

# THE TIMES

UNITARIAN UNIVERSALIST CHURCH  
OF GREATER LYNN



June 2017

Volume 86 #12

## In The Spirit

Most of the church knows Karen Brown as the friendly, patient, helpful, supportive, generous, hard-working, well-organized, storytelling lady who has made the religious education program for children and youth work for six years. Ministry Team leaders know her as the caring and attentive staff person who organizes and coordinates our programs, and works as a connecting thread among our various teams.

I know Karen as an extraordinarily dedicated staff member and exceptional religious education professional with whom I have spent countless of hours in conversation analyzing and strategizing about every aspect of the ministry: pastoral, organizational, financial, strategic. She has a deep understanding of systems theory and has been one of my most important conversation partners (the others are the board presidents with whom I have worked so far at UUCGL) in the ministry.

Karen has been a religious leader for decades. She is respected at the continental level of religious educators and has been a mentor to many in her field. I have no doubt that she will continue to be in hot demand even in retirement.

Karen's superpower is her ability to observe and report on the job while she's *doing* the job; a perspective that has helped the board and me understand how to continue to integrate our programming to serve our future. We will be implementing her wise and helpful recommendations after she leaves. She bestows upon UUCGL a meaningful institutional legacy.

Karen, go with our blessing and gratitude!

In faith, hope and love,  
Rev. Vicki



## Unitarian Universalist Church of Greater Lynn ANNUAL MEETING

**Sunday, June 11, 2017  
10:00 a.m.**

The Annual Meeting of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Greater Lynn, 101 Forrest Ave., Swampscott, MA, will be held on Sunday, June 11 at 10:00 a.m. in the sanctuary.

A Board of Trustees slate of Officers and Members at Large, as set forth below, will be presented for election at the meeting:

|                  |                                |
|------------------|--------------------------------|
| President:       | Lyssa Andersson                |
| Past President:  | Clare Campbell                 |
| Vice Presidents: | Scott Nowka and Rebecca Greene |
| Treasurer:       | Sarah Cecil                    |
| Clerk:           | Michael Celona                 |

At Large Trustees:

Steve Young  
Dawn Stewart  
Eileen Cummings  
Linda Jones

## Sunday Worship Services 10:00 A.M.

Rev. Dr. Victoria Weinstein, Parish Minister  
Karen Brown, Director of Faith Development  
Debra Basile, Interim Music Director  
David Collins and Nami Hamada, Keyboard

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### June Worship

Sunday, June 4

“Inside Scoop”

**Karen Brown, Director of Faith Development  
Faith Development Through the Lens  
of a Religious Educator**

Karen Brown preaches with insights from her work with us, and leaves us her official wisdom upon retiring. Ten reasons why we need a Unitarian Universalist multigenerational community of faith moving forward into the future.

Sunday, June 11

“The Through-Line”

Annual Meeting

**Rev. Dr. Victoria Weinstein**

We welcome new members to our church, thank outgoing officers and vote on the slate of incoming officers. Please read the Annual Reports that will be available at the beginning of June before coming to church.

Sunday, June 18

“One Voice”

Many of us were touched during the Youth Service when all of the high schoolers talked about how meaningful singing together was for their spiritual formation in UU community. Today, as we bid adieu to our long-time choral scholars Bobbie Hill and Dan Meyers, we will celebrate the ways that music makes us one people.

Sunday, June 25

“Pride”

Beach Service

We will continue the celebration of love and freedom begun on June 24 at North Shore Pride. Local musician Julian Baptista will join us with his guitar. Watch your Weekly Update for any changes in location and inclement weather plans

## Sharing Our Sunday Offerings September-June

One charitable organization or cause will be chosen each month; all collections will benefit both the church and charity.

1. All loose cash in the collection plates will be split on a 50/50 basis between the church and the charity.
2. Checks payable to the church will go only to the church unless otherwise designated (50/50 noted on the memo line). If your intention is to fulfill your pledge, your check, without a memo line notation, will go towards your pledge.
3. All checks payable to the charity will go directly to the charity.

Envelopes are available on the ushers table to designate your cash contributions. An envelope is not necessary for donations made by check.

