



LADIES CHOICE

The Mattapoissett Woman's Club Newsletter

www.MattapoissettWomansClub.org

December 2021
VOLUME LX No. 4

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Dear Club Members,

I am looking forward to our Holiday Luncheon on December 9th at the Wamsutta Club in New Bedford. Having missed out on one last year, I am excited for the pleasure of our gathering. I think that sometimes we don't realize what we have until it is missing. I was thinking of what to write in this letter when the word acrostic came up in the news due to the passing of Stephen Sondheim. I thought, well I am no Sondheim, but this may be a way to try to write about our club and have a bit of fun. So here goes, note the word I spell out.

- H**appy faces greeting everyone at the door
- O**utside pleasures of walks and gardening
- L**adies "wreathing" away in the barn
- I**mbibing on luscious tea sandwiches and sweet desserts
- D**affodils abounding all over the town
- A**chieving yearly scholarship goals
- Y**earning at times for the olden ways but lured by the promise of the future.

Carole Clifford President, MWC



Carole Clifford
President, MWC

Mark your calendars!

Literature Group	Executive Board Meeting
December 8	January 13
9:30am	10:00am

MWC Holiday Luncheon

Thursday, December 9
Wamsutta Club, New Bedford
Social time 11:30am
Luncheon served at noon

I came across this, in my Mom's scrapbook, recently and thought how appropriate to share at this time. I feel we too are planning a busy season. Note, how the Standard Times had a section for Society and Clubs. Times do change. For the group of us who grew up with these ladies, here is the caption under the picture.

"Arriving for the board meeting at the home of the president are, left to right, Mrs. Stanley J. Mysliwy, 2nd vice president: Mrs. Russell H. Sherman, corresponding secretary: Mrs. Anthony Pelson, federation secretary and immediate past president, and Mrs. Nishon Berberian, publicity."

Please notice the HATS and the way the women dressed for a board meeting. Yes, that is my Mom. ~ Carole



OFFICER'S CORNER: ELAINE GRANT

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S POSITION

I joined the Woman's Club in 2012, and in 2014 I succumbed to the sweet persuasion of Betty Parker to be the Club's Corresponding Secretary. The Blue Book states, "The Corresponding Secretary shall conduct correspondence." Piece of cake!

I pick up the mail at the Post Office and disburse it to the appropriate officer. Always happy to receive new members' applications and, during the pandemic, unsolicited donations to our Scholarship Fund in the amounts from \$10 to \$500 from members and non-members in the community.

Letters and checks go out to all the scholarship winners and the many charities we support. The responses we receive are heartfelt. Welcome and thank you letters are sent to our luncheon speakers, as well as to the establishments that support Taste of the Town, the Pie Sale and to the homeowners on the Garden Tour.

We receive monthly newsletters and miscellaneous requests for support. Surprisingly, we received a request from a lady in the Carolinas who wanted a copy of our "Doorways to Dining" cookbook. She had come across the article published in Yankee Magazine in the '80's. I was sorry to tell her it was no longer in print.

I give a monthly report of my activities to the Executive Board and to the membership before the luncheon meetings. It's a wonderful position in that it gives you an overview of all the workings of the Club, as well as an appreciation of the other Officers and Board Members who are devoted to being the best at their jobs.

I highly recommend members step up to the plate to serve the Club in any position because of the enthusiastic support you will receive. It's very rewarding.



**Did you get all the answers right last time?
Here are a few for this issue.**

Mattapoisett Trivia

Can you answer all of them? Answers on page 14.

- 1. What year did Mattapoisett incorporate separately from Rochester?**
- 2. What grades did Center School serve when it was first built?**
- 3. Who built Center School?**
- 4. When was the library built?**
- 5. Who gave \$10,000 to build the library?**

MWC News & Information

MWC HEROINES

At the last meeting, members were asked to bring items for Gifts to Give and a local food bank. Two bins were set up to hold the donations. Well, the bins overflowed with donations due to the member's generosity. The food went to Damien's Food Pantry in Wareham and the other donations to Gifts to Give. The recipients were overwhelmed and very thankful. I was privileged to deliver the food to Damians and they were very pleased. Mary O'Keefe did the delivery to Gifts to Give and that is always appreciated. We are going to continue to have the two bins out at our meetings at the church during 2022. If anyone has a suggestion for a different food pantry please share it with me, Carole Clifford. We will also try to include in Ladies Choice the items most needed by Gifts to Give. Please give yourself a deserved pat on the back.

