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Making the World a Better Place

By Stewart Lytle, Reporter



Photo provided by Kathleen Shaw

Sam Parr performed during the Newburyport Human Rights program

NEWBURYPORT – Mayor Sean Reardon called the dozen students and adults who won the city's Human Rights Commission's Peace prizes this year "good examples for the whole community" for their acts of kindness and inclusiveness.

Superintendent Sean Gallagher pronounced that "With this generation, we are in good hands." Calling the commission's Peace Prize awards "the most special ceremony," he said students are recognized for their talents in athletics, music and scholarship, but acts of kindness are just as important.

"People will never forget when you are kind. You will make the world a better place," Gallagher said.

The Peace Prizes, handed out in the City Hall auditorium, were given to students at the Newburyport schools, the River Valley Charter School and Immaculate Conception by Reardon and Commission Chair Ahmer Ibrahim.

At River Valley, Cady Seaton won the prize for her research on the women's rights movement through history. Ailsa Carmisciano and Declan McCarty were recognized for being good role models for other students at Immaculate Conception School.

Gretalise Trefalt-Liu and Cole Wilson were recognized for their kindness at the Bresnahan Elementary School. At the Molin School, Kernan Farrell, who was described as "a warrior, who takes on any challenge," won the prize along with fellow student Brock Riter, who was nicknamed Mr. Negotiator for his skills in reducing conflict among fellow students.

At the Nock Middle School, the prizes were awarded to Zachary Bell and Juliette DePasqua. And Jasmine Al Katatib and Sasha Leydon were recognized for their efforts to be inclusive at the high school.

Two Peace Prizes were awarded to adults Prince Boateng and the Wolfe Club for their work in the community.

Nadia Toth and Aibhne Martino read their poems, and Sam Parr performed on the cello.

City Recognizes Its Black History

By Stewart Lytle, Reporter



Photo by Stewart Lytle

Unveiling the first Black History Initiative Sign are, from left, Cyd Raschke, Kabria Baumgartner, Mayor Sean Reardon and Geordie Vining

NEWBURYPORT — The history of African Americans in this city has been what Northeastern University professor Dr. Kabria Baumgartner recently described as stories that "have been erased or misplaced."

Now thanks to the Newburyport Black History Initiative, a dozen charming and interesting stories about African American residents of this city will be placed on metal signs in highly visible sites throughout the downtown at or near where black residents worked, played and helped build this port city.

The signs on double or single posts, in brick or attached to the walls of historic buildings will be near the Firehouse Theater, on Bartlett Mall, along State, Pleasant and Merrimac streets, near what is now Mission Oak Grille, and of course, in Brown Square, where there is a statue to William Lloyd Garrison, who fought against slavery, and named for Moses Brown, who built ships to bring slaves to America.

The black history initiative is headed by Baumgartner, Cyd Raschke and city senior planner Geordie Vining.

The City Council and Parks Commission has approved the locations for each interpretive sign, and Vining said he plans to order the next five signs in coming weeks and three more later this year.

He said more research for some signs, particularly two about black-owned businesses and the one on black mariners, still needs to be completed. "The research, writing, editing, review and layout takes a while," Vining wrote.

The research comes from the Newburyport Public Library's Archival Center and the Museum of Old Newbury and by historians, editors, researchers, city officials and black community stakeholders.

The initiative is also designing a website over the next several months to provide a geographic story

Continued on page 3

Celebrate Juneteenth

By Stewart Lytle, Reporter



Photo by Stewart Lytle

The sign in front of the Belleville Church

REGIONAL – Major Gen. Gordon Granger could hardly have imagined that 156 years after he delivered the news that slaves were free to the people of Texas, the event would be turned into a national holiday called Juneteenth.

Nor could the Union general and hero of the Battle of Chattanooga have believed that two years after the holiday was created, a celebrated black guitarist, songwriter and singer of soulful blues would bring his musical talents to entertain a mostly white audience in another port city on the North Shore of Massachusetts 2,000 miles away from Galveston.

Nor would he expect that the concert would be held in a church, much like where the former slaves in Galveston went to celebrate their new-found freedom.

