Most banks require 7 – 10 business days to guarantee on-time payment. **Please verify that you have the proper bill number or account number referenced on your payment.** Bill numbers change each cycle and are often not updated on your on-line bill payment checks which can result in misapplied payments.

We do not receive electronic payments from your bank unless you use the link from our website. If you choose to use this link, you may pay up until the due date and your payment will be considered timely.



Reading Response Program

The Reading Response Program is designed to assist in meeting health needs of the residents of Reading. The program is offered and funded by the Town of Reading's Hospital Trust Funds and is administered by Hallmark Health Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice.

The Program may provide needed health services or complement existing services on a no cost basis if the resident meets eligibility requirements.

Reading residents of all ages whose income qualifies them are eligible to receive the following services:

- ◆ Lifeline Emergency Response System
- ◆ *Lifeline Medication Management System
- ◆ *Home Care Aide Escort
(HCA escort will travel to medical procedures with prior approval)
- ◆ Taxi or Chair Car Transportation for medical appointments throughout the Boston Area
(Contact Reading Elder Services for transportation at 781-942-6659)

Those whose income exceeds guidelines are subject to a co-pay.

*** New to the program**

Anyone may contact us—you, your family, your physician.

**Please call us at
(781) 338-7800**

▶ ▶ ▶ Reading Response Program
 c/o Hallmark Health
 Visiting Nurse Association and Hospice, Inc.
 178 Savin St., Suite 300
 Malden, MA 02148
 (781) 338-7800



The Compost Center

Schedule for November 2015

OPEN DURING NOVEMBER:

Sun: Nov. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29 ~ Noon – 4:00 PM
Mon: Nov. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30 ~ 8:00 AM – 2:30 PM
Wed: Nov. 11 (Vet. Day) ~ 8:00 AM – 2:30 PM
Fri: Nov. 6, 13, 20, 27 ~ 8:00 AM – 2:30 PM
Sat: Nov. 7, 14, 21, 28 ~ 8:00 AM – 4:00 PM

CENTER NOT OPEN DURING DECEMBER

The following materials will be accepted at the Compost Area: leaves, grass clippings and yard waste. Tree trimmings may be a maximum of 8' in length and 8" in diameter. The Compost Area is open to Reading residents only. Commercial vehicles are excluded.

You will need a 2015 Community Access Sticker for access to the Compost Center. Available at the Reading Police Department 24/7.

Questions?
Call 781-942-9077
(Monday - Thursday)

Taking Root for the Future



A Commemorative Shade Tree Planting Program

The Town of Reading is proud of its “Taking Root for the Future” shade tree planting program. The tree planting program offers an opportunity for you to help beautify Reading and recognize a person or event with the planting of a shade tree.

Any person, business, group or organization may sponsor a tree and be recognized on the Town’s commemorative plaque located in the Town Hall and on the Town of Reading website. You may be celebrating a birth, a graduation or wedding, or donate in memory of a loved one, or acknowledge your businesses, group or organization.

Reading’s publicly owned trees are a capital asset and are as important as our streets, sidewalk, public building and recreational facilities. In addition to the advantage of sponsorship, our community will enjoy the numerous benefits of the trees for generations to come.

Your sponsorship contribution of \$300 will pay for the tree, it’s planting and care, as well as a plate on the commemorative plaque displayed in the Town Hall. Please note that the planting location for an individual tree cannot be specified. Acknowledgement of sponsorship will be through the town plaque and the website.

For more information, or to sponsor a tree, contact the Public Works Department at 781-942-9077.

November Leaf Pickup



The Town has set up three weeks this Fall that leaves will be picked up curbside. Leaves must be placed in paper bags and be placed curbside on your regular trash day. Leaves will be collected the following weeks:

November 2 – 6 November 16 – 20 November 30 – December 4

FREE PARENT PROGRAM

Active Parenting
of **Teens :)**
third edition
online

SPONSORED BY RCASA

ENROLL NOW

Email jdeangelis@ci.reading.ma.us
Visit <http://bit.ly/rcasa>

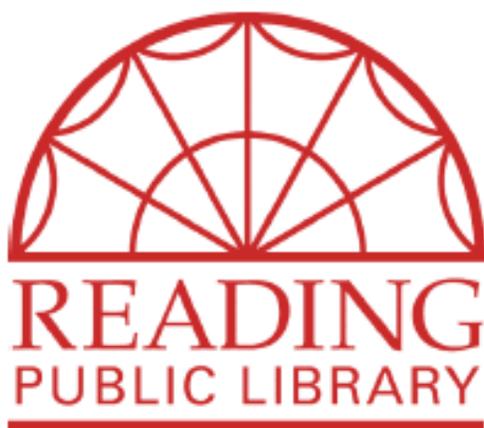
 **Reading
Coalition
Against
Substance
Abuse**

Busy season on.

**Don't forget to relax with a book,
movie, museum visit
or scintillating program.**

We're there for you.

Even on Sundays.



**Check our online calendar
for all upcoming events –**

www.readingpl.org

Reading Round Up



Turn in your
unwanted or expired
medications to our
medication collection
drop box.



Reading Police Department
15 Union Street, 1st floor
Reading, MA



**Reading
Coalition
Against
Substance
Abuse**



Snow & Ice Removal

With winter weather almost here, the Department of Public Works would like to remind residents that their cooperation is needed to keep our streets clear and safe. The Town of Reading's General Bylaws prohibit depositing snow or ice on a portion of any street or sidewalk that has been plowed or cleared for travel. Violation of this General Bylaw is punishable by a fine of up to \$300. The owner of the property is responsible for the violation, even if it was done by a contractor hired by the owner or tenant of the property. We appreciate your cooperation in our efforts to clear all the streets and sidewalks in the school and business districts.

Christmas Tree Recycling



This January the Town is providing two options for recycling of Christmas trees. On Saturday, January 16, 2016 residents may take their trees to the Compost Area on Strout Avenue from 8:00 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. (leaves and branches will also be accepted at this time). In addition, the contractor will collect Christmas trees curbside on your regular rubbish collection day the week of January 11 – 15, 2016. All decorations, including tinsel, must be removed from the trees. Trees in plastic bags or not completely cleaned of this material will not be picked up or accepted at the Compost Area. *Please note, to use the Compost Center, you will need a 2016 Community Access Sticker.* For further information regarding the Community Access Sticker contact the Police Department.



Holiday Recycling Guide

The Holiday season is upon us and with the Town's trash limits we would like to offer some helpful hints of what to recycle this holiday season.

Recycling

Cardboard: Please recycle all of your cardboard boxes. Flatten and either fold or cut to a size not larger than 4 feet by 4 feet. You may bundle cardboard, put it in a paper bag, place it under your recycling bin, or place it standing in or between recycling bins.



Gift Boxes and Wrapping Paper: Please recycle all wrapping paper, tissue paper, and gift boxes. No need to flatten or fold, but must be contained. Treat like any other paper, put in paper bags or place in your paper bin. Tape is OK, but no ribbons please.



Holiday Cards and Calendars: Holiday cards (including envelopes and gift tags) and calendars can be recycled with your paper.



Other Non-trash items: During the holidays, we receive extra magazines & catalogs, and do a lot of extra cooking. This is a great opportunity to make sure we recycle everything possible. Please recycle all paper. In a separate container, remember to recycle all glass, plastic and metal bottles and cans. This will also help you stay within the trash limits.



Styrofoam: The Town offers a permanent drop off container for Styrofoam. This is free to all residents and is located at our DPW Facility located at 75 Newcrossing Rd. Drop off is available Monday – Friday from 7-3. For more information, please go to www.readingma.gov.



The Three R's of the Holidays

REDUCE

- ❖ Wrap with holiday fabric, gift bags, fancy boxes, maps, comics or just a bow.
- ❖ Give gift cards or event tickets
- ❖ LED lights use less electricity. Put a timer on all lights
- ❖ Shop locally. Plan your trips to avoid wasting gas.
- ❖ Email cards or pare down your mailing list.

REUSE

- ❖ Save gift bags, wrapping paper, boxes, and bows for next year.
- ❖ Use cloth bags when shopping for groceries and gifts.
- ❖ Buy rechargeable batteries.
- ❖ Donate old usable items when you receive new ones.
- ❖ Buy an artificial tree.
- ❖ Use cloth napkins, not paper.