MWC DECEMBER LUNCHEON

Thursday, December 9
Wamsutta Club in New Bedford
Social time 11:30am
Luncheon served at noon



MWC WALKS

The Woman's Club continued to sponsor a weekly walk in a variety of locations in November. We walked in Marion Village, Great Hill in Marion, and the hurricane barrier in New Bedford. We chose paved surfaces for walking this past month, as we have had our share of rain this fall and we care about enjoyment and safety. Our walks are on hold during the busy month of December, and will resume next year. Please check the MWC website for details of date, time and location each week under [Mattapoisett Woman's Club In the News](#). All members are invited to join and may bring guests.



Picture: From left: Sandy Hering, Barb Van Inwegen, Sherry Hoines, Robin Lepore, Judy Sullivan, Dottie Schwartz, Sue Mitchell, and Laura von Zweck in Marion Village.

PLEASE NOTE:

Executive Board Meeting
In the Mattapoisett Free Public
Library Meeting Room

JANUARY 13 • 10:00AM

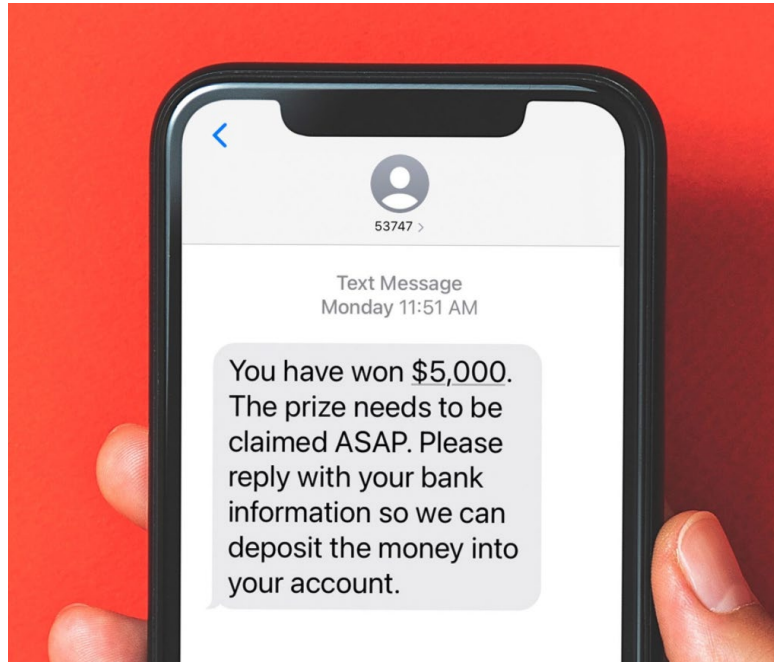
MORE NEWS YOU CAN USE

Bottom Line Up Front

- Smishing, similar to phishing, is when scammers send a text to trick you into giving away personal information.
- Don't click any links in text messages that you're not sure about or respond back to the smishers.
- Contact your bank or credit card company directly to confirm that the text came from a trusted source before sharing any account information.
- Report smishing texts to your mobile provider by texting 7726.

You've probably heard about phishing, where criminals attempt to steal your personal information via email. With the popularity of texting, fraudsters are attempting to dupe victims via text, too. It's called SMS phishing, or "smishing."

Smishers typically send a text that's intended to trick you into giving away personal information, like your passwords, account numbers or Social Security number. They use that information to gain access to your email or bank accounts. Or, they sell it to other scammers. Smishers have lots of ways to get you to share sensitive information.