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### June 50/50 Benefits The Clara Barton Center

The Clara Barton Camp was created in 1932 by Dr. Elliot P. Joslin and Universalist Women. It was a dream of Clara Barton to help children with diabetes. Today the camp now known as the Barton Center for Diabetes Education, Inc. is internationally recognized for its many programs serving children, families and young adults. It is an independent non-profit facility dedicated exclusively to educating young people and those who care for them. It also provides a place for children and families to turn for fun, support and inspiration.

The Clara Barton Center believes if they can make a difference with just one child, it is a crisis met – an overwhelming situation under control. Please give as generously as you can, your gifts help to make this difference.

Please make your check payable to:  
**Barton Center for Diabetes Education.**

**The Rev. Robert Stephen Slater  
Minister Emeritus  
1928-2017**



**Music Program Survey**

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of our beloved former minister, the Rev. Robert S. Slater, on May 1, 2017, at the Kaplan Family Hospice House in Danvers. Rev. Slater was minister here from 1968 to 1990, and became minister emeritus upon his retirement.

Bob requested that there be no memorial service, but that the following be read at the Sunday morning worship service. His wishes were carried out last Sunday. The family has requested that any memorial donations made to the church be designated for the courtyard renovations.

Robert Stephen Slater was born January 16, 1928, in Pasadena, Maryland, one of five children. He owes an immeasurable love to his mother, who raised him alone after his father died in 1931, but with the support of a stepfather. He graduated from Glen Burnie High School in 1945 and served 18 months in the Coast Guard. He then entered the University of Baltimore and graduated in 1951, aided by the G.I. Bill and working part time, such as at the Arthur Murray Dance Studio. On November 2, 1950, he took the most important and wonderful step of his life, marrying Robin Holzbach of Newport News, Virginia, a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Syracuse University, former school teacher, and fellow teacher at the dance studio. Subsequently, they decided on a career in the ministry. Bob graduated from Harvard Divinity School in 1955 and served Unitarian churches in Northfield and Bernardston, Mass., Pittsburgh, PA (as assistant), and Westford, Mass. He began serving the Unitarian Universalist Church of Greater Lynn in 1968 and continued for almost 22 years. During those years, he came to love every member and friend of the church, including those with whom inevitable disagreements arose. He served the community, the Council of Churches, and the Mass. Bay District of UU Churches in a variety of ways, as well as being active with the UU Christian Fellowship for many years, serving as its president for two years, and founding the UU Psi Symposium for many years, serving as its president two years. Bob has been richly blessed by his association with the Lynn church.

The great loves of his life have been his wife, Robin, and their two daughters, Tracy and Kelly, who have been devoted to both Robin and Bob. Bob might summarize his religious beliefs by saying that all experiences in life offer opportunities for growth in the ways of love of all people and things, that the selfless example of Jesus is the way, and that life is continuous, not ending with the death of the physical body.

Dear Congregation,

As we go into search for a new Music Director, we are taking the opportunity to think about our music program. We would love it if you would fill out this survey that will help us know more about how music ministers to you, and to know more about your musical preferences. Thank you so much. The link for the survey is:

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/DTTSYGK>.

The Music Director Search Committee

Misha Gerson, Shauna Guidici,  
Trudi Olivetti, Whisky Wolinski  
and Rev. Dr. Victoria Weinstein

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**Volunteer at  
The Lynn Food Project  
Saturday, June 10, 9:00 to noon**



We have available slots for members of the congregation to volunteer at The Food Project's Lynn Ingalls' School farm site, 120 Munroe Street. The Food Project's mission is to grow a thoughtful and productive community of youth and adults from diverse backgrounds who work together to build a sustainable food system. It produces healthy food for residents of the city and suburbs and provides youth leadership opportunities.

A sign up sheet is on the Faith Development Table in the foyer of the church. Please only sign up if you can commit to come. Contact Christina Hansen, or a Green Sanctuary member, if you have questions.