RECYCLE

- ❖ Recycle wrapping paper.
- ❖ Recycle holiday cards and tags.
- ❖ Recycle empty food containers and other party waste.
- ❖ Buy items made with recycled content.
- ❖ Recycle your Christmas tree.
- ❖ Recycle ads and catalogs.
- ❖ Recycle cardboard boxes.





Connect The Tots
bringing together families in the Reading area

Parents & Kids...

Looking for something fun to do?
Interested in meeting other families?

Check out Connect the Tots!

Playgroups... Fall Kickoff Party... Apple Picking
Preschool Information Night... Park Outings... Fire House Trip
Museum Trips... Art Classes... Mom's Night Out... and more!

Join for only \$25 per year!

**For more information: www.ConnectTheTots.org
Or email CTTReading@gmail.com**



Christian Cooperative Preschool

6 Salem Street, Reading
781-944-0612

**Now
Enrolling**

Discover the CCP Difference:

- * Low child-to-adult ratio
- * Learning through play
- * Supportive parent community
- * Infants through age 5

Visit us at ChristianCooperativePreschool.org



Reading Montessori

453 West St. Reading 01867
781-944-1057

A Preschool & Kindergarten

Ages 3-6

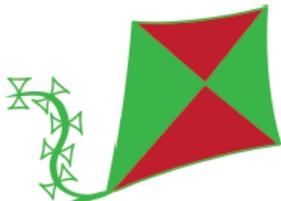
Mornings & Full Time

Now enrolling for September

**A warm & nurturing environment
encouraging independent, enthusiastic
learners**

www.readingmontessori.org

readingmontessori@verizon.net



SAWYER NURSERY SCHOOL

Serving students aged 2.9 through 5 years old

Providing happy experiences for children . . . for more than 50 years!

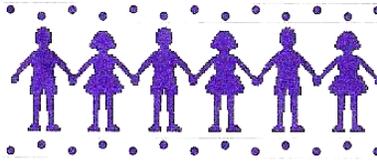
For enrollment information please contact:

**Debra Harvey, Director
(781) 944-9581**

www.SawyerNurserySchool.com

***243 Woburn Street
Reading, MA 01867***





Reading Baptist Day School

45 Woburn Street · Reading, MA 01867 · 781 -944 - 3876
readingpreschool.org dayschool@fbcreading.org

Registration for 2015- 2016 Preschool & Transitional Class

For Information Please Call Margie Gibson, Director

Reading Baptist Day School does not discriminate on the basis of religion, cultural heritage, political beliefs, national origin, marital status, sexual orientation, or disability.



Like us on Facebook at Reading Newcomers and Neighbors Club-Public

Whether you are a "Newcomer" who has recently moved to Reading or a "Neighbor" who's been here for years, the group offers great opportunities to have fun while making new friends and becoming more involved in the community. We hold regular social events including Ladies' Nights, Adults' Socials, Book Club meetings, Family Fun events and Men's Only activities. Plus, we support the community with our Neighbors Helping Neighbors activities.

Some of our recent social events have included:

- * Murder Mystery Party
- * Theatre Outing
- * Restaurant Week Dinner
- * Cookie Decorating
- * Game Night
- * Potluck Dinner
- * Movie Outing

Check us out online at www.newcomersandneighbors.com

We will waive the \$25 membership fee if you join now
before our Fall Membership Promotion expires!



Burbank Ice Arena, Reading

ICE SKATING LESSONS

Phone: 781-944-5874
781-942-2760

Email: nsscjc@nsskating.org
Website: www.nsskating.org

Whether you want to improve your skating skills for figure skating, hockey or recreational skating, we have the class for you!

BEGINNER SKATERS THROUGH ADVANCED

Group & Private Lessons Freestyle Sessions Theatre on Ice Off-Ice Classes

Register for Classes Now

Children, Teen & Adult Classes

**Group Classes Offered: Thursday Afternoons
Saturday Mornings**

Session Dates: **Session II, November 12th thru January 30th**
(Cost pro-rated after first class)

Session III, February 4th - April 16th
Session IV & Summer Session to follow

“Special Skates” Program for Special Needs Children
October 24th thru February 6th

Don't miss our:	Holiday Exhibition	December 6, 2015
	Ice Spectacular Skating Show	April 8th, 9th & 10th
	North Shore Open Competition	June 3rd, 4th & 5th
	Basic Skills Competition	June 12th

TEEN ACTIVITIES



AT THE BURBANK YMCA

Teen Night: On Friday nights, November 13 and December 4, the Burbank YMCA in Reading will be open just for teens. There will be food, games, swimming, and the gym and wellness area will be open for use. It's free for members and non-members ages 12 and up! Please register with Brad beforehand at bagostinelli@ymcaboston.org.

YMCA Leaders Club: Leaders is a weekly club for teens who'd like to be a leader in our Y community, help plan and organize teen events and activities, and participate in community service. There is a free membership incentive to anyone who commits to the whole school year and becomes an official Leaders Club member. Leaders Club begins in early September and you can join at any point throughout the year. Please contact Brad with interest.

For more information please contact
Burbank YMCA Teen Director Brad Agostinelli
at bagostinelli@ymcaboston.org or 781-909-7116.

Spring 2016 Reading Youth Lacrosse Registration



Open now through 12-31-2015

\$190 per player

(Reading Residents in Grades 1 – 8)

Family discounts available!

Visit www.readinglacrosse.com

Reading Recreation Basketball



Sunday Basketball Clinic Jr. Clinic - Grades K & 1st

Children in Grades K-1 will focus more on skill building and fun drills for the younger hoopsters in Town. We'll be lowering the nets down and using smaller balls to make the game more fun for the players. Each week, players will do station drills and other fun games to acclimate them to the game of basketball. Players will gradually work toward playing mini-games as the sessions progress. Sunday Basketball Jr. Clinic will have two different sessions to choose from and will be filled on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Additional Information:

- Program will not run on December 27th.
- SNOW/INCLEMENT WEATHER MAKE-UP DATE: February 7th, if needed.
- Program fee: \$125 first child, \$20 discount for each additional sibling. Discount will be applied at checkout.

Date: November 22, 2015 – January 31, 2016

Times: Session I: 10:30AM – 11:30AM

Session II: 11:30AM – 12:30PM

Fee: \$125, second child discount of \$20

Location: RMHS Field House

In- Town Sunday Basketball

Boys & Girls Grades 2nd – 5th

Reading Youth Basketball In-Town program is for boys and girls in grades 2-5. In-Town Basketball is strictly recreational and should be approached as such. This program will run for 10 Sundays from November to the end of January. Players will be placed on a team and will receive their own shirt and number! **No team/player requests please.** All sessions will meet at the designated time below on Sunday.

During the 75-minute sessions each week, teams will practice and play games for a designated portion of time. This may vary from week to week. Hoops will be lowered to 8 feet for the younger divisions and use smaller balls. All teams will be capped at 12 players.

**The 1:45 PM time slot will be held as flex session for overflow of any session. Teams will generally play during the time listed below. However, game times may vary depending on number of teams.

The Sunday League rules dictate the exact amount of playing time each individual receives. Playing time is based on the number of players per team. We will be holding a mandatory coaches meeting

prior to the start of the season.

Space is limited... register early!!

Date: November 22, 2015 – January 31, 2016

Times: Boys 2 & 3 12:30PM – 1:45PM

Girls 2 & 3 3:00PM – 4:15PM

Girls 4 & 5 4:30PM – 5:45PM

Boys 4 & 5 5:45PM – 7:00PM

Fee: \$139, second child discount of \$24

Location: RMHS Field House

In-Town Middle School Basketball

This program is open to all middle school basketball players regardless of whether they are playing in any other basketball program. Players will be divided into teams and volunteer coaches will coach this league. Teams will be broken down by gender with a boys and girls division.

Date: December 6, 2015 – January 31, 2016

Times: Boys Division 7:00PM-8:00PM

Girls Division 7:00PM-8:00PM

Fee: \$73

Location: RMHS Field House



**Your Community Connection
is for YOU!**



Non-profit organizations that are from the Town of Reading can advertise their events, fundraisers, concerts, plays, music events, and most other events at no cost in *Your Community Connection!*

For more information contact Maureen Knight at mknight@ci.reading.ma.us



*Our family invites your family to participate
in all our activities at*

Old South Church in Reading Center

Please check www.oldsouthumc.org for
worship, youth, mission & holiday activities
or call 781.944.AMEN (2636) for details

First Congregational Church of Reading, United Church of Christ

All are welcome.