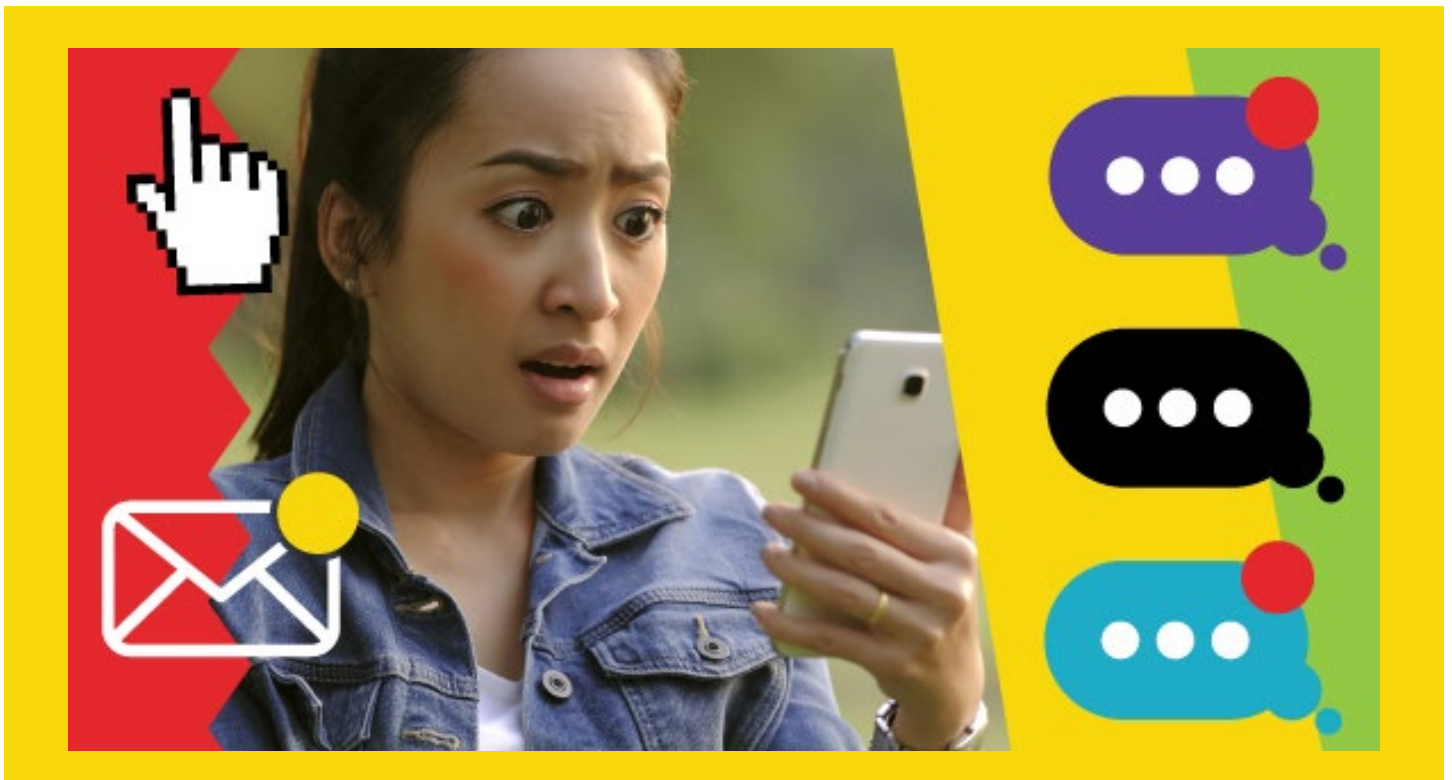
According to the Federal Trade Commission, some of the most popular tactics include:

- Asking you to verify purchases
- Claiming issues with your payment information
- Offering prizes or gift cards
- Sending fake package delivery notifications
- Warning you of suspicious activity on one of your accounts

These texts are so effective because they're often similar to texts you might receive from legitimate businesses. If you click the fake link, you might be asked for personal information or install malware on your phone that can extract information automatically. Or the link might lead to a fake version of a website where you are asked to enter your password. If you attempt to log in, the scammers can steal your username and password.

Sometimes you might be tipped off by a detail that's not quite right: misspelled words, odd sentences or an unusual URL. As criminals get smarter, though, it can be hard to tell for sure.

Of course, phone scams are not just limited to texting. Fraudsters may also call you impersonating your financial institution or other trusted source. Always be wary of incoming calls asking for personal information or passcodes.



How to Protect Yourself

With a little bit of caution, you can take steps to avoid becoming a victim of theft. If you're unsure if a text is legitimate, follow these dos and don'ts.

DO

- Do contact the supposed text sender directly. Locate a number for the business that you know to be legitimate, such as the number on the back of your credit card.
- Then contact the business to determine if they are the ones contacting you.
- Do forward spam and scam texts to 7726 (SPAM). Once you confirm the number is a smisher, forward the text to 7726 (SPAM). Doing so sends the text to your carrier to investigate.
- Do block scam phone numbers. If you're not sure how, reach out to your wireless carrier for help.

DON'T

Don't be fooled by a familiar area code. Smishers can use tools to make it look as though the text is from a local number.

