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Friday, March 21, 2025

Cub Scouts hold Blue and Gold ceremony

DOUGLAS — The Cub Scouts from Douglas Pack 316 recently held their annual Blue and Gold ceremony at the Douglas High School. The Blue and Gold is a celebration of the Anniversary of Scouting. It brings families together for an evening of fun and recognition. Highlights of the evening included skits from each den and awards to recognize all the scouts in the Pack for their accomplishments and progress toward ranks.

The evening concluded with a special Pack 316 Arrow of Light Ceremony. Pack 316 had 11 Arrow of Light recipients this year; they are: Brantley Clauss, Bryce Duclos, Henry Caouette, William Hughes, Jack Johnson, Carter



their accomplishments with citations from the State House. The Arrow of Light recipients also received citations from the State Senate sent by Senator Fattman.

Pack 316 would like to congratulate all of its scouts and wish the Arrow of Light recipients the best as they continue their Scouting journey with Douglas Scouts BSA Troop 316 and Grafton Scouts BSA Troop 2019. The Pack would like to thank Jeff Swindling who was the Den Leader for the Arrow of Light den. We'd also like to thank all the AOL families who helped with coordination of den activities.

Cub Scouts is a year-round program with activities throughout the year. Pack 316 activities include a hiking program, an annual Pinewood Derby, rocket launching, community service, fishing and camping. For information about Douglas Cub Scout Pack 316, please send an email to douglasp316@gmail.com, visit www.douglasp316.com or find us on Facebook.

United Presbyterian Church of Whitinsville celebrating 150 years

WHITINSVILLE — One hundred fifty years ago, natives of Ireland and Scotland (Scottish-Irish) founded the United Presbyterian Church of Whitinsville. One hundred fifty years later, we celebrate the many events that have taken place since then, creating the history of our church. The 150th anniversary of the founding was on Dec. 30, 2024, and we are having a year-long celebration through 2025 to commemorate our rich history.

The "Scotch-Irish" historically refers to Scottish Presbyterian immigrants who settled in Ulster, Northern Ireland, and later migrated to America, bringing their strong Presbyterian beliefs with them, making them a significant part of the early American Presbyterian Church. Essentially, the Scotch-Irish played a key role in establishing Presbyterianism in the United States due to their large-scale migration and commitment to the faith.

In this area, they were recruited by Whittin

Machine Works and were partly members of the United Presbyterian Church of Sutton and partly adherents of the Congregational Church of Whitinsville before starting the United Presbyterian Church in Whitinsville.

You can read much on our history by going to our church Web site at www.whitinpres.org.

During the 2025 year, we will be having a number of activities to commemorate our 150th anniversary including a performance by the Assabet Valley Chambersingers, a performance by the Whitinsville Community Center Youth Theater, movie nights, and the removal of a time capsule located inside the church cornerstone and replacement with a new time capsule. We invite the Whitinsville community and surrounding communities to join us for these special events.

Please visit our Web site at www.whitinpres.org and click on the "150th Anniversary Click Here" button for updates!

Kazanjian, Camden Longchamps, Lilah Lynch, Jack Rosenthal, Jason Sandford, John Swindling. Receiving the Arrow of Light is the culmination of a Cub Scout's career. It is the highest award that a Cub Scout can earn and is the only Cub Scout emblem that can be worn on a

Scouts BSA uniform when they move up to the Troop. During the ceremony, the scouts received their Arrow of Light emblems. They presented a special Arrow of Light pin to a parent as a way of thanking them for the support they received throughout their Cub Scouting years. Before

crossing the bridge to the Scouts BSA Troop, the Arrow of Light recipients were honored with a special slide show highlighting their Cub Scout journey. Representative Joseph McKenna addressed the families and scouts and recognized the Pack's Arrow of Light recipients for

Northbridge Public Schools selected for One8 Foundation's Investigating History grant program

NORTHBRIDGE — Northbridge Public Schools has recently been selected to participate in the One8 Foundation's Investigating History Grant Program. This grant will support the Social Studies programs at Northbridge Elementary School and Northbridge Middle School, specifically for students in grades 5 through 7. The grant is aimed at enhancing the educational experience by providing new opportunities for students to engage with and explore historical narratives in meaningful ways.

