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11/03/11

Former Northborough Resident Receives Auburn's Boston Post Cane

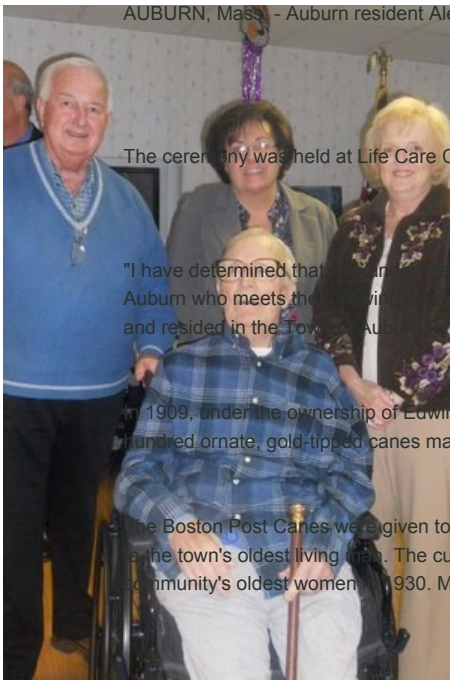
by Tara Johnson (email)

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AUBURN, Mass. - Auburn resident Alexander Pisinski, 99, was presented the Boston Cane Award and named the oldest resident in Auburn by Town Officials.

The ceremony was held at Life Care Center in Auburn and Pisinski was given a certificate and duplicate of the original Boston Post Cane.

"I have determined that Alexander Pisinski is the oldest long-time resident of Auburn who meets the criteria: listed on the census, registered to vote and resided in the Town of Auburn for more than 10 years," Town Clerk Ellen C. Gaboury said.

In 1909, under the ownership of Edwin A. Grozier, the Boston Post had several hundred ornate, gold-tipped canes made and contacted the selectmen in New England's largest towns.

The Boston Post Canes were given to the selectmen and presented in a ceremony to the town's oldest living men. The custom was expanded to include the community's oldest women in 1930. Many towns in New England, including Auburn, still carry on the Boston Post cane tradition.

The Boston Post Cane Award was given to Alexander Pisinski, 99 pictured here with (left to right) Auburn Board of Selectmen Robert Grossman, Doreen Goodrich and Town Clerk Ellen Gaboury.

Photo credit: www.town.auburn.ma.us

town vault for safe keeping. Many of the original canes were lost over the years when families who did not realize their significance failed to return them to the towns who owned them.

"He was surprised and excited," Pisinski's daughter Nancy Bouley said regarding the award.

According to Bouley, her father was raised in Worcester before building a home in Northborough for his wife and five children.

"After we all went to college and got married -- my mother and father moved to Florida," she said. The couple spent about 15 years in the the Sunshine State.

Following his wife's passing, Pisinski moved to Auburn and has been a resident in

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the community for approximately 17 years.

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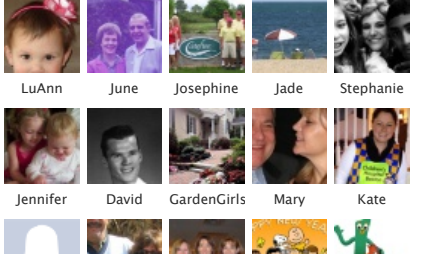


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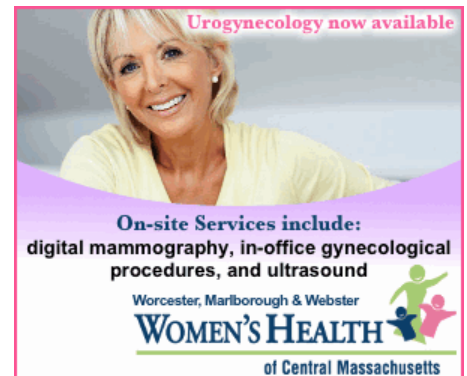
Local Hero

Helen Mankevetch

She has been volunteering at the Millbury Senior Center for over 26 years. At 96 still teaches yoga.



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