Corey Harris, a MacArthur Fellow, who has played with BB King and other top musicians, will perform at the Belleville Congregational Church, 300 High Street, Newburyport, as part of its Roots Music series. The concert begins at 8 p.m. on Saturday, June 17.

And that's not all of the Juneteenth events scheduled here. In collaboration with the Roots Music Series, the Screening Room in downtown Newburyport will premiere a new film, When Houston Had the Blues, which documents a long-overlooked music scene in Texas that included black performers such as Lightnin' Hopkins, Clifton Chenier, Bobby "Blue" Bland and Big Mama Thornton.

Note: Thornton recorded Ain't Nothing But a Hound Dog three years before anyone heard of a Mississippi singer named Elvis Presley.

The film, which will be shown at 7 p.m. on June 19, will be followed by a Skype interview with director Alan Swyer and moderated by Edward Carson, the dean of multicultural education at Governor's Academy and the host of the program, Race

Continued on page 3



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How to Submit Letters to the Editor



Marc Maravalli, B.S., R.Ph.
Publisher/Editor, The Town Common

Letters to the Editor provide a useful way of communicating concerns, issues, or suggestions to all members of the community.

The Town Common encourages all citizens to submit letters concerning issues of interest and concern to the local community.

Letters selected for publication may be edited for length and clarity. Some letters may serve as a catalyst for other articles or coverage, and community leaders and agencies will be offered an opportunity to respond to letters concerning their areas of responsibility.

All letters must be signed and include a daytime telephone number.

Letters may be submitted to:

The Editor
c/o The Town Common
77 Wethersfield St.
Rowley, MA 01969
or preferably via e-mail to:
editor@thetowncommon.com.

The Town Common deadline is 5pm Wednesday (except when a federal holiday necessitates an earlier deadline).

The Town Common serves the communities of the Upper North Shore of Mass. & Coastal New Hampshire and welcomes your participation. Send your Organization or Group Notices, Birth or Engagement Announcements, Photos, Articles and Letters to the Editor, by mail, phone, fax, or e-mail to: 77 Wethersfield St., Rowley, MA 01969
Phone: 978-432-9669
E-mail: news@thetowncommon.com

The Town Common

Marc Maravalli, Founding Publisher / Editor
editor@thetowncommon.com

Graphic Design Services
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In loving memory of

Liz Ichizawa, '04-05 Reporter (1956 - 2005)
Jim Wilson, '20-22 Publisher/Editor (1954-2022)

LEGAL NOTICE - NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

Notice is hereby given by Newburyport Towing Service, Inc. 27 S. Hunt Road, Amesbury, MA, pursuant to the provisions of Mass G.L. c. 255, Section 39A, that they will auction the following vehicles June 8, 2023 on the website <http://sta.ibidsmart.com>. The auction will end at 1:00 pm and buyer registration is required. Those that do not sell at auction will be sold on or after June 8, 2023 by private or public sale to satisfy their garage keepers liens for towing, storage, and notices of sale:

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3. 1997 Chevrolet Blazer VIN 1GNDT13W6V2204397
4. 2009 Toyota Yaris VIN JTDKT903295256199
5. 1999 Honda Accord VIN 1HGCG667XXA078694
6. 2014 Nissan Altima VIN 1N4AL3AP6EN344537

Vehicles are being stored at Newburyport Towing Service and may be viewed by appointment only.
Walter L. Lowell 5/24, 5/31, 6/7

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3. 2007 Chevrolet Silverado 1500 VIN 1GCEC14C27E543547
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5. 2008 Chevrolet Impala VIN 2G1WT58N081368816

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Walter L. Lowell 5/24, 5/31, 6/7



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6	Tue	1:24	9.7	2:05	8.0	7:56	-0.7	8:02	0.6	5:03	8:20
7	Wed	2:15	9.7	2:57	8.1	8:46	-0.7	8:55	0.5	5:03	8:20
8	Thu	3:09	9.6	3:52	8.2	9:40	-0.7	9:53	0.5	5:03	8:21
9	Fri	4:07	9.3	4:49	8.3	10:36	-0.5	10:55	0.6	5:03	8:22
10	Sat	5:07	9.0	5:48	8.4	11:33	-0.3	11:58	0.5	5:02	8:22
11	Sun	6:09	8.7	6:47	8.6			12:30	-0.1	5:02	8:23
12	Mon	7:11	8.4	7:45	8.8	1:03	0.4	1:28	0.1	5:02	8:23
13	Tue	8:13	8.1	8:42	9.0	2:06	0.3	2:24	0.3	5:02	8:24