25 Woburn Street - Reading, MA – 781.944.0205



Church of the Good Shepherd

A warm and welcoming Episcopal Church

95 Woburn Street ~ Reading ~ 781.944.1572

www.goodshepherd-reading.org

First Baptist Church of Reading

45 Woburn Street ~ Reading

781.944.3876

www.fbcreading.org ~ office@fbcreading.org



Unitarian Universalist Church of Reading

A Welcoming Congregation

239 Woburn Street ~ Reading ~ 781-944-0494

www.uureading.org ~ uucr@uureading.org

NOVEMBER ~ NOVEMBER ~ NOVEMBER



November Activities at the Pleasant Street Center

49 Pleasant Street ~ Reading

To make reservations call 781.942.6794 between 9:00 AM to 4:00 PM Monday – Friday

Blood Pressure

November 2, Monday: 11:30 - 12:15, sponsored by Hallmark Health

November 10, Tuesday: 11:30 - 12:00, Reading Health Nurse Donna Pierce

November 17, Tuesday: 10:15 - 10:45, sponsored by Rite-Aid

Computer Classes

Learn to use email, send pictures, or use the internet to look up your ancestors, medical conditions, vacation spots, news, anything. And it's all FREE too! We have WIFI so bring your own laptop if you want. Wednesdays with John Walsh from 10:00 – 11:00.

Art Lessons with Steve Greco

Tuesdays – 9:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. 2 ½ hours for \$10.00. Minimum of five students for the class. Steve will teach any medium.

Lunch is served

Noon. Join us every weekday (except holidays) for a terrific meal, good conversation, and occasional live entertainment. Lunch sponsored by Mystic Valley Elder Services. Suggested donation of \$2.00 (under age 60, cost is \$3.50).

Parkinson's Disease Support Group

Returning December 9, Wednesday – 1:30 to 3 Led by Greater Medford VNA

S.H.I.N.E. Counseling – (Serving Health Insurance Needs of Elders)

Meeting in the Computer Room - Wednesday, November 4, 18, and 25, from 1:00 – 3:00, Joanne will be joining our center as a SHINE counselor. Kathy will be here on Friday, November 6 and 13, 10:00 a.m. - 3:00 p.m. Call for an appointment 781-942-6794

Pleasant Street Spa

Roberta Our Hairdresser - Monday, November 16, 9:30 – 1:00 by appointment. Call 781-245-6605.
For chair massage please call the Pleasant Street Center (No Van Service).

Manicures – Thursday, November 12, 9:30 - 1:00, \$6.00 or \$7.00 for French

Chair Massage - Thursday, November 5 & 19, 9:00 – 12:00 and receive a 15 minute chair massage for only \$8.



Thursday, November 19 - Reiki Treatments Available the 3rd Thursday of each month between 9:00-11:45. Please call 781-942-6794 for an appointment. The fee for ½ hour treatment is \$15. Reiki Practitioners Elise Brenner and Judy Bousquin bring this gentle hands-on practice to the Pleasant Street Center. Reiki facilitates healing, promotes mindfulness, supports personal growth and complements any form of medical treatment. Your presence is most welcome.

FITNESS

Yoga - Mondays – 11:00 – 12:00, 5 weeks for \$50 or \$11 for drop-in. Yoga will increase your strength, flexibility and balance. It energizes the body and calms the mind.

Body & Brain Flexibility - Tuesdays – November 3 – December 22, 10:30 – 11:30. Learn skills to enhance memory and coordination and have fun! Our classes are gentle and effective, designed for people of all abilities and especially for those new to yoga. \$5 drop-in

Zumba Gold Mondays 9:00 - 10:00 and Wednesdays 9:30 – 10:30, \$5 session, Zumba is fun... So grab some friends and come take a class! Drop-ins welcome.

Tai Chi - “FOREVER 49” Fit for Life Fitness Program - Tai Chi, Chi Gong, weight lifting, and more. Mondays & Wednesdays 1:30 - 2:30, \$40/month or \$10/Session Drop-ins welcome. **FIRST CLASS FREE**, come try this class and see how to stay fit for life.

Motion to Music - Tuesdays & Thursdays, 9:00 - 10:00. \$20/month; **NOTE** \$15/month - any 5 classes during the calendar month. Drop-ins \$4/session

B.E.S.T. - Balance, Energy, Strength, Training Fridays, 9:00 - 10:00 in the Lounge \$3/Session, Drop-ins welcome

GAMES

Cribbage Mondays 1:00 - 3:00

Billiards (No van) Wednesdays, 10:00 - 11:15

Pool table is available Monday - Friday

Bingo Tuesdays 1:00 - 2:30

MAH JONGG - Thursdays, 12:30 - 3:30

Party Bridge Friday, 12:45 - 3:15 \$1.00 to play - Maximum 32, (No Van)

Chess Friday, 1:00 - 3:00 (No van)

SENIOR ACTIVITIES

Movie Day – Thursday, November 5, 1:15 Still Alice

2014 PG-13 When 50-year-old linguistics professor Alice Howland begins having trouble remembering words, her symptoms ultimately lead to a diagnosis of early-onset Alzheimer's -- which forces Alice and her family to make radical changes in their lives.

Monday, November 9, noon - Birthday Lunch – Come celebrate your birthday – if it is the month of your birthday you will receive a free gift and your lunch is free. Bring your friends to celebrate with you – suggested donation for lunch if not your birthday month is \$2.00

Tuesday, November 10 at 10:15 - Find Out What's New in Medicare for 2016

A representative from the SHINE program at Mystic Valley Elder Services will update us on changes in Medicare for the coming year. Medicare's Annual Open Enrollment Period starts October 15 and ends on December 7. During Open Enrollment, you may change your Medicare drug coverage for next year. This is an opportunity to review your current coverage. Or, if you've been on Medicare for a while but have never joined a drug plan, open enrollment is your chance to do so. If you want to meet with a SHINE counselor, make your appointment now.

Tuesday, November 10, 2:15 Pie Social – Come and enjoy a piece of apple or pumpkin pie with whipped cream, sponsored by Wingate.

Veteran's Day Breakfast and Ceremony



Wednesday, November 11

9:00 - 10:30 AM ~ A FREE Pancake Breakfast

Veterans, families, friends and neighbors are all welcome to stop by for some refreshments.

11:00 AM ~ Ceremony on the Common



We Thank You for Your Service!

Thursday, November 12, 1:00 – 2:45 Fall Prevention Tips and Improved Balance with Tai Chi - Are you worried about falling? Do you know someone who fell? If so, please join us for an interactive presentation on fall prevention, the correct way to get up from a fall, and how practicing Tai Chi can help improve balance and reduce your fall risk. Sponsored by Mary Demakes, RN, of Private Home Health Care and Kuan Chung Chen of Tai Chi Acupuncture & Wellness Center. The combined skills of these professionals' results in an exceptional learning experience focused on elderly fall prevention, balance and wellness.

Special Lunch Tuesday, November 19, 12:00 with Entertainer Brian Saulnier, The Musical Medic – singer/guitarist 12:30 – 1:15.

Lunch & Learn: Nutrition, Mon., Nov. 30, **Noon**. Cook and Chat Let's have some fun! Join Candace Quigley, Registered Dietitian, for a cooking demo. Candace will focus on uncommon whole grains.

Lunch & Learn: Diabetes & Kidney Care, Mon., Nov. 23, Noon - Donna Buckley Registered Nurse and Diana LaVancher Social Worker will be doing a short presentation on Diabetes and your Kidneys. It will be followed by question and answer time and Kidney Bingo with prize.