Don't click links in text messages. Links are often used to install malware or keyloggers—software that tracks what you type. If you've clicked a link by mistake, consider installing an antivirus app to scan your device.

Don't respond to a suspicious text message. Like website links, text responses can be used to verify your phone number and gain access to your personal information. Some financial institutions, including Navy Federal, do use text messages to verify suspicious purchases. However, those texts will never request personal information. Check with your financial institution to see if it offers SMS text banking or mobile alerts. That way you can identify the difference between a real message and a fake.

Re-printed with permission from Navy Federal Credit Union

Great Decisions starts Wednesday, January 19, 2021. Limited spaces. Sign up today!

The Mattapoisett Woman's Club offers Great Decisions, starting Wednesday, January 19, 2022, from 1:00 PM-3:00 PM. The course will continue each Wednesday for eight weeks until March 9, 2022. The course will be available via the Zoom video platform or in person at the library. The Mattapoisett Free Public Library is the co-sponsor for this program.

Great Decisions is a community outreach program of the Foreign Policy Association. This is a global citizen discussion group designed to educate, encourage debate, and uncover policies related to the chapters in the text.

TOPIC 1: OUTER SPACE

The launch of Sputnik I in October 1957 marked the beginning of the space era and the space race between the United States and the Soviet Union. In the 21st century, there are many more participants in space, including countries such as India and China, and commercial companies such as SpaceX. How will the United States fare in a crowded outer space?

TOPIC 2: CLIMATE CHANGE

The ideological divide in the United States on the subject of climate change has impeded progress in curbing greenhouse emissions. But extreme weather events at both ends of the thermometer have focused attention on the consequences of inaction. What role will the United States play in future negotiations on climate?

TOPIC 3: RUSSIA AND THE U.S.

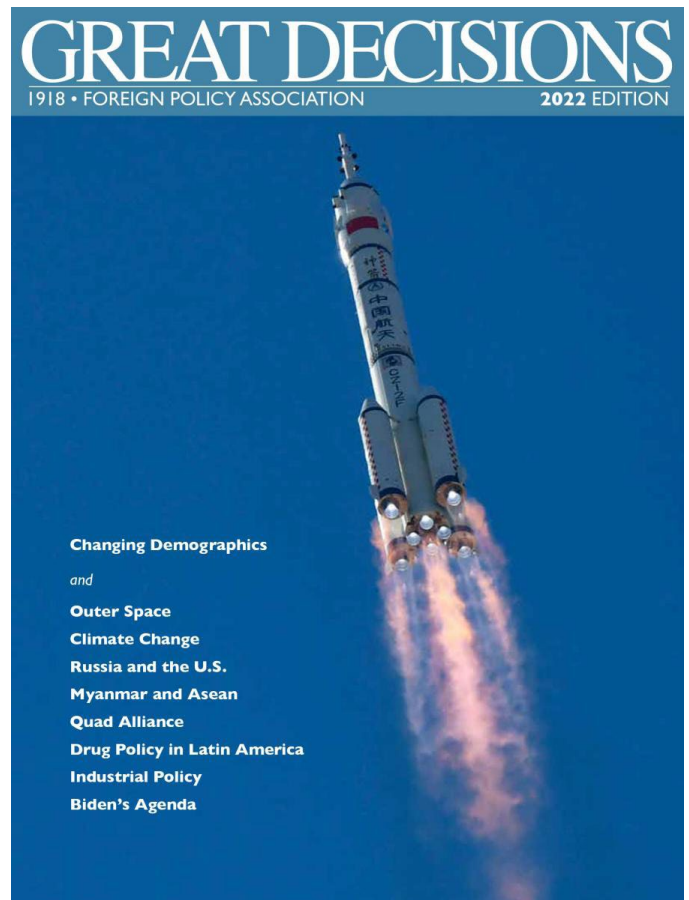
Russia and the United States have many areas of conflict and some possible areas of mutual interest. Arms control, Russian interference in U.S. elections and support of cyberattacks, the status of Ukraine, the fate of opposition politicians in Russia, all continue to be concerning. How will the new administration in Washington approach these issues?

TOPIC 4: MYANMAR AND ASEAN

The situation in Myanmar, including the coup by the military in February 2021 and the ongoing human rights crises, coupled with civil resistance by those opposed to the regime, has led to chaos in the Southeast Asian country. How are neighboring countries reacting, and what role will ASEAN play?