## Growing in Love Faith Development Through the Ages

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My life since September has been a series of 'lasts'. Last time for Ingathering, last time for our Halloween Party, last time for My Brother's Table Christmas Party, last time for Faith Development Sunday, last time for Youth Sunday..... And the list goes on and on. I suppose one might say – metaphorically – that I am checking these events off a list waiting for the final day of retirement. But I have used this time wisely and soaked in every bit of Presence I could muster to be with you all – fully.

Many of my colleagues have asked me how I have managed to stay a religious educator all these years. Some want to know my secret to what I call a successful vocation. In 2013, Tim Atkins, the religious educator from Morristown Unitarian Fellowship in NJ, posted on our professional listserv the following: *As I get ready for a big move and a step up to what I see as my calling, what would your top three pieces of advice be for a brand-new DRE?* My colleague, Cindy Leitner, just recently reminded me of my post to this question when she emailed to find out if it was okay if she put my answer into a publication called RE Road Map. I couldn't even remember what I wrote. She had to send me the post. After I saw it I smiled. I smiled because what I wrote still rings true. Instead of sending Tim the top ten pieces of advice, I added seven more.

### Top 10 Ways to Succeed in Your Vocation According to Karen

1. Be organized. This is the key. You can be the very best creative in the world, but bad organization skills will get ya every time.
2. Love the people – all of them. Listen to them deeply before you chart out a course.
3. Do everything in your power to create a good working relationship with your minister.
4. Be authentic and be self-differentiated. Nothing ever is as bad as it seems. Love what is!
5. Love what you do. If you don't, it will get too hard!
6. Take a few risks now and then.
7. Meet and be in covenant with other religious educators.
8. Watch your hours.
9. Get a life outside Unitarian Universalism.
10. Last but definitely not least – develop a spiritual practice you love. It's how I have stayed an educator for 20 years.

So there you have it! Number nine – get a life outside of Unitarian Universalism – has been the most difficult. But I'll be testing those waters when I move to Florida as I chart out a new life for myself. I'll always be a religious educator. I might keep connected to the greater UU world by being on a regional or national committee. I might investigate the world of spiritual direction. I'm looking forward to getting to know the flora and fauna of the west coast of Florida, and I am definitely going to learn how to relax.

Thank you all for making my six years here in Swampscott a memory I will hold onto forever. I will be preaching on June 4<sup>th</sup>. I think I'll develop a top 10 list of what I think UU congregations should and can do to flourish and be robust going into the future. Don't ever think for a second that our faith communities will become a thing of the past. Faith communities will change for sure and maybe not look like they do now, but my prayer is that UU communities will always be relevant and life-giving. And this community in Swampscott WILL be part of that movement. Ralph Waldo Emerson wrote, *We let go of Angels to let Archangels in.*

One more 'last' – this newsletter column *Growing in Love* is my last one. I have grown in love being with you. I hope you have grown in love by being part of this community. Love will Guide us is my mantra, maybe you can make it yours too.

Karen

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### Food Drive May through the end of June

Sponsored by the Bright Lights'  
and Chalice Children Class

Our grades K through 5th grade children have been learning our Covenant (what we call our affirmation) and having conversations about different parts of the Covenant. One part of our Covenant reads: to serve human need. We covenant with each other to help one another. The children all voted on having a food drive to 'serve human need'. We hope you can help them with their goal of filling up the boxes, in the foyer of our church, with non-perishable food. Thanks in advance for helping our children live into the covenant we say in unison every week in church. Be sure you look at expiration dates. Thank you!

## Social Justice Ministry Team News

**Social Justice Funding** – Social Justice Ministry Team (SJMT) works to express our Unitarian Universalist social justice commitment within our congregation and the larger community. The activities of the SJMT are guided by the seven UU principles, the UUCGL Mission Statement, the UUCGL Vision of Ministry, and the active participation of its members. The SJMT manages the annual distribution of a portion of the Church endowment income which is dedicated to social concerns. These funds are available to organizations that share our commitment to social justice. In order to fairly distribute social concerns funds, those applying for funding are required to fill out an application and discuss the application at a SJMT meeting. SJMT will be reviewing requests at our June meeting. **Requests are due on Thursday, June 8th.** Applicants are required to attend SJMT meeting on Monday, June 12 at 7:00 p.m. to discuss their proposal.

