

# THE CRESCENT CHRONICLE



In memory of our friend and neighbor, Millie Best. One of the first Crescent residents, we will always remember Millie for her stories, her wit and love of all things culinary (as well her Scotch on the rocks).



Do you have gently used household items? Knick-knacks? Clothes? July 15 is National Give Something Away Day! This is open to all residents and we will also be inviting residents at Oakleaf. This will be a “garage sale” format, with items placed on tables for people to browse and maybe find a “new” treasure. Be sure to take a look around your apartment and/or storage/garage for anything you may have forgotten about!

Room  
For Rent

\$125/Night

Two Person Maximum

Call & Ask For  
Sherry or Tina

567-249-1553

sbobbs@wallick.com  
tschlievert@wallick.com



ATTENTION PLEASE!

**BUSINESS OFFICE  
MANAGER  
CRESCENT HOURS**

Wednesday's from 10-5, in  
the Model apartment on  
the first floor of B side

Please bring any questions you  
have regarding billing



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## FOR A LAUGH





# Crescent Corner

## IN-HOUSE HIGHLIGHTS

**Tuesday, July 1 @ 7:00**  
Ben DeLong performs  
**Wednesday, July 2 @ 2:00**  
Independence Day Shindig  
**Sunday, July 6 @ 12:00**  
Chris Buzzelli performs  
**Monday, July 7 @ 3:00**  
Resident Activity Meeting  
**Wednesday, July 9 @ 2:00**  
Meeting w/ Chef Virginia  
**Thursday, July 10 @ 1:45**  
\$5 Bingo  
**Tuesday, July 15 @ 2:00**  
Give Something Away Day  
**Wednesday, July 16 @ 2:00**  
Acoustic Crossing performs  
**Wednesday, July 16 @ 7:00**  
Mary Dick performs  
**Thursday, July 17 @ 2:00**  
Area Office on Aging informative  
session w/ rep  
**Sunday, July 20 @ 12:00**  
Tim Oehlers performs  
**Tuesday, July 22 @ 2:00**  
Summer Refreshments  
**Wednesday, July 23 @ 10:00**  
Market Matters w/ Marci  
**Thursday, July 24 @ 1:45**  
\$5 Bingo  
**Wednesday, July 30 @ 2:00**  
Kristy & Kompany performs

## OUT ON THE TOWN

**Tuesday, July 1 @ 1:30**  
Shopping Downtown Sylvania  
**Wednesday, July 2 @ 8:30**  
Coffee @ DaCapo  
**Tuesday, July 8 @ 1:30**  
Ice Cream Outing (Cold Stone)  
**Wednesday, July 9 @ 11:30**  
Lunch Outing (Sidelines)  
**Wednesday, July 9 @ 3:00**  
Westgate Farmer's Market  
**Thursday, July 10 @ 5:45**  
Jazz in the Gardens (Toledo Jazz Orch)  
**Friday, July 11 @ 9:30**  
Kroger Grocery Trip  
**Friday, July 11 @ 11:30**  
Noon Tunes @ Wildwood  
**Wednesday, July 16 @ 11:30**  
Lunch Outing (Fairways)  
**Friday, July 18 @ 9:30**  
Kroger Grocery Trip  
**Friday, July 18 @ 1:30**  
River Road Drive  
**Sunday, July 20 @ 6:45**  
Music Under the Stars (Polish  
Concert Band)  
**Wednesday, July 23 @ 11:30**  
Lunch Outing (La Fiesta)  
**Thursday, July 24 @ 8:15**  
Breakfast Outing (Scrambler's)  
**Thursday, July 24 @ 5:45**  
Jazz in the Gardens (Ramona Collins)  
**Friday, July 25 @ 10:00**  
Tecumseh Shopping/Lunch Trip  
**Tuesday, July 29 @ 1:30**  
Franciscan Art Viewing  
(Downtown Library)  
**Wednesday, July 30 @ 11:30**  
Lunch Outing (Sidon Lebanese)  
**Wednesday, July 30 @ 6:30**  
Sunset Serenades @ Olander  
(SwingMania)  
**Thursday, July 31 @ 11:00**  
Sandpiper Lunch Cruise

**FYI**

THERE IS NO LONGER  
TRANSPORTATION FROM OAKLEAF  
TO CHURCH OFFERED ON  
SUNDAYS. IF YOU NEED MORE INFO  
ON TRANSPORTATION SERVICES VIA  
TARTA FLEX, PLEASE SEE REBEKAH

*\*all outings require you to sign up*  
*\*\*all times are prompt departure times*

## NICE NEWS

### 88-Year-Old Woman Finally Earns College Degree After 65-Year Wait

Joan Alexander never gave up on a dream that began in the 1950s. At 88 years old, she's now officially a college graduate — fulfilling a lifelong goal that was put on hold more than six decades ago. Back in the late '50s, Alexander was studying at the University of Maine with hopes of becoming a teacher. But societal expectations and outdated policies derailed her plans. When she became pregnant during her studies, she was barred from completing her student teaching — a requirement at the time — and left the university without her degree in 1959.

Despite that setback, Alexander poured her heart into raising her four daughters while her husband, a member of the Coast Guard, was often away at sea. Over the years, she remained active in her community, volunteering at her local church, school, and library in Southwest Harbor, Maine. Still, the unfinished chapter in her life remained on her mind.