OPEN HOUSE

GRADES 6-12

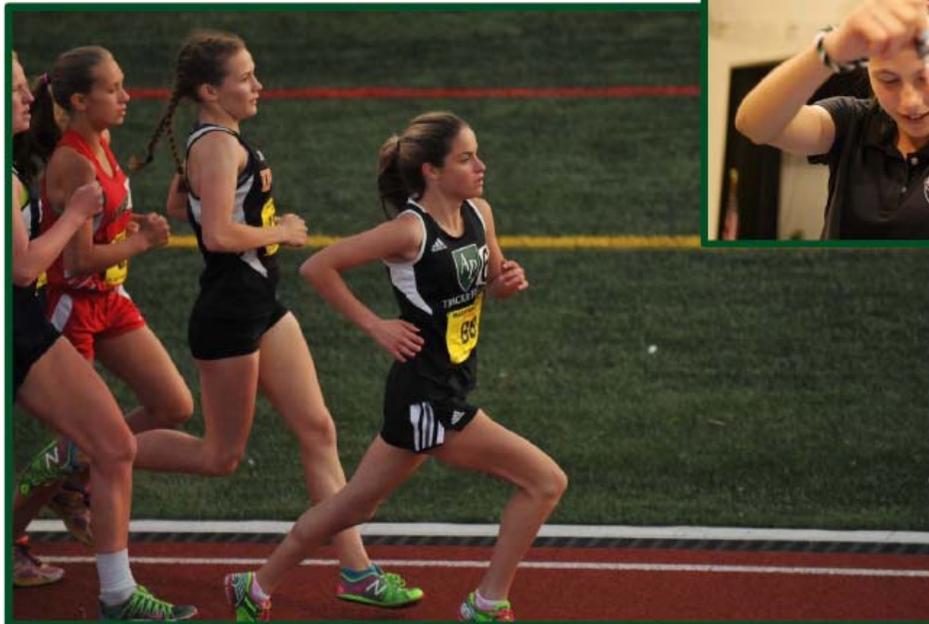


Austin Preparatory School
101 Willow Street – Reading

Sunday, November 1 ■ 11:00-2:00

Learn more about our challenging and vigorous academic programs at our Open House. Students and families can meet Headmaster James Hickey, Ph.D., speak with faculty and coaches and tour the campus.

Register at AUSTINPREP.ORG/OPENHOUSE





David K. Johnson Foundation

Supporting a Cure for Alzheimer's and Helping Families Affected.

in association with Cure Alzheimer's Fund is pleased to present this

FREE COMMUNITY EVENT

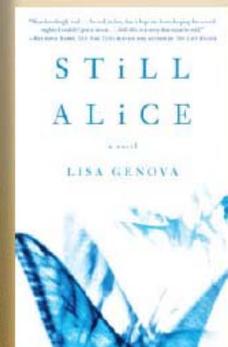
A special screening of the movie

STILL ALICE

6PM Book signing. 7PM Screening followed by a Q&A with Author **Lisa Genova**

NOV 4, 6:00 PM

Sunbrella IMAX 3D Theater at
Jordan's Furniture/Reading



Books will be available for purchase at the event.

Registration for this FREE event is required.

Seating is limited, register today at dkjfoundation.org

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter and #DKJevents

THIS EVENT IS MADE POSSIBLE BY OUR SPONSOR



Multi-Chamber Women's Networking Event Thursday ~ November 5, 2015

Join us for a great women's networking event hosted by Stoneham Chamber of Commerce, co-sponsored by Reading-North Reading, Wakefield/Lynnfield, Stoneham and Melrose Chambers of Commerce.

FOOD FASHION FUN



Date: Thursday, November 5, 2015

Time: 5:30 – 7:30 PM

Where: Courtyard by Marriott, 700 Unicorn Park, Woburn MA

Join professionals to mix and mingle and make new contacts. Enjoy appetizers and a cash bar.
\$10 Chamber Members and \$15 Non-Chamber Members.



- Enjoy a presentation about dressing for business by Jessica Damon of My Sister's Closet. Jessica will discuss:
- Latest looks at 3 different budgets
- Dressing for success from casual to boardroom
- Easy transitions to take a look from day to evening
- Tips for fabulous finds for the holidays

Buy Tickets:

2015 Multi-Chamber Women's Networking Event - November 5, 2015

Make new connections by networking with Women from the Wakefield/Lynnfield Chamber, Melrose Chamber and the Stoneham Chamber.

The RMHS Drama Club production of

Disney and CAMERON MACKINTOSH'S



MARY POPPINS

THE BROADWAY MUSICAL

A Musical based on the stories of P.L. Travers
and the Walt Disney film

November 6th, 7th, 13th, and 14th at 7:30
November 8th and 15th at 3:00

RMHS Performing Arts Center

ticketstage.com



Directed by Mrs. Natalie Cunha Music Direction by Ms. Kristin Killian Choreography by Mrs. Nancy Katz-Stone

Disney and Cameron Mackintosh's Mary Poppins
is presented through special arrangement with Music Theatre International (MTI).
All authorized performance materials are also supplied by MTI.
421 West 54th Street, New York, NY 10019
Phone: 212-541-4684 Fax: 212-397-4684
www.MTIShows.com



Please Join Us

FALL FOR THE Y

A CELEBRATION TO BENEFIT THE BURBANK YMCA

OUR PREMIER SPONSOR



The Savings Bank

Friday, November 6, 2015
6:30 to 9:30 pm

Hillview Country Club
149 North Street, North Reading

\$65 per person • Evening includes:
Silent Auction • Live Auction • Food • Beer & Wine

Purchase tickets online at
ymcaboston.org/burbank/fall

Or RSVP to Irene Collins, Executive Director
icollins@ymcaboston.org or 781.909.7401

HOSTED BY THE BURBANK Y BOARD OF ADVISORS

*EMARC is 60! Please join us for our
"Diamond" Anniversary Gala*

Come as you are or put on some "bling", let's get ready to celebrate!



Monday, November 9th, 2015 at 5pm

Boston Peabody Marriott

8A Centennial Drive, Peabody, MA 01960

\$75 per person or table of 10 for \$700 (discounted price)



Lenny Clarke

Tony V

Steve Sweeney

Hank Morse

Dave Andelman

- Celebrity live-auction featuring Radio Great, Hank Morse. Actors & Comedians: Lenny Clarke, Tony V and Steve Sweeney. Phantom Gourmet's Dave Andelman.
- Large silent auction!! Big Raffle!
- Tasting stations from Award-winning, Phantom Approved restaurants.
- This year's Gala theme is "Diamonds" EMARC's 60th Anniversary
- Entertainment and surprise guests!



**EMARC's 2015 Community Champion Award is Chris Scott,
Managing Partner at Capital Grille**

For tickets, please go to: www.theemarc.org

Questions, contact Amy O'Brien, Director of Development at
aobrien@theemarc.org

*****Ticket deadline: October 23rd, 2015 first-come, first-serve. EVENT SELLS OUT!*****



EMARC~ +60 years! Valuing People. Inspiring Dreams. Achieving Goals
Offices in Reading, Burlington, Beverly and Wakefield. For 60 years, EMARC's mission is to support, serve, and advocate for people with developmental disabilities and their families to ensure they are valued, respected and have the opportunity to fully participate in their communities. EMARC is a 501c3 non-profit organization Federal i.d. #: 04-2239964
100% of funds raised go directly to EMARC

VETERANS DAY

Honoring all who served...

11.11.15



9:00 AM ~ Veterans Day Breakfast

Pleasant Street Center
49 Pleasant Street, Reading

11:00 AM ~ Ceremony on the Common

~ All are welcome!

Reading Art Association

Fall...

Art...

Exhibition...



Friday, November 13... Exhibition & Reception

7:30 to 9:30 PM

Refreshments served by our Hospitality Committee
Enjoy piano selections by Lucinda Ellert

Saturday, November 14... Exhibition

10:00 AM to 4:00 PM

Sunday, November 15... Exhibition

12:30 – 3:30 PM

First Congregational Church
Corner of Sanborn and Woburn Street
Reading, MA

Kris Kringle Fair



SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14

9am - 3pm

FREE ADMISSION



**Unitarian Universalist Church of Reading
239 Woburn Street, Reading**



Jewelry - Boutique • Books • Silent Auction • Kindle Fire HD
Raffle • Quilt Raffle • Country Store • Potpourri • Baked Goods
Refreshments/Snack Bar • Entertainment • Kids Books & Toys
AND MUCH MORE!