**North Shore Pride Parade and Festival** – Join us Saturday, June 24 noon to 5:00 pm. It kicks off at the Salem Post Office. More info to follow on when to meet and how to get a UUCGL t-shirt. Michael Celona is our contact.

**My Brother's Table** – our busy church schedule and the co-chairs busy lives have made it a challenge to schedule 700 meatballs-making for MBT. We are now thinking about 200 strawberry shortcakes. Want to help? Date will be posted soon.

Martha Curry, Co-Chair, Social Justice Ministry Team

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## Thank You, Yard Sale Volunteers

Many thanks to all of you who worked so hard to make our sale a success! We raised approximately \$1300. Many church members contributed to this yearly event by sorting and setting up merchandise, baking and serving treats, selling our varied items and cleaning up the giant mess at the end of the day. Thank you Emmanuela Minnefield, Barbara Helinski, Sarah and Ken Drewry, Janet Osborne, Joanne Brine, Suzanne and Eddie Chapman, Doreen Hodgkins, Jack Butterworth, Suzanne Forgione, Mary Gatlin, Eileen Cummings, Gloria Kozlosky, Mary O'Connell, Dawn Stewart, Vince Carli, Gloria Landahl, Donna Marino and Tom Sheehan. A special thank you to our custodian, Mike Michaud and his staff and to our church administrator, Elizabeth Muller.

## Ongoing Groups . . .

### Covenant Group

The group is open to anyone from the church interested in learning about and experiencing small group ministry. Gatherings are the 1st and 3rd Sundays of each month at 11:30-1:00 p.m. in the "Faces" classroom. If you are interested in joining this group, or even just sitting in to see if you like it, please speak to Lyssa Andersson, Suzanne Forgione, or Karen Brown. We encourage visitors to try it out for at least three consecutive sessions to get a real feeling for the group. One need not be a UUCGL member, or even a Unitarian Universalist to join a covenant group here.

### Dialogue Group

The Dialogue Group meets **September-June**, the 2nd and 4th Sunday of each month at 11:45 a.m. There is no obligation to commit to attendance, all are welcome when able to attend. Contact Ron Fishman if you have an interest in joining this group. For more information: [http://seedsofunfolding.org/issues/04\\_06/features\\_1.htm](http://seedsofunfolding.org/issues/04_06/features_1.htm) and [http://seedsofunfolding.org/issues/05\\_06/features\\_1.htm](http://seedsofunfolding.org/issues/05_06/features_1.htm).

### Explore Your Dreams: A Great Adventure

A group will be meeting the third Sunday of every month from 3:30 – 5:30 pm. Dreams come to us in the forms of symbols and metaphors with important messages for our lives. If you are interested in learning more, please contact Pearl Brown [epbrown23@verizon.net](mailto:epbrown23@verizon.net) or 781-631-4905. You can also contact Karen Brown at [uudrek@gmail.com](mailto:uudrek@gmail.com)

### AA Meets on Saturdays

An Alcoholics Anonymous group meets every Saturday at 5:00 p.m. in our beautiful Fellowship Room. The group is open to alcoholics and those who believe they may have a problem with alcohol. We look forward to welcoming all interested.

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## Church Fiscal Year Ends June 30

The church's fiscal year ends in a few weeks, on June 30. If you still owe on this fiscal year's pledge commitment, please submit all payments by Wednesday, June 28, for the pledge payment to appear on this fiscal year's financials. If you are not able to fulfill your pledge until July, please designate on the memo line that it is for fiscal year 2016-17.

If you have outstanding check requests for reimbursement, please submit them to the office with appropriate receipts and committee/ministry team chair approvals as soon as you are able.