A MORNING OF INSIGHT MEDITATION: INSTRUCTION AND PRACTICE

SATURDAY, JUNE 17, 9:30AM AT THE ROWLEY LIBRARY

Meditation can be understood as the art of bringing full, conscious attention to the present moment, just as it is. In today's culture, this is a tall order, as we are continually bombarded with demands on our attention: advertising, texts, phone calls, emails, and a myriad of other electronic temptations. This is not even to mention the interpersonal challenges of our complex society. Instructor Ted Jones will guide us in a silent retreat format where we will calm the mind through attention to the sensations of breath and movement. Building on the foundation of this enhanced concentration, we will then expand our focus to include more complex phenomena, which will demonstrate the potential to experience our lives more fully and to understand more deeply who we truly are. Meditation periods will be guided with instructions, and there will be ample time reserved for questions and discussion. Open to both beginners and experienced meditators.

Registration is required- space is limited! Sign up at www.rowleylibrary.org/calendar or call us at 978-948-2850. The Rowley Library is located at 141 Main St. in Rowley.

A HISTORY OF LIBRARIES IN THE BAY STATE WEDNESDAY, JUNE 14, 7PM - HYBRID

From the early days of European settlement to the present, Boston and Massachusetts have been friendly to the printed word. In fact, the first printing press in British North America arrived at Harvard in 1636. Libraries — private, public, and academic — quickly followed. Massachusetts author and historian Alan Earls will present a slideshow and discussion of some of the important milestones, architectural gems, and key figures in this story as well as an overview of just how richly endowed we are with libraries of all kinds today. Highlights include Ben Franklin's gift to found the first free public library in Franklin; the first library for industrial workers; the first children's library; and the first tax-payer funded town and city libraries, as well as pioneering cataloging systems, philanthropists, architects, and more.

Hybrid program- Two ways to attend: watch with us at the Rowley Library on Wed., June 14 at 7PM, or sign up to watch from home at www.rowleylibrary.org/calendar (the Zoom link will be emailed to you).

For more information, check our web site at www.rowleylibrary.org/calendar, or call (978) 948-2850. The Rowley Library is located at 141 Main St. in Rowley.

THE ADVENTURES OF TWO GRANNIES ON THE ROAD TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 10:30AM - VIRTUAL

They're not ready for the rocking chair yet! Two young-at-heart grandmothers will share their love of exploration and adventure, showing that they can be business owners, wives, grandmothers, and still have fun! Join "Grannies" Beth Sobiloff and Marcia Rothwell as they share stories and reflect on their adventures touring all over the Commonwealth. Whether it is a restaurant, a statue, a historic building, library, museum, art, llamas, farms, mountains or the sea, they have visited it all and have gotten to know the people who live there. Come hear their story about how they've reinvented themselves later in life, and are living their retirement years to the fullest!

Registration is required for this online program. To sign up to watch from home, visit the Rowley Public Library web site at www.rowleylibrary.org/calendar. You will receive an email with the link to the webinar.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The Groveland Democratic Town Committee is having its caucus on June 10th at 11:00 at town hall.

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Celebrate Juneteenth

Continued from page 1

Matters, on WJOP, the community radio station.

Half of the \$10 admission to the film will be donated to Community Change, an organization promoting racial justice and equity by challenging systemic racism and acting as a catalyst for anti-racist learning and action in the greater Boston area.

WJOP will also broadcast and stream on its web site 24 hours of music by black performers, songwriters and composers with some poetry interspersed between 6 a.m. Saturday, June 17, to 6 a.m. Sunday, June 18. The station, following the lead of its director Sarah Hayden, worked with the Roots team to coordinate the Juneteenth events.

When Corey Harris, who has recorded 20 albums, won the so-called "genius award" from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation in 2007, he was described as an artist who "forges an adventurous path marked by deliberate eclecticism."