Check out our website for photos of raffle items and other Kris Kringle Fair info:

uureading.org/fair

This fall, throw caution to the wind... *Sunday Nov15, 3:00*

Reading Civic Concert Band

will play

"Death and Destruction"



Hear: **Vesuvius**, Dance Macabre, **Godzilla Eats Las Vegas**, & more!

where: First Congregational Church

25 Woburn Street, Reading

Admission: - \$12

Students - \$8

Seniors - \$8

8 yo and under – free



ReadingCivicConcertBand.org



Five Little Turkeys

...Leanne Guenther

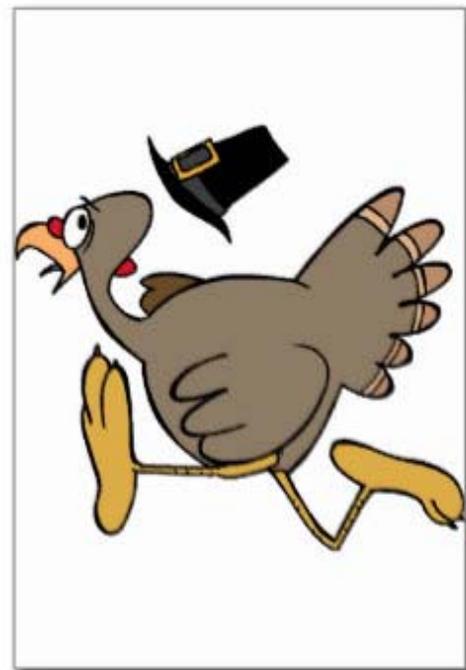
Five little turkeys standing at the door,
One waddled off, and then there were four.

Four little turkeys sitting near a tree,
One waddled off, and then there were three.

Three little turkeys with nothing to do,
One waddled off, and then there were two.

Two little turkeys in the morning sun,
One waddled off, and then there was one.

One little turkey better run away,
For soon it will be Thanksgiving Day.

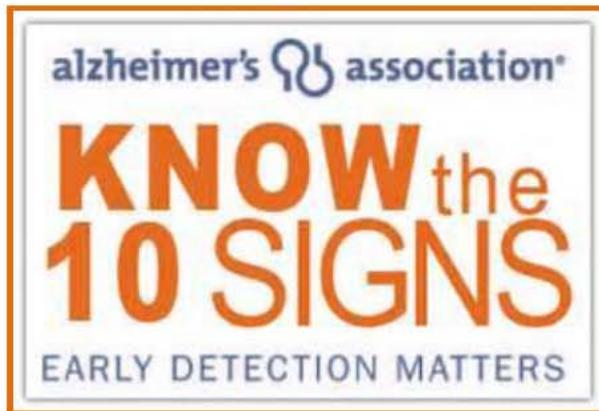


Presented by:



alzheimer's association®

**Wednesday, November 18
10:30 am
Pleasant Street Center
49 Pleasant Street, Reading**



- Memory loss or behavior changes severe enough to disrupt daily life are not a typical part of aging.
- Learn the 10 Warning Signs of Alzheimer's disease.
- Find out how to recognize the signs in yourself and others.
- Early detection matters!

Reading Elder/Human Services
49 Pleasant Street
Reading, MA
Questions? Call (781) 942-6794





FALL-iday

Fair

**95 Woburn Street (near the train depot)
Reading, Massachusetts**

Friday November 20 6-8PM
Saturday November 21 9AM-1PM

OUTSTANDING VARIETY OF CRAFT ITEMS!

**Unique gifts, Raffle, Baked goods,
Toys, Books, Christmas items,
Children's Activities, Bargain Box, Jewelry,
Live Music and Vendors**



RMHS Band & Color Guard
Christmas Tree & Wreath Sale

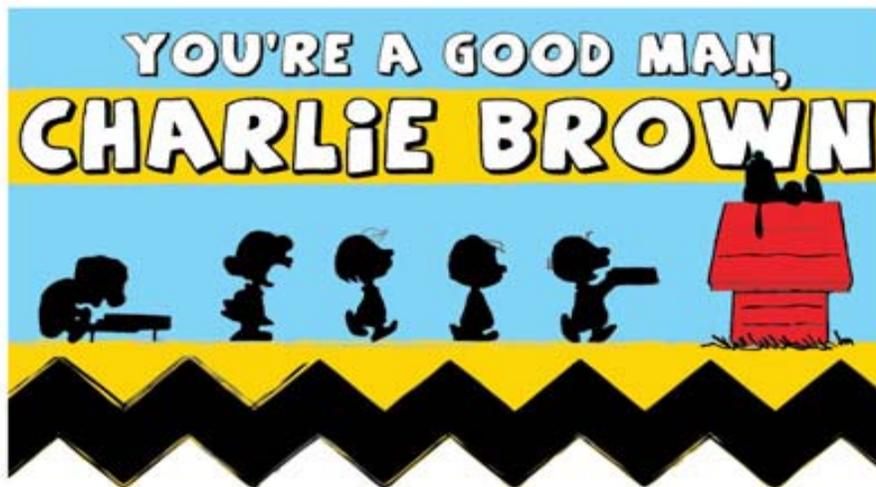
Starting November ??
 Look for the band tree lot on Main Street

NEW THIS YEAR! Additional location
 Also sold outside the Festival of Trees
 at Parker Middle School Dec 5th & 6th

From apartment size on up!

All sizes & varieties!

Get into the spirit and support the band!



Austin Preparatory School

Friday ~ November 20 ~ 7:00 PM
 Saturday ~ November 21 ~ 2:00 PM
 \$5 Students & Seniors ~ \$10 Adults



Announcing the
**St. Athanasius
Christmas Faire**

300 Haverhill Street, Reading MA

Fri, Nov. 20, 5 - 9 pm
Sat, Nov. 21, 10 - 2 pm

❖ *Come Experience our Always-Popular ~*

White Elephant Antiques	Generous Silent Auctions
Themed Gift Baskets	Homemade Baked Goods
Children's Craft Activities	Jewelry Treasures
Handmade Knit & Crochet Items	Hand Decorated Wreaths
	Raffles !

❖ *And Newly Inspired ~*

North Pole Toy Shoppe
New England Country Store
Snowflake Boutique



Delicious food presented by our top notch food committee.
A visit from Santa, hot cider, Christmas music and much more.

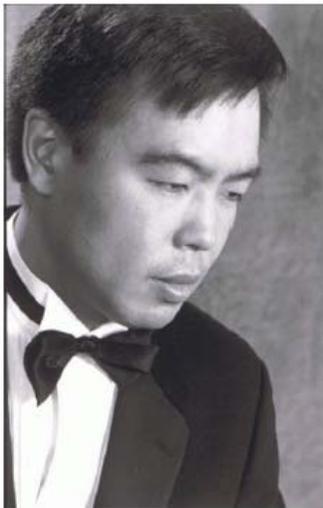
Sure to put you in the best holiday mood.

<http://www.stathanasiusreading.org>

Reading Symphony Orchestra



Join the Evolution!
Come to our Fall Concert Experience



George Ogata
Music Director and Conductor

Sunday, November 22, 2015
3:30 PM

Weber – **Overture to Oberon**

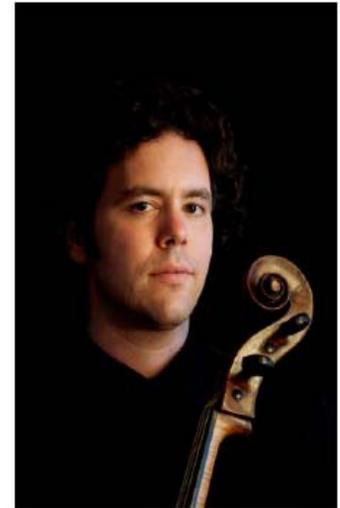
Dvorak – **Cello Concerto in B minor**
Guy Fishman, cello

Brahms – **Symphony No. 1**

At William E. Endsloew Performing Arts Center
Reading Memorial High School

Tickets/Adults: \$15.00
Seniors/Students: \$10.00
Children 12 and under: Free

For more information please visit us at
www.readingsymphonyorchestra



Guy Fishman
Principal Cellist of the Handel & Haydn Society performing the breathtaking Dvorak Cello Concerto in B minor

Reading Symphony Orchestra
P.O. Box 165
Reading, MA 01867
www.readingsymphonyorchestra.org



2 for 1 COUPON

Join the RSO on November 22, 2015 at 3:30 PM as we present the music of Dvorak, Von Weber, and Brahms at the William E. Endsloew Performing Arts Center at Reading Memorial High School. Bearer of this coupon and a guest will receive two tickets for the price of one for this concert.