TOPIC 5: THE QUAD ALLIANCE

As part of the U.S. pivot to Asia, the United States has been in dialogue with Japan, Australia, and India to contain China. Recently, the Quad countries held joint naval exercises in the South Pacific. How effective will the actions of this alliance be?



TOPIC 6: CHANGING DEMOGRAPHICS

The world experienced remarkable demographic changes in the 20th century that continue today and have resulted in far-reaching social, economic, political, and environmental consequences all over the globe. These consequences are creating mounting challenges to development efforts, security, climate, and the environment, as well as the sustainability of human populations.

TOPIC 7: DRUG POLICY IN LATIN AMERICA

The issue of migration to the United States from Latin America has overshadowed the war on drugs, which has been underway for decades with little signs of progress. What are the roots and the bureaucratic logic behind today's dominant drug policies in Latin America? Is it time to reconsider punitive drug control policies that disrupt supply chains and punish drug possession?

TOPIC 8: INDUSTRIAL POLICY

The current discussion of industrial policy in the United States is not simply about whether or not to support specific companies or industries, but about trust or mistrust of the government and its ability to manage the economy and deal with a rising China. The upheaval in supply chains during the pandemic exposed weaknesses in the international economy. What policies can the United States implement to deal with trade and the economy?

TOPIC 9: BIDEN'S AGENDA

The new administration in Washington promised to reverse many of the policies of the past administration, especially in foreign policy. How will issues such as climate, the pandemic, and alliances be treated under the Biden administration?

The format of the program is to offer individuals a way to express their opinions, experiences, and thoughts on national and international policies.

The start date will be January 19, 2022.

Each session includes the viewing of a 20-minute DVD film associated with the topic of discussion, that begins sharply at 1:00 PM.

The individual fee is \$40.00. If two people are sharing one book the cost is \$50.00. The fee includes one text.

To register please send your check with "Great Decisions" listed on the memo line to Mattapoissett Woman's Club Box 1444, Mattapoissett MA 02739. Include your name, address, phone number, and email information with your check. This is a first come first served registration with a maximum of thirty people.

www.fpa.org/great_decisions

MWC 2nd Holiday Wreath and Greens Sale Pop-Up

The Mattapoissett Woman's Club Members are hard at work creating one-of-a-kind designs for their second annual Holiday Wreath and Greens Sale, a pop-up event on Saturday, December 4th, from 10 AM - 2 PM in the parking lot between Ying Dynasty and Jack's Kitchen, 22 County Road, Route 6, Mattapoissett. The sale will feature a variety of decorated fresh wreaths, swags, and holiday centerpieces, plus bunched greens. The MWC limited edition notecards and postcards featuring Mattapoissett scenes will be available for purchase at the sale and online.



Last year all items sold very quickly. Shoppers are encouraged to be there for the opening bell. When everything is gone, the sale is over.

Cash, checks, and credit cards will be accepted.

The proceeds from the sale support the Mattapoissett Woman's Club Scholarship Fund and other philanthropic projects in the community. The rain date is Sunday, December 5th, 10 AM - 2 PM.

MORE DAFFODILS!

Next spring you are sure to see more yellow daffodils blooming throughout Mattapoissett. This fall we purchased 4000 King Alfred yellow daffodil bulbs and sold most of them in our Daffodil Fundraiser. Thank you to all MWC members who purchased, bagged, delivered, and planted bulbs. After expenses, we netted a profit of \$748.76 from these sales.

Last year we purchased 2500 bulbs and sold out within days. This year we increased our quantity to 4000 bulbs. Most were sold to community members as a fundraiser, but several bulbs were saved and planted around town. In the spring, you will see new blooms in Shipyard Park, at the Library, and under the Housing Authority sign (on Acushnet Road).



Pictured above are Carolyn Price, Kathy Saunders, Sue Mitchell, and Sharon Doyon planting bulbs. Not shown is Barb Poznysz who took the photo.