In 2003, Harris was a featured artist

and narrator of the Martin Scorsese film, *Feel Like Going Home*, which traced the evolution of blues music from West Africa to the southern U.S.

Harris has incorporated musical influences, like Reggae, from his experiences in West Africa into his blues, said Ken Irwin, co-founder of the Roots Music Series.

Irwin said he is looking forward to the concert because few performers today play the blues solo like Harris does. He plays in bands and is a band leader, but will perform solo at Belleville with his acoustic guitar and Piedmont-style guitar picking.

"He is a very emotive singer, very soulful," Irwin said.

Harris said recently that he is not really in the entertainment business. "The blues involves a deeper mission, and that includes weighing in when there is something timely that needs to be said."

"As an African living in America, as a descendant of slaves that built this country, I am looking at the survival

mechanisms that have existed for people to persevere in difficult times. And when we think about that, the blues always comes to mind," he said.

His latest album, *Insurrection Blues*, of 20, continues a musical journey that began with his debut album, *Between Midnight and Day*, in 1995. The songs are full of topical relevance, yet are steeped in tradition and informed by his musical explorations over the decades.

"When I saw the (January 6) insurrection, I saw how race and history collided there. For instance, the way that the black Capitol police were being assaulted physically. The symbolism of that was quite heavy, particularly since it was a black man who saved the life of (U.S. Sen.) Mitt Romney by delaying the entry of the aggressors."

For more information on the Harris concert and to buy tickets, visit bellevilleroots.org. For more information on the Screening Room film, visit www.newburyportmovies.com.

City Recognizes Its Black History

Continued from page 1

map that shows the location of the signs and other sites. The site will be an evolving archive and repository for expanded versions of the stories on black residents. It will also have videos, newspaper articles, census sheets, maps and photographs detailing the city's black history.

The first sign, in place since last fall on the Clipper City Rail Trail, educates the thousands who walk and ride bicycles along the trail, about a little-known, mostly black neighborhood at Auburn and Low streets, called Guinea Village.

Of the first sign, funded by the Community Preservation Commission, Mayor Sean Reardon said, "It is long overdue." He promised a robust effort by the city to honor its former black residents, including holding lectures, panel discussions and workshops on the city's black history.

One sign will honor Moses Prophet Towns, (1859–1951), who came from Virginia and worked as a beloved employee of the historic Wolfe Tavern on State Street for more than a half century. The sign about Towns will be placed at the Harris Street parking lot.

Another sign on the front corner of the Firehouse Theater will inform residents and visitors about the life and travels of Nancy Gardner Prince. Born to a sailor father in Newburyport in 1799, Prince wrote one of the few surviving autobiographies of a free black woman who lived in the pre-Civil War America. Her life story through 19th century America included travels to Russia and Jamaica.

In a planter in Patrick Tracy Square on Pleasant Street will be a sign honoring Louis C. Tyree, (1884–1963) who with the help of generous benefactors in the city earned his college degree and became a lawyer in the early 20th century.

Black photographers operated several studios on State and Pleasant streets during the 19th Century. A sign recognizing those studios will be installed in brick in Inn Street at the end of a planter.

Black children were not allowed to attend Newburyport public schools in the late 18th and early 19th centuries. A sign honoring the fight by black residents to integrate the schools will be installed off the Auburn Street sidewalk in Bartlett Mall park across from the Kenney School. It is near the historic Guinea neighborhood.

Black women like Caroline Cottrell (1856–1918) had few choices other than work as domestics, often living away from their families. Cottrell, a Newburyport housekeeper, worked for the Morrill family and helped raise future Mayor Gayden Morrill. She saved money and invested it in World War I Liberty War Bonds, which she passed on to her family. A sign about her life will be installed at the old Baptist Church, which is now Mission Oak Grille on Green Street.

Black owned businesses, mostly concentrated along Water and Liberty streets and Elbow Lane, played a significant role in building the economy of the city during the 19th Century. A sign, honoring John C.H. Young's barber shop off Merrimack Street, will be erected in the grass buffer at the Green Street Parking Lot near where the shop operated.

A sign honoring the black activists of the last two centuries will be added to Brown Square, east of the Garrison statue.