That changed when her youngest daughter, Tracy, reached out to the University of Maine to see if there was any way her mother's past work could be recognized. She connected with Justin Dimmel, associate dean in UMaine's College of Education and Human Development, who immediately took interest in the request. "I was moved by Joan's story," Dimmel said. "Her commitment to completing her undergraduate education was inspiring to me, my colleagues, and the graduating class of 2025."

Through conversations and research, the university discovered that Joan had, in fact, fulfilled the spirit of the student teaching requirement years earlier. "In the early 1980s, she had worked full-time with preschool-aged children in a home-based education program.



Her responsibilities included fostering early literacy and motor skills — work that was deemed equivalent to traditional student teaching.

With all degree requirements now satisfied, UMaine officially awarded Alexander her Bachelor of Science in Education. She became one of the university's oldest graduates in its 160-year history.

"I didn't realize that it would mean so much to me," Alexander said, "but I now feel that a hole in my heart has been healed."

Although she couldn't attend the May 11 commencement ceremony in person, her daughter Tracy and granddaughter Isabel walked in her honor. Joan's story was even featured in a speech by UMaine President Joan Ferrini-Mundy, who praised her determination as a true example of the "Black Bear spirit."

"My parents didn't complete college," Alexander shared. "So this was important to me. My husband and daughters all earned their degrees, and I was the only one who hadn't. It gives me a sense of closure and accomplishment."

Now living in New Hampshire with one of her daughters, Alexander hopes her story inspires others to keep going — no matter how long the journey may take.

"Find something you are interested in," she said, "and pursue it."

# LITTLE KNOWN FACTS ABOUT THE AMERICAN REVOLUTION

1. According to some historians, one of the most successful spies for the Americans was a female operative named Agent 355, whose real identity remains unknown to this day. She passed along critical intelligence to the revolutionaries as a part of the Culpeper Spy Ring.
2. The oldest remaining Revolutionary War widows' pension was awarded to Noah Damon's widow, Esther Sumner Damon, in 1906 – an astonishing 123 years after the war ended.
3. At age 22, Deborah Sampson disguised herself as a man and fought for nearly 18 months in the Continental Army before getting a fever and having her sex discovered.
4. Patriot leaders used printed pamphlets to spread Revolutionary ideals. These pamphlets were produced in huge numbers, and were often read aloud in pubs and taverns, meaning their messaging could quickly reach hundreds of thousands of people – similar to how we use social media today.
5. The Siege of Yorktown, which lasted from Sep 28 – Oct 19, 1781, is considered the longest battle of the Revolutionary War. Most battles only lasted a few days at most, given the nature of how warfare was waged.
6. The phrase “fog of war” first originated in an 1836 poem by McDonald Clarke titled *The Battle of Bunker Hill*. Due to the type of gunpowder used in muskets and artillery, Revolutionary War battlefields were often completely engulfed in smoke, making it difficult to see the enemy.
7. At the beginning of the war, most Patriot soldiers wore their own hunting shirts and other miscellaneous outfits. Only later in the war did the Continental Army begin to widely adopt its signature blue uniform.
8. Of the 12,000 people that entered camp at Valley Forge in the winter of 1777-78, it is estimated that about 2,000 died due to hunger, cold, and disease.
9. While France did not officially enter the war on the American side until 1778, secret aid began as early as 1776, including supplies, ammunition, and funds, largely coordinated by the playwright and diplomat, Pierre Beaumarchais.
10. It is estimated that the Revolutionary War cost the British £250m, about £31b (\$39b) in today's money.
11. While most Native American tribes fought for the British during the war, due to stronger existing relationships, many also fought for the Patriots, while others remained neutral during the conflict.
12. African Americans fought on both sides during the Revolutionary War – about 20,000 for the Loyalists, and 10,000 for the Patriots. Many on the Patriot side fought in exchange for their freedom from slavery. The British offered emancipation to all African Americans if they joined their cause in 1779.
13. Many historians believe that the American Revolution helped to inspire the French Revolution, which began in 1789. Many French Revolutionary leaders fought in the American Revolutionary War, and brought revolutionary ideals back home to France when the war was won.
14. Rum was a crucial part of the colonial economy and military life. It was a popular beverage, which was also used as a form of currency and for medicinal purposes in the Continental Army.



### Retirement Years

Just a line to say I'm living,  
That I'm not among the dead.  
Though I'm getting more forgetful,  
And more mixed up in my head.

For sometimes I can't remember  
When I stand at the foot of the stairs,  
If I must go up for something,  
Or I just came down from there.

And, before the "fridge" so often  
My poor mind is filled with doubt.  
Have I just put food away,  
Or have I come to take some out?

And there are times when it is dark out,  
With my nightcap on my head,  
I don't know if I'm retiring,  
Or just getting out of bed.

So if it's time for me to write you,  
There's no need of getting bored.  
I may think that I have just written,  
And just don't want to become "a bore!"

So, remember that I do love you,  
And I wish that you were here.  
And right now it's nearly mail time,  
So I must say goodbye, my dear.

Now I stand before the mailbox  
With my face so very red.  
Instead of mailing you my letter,  
I had opened it instead!





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