

The Town Crier



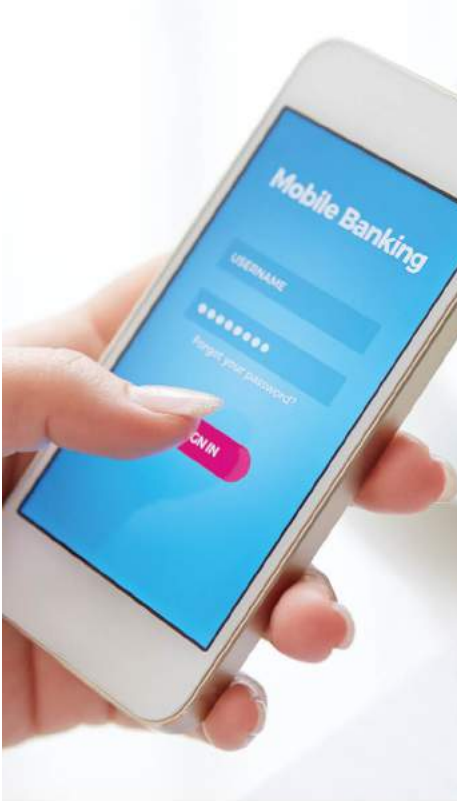
Summer 2015

From the Editors of *Yankee Magazine* and your friends at Winchester Savings Bank

A Safe Place to Stay

BY KARA BASKIN

Caritas cares for its disadvantaged neighbors in a most fundamental and essential way.



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Everyone should have a safe place to sleep at night. Caritas Communities provides for that basic need for nearly 900 people across eastern Massachusetts, many of whom are formerly homeless, low-income, disabled, or elderly; some are military veterans.

In a region where real-estate and rental prices are staggering, Caritas lessens the need for homeless shelters. This non-profit group, with offices in Braintree, North Shore, and South Shore communities, including properties in Arlington and nearby Bedford and Wakefield. Nearly 59 percent of Caritas residents earn less than \$15,000 per year, making it impossible to find market-rate housing on their own salaries.

Caritas celebrates its 30th anniversary this year, and its mission remains as vital now as it was at its founding. "Our vision was to provide affordable housing to people who worked but couldn't make a living wage," explains Karin Cassel, Caritas's director of fund development and communications. "What's interesting is that you fast-forward 30 years, and the need is even more relevant today."

Many residents arrive at Caritas directly through a partner program, providing a sense of continuity and support. Caritas has strong roots throughout the Bos-



ton area, serving as the housing platform for 16 organizations, including Heading Home and the AIDS Action Committee. Project Place provides case management to residents, helping formerly homeless people become job-ready.

"For most social-service organizations," Cassel notes, "housing is beyond their scope." Caritas's partnerships ensure that while residents are receiving crucial social-support services, they enjoy a permanent and dignified place to live, too. Most residents stay at Caritas for three years.

Each 150-square-foot residence is fully furnished, with a desk, a chair, a nightstand, a bureau, a mattress and bed, and a refrigerator. Homes have communal bathrooms, kitchens, and free laundry. A Caritas staff case manager is responsible for residents' well-being. Because so few residents arrive with cars, every Caritas home is within 10 minutes of public transportation. Rent is roughly \$145 per week, with utilities included. Many properties host ongoing events such as group meals, an open art studio, and community meetings.

"For many people, Caritas provides the best and most affordable housing they've had in years," Cassel says. "Now they have a place to call home."

To learn more, visit: caritascommunities.org

Favorite Events for Late Summer & Early Fall

Kidstock!

August 5-7, 12-14, 19-21, 26-28, Winchester
Each age group at this kids-only theater camp puts on performances for friends and family every week throughout the month. Free; check the website for the schedule. 50 Cross St. 781-729-5KID; kidstocktheater.com

Horn Pond Summer Concerts

August 7 & 21, Woburn
Enjoy live music—traditional Celtic with Irish Whisper on the 7th, roots/rock with Jo Henley on the 21st—at Ice House Park as the summer series continues. Bring a picnic and a blanket. Free; 6-8 p.m. Jct. Sturgis & Beacon Sts. sci woburn.org

Who's Next:

The Ultimate Who Tribute Show

August 14, Arlington
Next best thing to seeing them live: Relive the sounds of the 1960s with this brilliant Who cover band, on stage at the Regent Theatre. \$22.50-\$32.50; 8 p.m. 7 Medford St. 781-646-4849; regenttheatre.com