Utilizing resources from the Investigating History Grant, NPS teachers will implement a series

of innovative lessons and activities that incorporate dynamic, hands-on learning experiences that deepen students' understanding of historical events, people, and cultures while fostering critical thinking skills.

"We are honored to receive this grant," said Mrs. Jill Healy, Director of Curriculum, Instruction, and Assessment. "The One8 Foundation's Investigating History Grant will transform how our students engage with history, and help them better understand how history shapes our world today."

The One8 Foundation's

Investigating History Grant Program is dedicated to supporting educational initiatives that promote historical inquiry, inclusivity, and a deeper understanding of the past. The grant will enable Northbridge Public Schools to enrich the Social Studies curriculum for grades 5-7, creating an engaging and inclusive learning environment for students at Northbridge Elementary School and Northbridge Middle School.

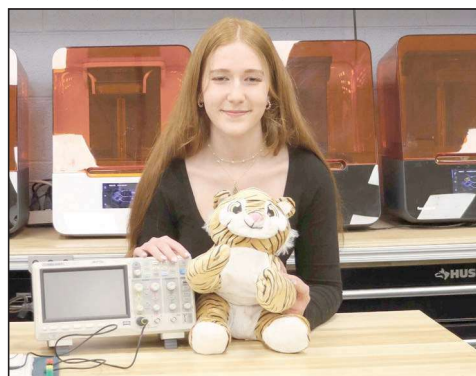
For more information about the One8 Foundation, visit <https://one8appliedlearninghub.org/about-one8-applied-learning-hub-one8-foundation/>.

"Their eyes light up!"

See how Toshiba grant funding enhances skill development at BVT

UPTON — Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School (BVT) has received a \$3,380 STEM grant from the Toshiba America Foundation. The school has used the supplemental funds to purchase an oscilloscope training board and ten oscilloscopes for its Engineering & Robotics program. The equipment is necessary to enhance students' understanding of circuit board functions and teach them how to adjust waveforms to produce desired outcomes.

Recently, sophomore students in Mr. Timothy Oliveira's digital electronics course used the grant-acquired equipment in a fun and engaging assignment. Using the instructor training board, Mr. Oliveira demonstrated how students should use an oscilloscope, a diagnostic instrument, to draw a graph of an electrical signal and create a circuit board to illuminate the eyes of a stuffed ani-



Charlotte Lewis of Uxbridge, a sophomore in the Engineering & Robotics program at BVT, has completed the critter project and holds a plush tiger with pulsing eyes.

mal to complete the critter project successfully. "Learning how to use the equipment properly was important to me," said Charlotte Lewis of Uxbridge, a sophomore in the Engineering & Robotics program at BVT. "I enjoyed creating a cir-

cuit board and adjusting waveforms to produce a pulsing light in the eyes of the plush tiger. I'm confident that the skills

learned through this project will continue to help me in the future."

"Understanding how to use an oscilloscope is crucial for troubleshooting, designing, and maintaining electronic circuits. Our students need oscilloscope skills to prepare for and pass certification examinations that assist with employment," explained Mr. Oliveira. "With an increasing demand for skilled technicians, preparing our students with in-demand skills to meet employer needs and expectations increases their employability."

"As a grant recipient, we are proud to provide our students and teachers with the tools and equipment they need without impacting our tax-payers," said BVT's Superintendent-Director, Dr. Michael Fitzpatrick. "Increased access to modern industry equipment paired with inquiry-based approaches to our curriculum makes

learning here interesting and fun while preparing our students for success in STEM-related careers. It is exciting to see the moment they grasp the subject matter, and their eyes light up!"

About Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School (BVT)

Blackstone Valley Regional Vocational Technical High School serves the towns of Bellingham, Blackstone, Douglas, Grafton, Hopedale, Mendon, Millbury, Northbridge, Sutton, Upton, and Uxbridge. Located in the heart of the Blackstone Valley, BVT creates a positive learning community that prepares students for personal and professional success in an internationally competitive society through a fusion of rigorous vocational, technical, and academic skills. For more information about the school, visit www.valleytech.k12.ma.us.