The Mattapoissett Woman's Club
Presents 2nd Annual



A Holiday Greens Sale Pop-Up Event

Featuring

Decorated Fresh Wreaths

Swags & Centerpieces

Bunches of Greens & Holly

Saturday December 4th 10-2pm

Rain Date - December 5

**22 County Road, Route 6 Mattapoissett
(Parking Lot next to Ying Dynasty)**

Bundle up & come join us outside!
Cash, Checks & Credit Cards Accepted

GROUPS SCHEDULES & INFORMATION

Literature Group

Wednesday, December 8, 9:30 am

The Literature Group will meet for our December Holiday get-together and book discussion at the home of Myra Hart, 115 North St. on Wednesday, December 8 at 9:30 am. The book we will be discussing is *"The Vanishing Half"* by Brit Bennett. The book we will be reading for January is *"The Paris Library"* by Janet Skeslien Charles. We look forward to seeing you!. The reading list for 2021-2022 is below.

Watch your email for any updates about the meeting. **Questions? Contact Peg Olney at 508-758-3069 or pegolney@verizon.net**



Peg Olney

Literature Group Chair,
Ladies Choice Editor
1998 - 2018



The Vignes twin sisters will always be identical. But after growing up together in a small, southern black community and running away at age sixteen, it's not just the shape of their daily lives that is different as adults, it's everything: their families, their communities, their racial identities. Many years later, one sister lives with her black daughter in the same southern town she once tried to escape. The other secretly passes for white, and her white husband knows nothing of her past. Still, even separated by so many miles and just as many lies, the fates of the twins remain intertwined. What will happen to the next generation, when their own daughters' storylines intersect?

*Weaving together multiple strands and generations of this family, from the Deep South to California, from the 1950s to the 1990s, Brit Bennett produces a story that is at once a riveting, emotional family story and a brilliant exploration of the American history of passing. Looking well beyond issues of race, *The Vanishing Half* considers the lasting influence of the past as it shapes a person's decisions, desires, and expectations, and explores some of the multiple reasons and realms in which people sometimes feel pulled to live as something other than their origins.*

Literature Group Discussion Books

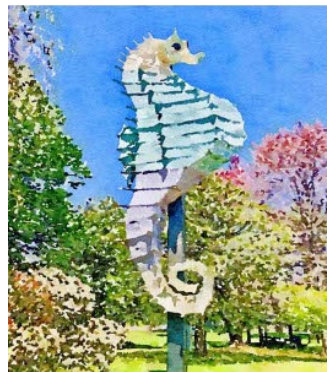
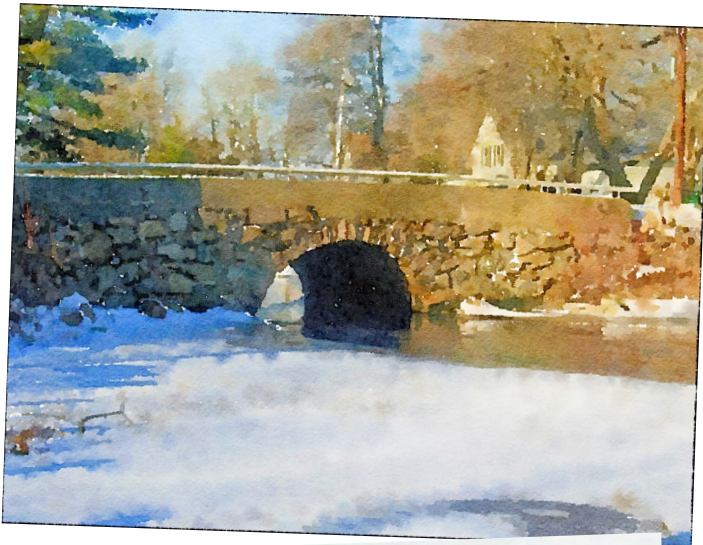
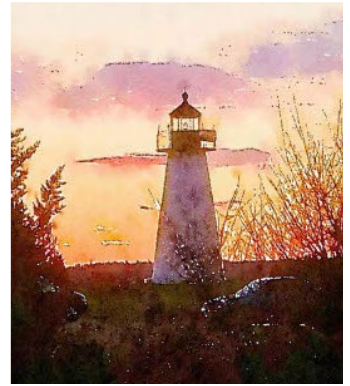
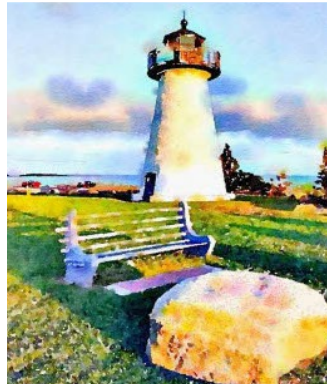
- December 8 *"The Vanishing Half"* by Brit Bennett – Hostess: Myra Hart
January 12 *"The Paris Library"* by Janet Skeslein Charles – Hostess: Linda Clifford,
February 9 *"The Warmth of Other Suns"* by Isabel Wilkerson – Hostess: Carole Clifford
March 9 *"The Searcher"* by Tana French – Hostess: Ruth Ann Walega
April TBD *"Shuggie Bain"* by Douglas Stuart – Hostess: Sherry Hoines
May TBD *"Born a Crime"* by Trevor Noah – Hostess: Cindy Turse
-