Your Community Connection ~ November-December 2015



The RMHS Marching Band and Color Guard

Will be performing at the **Haverhill Santa Parade**

Sunday ~ November 22 ~ 1:00 PM

Haverhill's Lorraine Post 29 VFW Santa Parade

Updated information will be on our website: www.rmhs-bpo.org

LIKE us on Facebook: RMHS BPO

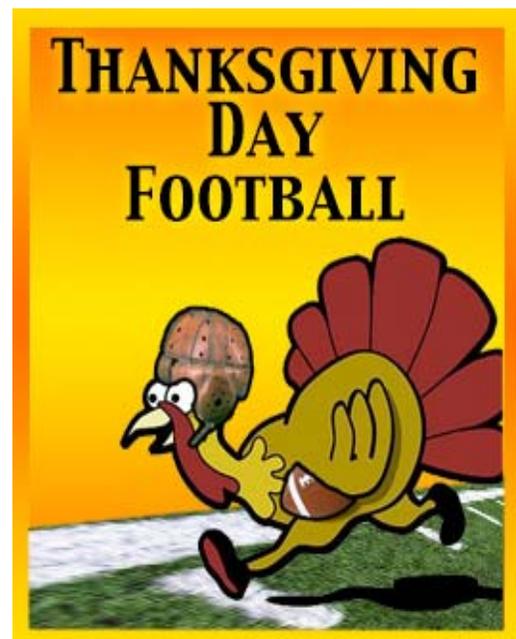
RMHS Marching Band and Color Guard

will be cheering on the
RMHS Football team
and performing at halftime!

Thanksgiving Day Football vs Stoneham

Thursday, November 26

10:00 AM at RMHS



**SUBURBAN
HOLIDAYS
NEW PLAYS
FESTIVAL
2015**

**QP's Annual New Plays
Festival Fundraiser**

**November 27, 28, 29
December 3, 4, 5, 6**

QP's holiday tradition continues! It's time for the fourth Annual New Play Festival and QP fundraiser. All new plays – all different holidays – all written by aspiring playwrights who have seen too many versions of *A Christmas Carol* and want to help us shake up the holidays!

Tickets are \$20 and can be purchased by calling QP Box Office 781-942-2212 or going to www.qptheater.com

**Saturday
November 28**

**Small
Business
Saturday**

Be sure to support your local small business and retailers and enjoy free giveaways and perks!



Professional Photography for Lasting Memories

to benefit **Understanding Disabilities**

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 28th

9am-2pm

HOLIDAY PHOTO CARDS and **FAMILY PORTRAITS**

- Portrait Packages start at \$39.99, Photo Cards start at \$.99
- Mix & Match pictures - no need to choose just one photo!
- \$25 sitting fee payable upon registration

For more information and to register visit:

www.understandingdisabilities.org

Time slots at a premium



Understanding Disabilities



Learning we are all the same inside

Celebrating 30 years in Reading schools

Advanced Photo

Your Source For All Your Photo Needs

tin [BE CREATIVE]
[BUY CREATIVE]
bucket

Holiday Character Breakfast



Sunday Morning ~ November 29 ~ 8:00 to 8:30 ~ 8:45 to 9:15 ~ 9:30 to 10:00 (Sold Out!)

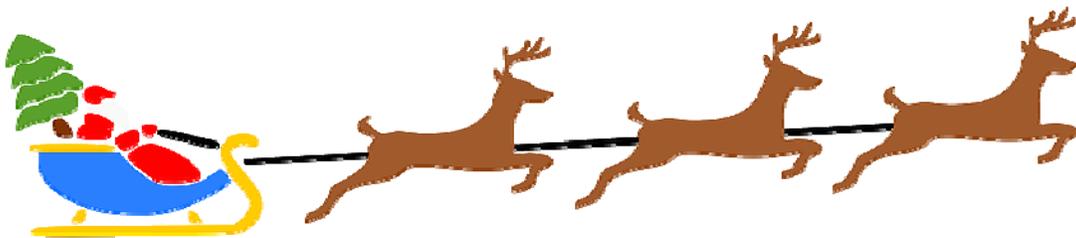
Enjoy a delicious breakfast while dining with some all-time favorite holiday characters brought to you by Reading Recreation and Human & Elder Services. Fun for everyone... bring the kids... bring Grandma... All ages are welcome! Please register for one time-slot and be sure to register each person attending. Space is limited to 50 people for each time-slot.

Pleasant Street Center ~ 49 Pleasant Street, Reading

The cost is \$3.00 per person for Ages 0-59 and FREE for Ages 60+. Please register each person attending. Space is limited!

RMHS MARCHING BAND AND COLOR GUARD

will be performing at the Tree Lighting Ceremony
on Sunday, November 29th
in the Town Common



Come see the
Living Nativity



**At the Old South Church
November 29th
During the town tree lighting
festivities**



**Live animals
Live people
Live music
by Reading
Community Singers**

Then come inside for cocoa and a craft!

Annual Holiday Tree Lighting

Sunday ~ November 29 ~ 2:00 to 4:30 PM



- Enjoy live music, hayrides, entertainment and food.
- New this year: Ugly Christmas Sweater Contest & family Zumba to holiday music on Haven Street.
- Santa will arrive at Reading Cooperative Bank on Haven Street at 1:00 PM.
- Events run from 2:00 – 4:30 PM.
- At 4:30 Santa will light the trees on the Town Common!

DECEMBER ~ DECEMBER ~ DECEMBER



December Activities at the Pleasant Street Center

Pleasant Street Center ~ 49 Pleasant Street ~ Reading, MA

To make reservations 781-942-6794 between 9:00 AM and 4:00 PM Monday – Friday

Blood Pressure

December 7, 10:00 - 10:45 sponsored by Hallmark Health

December 8, 11:30 - 12:00 by Reading Health Nurse Donna Pierce

December 15, 10:15 - 10:45 sponsored by Rite-Aid

Computer Classes

Learn to use email, send pictures, or use the internet to look up your ancestors, medical conditions, vacation spots, news, anything. And it's all FREE too! We have WIFI so bring your own laptop if you want.

Wednesdays - John Walsh - 10:00 to 11:00 AM.

Art Lessons with Steve Greco

Tuesdays – 9:30 AM to 12:00 noon. 2 ½ hours for \$10.00, minimum of five students for the class, Steve will teach any medium.

Lunch is Served

Noon. Join us every weekday (except holidays) for a terrific meal, good conversation, and occasional live entertainment. Sponsored by Mystic Valley Elder Services. Suggested donation of \$2.00 (under age 60, cost is \$3.50).

Pleasant Street Spa

For facials, manicures, chair massage please call the Pleasant Street Center (No Van Service)

Chair Massage - Thursday, December 3 and 17, 9:00 – 11:45, receive a 15 minute chair massage for only \$8.

Manicures – Thursday, December 10, 9:30 – 1:00 \$6.00 regular or \$7.00 French



Thursday, December 17 - Reiki Treatments Available the 3rd Thursday of Each Month between 9:00-11:45 Please call 781-942-6794 for an appointment. The fee for ½ hour treatment is \$15. Reiki Practitioners Elise Brenner and Judy Bousquin bring this gentle hands-on practice to the Pleasant Street Center. Reiki facilitates healing, promotes mindfulness, supports personal growth and complements any form of medical treatment. Your presence is most welcome.

FITNESS

Motion to Music

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 9:00 - 10:00. \$20/month; **NOTE:** \$15/month - any **5** classes during the calendar month. Drop-ins \$4/session.

B.E.S.T.

Balance, Energy, Strength, Training Fridays, 9:00 - 10:00, \$3/Session, Drop-ins welcome.

Yoga

Mondays, 11:00 – 12:00, 5 weeks for \$50 or \$11 for drop-in. Yoga will increase your strength, flexibility and balance. It energizes the body and calms the mind.

Zumba Gold

Mondays 9:00 - 10:00 and Wednesdays 9:30 – 10:30 - \$5 session. Zumba is fun... So grab some friends and come take a class! Drop-ins welcome.

“FOREVER 49” Tai Chi

Fit for Life Fitness Program - Chi Gong, stretching, weight lifting, Tai Chi, and more. Mondays & Wednesdays 1:30 - 2:30 **FIRST CLASS FREE**, \$40/month or \$10/Session.