## Green Corner Open Space

On April 23<sup>rd</sup> the UUCGL celebrated Earth Day with a special service focusing on Open Space, the Green Sanctuary Ministry Team's theme this year. The church was decorated with beautiful murals painted by Trinidad Hudson, and was treated to reflections on open space from Trish Aldrich and John Benson, followed by a meditative visualization led by Chris Hanson. In case you missed the service, below are excerpts from Trish and John's sermonettes:

**From John's reflection:** *"...Back in the middle of the nineteenth century, as urban areas expanded, streets, clogged with hundreds of horse-drawn carriages, became muddy quagmires in wet weather, and nearby waterways, like the Charles River in Boston, were hopelessly polluted. City residents, especially working people, had nowhere to go to get away from it all.*

*"Enter a new breed of enlightened thinkers called 'landscape architects' – like Frederick Law Olmstead, who saw a real need for people to reconnect with nature. Moving away from the regimented format of the formal European garden, he designed and built parks that imitated nature within an urban setting...*

*"Out of this vision came several hundred municipal parks and greenways nationwide, notably Central Park in New York City, and the famed 'Emerald Necklace' that threads its way through Boston.*

*"Olmstead's protégé and business partner, Charles Eliot, took this project to another dimension... Eliot, instead of constructing parks, wanted to set aside existing natural areas as 'reservations,' under formal trusteeship, to preserve, and make accessible, places of unusual scenic beauty.*

*"Eliot had set in motion the creation of the Boston Metropolitan Park System, which includes the Charles River Basin, Boston Harbor Islands, Lynn Shore, Nahant Beach, Revere Beach, Blue Hills, Breakheart, and Middlesex Fells Reservations. And he laid the foundation for the creation by the Massachusetts Legislature of the organization now called The Trustees of Reservations, whose holdings now include Appleton Farms in Ipswich; Castle Hill, Crane Beach, and the Crane Wildlife Refuge in Essex; Halibut Point in Rockport; Long Hill in Beverly; the Old Manse in Concord; Ravenswood Park in Gloucester; and World's End in Hingham. – All quite an accomplishment for a young, 'uneasy' Unitarian.*

*"Natural open space is necessary for life to evolve and continue its essential function; and people must have access to it in order to be aware of it. On what he called the 'extinction of experience,' Robert Pye wrote: 'I believe that one of the greatest causes of the ecological crisis is the state of personal alienation from nature.... We lack a widespread sense of intimacy with the living world.... People who care conserve; people who don't know don't care.' The genius of Olmstead and Eliot was to introduce the idea of setting aside special places close to urban areas so that the beauty of nature could be made known and readily accessible to millions of people.*

**From Trish's reflection:** *"Probably my first memory is running down a stonewall terrace in my parent's yard, jumping off the end, landing in the soft green grass, running up the side yard, back on to the terrace and running down the terrace, jumping, and flying through the air. And doing it again, and again.... I found joy, delight, and wonder in this open space, right in my back yard.*

*"Later I found more open space, a little further away, in my neighbor's yard. My neighbor and I climbed to the top of a tall copper beech tree in her yard. We climbed up and up. ... We hugged the tree, swayed with it and savored this open space.*

*"Later still I found more open space, bigger open space, wilder open space. The great state of Alaska called to me and I moved there ... when I was 21 years of age. A friend of mine soon asked, "Do you want to ski through Denali National Park? It's 100 miles and should take 5 or 6 days" I said, "Sure, that sounds great." In March, we chartered a ski plane ...and landed in a field of snow just outside Denali National Park. ...Then it was just the two of us, skiing through a vast snow-covered wilderness, to a road, 100 miles away.... We could see Denali, the great one, which is spectacularly impressive and beautiful. It was cold, so cold that when we threw water out sideways, it froze before it hit the ground ... There are no signs. There are no trails. You look at your map and the country side and make your way....It gave a whole new meaning to open space.*

*"Now, I work for the Ipswich River Watershed Association, a local environmental organization that protects the Ipswich River. .... Just last Thursday, we went for our annual lunchtime paddle to celebrate Earth Day. We saw budding red maples, flowering Silver Beech and a few turtles basking in the sun. We saw only one house in our 45 minute lunch break, since so much land has been set aside for conservation. It was so good to be on the river together.*

*"I encourage you to find your open space. Whether it's in your back yard, a short drive away, or elsewhere.*

Something for everyone!  
Join us at UUCGL !