[Join our FACEBOOK Group to keep informed of all MWC news & events!](#)



Quick, Simple, Easy to Mail Gifts

The MWC has you covered for last minute gifts for family, friends and neighbors, or maybe a thoughtful thank-you for a dentist, doctor, or house-cleaner. Notecards and postcards of "all things Mattapoisett" are the perfect answer. Each package is priced at \$10 – four notecards or six postcards. You can purchase them at the MWC Wreath & Greens Sale, Isabelle's, Pen & Pendulum and Blossoms (flowers only) – or you can contact Cindy Turse. She will deliver.



GTG Current Immediate Needed Items

Our friends at Gifts to Give desperately need the items listed below. Gifts to Give has been a great supporter of the MWC. **So let's please help!** If you have any items that you cannot drop off directly please contact **Carole Clifford** at **moosie999@comcast.net**



**Weekly
Wishlist
Update**

Gifts To Give .org

Icons: Backpack, Socks, Shorts, T-shirt, Bottle, Pants, Puzzle pieces.



Our children are messages we send into a future we will not see.

SNEAKERS (all sizes, both genders) • **Arts and Crafts Supplies** • **Teen Hygiene Supplies** • **Toddler Crayons (Jumbo)** • **BABY SUPPLIES:** Receiving blankets • Burp Diapers • Safety-Gates • Wipes • Baby Towels • Wash Clothes • Board books • High Chairs • Burp Diapers • Swaddles • Tub toys • Rattles •

For donating items, it is really simple, it's as easy as "dropping-off", 24/7. We have a well-lit, surveilled, covered deck at the back of our building for drop-off. If you require a donation receipt, or help unloading, we are staffed Monday-Saturday from 9-noon.

Our public entrance is located on thebayside/riverside of the building. We are on the second floor.

The GiftsToGive Philanthropy Factory

1 Titleist Drive, Acushnet, MA 02743

508-717-8715 contactus@giftstogive.org



There is a
SUPERHERO
INSIDE ALL OF US

We hope everyone who is able will consider volunteering for Gifts to Give.

Members who are volunteers find it very rewarding. In addition, at each meeting, we will have a container for members to collect donations including the ones listed on the Wanted List published here in Ladies Choice on page 12

Give your superpower. Give your gift.

AT GIFTSTOGIVE, WE VALUE YOUR CONVICTION, WISDOM, AND COMPASSION. BY VOLUNTEERING, YOU HELP BUILD A MORE CARING COMMUNITY FOCUSED ON LOCAL CHILD POVERTY, LITERACY, SERVICE TO OTHERS, AND GIVING. FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT GIFTSTOGIVE.ORG OR CALL 508.717.8715.

THE GIFTSTOGIVE
1 TITLIEIST DRIVE

VOLUNTEER TODAY

PHILANTHROPY FACTORY,
ACUSHNET, MA 02743

You have super gifts to give



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Vice President

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Sherry Hoines

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Special Committee Chair

Great Decisions

Ellen Flynn

Remembrances & Sunshine

Linda Clifford

Scholarship Committee

2021/2022 Linda Clifford

2022/2023 Roberta Oakley

2023/2024 Bethany Couto

Audit Committee

2021 Anne Layton

2022 Tina Binette

2023 Cindy Turse

Recruitment & Retention

Carole Clifford

Linda Clifford

Mary OKeefe

Marianne Hickey

Christine Voss

Social Activities

Bridge 1

Betty Parker

Bridge 2

Jackie Slade

Knitting

Marie Rottler

Literature Group

Peg Olney

Social Cocktail Group

Cindy Turse

Welcome

New Members

Marianne Hickey

[Join our FACEBOOK Group to keep informed of all MWC news & events!](#)



JOIN NOW!

Mattapoisett Trivia Answers

from page 2

1. 1857
2. 1-8 or 1-9 depending on who you ask.
3. Henry Huttleston Rodgers
4. 1904
5. George Purrington Jr.