Black soldiers and sailors from Newburyport served in all the American wars, fighting for a nation that did not recognize their rights as full citizens. The city is designing and erecting a sign in their honor on the Green Street side of Brown Square near the Veterans Plaza.

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OBITUARY

Geraldine M. Kiley
 January 26, 1942 – May 27, 2023

It is with deep sadness that we announce the passing of our beloved Geraldine (Gerry) Kiley, who left this world on May 27, 2023, at the age of 81. She will be forever missed by her family, friends, and all who knew her.

Gerry was born on January 26, 1942, in Flushing, New York, to Arthur McMahon and Elinor (Bettencourt) McMahon. She grew up in Peabody Massachusetts. She graduated from St. John's High School in Peabody. Through mutual friends' wedding she met her soulmate and love of her life William Kiley with whom she just celebrated 58 years of marriage. They had an amazing and happy journey together.

Family and caring for others were her passions. As a child she started going to Littlefield's Village in Ogunquit with her grandparents. Eventually she spent summers in Ogunquit with her grandchildren. It never mattered where she was, as long as she was with family. She is always at a school academic fair or sporting event with her grandkids. Being Nana was her favorite thing to do. As a mom she was unconditionally loving and supportive. Running from figure skating rinks to scouting and school events, she was affectionately known as "Mrs. K" to the kids around town. She instilled the importance of family and community; she was an amazing role model. As a wife is where she surpassed all else, she did. Her love and support for her lifelong soulmate Bill was an example for all. The Gerry and Bill team was unstoppable. They were as perfect a match as one could ever be. She was a member of St Mary's Parish in Rowley. She made lifelong friendships from the parish rummage sales, Christmas fairs, and numerous dances. After working at the town library, she started the Rowley food pantry 33 years ago, to help people in her community.

Gerry, mom, nana, is and will be deeply missed by her husband Bill; children Bill Jr., (Julie), Emily Cormier (fiance James), grandchildren Will, Aaron, Lydia, Mike, and Adam; and her sister Kathy McMahon; along with many other family and friends.

Calling hours are Monday, June 5, 2023, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m., at F. S. Roberts & Son Funeral Home, 14 Independent Street, Rowley MA. Mass of Christian Burial is at 1 p.m., at St Mary's Parish, Main Street, Rowley with burial to follow at the Rowley Burial Ground. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to the Rev. Paul V. Sullivan Scholarship Fund. Checks made payable to Saint Mary's Parish 94 Andover Street, Georgetown MA, 01833. To light a memorial candle or to leave a message of condolence, please visit www.fsrobertsandson.com.



Civil War Roundtable of the Merrimack

June 14, 7:30-9:30 PM

Hilton Senior Center, 43 Lafayette Rd, Salisbury, MA

Following a brief business meeting, there will be a presentation by historian Chuck Veit on his most recent book "Monitor's Unknown Mission"

From the author's website: Here is the unsung and all but forgotten story of a major failed mission of the American Civil War. Undertaken at the request of the President, the Navy dedicated a dozen gunboats (including the ironclads Monitor and Galena) and an untried secret weapon to the destruction of the railroad bridges connecting Petersburg with Richmond. Success would not attend their efforts, but the attempt was well worth the risk. Had it succeeded, the naval expedition bid fair to bring about or at least hasten the end of the Rebellion. That most of the squadron escaped unscathed was due entirely to the battles raging on the peninsula to the north. Southern leadership was necessarily focused on the Union army sitting but a few miles from their capitol—and missed the opportunity to capture or destroy a dozen of the Yankee ships on the James River.

The event is free and open to the public. Anyone with an interest in the American Civil War is welcome to attend.

Summer Reading Programs at Georgetown Library

The Georgetown Peabody Library offers summer reading programs to children, teens, and adults. Sign-ups began Monday, June 12 for the Children's Summer Reading Program, the Teen Summer Reading Program, and the Adult Summer Reading Program.

You can find more information about the library's summer reading programs and summer events at our website: www.georgetownpl.org or stop in to the library when we are open.

Please call us at the Georgetown Peabody Library, 2 Maple Street, Georgetown, MA at 978-352-5728 if you have any questions.

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Health & Wellness





By J. PETER ST. CLAIR, DMD

There are many people who suffer with pain involving some area of the head. Toothaches can cause pain, but these are mostly avoidable with proper diet, home care and regular visits to your dentist. Teeth can also play an indirect role in facial/head pain.