# June 2017

## Sunday Worship Services - 10:00 A.M.

*No strangers enter here —  
only friends who haven't met.*

-ANONYMOUS

### WEEKLY:

#### **Mondays**

-Chamber Music, 7:30 p.m., Parish Hall

#### **Tuesdays**

-Moran Group, 6:15 p.m., lower level

#### **Wednesdays**

-OA, 7:00 p.m., lower level Room 9

#### **Thursdays**

-Choir, 7:30 p.m., Sanctuary

#### **Saturdays**

-OA, 8:30 a.m., lower level Room 9

-AA, 5:00 p.m., Fellowship Room

#### **Friday, 2**

-Ocean Breeze School Beach Day

#### **Sunday, 4**

-Covenant Group, 11:30 a.m., Faces classroom

#### **Monday, 5**

-Threshold Choir, 7:00 p.m., Sanctuary

#### **Tuesday, 6**

-Global Congregation, 6:30 p.m., Fellowship Room

#### **Wednesday, 7**

-Parish Conversations, 6:30 p.m., Fellowship Room

#### **Thursday, 8**

-Parish Conversations, 6:30 p.m., location tba

-Properties, 7:00 p.m., Fellowship Room

#### **Sunday, 11**

-Annual Meeting, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary

-Dialogue Group, 11:45 a.m., Faces classroom

-Recital, 1:00 p.m., Sanctuary/Parish Hall

-Recital, 6:00 p.m., Sanctuary/Parish Hall

#### **Monday, 12**

-Social Justice, 6:30 p.m., Fellowship Room

#### **Tuesday, 13**

-Governance, 6:30 p.m., Fellowship Room

#### **Saturday, 17**

-Recital, 10:00 a.m., Sanctuary/Parish Hall

#### **Sunday, 18**

-TIMES Deadline

-Wednesday-Sunday, 21-25

-UUA General Assembly, New Orleans

#### **Wednesday, 21**

-Marblehead Arrangers, 12:00 noon, Parish Hall

#### **Sunday, 25**

-Beach Service, 10 a.m., Fisherman's Beach, Swampscot

-Dialogue Group, 11:45 a.m., Faces classroom

-Drum Circle, 1:30 p.m., Sanctuary

#### **Monday, 26**

-Board of Trustees, 7:30 p.m., Fellowship Room

#### **Tuesday, 27**

-Kitchen repair begins

Covenant Group, 11:30 a.m., Faces classroom

-Recital, 1:00 p.m., Sanctuary/Parish Hall

-Dreams Workshop, 3:30 p.m., Fellowship Room

# PRIDE

**North Shore Pride Parade  
Saturday, June 24th in Salem**

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Rev. Vann Knight, Minister Emeritus

Rev. Robert Slater, Minister Emeritus

Ann E. Boynton, DRE Emerita

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**Office Hours**  
**Monday – Friday**  
**8:30 A.M. - 4:00 P.M.**

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**Reminder: THE TIMES**  
**Monthly Schedule**  
(EMAILS should be sent to [akern@uucgl.org](mailto:akern@uucgl.org))

The standing deadline for submissions for the monthly publication of THE TIMES is 9:00 a.m. the 18th of each month. This will allow time for the newsletter to be compiled, printed, mailed and delivered, as well as posted on our website, by the first of each month. All teams and individuals responsible for newsletter submissions should think ahead each month and plan accordingly.

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**Next TIMES Deadlines**  
(EMAILS should be sent to [akern@uucgl.org](mailto:akern@uucgl.org))

**9:00 A.M.**

| Deadline Date | Issue Date  |
|---------------|-------------|
| June 18       | July/August |
| August 18     | September   |

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**at Unitarian Universalist Church of Greater Lynn**  
**Website – [www.uucgl.org](http://www.uucgl.org)**

**IMPORTANT NOTICE:** This newsletter will be published monthly on our UUCGL website. As a reminder, please do not put any personal identifying information in your article that you would not want someone looking at the website to access. Personal contact info is deleted before posting THE TIMES to the website. (If you would like your personal contact information left in your article, please include a note of permission when submitting to THE TIMES.)