GAMES

Cribbage Mondays 1:00 - 3:00

Billiards Wednesdays, 10:00 - 11:15

Pool table is available Monday - Friday

Bingo Tuesdays 1:00 - 2:30

MAH JONGG - Thursdays, 12:30 - 3:30

Party Bridge Friday, 12:45 – 3:15 \$1.00 to play - Maximum 32

Chess Friday, 1:00 - 3:00

EVENTS

Movie day – Thursday, December 8, 1:00 - *The Bishop's Wife*



1947 - An angel arrives to help a bishop with the building of a new cathedral, but his advice has more to do with fixing the clergyman's strained marriage. As the angel intervenes, the jealous bishop begins to see him as a rival for his job and his wife.

Cast: **Cary Grant, Loretta Young, David Niven, more...**

“Coping and Healing During the Holidays” WORKSHOP

Tuesday, December 8, 10:30 – 12:00. If you’ve experienced a loss, dealing with the holidays isn’t easy. But there is help. The *Bertolon Center for Grief and Healing* is offering a ONE DAY WORKSHOP and will provide education about grief, suggestions and techniques for coping with loss and an opportunity for participants to share their experiences with one another. While the workshop is free and open to anyone in the community, advance registration is required. Call 781-942-6794

Parkinson’s Disease Support Group

Meet every 2nd Wednesday, Dec 9th
1:30 to 3:00 PM. Led by Greater Medford VNA.



Gingerbread House Workshop

This very popular holiday tradition will be held at the Pleasant Street Center, 49 Pleasant Street, on December 9 from 3:00 - 4:30 PM. **Creative children** (grades 2 through 5) and **Seniors** are invited to register and partner for this event. Starting November 16, children should register at the **Reading Public Library’s Children’s Desk** 781-942-6705 or at www.readingpl.org/kids; **Seniors** should register at the **Pleasant Street Center** or by calling 781-942-6794. All supplies (graham crackers, frosting, gumdrops, candy canes, etc.) will be provided. Thanks to the Friends of the Reading Public Library for sponsoring this free program. Come celebrate the season!

The Reading Middle Schools Select Chorus, along with Coolidge’s Hand Chime Choir

Tuesday, December 22, 12:30 - 1:00 PM, The Reading Middle Schools Select Chorus, comprised of students from both Coolidge & Parker Middle Schools and under the direction of Jenny DiMuzio, along with Coolidge’s Hand Chime Choir, under the direction of Cheryl Webster, will perform holiday tunes.

Christmas Eve Brunch

Thursday, December 24 - 10:00 AM. Join us for brunch and some Christmas cheer. Omelets, sausages, and French toast sticks and other holiday treats.

New Year’s Eve Party/Yankee Swap

December 31, Noon - 3:00 p.m. in the Great Room. Join us for lunch with a special dessert and some holiday fun. Feel free to bring a wrapped gift for the “Re-gifting Yankee Swap” (value \$3 - \$5); for some added fun bring your strangest, “Why did they give me this?” or “What am I supposed to do with that gift?” Suggested donation for lunch is \$2.00.



December Recreation Division Activities



Babysitting Course

Reading Recreation is proud to offer this program to the youth work force of our community. This program is being directed by Winchester Hospital staff, for boys and girls grades 5 and up. **Participants must bring a baby sitting kit (see below) and a baby doll to the program. Also, please bring a snack and lunch.**

Baby Sitting Kit:

You are asked to produce a baby sitting entertainment kit. You should be prepared to bring this kit to the class to be checked. This can be in the form of a knapsack, cloth bag, small suitcase, or box which can be brought with you when you baby sit for the purpose of having your own supplies and ideas to entertain the children.

No paper or plastic bags!

Some articles your kit could contain: Paper and Pencils, Story Books, Coloring Books, Construction Paper, Blunt Scissors, Old Jewelry (if child is over 4 years old), Doll, Crayons, Bath Toys, Hand Puppet, Band Aids, Flash Light, other safe toys.

Date: December 5, 2015

Time: 10:00AM – 4:00PM

Fee: \$85

Location: Coolidge Middle School Multi-Purpose Room

Annual NYC Shopping Trip

Date: Saturday, December 12, 2015

Fee: \$69

Join Reading Recreation and experience one of the busiest holiday shopping days of the year in New York City.

Additional Information:

- Shoppers will enjoy 7 hours of uninhibited shopping time.
- Snacks will be provided.
- This trip is limited to 42 participants, but will need a minimum of 32 people.
- Departure: Train Depot Lot on Lincoln Street (Reading) at 6:30 AM
- Return: Train Depot Parking Lot at 11:00 PM

Shop the Block

things you want things you need • great shopping closer to home than you think

Thursday ~ December 3 ~ 5:00 to 9:00 PM

Downtown Reading

Enjoy extended hours at Reading Businesses

Work on your holiday to-do list right here in Reading!

Parker Middle School Auditorium

8th Grade Winter Concert



Thursday ~ December 3 ~ 7:00 PM

Free!



Informal Recital

*Reading Memorial High School's
Fine and Performing Arts Department's*

INFORMAL RECITAL

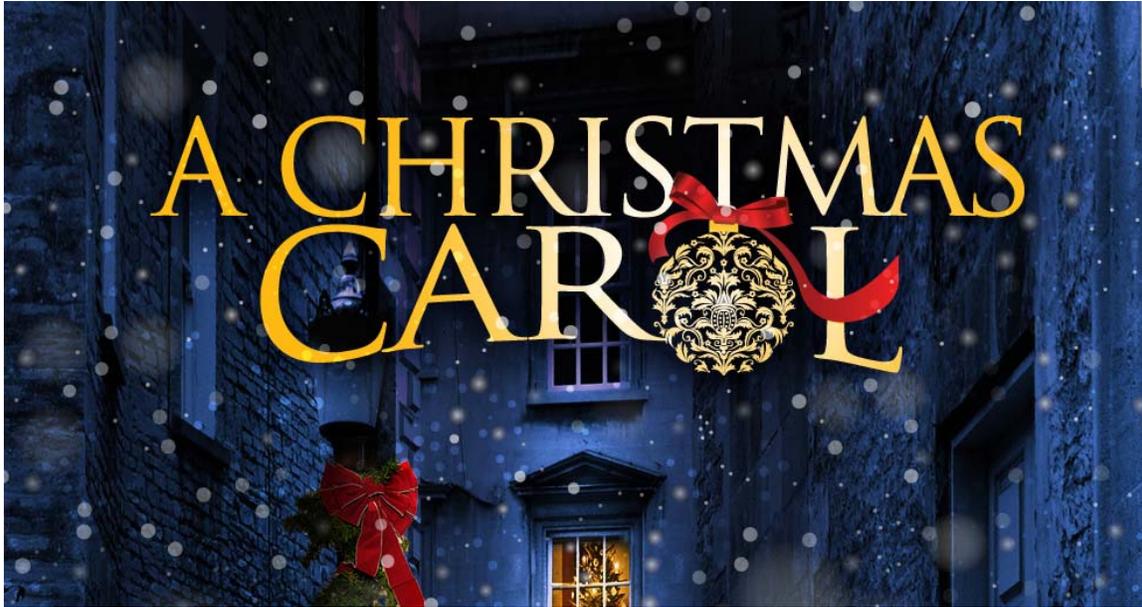
*Thursday
DECEMBER 3rd
3:00 pm*

[free admission]

Performing Arts Center



**Colonial Chorus Players invite you to join them
for a brand new adaptation of the holiday classic**



Local performer Jim Fitzpatrick has adapted Dickens' story of the miserly Ebenezer Scrooge into a one-man performance, where he will take on every role. The performance will be interspersed with caroling from other local performers.

December 4, 5, 11, 12, 18 and 19 at 7:30 PM

December 13 at 2:00 PM

Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$18 for students/seniors.

Contact us at ccpticketbooth@gmail.com

or 781-944-9780 to reserve your tickets now.





Festival of Trees

December 5th & 6th

Saturday: 12-5 & 6-9pm

Sunday: 10-5pm

Parker Middle School

45 Temple St, Reading

\$5/person • \$10/family • Tree Donors Free!



Sponsored by

Reading Education Foundation

Outside the box ~ Inside the classroom.

Ode to a Holiday Tree...