Orofacial pain includes a number of clinical problems involving the chewing (masticatory) muscles and/or temporomandibular joints (TMJs). Problems can include TMJ discomfort involving muscle spasms in the head, neck, shoulders and/or jaw, migraines or other types of tension headaches, pain with the teeth, face or jaw; and can even play a role in anxiety and/or depression.

You swallow approximately 2,000 times per day, which causes the upper and lower teeth to come together and push against the skull. People who have an unstable bite, missing teeth, or poorly aligned teeth can have trouble because the muscles work harder to bring the teeth together, causing strain. People with seemingly good teeth/bite are also susceptible. Pain can also be caused by

Brighter Smiles...

DO YOU HAVE JAW PAIN?

clenching or grinding teeth, trauma to the head and neck, or poor ergonomics. Temporomandibular disorders (TMD) affect more than 10 million Americans. Your TMJ's are located where the skull connects your lower jaw to the muscles on the sides of your head and face controlling the joint's movements. Women between the ages of 20 and 40 are often more frequent sufferers because of the added estrogen in their bodies.

One in eight Americans suffers from headaches. Experts estimate that 80 percent of all headaches are caused by muscle tension, which may be related to the bite. Clenching the jaw muscles creates tension in the muscles that close the jaw, the main one of which is the temporalis muscle. Signs that may indicate a headache from dental origin include: pain behind the eyes, sore jaw muscles or "tired" muscles upon awaking, teeth grinding, clicking or popping of the jaw joints, head and/or scalp is painful to the touch, earaches or ringing, neck and/or shoulder pain, and dizziness. Keep in mind that in a 24-hour period of time, your teeth should only touch 10 minutes total. If you clench or grind your teeth, your teeth are touching much more than that and I can promise you that something in the masticatory system is being affected.

Sleep disorders can also play a role. I am not just talking about sleep apnea. There are a wide range of sleep disorders and some of them will cause people

to clench and/or grind as a defense mechanism of the body to achieve proper air flow.

Dentists have a variety of ways to help relieve orofacial symptoms. One way to treat these problems is called an orthotic, or splint, that is worn over the teeth to help stabilize the bite; kind of like an orthotic some wear in their shoes for alignment and balance when standing. Permanent correction may require equilibration (reshaping teeth), prosthetic dentistry and/ or orthodontics. Many use a splint on a daily basis to avoid having these other treatments done.

Orofacial pain can range from tolerable to debilitating. Maintaining or correcting your bite ensures optimal health, and proper care will help reduce or eliminate orofacial pain or discomfort. If your dentist can not help you, ask for a referral.

Most important lesson of the day: The optimal rest position of the jaw (minus the 10 minutes the teeth touch in 24 hours) is lips together, teeth slightly apart, the tip of the tongue resting just behind your upper front teeth, and you should be breathing through your nose.


Dr. St. Clair maintains a private dental practice in Rowley dedicated to health-centered family dentistry. He has a special interest in treating snoring, sleep apnea and TMJ problems. If there are certain topics you would like to see written about or questions you have please email them to him at jpstclair@stclairdmd.com


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73098020	SLD	37 Andrews Farm Rd	Boxford, MA	AN5002	Detached	2	655000	665000	
73092583	SLD	29 North St	Topsfield, MA	AN4955	Detached	3	695000	750000	
73100864	SLD	74 Middle Rd	Amesbury, MA	AN6888	Detached	3	725000	775000	
73107747	SLD	15 Dove St	Newburyport, MA	AN6420	Detached	2	729900	808000	
73096699	SLD	178 Hay Street	Newbury, MA	AN5941	Detached	3	775000	835000	
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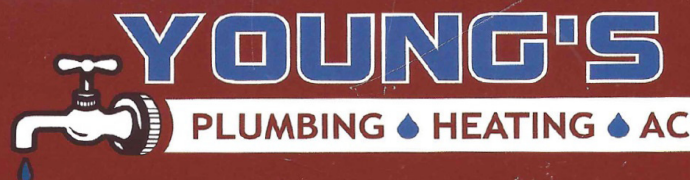


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