Library Park Blues Festival

August 29, Woburn
This charity concert unites talented local musicians, including New England Blues Summit and other bands, playing in support of Massachusetts veterans. Plus, don't miss the great food, beer and wine, raffles, and vendors. Ticket proceeds will benefit veterans receiving care from local hospitals and American Legions. \$20, free for ages under 12 (with adult) and active-duty military (with ID); 1-8 p.m. Harrison Ave. bluesforveterans.org

Arlington Town Night & Town Day

September 11-12, Arlington
Enjoy live music and kids' activities, plus fireworks at dusk (8 p.m.), on Friday night at Spy Pond Field; followed on Saturday in the town center by neighborhood vendors, treats from hometown restaurants, more music, and other entertainments, as Arlington's local businesses set up booths for an enormous block party. Free; 5 p.m. Friday, 10 a.m.-3 p.m. Saturday. 50 Pond Lane/40 Wellington St. (Friday); Massachusetts Avenue (Saturday). town.arlington.ma.us

Harvest Dinner

September 11, Winchester
Beautiful Wright-Locke Farm hosts a seasonal meal to celebrate autumn's bounty, catered by Season to Taste. \$175 per person;

6:30 p.m. 78 Ridge St. 781-721-7128; wlfarm.org

Field Day

October 17, Arlington Heights
Head for Robbins Farm Park to test your mettle with old-fashioned sack and spoon races, plus a nature scavenger hunt. Don't miss the face-painting and moon walks for the kids, and refreshments for the hard-working athletes among you (nominal charges). 1-5 p.m. 61 Eastern Ave. robbsfarmpark.org

Winchester Reads:

An Evening with Carlos Eire

October 20, Winchester
This National Book Award winner, author of *Waiting for Snow in Havana: Confessions of a Cuban Boy* and *Learning to Die in Miami: Confessions of a Refugee Boy*, speaks at McCall Middle School. Free; 7:30. 458 Main St. 781-721-5933; bookendswinchester.com

Woburn Halloween Parade

October 25, Woburn
It's the 61st anniversary of this iconic hometown event, featuring more than 90 fun floats and amazing music from some 25 bands along a 2.2-mile route along Route 38 (Main Street), south to Lake Avenue and the Winchester town line at Horn Pond. Proceeds benefit the Massachusetts Lions Eye Research Fund and local Lions Club projects. Free (donations welcomed); 1 p.m. Jct. Route 38 & I-95 (start). woburnlionsclub.org, woburnhalloweenparade.org

Search for more summer and fall festivities at:
YankeeMagazine.com/events-home

Please remember to call ahead or check venues' websites to confirm dates, schedules, and fees.

NEW ENGLAND VACATION SWEEPSTAKES



Sweepstakes Grand Prize: Enter to win a "New England Vacation" two-night stay in a Premiere Suite at the Omni Parker House, Boston, Mass., with breakfast for two and two tickets to the Museum of Fine Arts. 617-227-8600; omniparkerhouse.com

Second Prize: Five winners receive *Yankee's* 2016 *Scenes of New England Calendar* (\$7.99 each).

Simply drop off your entry form (or a 3x5 card with the same information) at your local WSB branch office or return it by mail to: "New England Vacation" Sweepstakes, Winchester Savings Bank, 661 Main St., Winchester, MA 01890.

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY, STATE, ZIP _____

PHONE _____

Winners will be selected on November 15, 2015.
You do not need to be a customer or to apply for or purchase banking services to be eligible. Sweepstakes begins 8/1/15 and ends 10/31/15. The number of entries will determine the odds of winning. You may obtain a copy of the sweepstakes rules at any WSB branch office or at www.winchestersavings.com/towncrier. Prizes: One (1) Grand Prize: Gift certificate toward a two-night stay at Omni Parker House, Boston, Mass. Approximate Retail Values: Grand Prize (1): \$900; Second Prizes (5): \$39.95 total.

Join us for SHRED DAY on September 19, 2015

Winchester Savings Bank will have a professional data-shredding company on site to dispose of your recycling at no cost to you!



BRING YOUR PAPER & ELECTRONICS FOR SHREDDING

Visit our Main Office parking lot at 661 Main Street in Winchester between 9 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. on Saturday, September 19th and bring:

- Up to 5 boxes of paper for shredding ON SITE
- Computer hard drives for destruction ON SITE
- Various computer components for recycling: computer towers, laptops, printers, monitors, keyboards and fax machines

Some restrictions apply. No TVs accepted. We reserve the right to set limits on quantities & items.