I salute holiday trees
With an ode to all trees be they stubby or tall,
Real or fake,
Green or sparkly silver for
All trees are creative signs of hope.
Lit with tiny lights,
Each light a flaming symbol to new life.
It does not matter if we are secret cynics the rest of the year,
Our holiday trees are metaphors for our family celebrations
Standing radiant as holiday presents and
Promising holidays yet to come and
Evoking holidays past.



The Reading Community Singers will be holding their annual holiday concert on Saturday, December 5 at 7:30 PM and Sunday, December 6 at 3:00 PM.



This year's theme is **"The Best of RCS - Holiday Favorites"** and will be held at Old South Methodist Church, 6 Salem St. in Reading.

The concert features guest artist, Diva's Daughters, a vocal trio comprised of Sarah Morrow (*vocals, guitar, mandolin*), Emily Bieber (*vocals, bass*), and Elizabeth McIntire (*vocals*), who raise their voices against violence through singing.

All three divas are trained opera singers who met on the set of Mozart's *Magic Flute* in 2008 and have enjoyed singing various genres together ever since.

Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$15 for students and seniors.



Memory Tree Lighting Ceremony Planned for December 6, 2015



Since 2002, the **Memory Tree Lighting Ceremony**, sponsored by the Reading Garden Club, has become a significant part of Reading's holiday season. This event gives people the opportunity to commemorate an individual (family member, friend, neighbor, or group) or to celebrate an event (a birthday, anniversary, or other special occasion) by purchasing one or more "lights." (A donation of \$5 per light is suggested.) All proceeds from the Memory Tree go toward RGC projects for the Town of Reading. The public is invited to participate and attend the brief commemorative ceremony.

This year's **Memory Tree Lighting Ceremony** will be held at 4 p.m. on Sunday, December 6, at its new location, the Pleasant Street Senior Center, 49 Pleasant Street. Musical vocals during the Ceremony will be offered by members of the Colonial Chorus and live instrumental selections will also be provided. After the names of those who have purchased "lights" and the individuals and events being honored have been read aloud, the Memory Tree, decorated with lights, will be lit.

Additionally, a **Memory Tree Book** listing the names of remembered individuals, events, and contributors, will be compiled and then placed on display at the Reading Public Library during the month of December.

Forms for purchasing "lights" and listing donors and the people and events being honored are available can be downloaded from the Reading Garden Club Web site: www.readinggardenclub.org. Forms and money need to be returned to the address listed on the form by **November 22, 2015**.

NORTH SHORE SKATING CLUB

HOLIDAY SKATING EXHIBITION



Sunday, December 6th

5:30pm - 7:20pm

Burbank Ice Arena

*Come see our club members skate to
your favorite holiday tunes!*

Public Welcome - Free Admission

**We will be accepting donations of new
unwrapped toys for **TOYS FOR TOTS****

Parker Tavern Holiday Open House

**Sunday ~ December 6
2:00 – 4:00 PM**

The first floor will be adorned with period holiday decorations displayed by the Reading Garden Club. Free to all! There will be musical entertainment and refreshments will be served.

www.friendsofparkertavern.org

The Reading Antiquarian Society



Parker Middle School Auditorium

Winter Concert

Tuesday ~ December 8

6th Grade ~ 6:00 PM

7th Grade ~ 7:45 PM

FREE!



CAROLING

for your home, party, or business

Looking for a unique gift?

Add a festive tone to your home, event, or place of business while supporting Reading Memorial High School's Choral Program!

Christmas Carols for \$30
Sung by the Select Choir of RMHS

15-minute time slots available
Dec. 12th, 18th and 19th
6:00–9:00 pm

To request an appointment, email rmhsvoice@gmail.com.
[Please include your address, your preferred date and we will contact you with an appointment]



The RMHS Drama Club

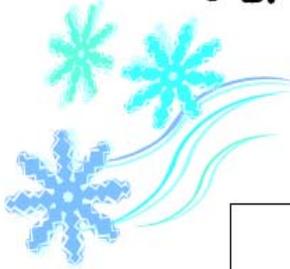
Presents

the

Dickens

Holiday Marketplace

& Craft Fair!



*Saturday, December 12, 2015
10:00am - 3:00pm*

*Performances throughout the day on
Main Street and in the
William Endslow Performing Arts Center*

*Main Street at RMHS
62 Oakland Road
Reading, MA*

*Holiday gift items, ornaments, jewelry, folk art, pottery, handbags,
and more!*



**AUSTIN
PREPARATORY
SCHOOL**

The Nutcracker

Saturday ~ December 12
7:00 PM

\$5 Students & Seniors
\$10 Adults

**Annual Police
Children's
Holiday Party**

**Sunday ~ December 13
1:00 to 3:00 PM**

**Austin Preparatory School
101 Willow Street**



MYCHIP is about Our Kids!

Reading's Good Samaritan Lodge of Masons



Have your kids “Chipped” at the
Annual Reading Police
Department
Holiday Kid’s Party

Sunday ~ December 13
1:00 to 3:00 PM
Austin Preparatory School

MYCHIP (Masonic Youth Child Identification Program) has identified more than 300,000 children since its inception in 1988, and it continues to assist families today.

The program provides tools to help law enforcement authorities find and identify a lost or missing child. The Masons of Massachusetts, partnering with the Massachusetts Crime Prevention Officers Association and the Massachusetts Dental Association, donate MYCHIP resources to make this service available to the public. None of the information is copied and all the identifying materials are given to the child’s family.

Our Free Program Provides the Following Materials

VIDEOTAPE: A brief videotaped interview that can be quickly distributed to the media in order to reach a huge audience. **FINGERPRINTING:** Fingerprinting is a well-known means of identification. Resourceful parents keep fingerprints available should the need arise.

TOOTHPRINTS: A tooth print bite impression is quick and easy. Teeth, like fingerprints are unique. A dental imprint gives both accurate and important information for identification purposes.

CHEEK SWAB: A Q-tip is gently rubbed on the inside of a child’s cheek to gather DNA material.

RMHS Winter Band Concert

Come hear all of the RMHS instrumental bands perform- jazz band~ marching band~ stage band~ symphonic band

This is a FREE event- a great evening of entertaining music for all ages!

Where: Performing Arts Center

When: Wednesday, December 16, 2015

Time: 7:00 pm





Reading Memorial High School
Choral Department's

WINTER SONGFEST

FEATURING:

RMHS SINGERS

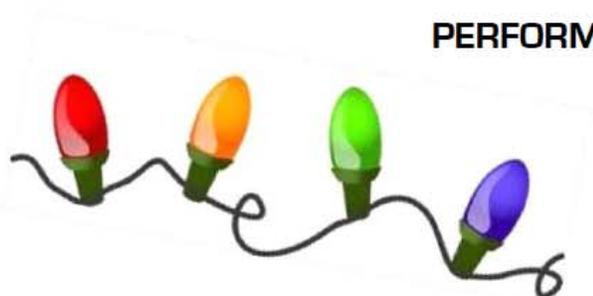
FERMATA NOWHERE

THE CRESCENDUDES

MIXED CHOIR

Choral Director: Miss Kristin A. Killian

**DECEMBER 17, 2015
7:00 PM
PERFORMING ARTS CENTER**



Your Community Connection ~ November-December 2015



Winter Walk: Join us for the 5th Annual Winter Walk sponsored by Walkable Reading. Watch for information in the next issue of Your Community Connection about when and where the walk will take place!

Creative Arts' Winter Open House: January 6 from 2:00 – 6:30 PM, and a FREE week of Creativity from January 11 – 15. For more information call 781-942-9600 or email info@weteachcreativearts.org.

Mystic Valley Elder Services presents Bellyful of Laughs: Featuring the comedy stylings of Dave Russo and Dave Rattigan. January 23, Tickets \$45 per person, Anthony's in Malden, To purchase tickets or questions call 781-32497705 or development@mves.org.

Stopping By Woods on a Snowy Evening

Whose woods these are I think I know.
His house is in the village though;
He will not see me stopping here
To watch his woods fill up with snow.

My little horse must think it queer
To stop without a farmhouse near
Between the woods and frozen lake
The darkest evening of the year.

He gives his harness bells a shake
To ask if there is some mistake.
The only other sound's the sweep
Of easy wind and downy flake.

The woods are lovely, dark and deep.
But I have promises to keep,
And miles to go before I sleep,
And miles to go before I sleep.

Robert Frost ~ New Hampshire ~ 1923

