In The Spotlight



Doris Mulligan

Congratulations to Doris Mulligan, October Resident of the Month.

Doris was born October 9th in Lowell, Massachusetts. She worked at the Capital Warehouse store on Route 38 in Lowell.

She is the mother of three children: John, Judy and Mary. She has five grandchildren and three great-grandchildren.

Doris loves gardening, baking and spending time with her family. Doris also enjoys going to Hampton Beach and attending church.

Doris moved to Blaire House in October of 2019 and has been an active resident in the community. She spends time at bingo, concerts, afternoon walks and exercise programs including yoga and Zumba.

Congratulations, Doris. Everyone at Blaire House of Tewksbury Assisted Living wishes you good health and happiness.

Pizza & Movie Night

Thursday, October 22nd @ 5:00 PM

Hocus Pocus

Starring Bette Midler

A DAY AT THE CARNIVAL

On a cool summer day in August, the residents and staff of Blaire House of Tewksbury Assisted Living got to spend the day at the carnival. There were no Ferris wheels or carousels, but there were lots of games and food for everyone to try. Residents and staff all got to try Ring Toss, Wheel of Fortune, fishing, Blinko and many other games. If they got hungry, there was fried dough, cotton candy and pretzels. Lunch was a cookout of sausage with peppers and onions, potato salad and watermelon. There was even a photo booth for a picture in disguise. Anyone who was willing to try a game got a prize, just like you would at a real carnival.



Doris Mulligan attempting to get matching ducks.

Blaire House of Tewksbury Assisted Living

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DIRECTORY	EXTENSION
Executive Director: Rosanna Figueiredo	7100
Resident Care Director: Shannon O'Hearn, RN	7101
Director of Sales & Marketing: Terri Sullivan	8674
Activities Director: Jean Payne	7103
Administrative Assistant: Kara Cooledge	7199
Plant Maintenance: Rafael Torres	3203
Food Service Director: Mark Arnold	3202
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Blaire House of Tewksbury Assisted Living Residence is family owned and operated within an integrated care community, including adult day health, short-stay rehabilitation, 24-hour nursing care services, and senior transportation. As your needs change over time, we can provide the service necessary.



OCTOBER 2020

October is a HOOT

In October, the black of night is deep and dark. Chill winds blow away the veil of clouds shrouding the crescent moon so that it casts faint shadows in the forest. A deep hoot echoes, sending a shiver down your spine. October is considered Owl Month for good reason. This is the time of year that many great horned owls are active. They begin to set up territory and look for a mate. Hooting, screeching, and other vocalizations are integral to these rituals. For this reason, October is sometimes called the hooting season.

For millennia, humankind has shared myths that depict owls as emissaries of doom, death, and evil magic. The ancient Greeks and Romans believed that witches could transform themselves into owls. The Hopis of North America believe that burrowing owls, which nest and roost underground, are associated with Maasaw, the god of the dead and the night. During the Gaelic festival of Samhain, which takes place on the night of October 31st, the barrier between the living and the dead thins so that the spirits of deceased relatives can find their way home. Owls, it was believed, could snatch those wandering souls and eat them.

Is it any wonder then that owls, with their midnight hooting and hunting on silent wings, are associated with Halloween? As creatures of the night, they are the perfect symbols for a festival that reveres all things spooky. Not all cultures have feared the owl. The Greek goddess Athena, fed up with the trickster crow, adopted the owl as her companion animal thanks to its perceived wisdom and seriousness. Some Australian aboriginal groups believe that owls are the sacred spirits of women and they are revered. In Afghanistan, it is said that the owl brought humans the gifts of flint and iron, tools to make fire. In return, humans gave owls their feathers.

Owls are unique amongst birds. Their unusual characteristics—nocturnal nature, hooting calls, large eyes, and their uncanny ability to rotate their necks—all have captured our imaginations and, in many ways, let our fears get the better of us. Thankfully, most cultures have learned to share these myths while preserving the species, ensuring the survival of these magnificent animals for generations to come.

"Sunlight is like the breath of life to the pomp of autumn."

- Nathaniel Hawthorne